



**uniting  
church**  
in Australia,  
Synod of NSW & ACT

# NOTICE SHEET

## Five Dock Drummoyne Congregation



## *Praise and Prayer Points*

### **NETTY'S STORY**

**Services – Sunday 27 December, 2020**

#### **Christmas 1**

**9.30am** Five Dock – Rev Don Everhart

*Reading:* Matthew 2: 1-15

*Theme:* "The Wise Men"

We give thanks to God that today we are able to again gather together in worship.

"This is the day which the Lord has made – we will rejoice and be glad in it."

## DIARY DATES



### **Giving at Christmas**

Appeal envelopes for the Christmas Bowl, Wesley Mission and Exodus Foundation are available today. These are the three appeals our congregation supports with additional giving at Christmas time. Gifts may be returned on Christmas Day or any Sunday through the offering.

**The Office** will be closed from 24 December and will reopen on Tuesday 5 January 2021. The first Notice Sheet will be on 24 January 2021.

**Minutes** of a special meeting of the **Worship Committee** held on Sunday 13 December are on the Notice Board for your perusal.

### **FOR THE NEW YEAR**

Sing to the Lord Jesus, a New Year's son!

Give him the highest New Year honours

Thank the Lord for the old year ended,  
trust him at the dawning of the new.

Lift our faces to the midnight sky and rejoice!  
Let the Southern Cross be our pilgrim sign.

Sing to the Lord Jesus a New Year's song!

Give him the choicest of New Year honours

As we greet one another with 'Happy New Year'  
greet him as the Lord of every minute.

For his call will be renewed each morning,  
and his peace shall be ours at close of every day.

*Australian Psalms* Bruce D Prewer (edited)



**A Happy and Safe  
New Year To All**

The first response for many people with a life-threatening injury is not to praise God. But Netty says it was the beginning of God leading her to the place he wanted her serving him as a translation facilitator with Kartidaya.\*

When Netty was 11 years old, she was hit by a truck while riding to school. She was rushed to hospital but her parents were told to prepare for the worst. The prognosis did not look good. Netty sustained severe head injuries. Doctors explained to her parents that she would most likely die or have severe mental problems if she survived, and told them to pray. She spent several weeks in Intensive Care and endured two major operations. Netty's parents prayed that God would protect their daughter and use her for his glory. To their surprise she awoke from her first operation and announced, 'I want to be a pastor!'

While she was recovering, Netty had a lot of time to read. One of the books that her father bought her made a particular impression. It was a compilation of stories about a missionary working in Papua, Indonesia. Some years later she read about a group of Bible translators working with different language communities throughout Indonesia. Netty says that sparked questions in her mind.

One of these was:

Don't we already have the Bible in Bahasa Indonesian? Isn't that enough? I was reminded of the story in Acts 2 about the Holy Spirit falling on the Apostles, allowing them to speak in other languages. It was then that I realised how important it is to hear God speak to us in a language we understand. That is why we need to translate God's Word – how will others know about Jesus if they cannot understand the words that describe him?

Looking back Netty realised how much her life had been impacted by that accident. 'It was a scary time but God saved my life and it gave me purpose. So I said I would give my life to him. I prayed to God in my heart, "Please send me!"'

After graduating from Bible College in 2006, God answered Netty's prayer by putting her in contact with Kartidaya. She attended orientation and completed some linguistic training before travelling to Central Kalimantan to do literacy work

In 2010 she was asked to facilitate a translation program. Netty is amazed that God used a painful situation in her life to initially call her into the work she loves and to draw her deeper into his Word.

God healed me but my right eye is still impaired. When I feel sad about that I am reminded of Psalm 8. I am no more than dust but God still chooses to use me! God chose to save me that day. He still uses my eye as a reminder of his love for me and his power in my life. He kept his call in my heart and led me to do his will. I know this journey is not about me – it is about him. When the New Testament is finished I believe God will rejoice with us.

from 'Wycliffe Today' March 2020

\* an Indonesian organisation of Wycliffe Global Alliance