



eNews August 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other. John 15:16-17 (NIV)

There is much said and written about prayer and petitioning God, if we are persistent in prayer then He will give us what we ask for. However, there are a number of caveats that need to be considered:



- Firstly, we have been appointed to bear fruit – that is take the Good News message to those whom we meet.
- Secondly, our prayers have to be intentional, continual and filled with faith and trust that God can do anything – noting He did create the earth, the universe, etc by just speaking.
- Finally, we must love one another, it is pointless praying for miracles if you have animosity towards someone else, that needs to be resolved before your prayers can be released.

Sounds like hard work – it is – praying is one of the hardest things we can do however it has the potential to release the greatest amount of power. In this time of political correctness, it can be hard to do this however, we need to stand firm, trust God and pray for grace and wisdom. Then God will answer our prayers.



As we move into a new financial year and there is much change and churn in Defence, we need to take the time to pause and remember what our mission in the MCF-A is. It is first and foremost being a disciple of Christ, loving others, growing fruit for the Kingdom and praying. We also need to put our finances in God's hands as there is potential that they may be a bit tight this year however I trust and believe that God will provide not only what we need but also more so that we can do more for Him. So could I please ask you all to pray that we will meet the projected shortfall as I do not want to stop being able to further God's Kingdom in Defence.

Please also pray for the families of the four Army aviators who have recently died on Ex Talisman Sabre, that Christ's peace and love will enfold them, and those ministering to the soldiers and the families will be blessed with grace and wisdom in this tragic and sad time.

Please continue with the wonderful work you are all doing in the part of God's vineyard called – Defence.

Godspeed,

Steve Neuhaus - MCF Chair

MCF-A 2022/23 tax deductible donations

A huge thanks to those who have given financially this financial year. All tax receipts have been done. You can email mcf.office@defence.gov.au if you don't yours or if you have any questions.

The MCF-A is a tax deductible charity - donations received over \$2 can be claimed against your tax.

Are you being called to help MCF-A more formally?

MCF-A Exec assistance and Prayer Coord roles

It has come to the attention of the MCF-A Exec and Council that there are times some of the Exec can't perform their MCF roles as they would like due to sudden deployments, workloads, sickness and leave, so they have been looking to identify people who may be able to assist with certain roles to help with the smooth running of MCF-A. Please see below for two of these roles being implemented with a view to also have an assistant for the MCF-A Secretary in the near future.

The MCF-A Exec would like to advise that there is now an assistant to the MCF-A Treasurer. Mrs Santhosha Houghton from Fisherman's Bend has kindly offered to assist the current Treasurer, CHAP David Schweinsberg in his role with a view to Santhosha being nominated for Treasurer at the upcoming MCF-A AGM in November, where David will be stepping down.

Current Prayer Coord, Dr Brendan Pell, also from Fisherman's Bend in Vic, has been the Prayer Coord for over 7 years. Brendan is about to head on long service leave and sees this as a good time to allow for **someone to take over the role of MCF-A Prayer Coord**. If you have a heart and calling for this within MCF-A, please email mcf.office@defence.gov.au for more details or to express your interest. The Exec are also looking for an **assistant to this role**. Currently the Prayer Coord writes the monthly Prayer Calendar (attached) and emails the Prayer Warriors urgent prayer requests that come in – about 6 per year. Please also email the MCF Office if you'd like to be a (confidential) MCF Prayer Warrior.

Email mcf.office@defence.gov.au for more info or to express an interest in any upcoming opportunities.

National Day of Prayer for Defence

Believers gather on a wing and a prayer

In case you missed it, here is a link to the great National Day of Prayer for Defence story that appeared in the latest RAAF Service Newspaper - [July 20 2023 \(defence.gov.au\)](https://www.defence.gov.au/news/2023/07/20/raaf-service-newspaper-july-20-2023)

What is 5Fish?

A great tool for overseas deployments or to use with those you know where English may not be their first language

"When you can't find the words"



The audio recordings available on 5fish contain some of the most important words you will ever hear. They speak good news for everyone in their own language, with **over 5,000 languages available in the one app!**

Just as fish is food for sustaining physical life, the messages on 5fish offer spiritual life.

Global Recordings Network has developed the 5fish suite of applications for easy distribution and playback of gospel messages on mobile devices.

The [5fish.mobi website](http://5fish.mobi) provides access to GRN's content from any mobile device with a web browser and media player.

Smart phone users can install the 5fish app on their Android™, iPhone, or iPod device. If you'd like some QR coded business cards (as shown) contact mcf.office@defence.gov.au

More info can be found here: [5fish: GRN content on your device \(globalrecordings.net\)](http://5fish:GRNcontentonyourdevice(globalrecordings.net))

Other info that may be of interest

VIETNAM VETERANS VIGIL (VVV) AUSTRALIA - 2023

2023 marks 60 years since the arrival of the Australian Army Training team (AATTV) in South Vietnam (SVN) on the 3 August 1962 and 50 years since the withdrawal of combat troops in 1972. There are many events planned and here we'll highlight one. On **Thursday 3rd August** you are asked to visit the grave of one of the 523KIA (killed in action) buried throughout Australia to **say a prayer and pay your respects**. More info including grave sites and Service templates can be found at: [Vietnam Veterans Vigil \(vvv.org.au\)](http://VietnamVeteransVigil(vvv.org.au))

Also the story of Army Chaplain 'Shorty' (Richard) Brown – from Eternity News [A Vietnam veteran remembers friends lost in the jungle - Eternity News](http://AVietnamveteranremembersfriendslostinthetjungle-EternityNews)

TV SHOW, and free CHRISTIAN RESOURCES to help Dads

Dads 4 Kids From *Dads4Kids*: In the sensationalised world of free-to-air television, mostly contrived at best or outright garbage at worst, [Helping Hands](http://HelpingHands) is an absolute breath of fresh air. Richard and the team at [Australian TV & Media Group](http://AustralianTV&MediaGroup) work hard to deliver a weekly show celebrating the people who make the world a better place.

[Dads4Kids](#) is honoured to be part of the Helping Hands program.



Watch a fascinating panel discussion from Episode 16 of Helping Hands, featuring Dads4Kids Founder Warwick Marsh [here](#).

Tune into [Helping Hands](#) on **9Gem at 10 am on Saturday mornings**, or catch the repeat 5:30 am Sunday mornings on the 9 Network.

Find out more about **Dads4Kids** and all their great resources here: [Home - Dads4Kids](#)

Other items

Have you posted or moved house? Are you deploying or away from home for a long time?

Posted or moved, please update your details [HERE](#)

Deploying overseas or in Australia, or on a long exercise?

MCF-A would love to support and pray for you while you're away. (You are welcome to ask for restrictions on info shared) Let us know at: mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Membership

[Membership](#) is free and **open to every Christian**. If you've not had an association with Defence or you don't identify as Christian you can be an associate member via the same link.

Donations

MCF is supported almost entirely through freewill donations by members and supporters. Please look at Supporting MCF in prayer, with your time and through [financial support](#). (Direct debit preferred – details at right side of the webpage link. Please make sure your donation was accepted. You will be emailed a receipt in July each year for use when doing your tax.) ***Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.***

Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the Prayer Calendar please email the MCF Office – mcf.office@defence.gov.au

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, or enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior, by contacting the MCF Office.

Contacting the MCF Office

PHONE: 02 6132 7845 (or 02 6212 1580)

EMAIL: mcf.office@defence.gov.au You can also find us on Facebook and ForceNet.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter please contact: mcf.office@defence.gov.au