



Reflections

September '20

Seek Growth

Find

life

Know love

What's Online This Month **September 2020**

Looking for a Place to Belong?

Morning Service 10am

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/636917804949163533>

Evening Service 6.30pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/2204811490553632011>

Outside the Box -progressive Christians

Put your name on the Waiting list
events@mccsydney.org

Let's Do Lunch 1pm every Sunday

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/735862253>

Women's Meeting 7.00pm every Tuesday

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/920536597>

Café Church n Bible Study 7pm Wednesdays

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/518008421>

Men's Meeting 7pm every 1st & 3rd Thursday

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631753989>

Be Upheld Support Meeting 2nd & 4th Thurs.

Be Upheld ministers have the link

Trans Formation for information...

thetransformation@mccsydney.org

Check out our ever-changing Website and Facebook each week.

Be Upheld (Stephen Ministry at MCCS)



Having trouble coping? Need someone to talk to who has been trained at MCC Sydney. Let Rev Dale know and he can assign a Be Upheld Minister to you. You don't have to do this alone. Your church Family is here for you.

Pastor's Corner... Rev Dale Yardy,

Dear Friends, As you are aware, we had planned to return to the 96 Crystal St by September 6 with a couple of provisos . The first was that we needed 45+ people to attend a 1hour Covid-19 Safety



Training to ensure that a good percentage of people in the church have the awareness training about best practices for keeping us all safe prior to our return. The Training also covers our Church Safety Plan. We have currently had 23 people take the training which is not a high enough percentage. So that is the first reason. The second reason is tied to my original commitment that we would follow the recommendations of the Uniting Church of Aust NSW Synod in regards to when we go back. The recent August Letter from the Uniting Church's Synod Office advises strongly against returning to physical buildings and to remain online for the time being. So for this reason as well I have decided it is not the time to return to 96 Crystal Street. That said, in an effort for our community to physically gather and break bread in a safer way, I am instituting two new services at **Brighton Street Reserve** just down the street from the church, where we'll gather on a Wednesday and a Saturday each month for Communion in the Park...starting **Saturday 5th and Wednesday 9th at 11am**. This is an informal Communion service with shared reflections after the Gospel, followed by a picnic lunch/or takeout. This, I hope will be seen as a positive step forward during this unprecedented time for our community to physically gather and worship in person. All current services and programs will remain exclusively online for now. Thank you for your continued patience during these complex and chal-

LifeWords

WHOLLY HOLY

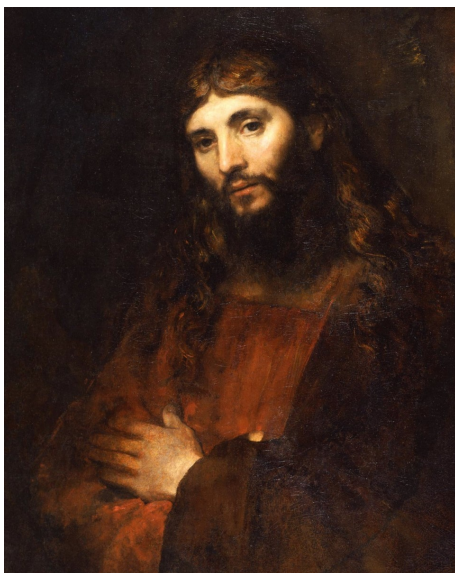
1 Peter 1:15-16

But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." (NLT)

That word "holy" is very rarely used in the way the Bible originally used it. To be holy is to be set apart for special use or to express a certain distinctive character. So we may have a Holy Bible or a Holy Table in a church, meaning they are special. So we worship a holy God because God is distinctive and set apart. In very general terms, God is special.. And so we are called to be holy because we are called to be human expressions of the character of God. We are to be a set apart people, a different people, a special people. We are to be positively different and so show the watching world what real life is all about. Sadly, that is not always the case. Sadly, those who claim to be followers of Jesus or adherents of a particular church can be just like everyone else with a bit of religious talk thrown in. Sometimes we just blend in. Sometimes we stand out in the wrong way as eccentrics or sheer hypocrites. If we can discover or recover the essence of holiness, we will bear better witness to a holy God. Holiness is not some super spiritual, unreal, unearthly quality that is confined to gurus or freaks. It is part and parcel of Christian living. It is not something for the spiritual elite but for everyone who seeks to be like Jesus.

Holiness ultimately means we are not just seeking to be like everyone else, but we are seeking to be like Jesus.

Blessings,
David Reay



I believe God wants you to know

... that your inner goodness is going to carry the day.

I know that you know what a good person you are. Yes, we all make mistakes, but when everything is said and done, you are a genuinely good person...and you know it.

So here's what you should be told:

God knows it, too.

Trust that your inner goodness will rule this moment.

Your Friend, Neale Donald Walsch



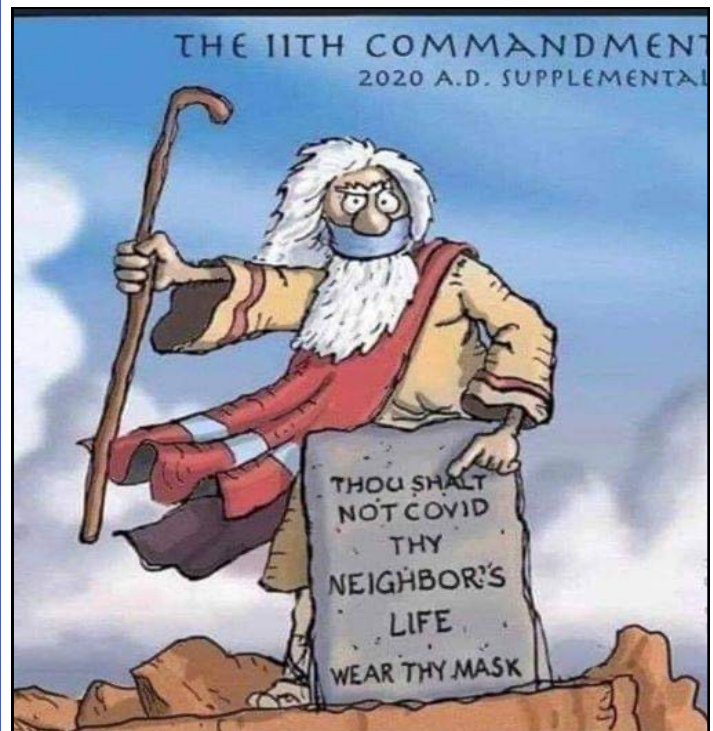
A Blessing For You

May the God of



Contemplation bless you, calling you into the still point of Divine Presence. Out of the silent centre of your being may you bring serenity and peace to every circumstance and to each person. May your contemplation bear fruit in the words that you speak and the work that you do. May the God of Contemplation bless you.

Maxine Shonk, OP



What being Treasurer taught me

I like endings because they give me a chance to reflect and to see where God was working. My time as Treasurer has come to an end. In June I began the process of handing over the reins to Ashley. Whilst I could wax lyrical about the role and what I learned, I actually want to talk about how God used the role to change me personally.

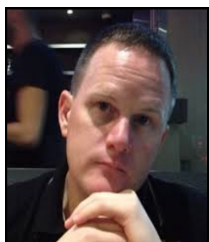
The Pj of old lived from pay to pay, ably assisted by a credit card. Then God brought someone into my life – namely a financial adviser. Some of you met him when we ran a budgeting workshop years ago. Let's call him God because, with the help of hindsight, I believe God was using him to change my habits.

God challenged me to stop using the credit card. "Not yet, I need to get through <insert an excuse>" was my response. The challenge kept coming so I started to analyse the transactions. Through a series of spreadsheets, I started to see patterns. Around the same time banks started offering accounts that had a debit card attached to them. So I started to wean myself off the credit card by shifting payments to the debit card. Eventually I got to a point where I had paid off the credit card. I cut it up and for a year or more and lived successfully without one.

Being responsible for MCC Sydney's financial position taught me that I should show the same care and diligence for my own finances. It's a work in progress for me but I can see that I am getting better.

So if you asked why I choose to belong to MCC Sydney, I would reply saying that this is the church of opportunity. When I say 'yes' to the opportunities, I have life changing moments... including cutting up a credit card! God is always working. Pj Dwyer

Pj we thank you immensely for the God work you have done over the years as our capable Treasurer. Editor

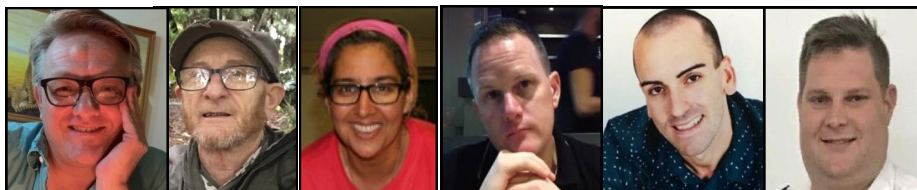
***What is Your Role In our Church Family?***

Here are some ideas of where your God-given talents would be greatly valued when we go back into the Church building AFTER COVID.

1. Setting up the altar for Communion
2. Greeting people as they arrive
3. Reading from the Bible
4. Prayers for the People
5. Holding the Elements (morning)
6. Offering a Communion Prayer
7. Singing in the choir/Music Team
8. Bringing Morning Tea or Supper
9. Vacuuming the Community Room (evening)
10. Taking the garbage home to your bin
11. Taking the Recycling home to recycle
12. Buying something from the Little Corner Shop in the Community Room
13. Donating items to be sold.
14. Selling on Gumtree and Marketplace and donating the money to church
15. Putting positive posts on MCC Sydney Facebook and also MCC Sydney Members and Friends FB.
16. Inviting friends along and mentioning MCCS on your FB posts occasionally.



MCC Sydney Board of Directors



Wayne Col Sarah Pj Ash Paul

Please keep them in your prayers as they work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that our church is safe, heading forward and ticking all of the right boxes



What You Need To Know This Month

We all need to remember that we are never alone. Never, ever, ever. God is always with us, and we have people all around us who care. Even when it doesn't feel that way. Sometimes it feels good to spend some time by ourselves, but remember, too, that it is okay to reach out to another if you feel lonely. You would want him or her to reach out to you, wouldn't you?



More and more people are paying **electronically**. It's so easy to organise and takes the worry out of having to bring change with you. It helps the church budget for the future too. PAYPAL is also an option.

Direct Deposit Details:

BSB: 082-048
Account: 509412200
Name: Metropolitan Community Church Sydney

Fast Payments:

PayID: treasurer@mccsydney.org
BSB: 082-356
Account: 780 749 9652
Name: Metropolitan Community Church Sydney



CONTACTS FOR MCC SYDNEY

Pastor Rev Dale Yardy
pastor@mccsydney.org

9569 5122

96 Crystal Street Petersham 2049

www.mccsydney.org

Office Manager P/T Von Ingram
office@mccsydney.org

Website Administrator Ben Prasodo
bambang.prasodo@gmail.com

Facebook Administrator Duane
carloswebster1962@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Rev Dale Yardy Chair
Paul Houghton Secretary
secretary@mccsydney.org

Ashley Yong Treasurer
Sarah de Rooy Member
Wayne Chilver Member
Pj Dwyer Member
Col Eglington Member

Reflections Items to the Editor, Lee
newsletter@mccsydney.org

Questions re Events, Lee
events@mccsydney.org

MCC Good Shepherd, Granville Tues.7

Rev Robert Clark 0431361519
mccgoodshepherd3@gmail.com

CRAVE MCC, Paddington Sun.3pm

Rev Karl Hand 0425220635
redchiron@gmail.com



Disability access

is via Crystal St
Hearing Loop is connected.



Parent's Room is currently closed

Morning Tea & Supper are unable to be served at present.

Everyone is welcome ONLINE