

# eNews June 2025

# It's all about 'What Jesus did!'



."For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time..." **1 Cor 15:3-6** 

Notice that nothing in that verse "of first importance" is about you – what you do, what you believe, what you think, how good you are compared to that other guy, how much money you make and give away etc. It's all about Him - *What Jesus Did*.

Our assurance of salvation is ultimately God's prerogative through Jesus' ministry – we receive, and respond to, salvation freely given – we don't earn it!

Of course, that said, it is easy to overemphasise this, to our detriment, and forget that as Way-Followers we must obviously actually follow... The Way. Jesus' way, specifically – which if you

read the gospels, absolutely calls for *obedience*, *purity*, *righteousness* and *good works* etc. and involves the baptism and indwelling of the Holy Spirit. If you have more questions about this – please, reach out!

May I encourage you today to examine the scriptures, (which are mentioned twice in the above verse) and decide for yourself how you are responding, and will respond from now on, to the revelation about Jesus Christ, God's Son, who was vindicated by the Maker of the Universe, who raised Jesus from the dead by the Spirit; the same Spirit on offer to you, and by whom we too may call out with confidence "*Abba*, Father".

**MCF-A has expenses.** Resources, a part-time staff worker (Julie) who supports MCF members all over the country, insurances for events, etc. It runs lean and is run primarily by volunteers, but it needs your help to remain financially viable. The MCF-A is also a tax deductable charity - **donations received over \$2 can be claimed against tax**.

.The only government assistance received by MCF is some office space. MCF is run via donations from its members and supporters, and through the generous gifting of Bibles and some of the other Christian material MCF uses. If you wish to financially contribute to supporting and building God's Kingdom in Defence you can do so via direct debit (don't forget to put your name in the reference box), directly out of your pay (don't forget to add your name) or via a donation link on the website. All the info can be found at <u>Donate - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (mcf-a.org.au)</u> with instructions for each method under the big green DONATE NOW button. Every \$ counts and adds up, especially if given each month, so don't feel only large donations are sought, but they too are very much appreciated. If every member of MCF-A gave \$10/mth we could look to employ two part-time Staff Workers, or one full time, and meet our other commitments. Churches and other groups are also welcome to donate so feel free to spread the word!

*A huge thanks to those who have given financially this financial year.* If you don't already have your tax receipt one will be emailed to you by the end of July. You can email mcf.office@defence.gov.au if you have any questions.

In Christ,

Robbo - one of the MCF-A Member Reps

# **MCF-A National Day of Prayer for Defence review**

#### A huge thank you to those who organised, hosted and/or attended a National Day of Prayer for Defence event!

It was great to have people across Australia praying over these important points and key personnel. Here's a snapshot of the day. Canberra Prayer and Fellowship day.....

















Paul and Bill enjoy some sunshine at the RAAF Williamtown prayer and family event after flooding in the area.

### **TOP END Christian Fellowship/BBQ**

You are invited to join fellow Defence Christians from the Top End for a great time of fellowship - family members, veterans, Defence APS and Contractors most welcome!

**Time:** 1100 – 1500 Saturday 14 June 2025

Drop in when it suits

Place: Mates 4 Mates Centre

39 Stuart Hwy, Stuart Park NT 0820

**Dress:** Casual

Although this is a Christian event, you are invited regardless of belief or personal circumstance.

Please RSVP, if possible, for catering you are still welcome if you didn't

POC: LS Luke Eglinton

luke.eglinton@defence.gov.au

Or mcf.office@defence.gov.au

## Alpha course – RAAF Williamtown



For the diary, RAAF Williamtown is planning to run an Alpha Course starting 30 Jul.

Spread the word – this is a great opportunity to invite any mates who've ever expressed any openness or questions about God to discuss truth in an open and inviting space. All are welcome. We are also hoping to run an off-base Day-away as part of this, which will likely be **Sat**, **5**<sup>th</sup> **Sep**.

For more info or to register your intent to attend email: wlm.mcf@defence.gov.au

If you'd like to run or have an Alpha course where you work email: <u>mcf.office@defence.gov.au</u> for more info.

## Praise point – encouragement and prayer



On Friday 9th May 2025 MCF Group Member, ADF Dependant and former Army Cadet Jared McPherson was Baptised by Chaplain Luke Skipper, the Regional Support Chaplain- South Australia, at Port Gawler Pontoon, Port Gawler. Jared was supported by his Family, Friends, the Edinburgh MCF Group, and Everyman Welfare Service Reps. Jared, welcome to the God's family Brother! – Chaplain Skipper.

If you'd like to see the two videos of Jared's Baptism, check out the MCF-A Facebook page from a couple of weeks ago and remember Jared in your prayers. Praise be to God!



## Have you heard of the PDFN?

#### Pacific Defence Faith Network - a note from a member of the PDFN

Over the period 29th March to 03rd April 2025 the Pacific Defence Faith Network hosted 25 delegates in Canberra for its annual Pacific Defence Faith Forum. Delegates, largely uniformed chaplains, came from many areas of the South Pacific including Australia, Chile, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Tonga. Whilst there were many highlights of the visit including attending the Australian War Memorial for the Last Post Ceremony, country led worship services and time together enhancing people-to-people connections, a visit to Solid Rock one evening was one of the most delightful moments.

Delegates shared a dinner with Solid Rock, the Bible Society and MCF-A. God did some deep work joining the dots as to how military Bibles had come to fruition over many years within Papua New Guinea and Fiji. The MCF-A Chair, Chaplain Steve Neuhaus, shared about the work and support MCF-A provides in the ADF, as well as the connections MCF has to other MCF groups in the South Pacific. Delegates were grateful for the time together.

To find out more about the PDFN visit the following link.

https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2025-04-14/faith-face-modern-conflict

MCF were able to attend the opening worship service and the dinner. MCF-A thank Solid Rock for providing the venue, and the organisers of the PDFN for the invites to events. Pictured is Steve talking to the group at the dinner.



Side note: One of the attendees from NZ is now helping get the NZ MCF group back up and running. Please let the office know if you are going to NZ and would like to help support by visiting a group or the coord.

# Other items that may interest:

### Walking the Celtic Way – guided tour



#### A pilgrimage of faith and heritage – Edinburgh to London

#### 17 days, September 2026

Walking and coach + Christian tour guide

For more info: <u>https://selah.au/trip/celtic-way-walk/</u>

### **National Day of Prayer**



Australia wide! To find out more or to register at an event near you: www.australiaprays.com.au

### Kookaburra Kids – thanks, support & volunteering

#### MCF thank Kookaburra Kids for supporting our National Day of Prayer for Defence in Canberra with Kids activities.

#### Supporting Defence Kids with the Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation



The Australian Kookaburra Kids Foundation (AKKF) is proud to partner with the Department of Veterans' Affairs to support the unique needs of young people aged 8–18 from current and ex-serving Defence families. Our free programs—delivered through camps, activity days, and online Connect sessions—combine mental health education with plenty of fun.

We focus on building connection and resilience by bringing together young people who share the lived experience of growing up in a Defence family. Through our programs, participants gain valuable tools for managing big emotions, seeking help, and supporting their wellbeing, all while enjoying exciting and age-appropriate adventures.

Refer today: Kookaburra Kids

#### Get Involved: Make a Difference with Defence Kids

Are you a current or ex-serving Defence member looking to give back in a meaningful, enjoyable way?

Volunteering with AKKF is an opportunity to do something constructive on the weekend, while supporting young people who share your Defence background. Your lived experience offers a powerful connection for the young people we support—helping them feel understood, encouraged, and less alone.

Our camps and activity days are packed with fun and adventure, including bushwalking, rock climbing, arcades, archery, and more. Join us to make a positive impact, and take part in a purpose-driven, uplifting experience.

Get involved: Volunteer

### **USA Secretary of Defence starts worship service at Pentagon**

USA Secretary of Defence, Peter Hegseth has started Evangelical Prayer Services at the Pentagon. The auditorium was overflowing with many more watching online through the internal network. It was stated these services will be a monthly occurrence. You can watch the 30min service, on YouTube here (personal device needed to view): <u>VIDEO</u>

Read more about this story here: Article

#### **Membership**

<u>Membership</u> 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 further down page from link) Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.

#### **Prayer requests**

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the calendar please email the MCF Prayer Coordinator Dr Daniel Solomon: <u>Prayer Requests</u>

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, or to enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior, contact the MCF Office or Daniel (via the Prayer Request link above).

#### **Contacting the MCF Office**

PHONE: Office: 02 6132 7845.

**EMAIL**: <u>mcf.office@defence.gov.au</u> You can also find us on Facebook and ForceNet.

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