

MMMTEAMNews

AUSTRALIA Mel's View of the MMM Board

I've been honoured to sit on the MMM Board for a little over two years now....so let me take you through a behind-the-scenes guided tour....

We usually arrive around 5.15-5:30pm and catch up on everyone's personal news...new babies, new grandchildren...new job's...you know the drill. Then we open with devotions and prayer. I must say, this is such a special time, as listening to the devotions of Christian leaders is always encouraging, enlightening, and constructive.

The next item on the agenda is a personal declaration by each board member confirming that there are no conflicts of interest, and are fit to serve in Christian leadership.

Then we get into the nitty gritty. We discuss everything from finances to fundraising, correspondence to cash flow. Like any Board, some decisions are easy, whilst others require more thrashing out of everyone's opinions to determine the best path forward. We are blessed to have a diverse Board with a range of different skill sets and perspectives.

We schedule a break for dinner! Am I allowed to say that the best part of the night is when Marg and Noel Taylor serve us a sumptuous home cooked dinner? To be honest, I'd almost come for that alone! I enjoy this time of our gatherings where we can share and chat one-on-one about life in general.

We then get back to more strategizing and decision making. Key components of the meeting include reviewing our action items, confirming previous minutes, hearing the CEO report, reviewing financial performance, debating governance decisions, reviewing the strategic plan and solving problems. Then we all leave with a detailed action list.

Finally, we review the current edition of PrayerForce and all take turns to pray for someone or some issue of MMM from the latest PrayerForce.

I always leave feeling humbled and honoured to be part of MMM. Spending an evening hearing the stories of what each of the volunteers and member centres have been up to, and how God is using MMM for His glory is so soul-filling. It's been an absolute blessing to serve with MMM, and I thank you for all of your prayers.

Blessings

Melanie McGrice



Dale Richardson



John Peberdy



Rod McGarvie



Shane Prior



Melanie McGrice



Matthew Smith

MMM Australia Ltd. 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham VIC 3132.
Phone: 03 9837 2700; Email: admin@mmm.org.au
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For specific information regarding any of these project opportunities please contact the Region Manager responsible for the project.

VIC-17-678	VIC	Beaumaris Baptist : Painting of Church interior & cupboards refit in kitchen area.	Plasterers & painters Required
13-27 Ma	arch	Caravan parking at nearby Oakleigh Baptist Church	
NSW-17-639	NSW	Coogee Anglican: Children's Area Fencing & Front Access Ramp to main	Team Full
March 23-30		church. Day access only—no local accommodation	
QLD-17-662	QLD	Warwick Presbyterian: Church Hall guttering replacement. Decking re-	Full team needed.
23 March—7 April		pairs & painting. Window maintenance on main building. On-Site Caravan parking for 5 vans available.	Trod grows of or 75
NT-17-644	QLD	YWAM Darwin: Meeting room flooring replacement.	Team leader required
23 -30 April 2018		Caravan parking available locally	4 Volunteers so far.
TAS-18-705	TAS	Lifeway Devonport Baptist: Internal wall opening to be created and fin-	Project team needed.
Mid-April		ished off.	
TAS-18-715	TAS	Riverbend Youth Centre: Build a new ensuite for parents room	Volunteers needed.
May 18-	·19		Charles of Marie
TAS-18-717	TAS	GLO Smithton: Veranda and Staircase construction and repairs	Volunteers required
June 12	-14		
WA-17-658	WA	WEC: Interior house/office painting Minor plaster repair work needed	Rod is Team Leader.
23 March—7 April		and carpet replacement. Caravan parking for 3 vans at MMM WA property.	4 Team members required.
ТВА	WA	Scripture Union Office Perth: Painting	Building Team
TBA	ACH M		
WA-18-679	WA	Bicton Presbyterian Church: Brick-work, concrete pour, construction of	Building Team
ТВА		pathway, internal ceiling fix.	
QD-17-624	QLD	Maryborough: Painting the Church and offices and carpeting	Volunteers Needed
4-13th A	pril		
QD-17-571	QLD	Biggenden: Painting the exterior of the Church and lunch room	Volunteers Needed
16—27 <i>A</i>	April		
QD-17-675	QLD	Gayndah: Various maintenance jobs	Volunteers Needed
30 April—11 May			

MMM Projects Office - 5/621 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham, Victoria, 3132. Phone: 03 9837 2700; Email: projects@mmm.org.au

N/A	QLD	Set up and Garage Sale at Mango Hill	Everyone
20 May—2	June		
ТВА	QLD	Eidsvold: Painting and maintenance	Volunteers Required
13-25 Ma	эу		
VC-17-670	VIC	Oakleigh Baptist Church: General Maintenance/ repairs, restoration of	Team Needed
16 –27 April		church premises.	The state of the s
SA-17-612	SA	Life FM Radio Station: Interior paint of offices	2 more volunteers
30 April—11	May		needed
VC-17-577	VIC	Ararat Presbyterian Church: Maintenance of building, includes wood-	2 more volunteers
7—11 May		work, painting etc.	needed
Awaiting Req.	VIC	Nhill Presbyterian Church: Maintenance of building	2 more volunteers
14 –18 M	ay		needed
VC-17-623	VIC	Kaniva Presbyterian Church: Repair/replace aging steps and handrail at	2 more volunteers
21-25 May		rear of hall. Painting & plaster work.	needed
VC-17-617	VIC	Horsham Presbyterian Church: Building a deck outside the church hall.	2 more volunteers
28 May—1 June			needed

Projects yet to be confirmed!

TS-18-694	TAS	Saint Peter's Anglican Church (St.Leonards): Installation of suspended	Project team required
ТВА		ceiling and erection of signage (Still awaiting council approvals)	
Thailand	os	We have a request for assistance to construct some school buildings	Project team required
Expression of Interest		in Chiang Mai. No dates as yet. If you're interested in finding out some more or potentially helping on this project please contact CEO Terrence Baxter.	
Uganda OS TBA		Tasmanian volunteer David Meadows has been co-ordinating work on various projects in Uganda for several years. David is seeking tradesmen to go and build a farmhouse to support the work of 'Gods Love House' in Luwero.	Funding and Volunteers needed.
		If you can assist or would like to get involved please contact David directly on 0423 881 870 or via email — davidmeadows@outlook.com.au	
Philippines	os	A Christian mission has requested assistance for various needs in-	Volunteers team
Expression of Interest		cluding a fence/road around the property, erection of a high water tower, construction of a covered basketball court with bleachers, the renovation of our Base House as a Dorm for our male students and a small house for the Dorm dad and his family. If you're interested in finding out some more or potentially helping	needed.
		on this project please contact CEO Terrence Baxter.	



Working in the Beautiful Blue Mountains

THE START OF ANOTHER YEAR brings us up to Mt Victoria to work at 'Lutunda' campsite. As painting was the primary task, there was a lot of high work on mobile scaffolding.

We were blessed with a great team including Frank and Yvonne Wilkey, David and Dorette Westrope, Brian Stirk, Ron Simons and headed up by Phill and Gwen Hall.

The site manager and staff were amazed at the transformation of the building with a new colour scheme selected by an architect. The CEO from Lutunda HQ came up from Sydney to personally thank the team. He was suitably impressed and has already put in an application for 2019.

Then we moved down the mountains to Lawson, where we worked on a picturesque campsite named 'Kihilla', built in the 1880s.

The work consisted of painting the male and female toilet and shower blocks, an ensuite including tiling and an entry to the amenities. A part of the original wooden flooring was raised and repaired and last but not least, the stables were converted into 2 self contained flats including painting and curtains. We went through over 115 litres of paint.

Gwen and Phill led the team of Greg and Robyn Jackson, Phil and Ros McNKeice, Paul Barnham, Les and Faye Schwebel, Bob Wells, Barry Meredith and 3 lovely newcomers, Geoff and Anna Taylor and Warwick Harrison.





Lutunda Project

MMM New South Wales - Greg & Robyn Jackson. PO Box 90, Wyee, NSW 2259 Phone: 02 4357 2921; Mobile: 0430 337 098; Email: mmmnsw@mmm.org.au

Wandalgu—Restoring Dignity and Hope

Purchased in 2014 by Sun City Christian Centre, the former Indigenous Agricultural School of Wandalgu has been transformed into a facility which cares for those in our communities who are struggling with life controlling issues. This has only been achieved with the valuable help and support of those with a heart to serve His Kingdom such as MMM Australia.

MMM have been such a great partner. With the help of many including David Tinker and Steve Mawson the property has been transformed into accommodation areas and basic infrastructure. Sun City Christian Centre and Sun City Care are so very grateful and understand that without the help of MMM Volunteers we would not have been in operation in the time frame required.

The buildings required much-needed repairs, restoration and general maintenance and work has been extensive and often challenging in this remote rural setting. The extreme heat, cold, flies and other natural conditions only added to the excitement of bringing together a place which could be used to work with those whose lives need complete restoration.





Stoll to the Woolshed

For 18 months, Wandalgu has welcomed individuals and families who are struggling in the community with life controlling issues, including substance misuse. We have accepted participants from right across Australia and they are given the opportunity to do life differently; learning basic life skills, working hard on the farm, and participating in programs based on the successful Teen Challenge model. The Gospel message interwoven in all that we do is resulting in breakthroughs in the hearts and lives of those who join the program.



Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28). Wandalgu is a place for those who have become weary with the direction their life has taken and need to find rest. Thank you to all MMM Volunteers for 'Serving Those Who Serve' - (Pastor Graham Fabian—Sun City Christian Centre)

Over 1,200 facebook views for New MMM Video

It is very pleasing to report that the promotional video produced by Sarah Carden of Canberra with the help from the amateur MMMWA Volunteer Acting Company, has been viewed by over 1200 Facebook users through the MMM Australia Facebook Page. If you have not seen it, click now on the link https://www.facebook.com/mmmaust/videos/1920909987919799/

Everyone is free to use this video as a tool for promoting the ministry of MMM. Show it to your church, bible study group or just a friend – I have the link on my Mobile Phone ready for any given opportunity. A big thank you goes to Sarah Carden who used her Graphic Designer skills to 'Serve those who Serve'.



MMM Western Australia - Trevor & Karen Beard. 33 Furley Rd, Southern River, Western Australia, 6110 Phone: 08 9456 0022; Mobile 0409 778 799; Email: mmmwa@mmm.org.au



'The Space' at Deception Bay High School

Late last year an unusual application came to us of a Chaplain seeking urgent assistance at Deception Bay High School, which is on our doorstep. It is unusual because it was for a building at a state government school. They had been given a space some time ago where students, chappies and teachers could gather and talk to kids who needed some guidance and also give them breakfast/snack. Now the room was needed for classes so another building had to be renovated and no funds were given to do it. We decided it was a great project to be involved with and John and Adrian spent some weeks there making 'The Space' just right for the kids to come and gather, talk and connect with Chappie and have some breakfast or a snack. In a recent article in the Courier Mail, it was reported that up to thirty thousand children just in the south east corner of QLD, go to school hungry each

Last week John and Adrian were invited to the opening of 'The Space' at Decep-

Adrian, 'Chappie', & John

day! How alarming is that.

tion Bay High School and there was so much support from staff and students commending and thanking them for helping to create this space. Clearly it will be well used and we pray children will connect with the chaplains and staff to gain skills and insights for coping in today's society.



The Space

Looking forward, looking back

This was the theme for our recent Annual Fund Raising Dinner on the 17th March. What a great night of gathering together and we were so impressed with all those who made the effort to dress to the theme of black and white. Thank you to all one hundred and forty who attended the evening, sponsored tables and bought and/or donated items for the cake stall and silent auction. Thank you also to Mueller Youth group for your service in waiting on tables and helping, our photographer Adam Thomas who has captured the evening with some great photos and our MC Alan Grieve who encouraged every-

> one to give generously to the work of MMM. Twenty three thousand dollars was raised

during the event which is a great blessing to keep MMM serving those who serve.



David & Suzanne Rapp



Rod Hockey,

Peter Trebbin,

John Cooper

MMM Northern Australia (incl. Northern Territory & Queensland) - John & Anne Cooper. 29 Lamington Road Mango Hill Queensland, 4509 Phone: 07 3204 2503; Mobile: 0407 696 298; Email: mmmqld@mmm.org.au

Alan and Ros Grieve

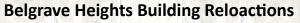


Sandringham Baptist Church

Here is a great story of an amazing group of church people, just 8 to 10 people, where God has allowed MMM to bring a 1920 built, and a cojoined 1960's built building, up to current standards.

Sandringham Baptist Church was unchanged for many years, as they did not have enough people to do maintenance on the property. Only 8 attended church each week, but on a fortnightly basis, 100-120 youth are found there

on a Friday night. Pastor Cathy, and Youth Pastor Emily, needed urgent work carried out, to make un-safe areas usable, as well as raising the duty of care for the building. MMM Vic helped build a ramp between the two church buildings, replace rotten flooring, organized for emergency lighting, and repaired roof leaks. Emily will be our Guest Speaker at our Annual Dinner on Saturday 2nd June 2018.



At the top of the hill, in Belgrave Heights Convention, MMM Vic were asked to move 3 x A-Frame Accommodation units that needed to be repositioned together. A project team of six used two full size telephone poles to

create a sled to maneuver the units down the hill. Once we used round fence posts as rollers we got them moving. Now, the units are in place, tied down and ready for use in the conventions' 100 years celebration. Thanks to lan and

Marg, Barry and Helen, Noel, Owen,

Cory and Geoff Jarvis. It was a dusty job, but we got it done. There is one more A-FRAME to move, and then we will renovate all four of them. If you can help, please contact Vic/SA Manager Geoff Jarvis today.



MMM Vic Events Update

Our Trivia Night was really a fun time. Questions asked, some answered correctly. Seems we have discovered a budding pilot in our midst. Board member Matt won the longest flight of a paper plane. Well done, to all who attended. And thank you. We raised \$2550.00 towards running costs of MMM.

Do not forget our Annual MMM Vic Dinner coming up on the **Saturday June 2nd, 2018**.

Please check our advert in Team News for more details.

MMM Victoria - Geoff Jarvis. 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, Vic, 3132 Phone: 03 9837 2709; Mobile: 0400 951 010; Email: mmmvic@mmm.org.au



The Cry For Help

Once upon a time there was a tall man with a short wife and four fabulous children who liked to help people. On Sundays he went to CityView Christian Church to worship God. One Sunday he heard Pastor Scott cry out, "This dining room is so noisy! How do we stop the echo? We need help!"

"I can help," said the tall man called Shane. "I'll put in a suspended ceiling." But Shane knew he couldn't do it all by himself, he needed someone to help him. "Help!" he cried out. Kevin, Graham and Gloria heard his cry and said, "We'll help. We'll be there for a week in February and while we're there we can do some other jobs, too." But Shane still needed help. He cried out for an electrician. "I'd be happy to help," said Duncan when he heard the call.

A Dutchman with a beautiful wife and six gorgeous grandchildren also liked to help people. He heard his pastor cry for help a long time ago and wanted to help him extend the church building at Pathway to Life. But, it was a big job. "I need help!" he cried. David heard the cry and said, "I can talk to council for you and lots of other people and help organize the project." But John still needed more help. "Help," he cried again and Shane, Kevin, Stephen, Graham, Lance and John all heard his cry and said, "We'll help whenever we can." And they did.

Pastor Matiu from Trevallyn Life Church looked at the building and the people in his congregation and said, "We can't do this job by ourselves, it's too big for us. We need help." One of the men in the congregation said, "I know a tall man with a short wife and four fabulous children who likes to help people; we could ask him." "Of course, I'll help," said Shane. He looked at the job and said, "I need some help with this." So he cried out for help and Kevin, Stephen and Gary said, "We'll help - in early March."

Bruce in Smithton found one of his showers was leaking. "Help, Shane," he cried. "I'd love to help," said Shane, "but Smithton is a long way away." So Shane rang Charles and said, "I need some help in your town. Can you go?" Charles heard the cry for help and said, "I'll go this afternoon."



Graeme was helping run a campsite. "I need help!" he cried when he met Shane, "There's maintenance to do and we need an ensuite." "I'll help," Shane said. But when he saw what needed to be done he said, "I'll need some help with this." Shane is crying to the Lord for help knowing that He will bring the help he needs, when he needs it.

There were people who heard the cries every time but they couldn't actually help do the jobs anymore. They prayed. They gave. They supported the vision. They were a tremendous help.

The cries for help keep coming from all around the state. The tall man with the short wife and the four fabulous children keeps crying out to God for help so he can continue to help. Can you hear the cries? Can you help?

MMM Tasmania - Shane & Ruth Goelst, 40 Edward Street, Perth, Tasmania, 7300 Phone: 03 6398 2993; Mobile: 0439 632 729; Email: mmmtas@mmm.org.au



MMM in Thailand Work Report



The concept of pleasing someone is not at all a strange idea for any of us. It is actually something we learn throughout our lives. For example, at work, if you want to please your manager, department head or leader, you do what your job description says to do because that pleases your leader.

What about pleasing God? How do we do that? In Hebrews 11:6 it says, "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Pleasing God as it says in this verse, sounds so simple. Yet for me it has been very difficult! Putting my faith in God is something that I struggled with every day. To put faith in someone I can see and touch is one thing, but to put faith in someone that cannot be seen or touched ... that takes extra faith. I have failed to please God so many times as I often view God the way I viewed my earthly father who was the oppo-

site of who God is. Therefore, I have failed in this area countless times!

But God is faithful! And He is patient with me! He uses time and His provisions to show me that He keeps his promises. His character and actions go with what the Bible says He is. Therefore, I know I can have faith in Him. This breakthrough that I have had with God has helped me to apply this idea in my role at MMM Thailand as well.

I am grateful that God called me to work with Him at MMM Thailand. It has nothing to do with my gifts or

what I can do for Him. It is the opposite! I think He wanted me to see what He can do! He wanted me to see His power and understand who He is! That He is God, the great "I AM". So, today my faith in Him has increased.

MMM Thailand has come this far because of God and God alone. We rely on Him to provide the monthly support that He has provided through MMM Australia. We focus on doing what God has called us to do here in Thailand. There is much work yet to be done here. Most Thai people are very poor! The majority are not yet believers and there are still many who have not heard of Christ.



MMM Thailand's presence is crucial to many local ministries in

Chiang Rai and the surrounding areas. Having a permanent MMM office and training center here in Chiang Rai would be helpful. It would help us to continue serving those who serve. I have faith that God will provide the rest of the money needed to buy the land and build the MMM Thailand center.

We have seen His power! We have seen what He has done! And we have faithfully done the work He has set before us! And faith is what pleases God! Without faith all we do for Him is useless! We believe He is who He says He is!

MMM Thailand staff

MMM Thailand - Chiang Rai Province, Northern Thailand Email: palita@mmm.org.au



Pray for the following needs across the nation

ALL	Pray for many more volunteer workers to help complete the long list of projects for 2018. Pray for Plumbers, Welders and Builders as specific trades skills that we need. Pray for Safety of all Volunteers as they travel to and from and work on MMM Projects. Building sites have many hazards and many kilometres are travelled on our roads				
CEO	Pray for our CEO as he visits Thailand and Hong Kong in mid-April. Pray for the MMM Thailand Board as the meet for the Annual General Meeting on April 19 th .				
NSW	Praise God for His protection for Les Schwebel on the Lawson Project. (Great to have you back on deck Les!). Praise God for the miraculous recovery of Barry Campbell from a stroke suffered last year.				
NSW	Praise God for the generous donation from GLO Ministries in Riverstone. Continue to pray for MMN finances.				
NSW	Pray for Greg & Robyn Jackson as they ramp up in the region management activities. Praise God for their willingness to serve.				
WA	Praise God for the post recovery of both Karen and Rod after their surgeries. Both are doing well w good reports from Surgeons				
WA	Give thanks for a successful MMMWA Celebration Dinner, we had the greatest number of attendees and "Morro" our guest speaker inspired us all to "Give it a Crack"				
QLD	Praise the Lord for all who have committed to the QLD safari starting on the 4 th April. Pray for Behrens and Groves as they lead the safari teams in April and May.				
MMM Board	Pray for the MMM Board meeting on May 25 th . This meeting is at the Tahlee campsite near Newca tle where they will also meet with MMM Region Managers and key leaders.				
MMM Board	Pray for the MMM Board members. Pray for provision of time as the commit to serving the Lord in many areas of Christian endeavour as well as their busy work and church commitments.				
MMM Board	Pray for the various sub committees of the MMM Australia Board as they meet for specific purpose and guidance. Pray for those who work on these committees that they will know great insight and wisdom.				
QLD	Pray for Adrian Behrens as he has surgery in the second week of April, then recovery				
QLD	Pray for John Cooper as he consults a specialist to find ways forward with his heart challenges				
VIC	Praise God for the offer to bring our tool trailer brakes up to standard. Your care and commitment a very real blessing from God.				
VIC	Pray for the MMM Vic Fundraising Dinner on Sat 2 nd June. Pray for all seats filled early. Pray for Emi Fairweather, our guest speaker.				
TAS	Praise God for all the people that have already said 'Yes' to joining the work of MMM				

MMM Prayer Network - 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, Victoria, 3132. Phone: 03 9837 2700, Email: admin@mmm.org.au

MMMWA

FUNDRAISERS

2018



GANGSTERS & FLAPPERS HIGH TEA & MARKETPLACE

1:00 - 4:00 pm Saturday 19th May 2018 \$40 per person Thornlie Church of Christ Auditorium 319 Spencer Road, Thornlie



3:00 - 9:00 pm Saturday 23rd June 2018 \$45 per person

Includes afternoon tea, dinner, supper and all materials required. (UnFinished Objects (UFOs) also welcome. \$25 per person.) MMMWA, 33 Furley Road, Southern River

OP SHOP TOUR

8:30 am - 5:30 pm Saturday 28th July 2018 \$40 per person

Food not supplied, but there will be opportunities to buy lunch, etc. along the way Bus departs from, and returns to, MMMWA .33 Furley Road, Southern River

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TOUR

8:30 am - 5:30 pm Saturday 27^h October 2018

Salutary 27 Colober 2016

\$40 per person

Food not supplied, but there will be opportunities
to buy lunch, etc. along the way

Bus departs from, and returns to, MMMWA
33 Furley Road, Southern River

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

Karen Beard Phone/Fax 9456 0022 Mobile/SMS 0419 197 695 Email mmmwa@mmm.org.au

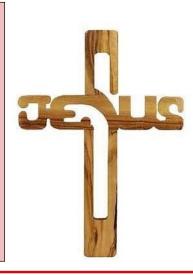
MMMWA is located at 33 Furley Road, Southern River

Make a Donation

Direct Deposit Bank: Westpac

Acc Name: MMM Australia
BSB: 033-349 Acc No.: 541089
Description: <Your Name> Donation

Cheque: To MMM Australia
Mail to: 5/621 Whitehorse Rd
Mitcham VIC 3132





MMMAustralia

serving those who serve

You're invited to MMM VIC/SA FUNDRAISING DINNER

SILENT AUCTION on the night with great donated items - 1 week holiday in a Coffs Harbour villa, sporting memorabilia etc.

GUEST SPEAKER - EMILY FAIRWEATHER - YOUTH PASTOR at Sandringham Baptist Church where the MMM VIC team has done a big project this year. Hear inspiring stories about Emily's ministry to the youth.

SINGER - JANELLE RICHARDSON presents Christian and other songs.



Date - Saturday June 2st

Time - 6pm

Place - Canterbury Gardens

Community Church

281 Colchester Rd,

Kilsyth South.

Tickets - \$35

RSVP geoffj@mmm.org.au or 0400951010 by May 19⁴

SMART CASUAL - MAKE UP A TABLE OF 8 OR WE CAN ADD YOU TO ONE

OPTIONS FOR PURCHASE OF TICKETS

- MAIL cheque to MMM AUSTRALIA 5/621 WHITEHORSE ROAD, MITCHAM, 3132
- DIRECT DEPOSIT to MMM VIC DINNER, your surname & details BSB- 033 349 ACCOUNT 541089
- Please email jane@mmm.org.au or text Mobile 0432253588 to notify Jane of your payment.
- CREDIT CARD by phone to Rachel 9837 2700 (MON, WED, THU 9:30 -2:30)
- QUERIES TO GEOFF JARVIS 9837 2709 OR 0400 951 010

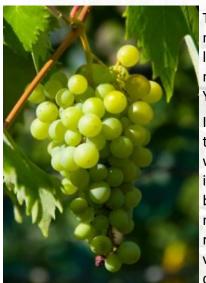
MMM Head Office - 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, Victoria, 3132. Phone: 03 9837 2700, Email: admin@mmm.org.au







One Vision, One Organisation



There have been a variety of issues that I have had to deal with over the past months that cause me to question if we are all one organisation or are we a collection of groups with different agendas. A couple of things I know are; that I'm not perfect, I don't have all the answers, I'm not God and I'm not trying to be God. Yet there are people from all walks of life that expect me to be the perfect person.

It's these times when competing visions or agendas challenge me to understand that we are one organisation with one vision and one mission. I'm reminded that

we are supposed to be rooted into one vine. A branch doesn't bear grapes because of its determined efforts to get sunshine; rather, it simply abides in the vine, and fruit appears. The vine does all the work. In the same way, believers are to abide in the



Saviour so that spiritual fruit can grow in their life.

My imperfections don't impinge on the "vines" ability to generate fruit. I need to allow the Lord to prune what is unproductive to allow what is productive to bear more fruit. Hudson Taylor, the founder of China Inland Missions said that for a long time he, felt that his efforts fell short of the Lord's expectations. But Taylor came to realize that God wanted believers to trust Him fully and rest on His promises. So when Jesus Christ said to abide in Him, He meant that His followers were to stop striving and struggling. Instead they were to trust Him to subdue their flesh.



Paul spoke of in **Galatians 2:20** "It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God." The apostle meant those words literally. Prayer is the key to a life lived by faith! Without prayer we are like a branch of the vine that is cut off and lying next to the original vine, for a while it looks like the vine, but it soon begins to wither and die. It becomes useless without the nourishment it draws through the vine.



As CEO, when I travel to all parts of the nation I fully comprehend that we are one organisation with one vision and one mission, and I have no doubt that the glue that holds our organisation together

is our prayer network. People encourage me in every state that they are praying for me, praying for our mission, and praying for those whom we serve. – **Keep Praying!**



MMM Prayer Network - 5/621 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham, Victoria, 3132. Phone: 03 9837 2700, Email: admin@mmm.org.au