



Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of the Illawarra Prayer Network links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa, promotes prayer and facilitates church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of this newsletter is available at www.5icm.org.au/index_files/ipn.html. Please send prayer requests and feedback to prayer@5icm.org.au.
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Prayer

1. May Housler, the senior minister of **River of Life Church, Dapto** emailed the following.

"River of Life is starting back on the 19th July at Koonawarra Community Centre, we are changing service time to 10:30 a.m. now, prayer for us to reach the community here would be great, standing with other ministries in prayer for our Nation and world, for healing across Australia and the Nations, thank you, May."

2. As churches commence worship meetings again, pray for God's protections that they do not become coronavirus hotspots.

"We live within the shadow of the Almighty, sheltered by the God who is above all gods.

² This I declare, that he alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I am trusting him. ³ For he rescues you from every trap and protects you from the fatal plague.

⁴ He will shield you with his wings! They will shelter you. His faithful promises are your armour. ⁵ Now you don't need to be afraid of the dark anymore, nor fear the dangers of the day; ⁶ nor dread the plagues of darkness, nor disasters in the morning."

Psalm 91:1-6 NLT

News and Feedback

1. The **Illawarra Prayer Network** has a number of positions to fill: President, Newsletter Editor, IT support for emailing the newsletter, administering the *Illawarra Christians* Facebook group and maintaining the 5icm website. You might have other relevant areas of expertise such as running Zoom prayer meetings. All positions are voluntary. If you think God might be calling you to this ministry, please contact me. I will be involved in the new church plant, Albion Park Community Church, so I probably will not have time to continue in all of these roles. Besides, I have been doing them for 14 years, so the network would benefit from new people with different vision and gifts.

2. Covid-19 restrictions on church meetings are as follows.

- Churches must have a **Covid-19 Safety Plan** ([download here](#) or develop your own).
- **Religious gatherings and places of worship** are limited to one person per 4 sq m. Places of worship are asked to find alternatives to practices that might spread the virus like singing, sharing books and passing around the collection plate to reduce infection risks. A small number of singers at the front, and at least 3m away from the congregation, is allowed. See the Government [checklist here](#).
- Churches that meet in a **school hall** will need to contact the school and sign an agreement to comply with current expectations.
- **Weddings** are limited to one person per 4 sq m but otherwise are no longer subject to separate limits except for a wedding at a place of residence, which can have up to 20 people or one person per 4 sq m, whichever is the greater.

- **Funerals** are limited to one person per 4 sq m.
- Up to 20 visitors may visit another **household** at any one time.

Note that these guidelines require, except in a household, 1.5m distancing and no more than one person per 4 sq m, good hygiene practices, contact tracing provisions, and if you are at all unwell you must stay at home and if Covid-19 like symptoms, get tested.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Illawarra Prayer Network

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