

The Friendly Word

Marion
Church of Christ Inc
2021 Year of Restoration

Discovering Jesus . Valuing People . Building Community

*3 January 2021 —Please join us—***Everyone's Welcome**



WELCOME & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2021 is here and is a wonderful gift from God.

Let us rejoice in Him and what He has in store for us. We give thanks that whatever the year may hold we can know that Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever. Amen!

2021 is our Year of Restoration and we will be exploring this further as we move into the year.

This week Senior Pastor Bill Tyrie will begin a mini series on our souls. Today his message is entitled "Our Souls Need 'Refocusing'"

We will have just the one service today at 10am and will resume both services next week.

10th January 10am and 6pm. See you here!

For online viewing, tune into MCC YouTube channel by following this link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuf3erXUSKs9D54c8_LEwaw

Worship Services: 2021

- 3rd January—10am service only
- 10th January—both 10am and 6pm services resume

Regular Programs:

- Craft TBC
- MOPS (returns Feb) Mon F/n 9.30am
- Friendship Club TBC
- Girls Brigade 9th Feb Tues 6.30pm
- Good Gear Mon-Thurs Reopens 18th Feb 9.30am-1.30pm
- Side Gate Café Mon, Wed & Thurs Reopens 18th Feb 10am to 1.30pm
- Church Prayer Night returning February
- Element Youth Fri weekly 7pm School Year 7-12 School Term
- Camera Club (Feb) Mon monthly
- Marion Movers Returning soon—Fri weekly 9.30am

Other Important dates to lock in:

- 11th January—Church Office opens
- 11th January—Good Gear Re-opens
- 18th January—Side Gate Café Re-opens
- 19th January—Barista Training @ SG Café (bookings required)
- 20th January to 22nd January 'Kick Start' Special Youth Program—watch out for details
- 3rd February—Leadership meeting 7:30pm
- 7th February—Vision Sunday

MarionLIFE Programs starting from 11th Jan

- MarionLIFE ER Mon-Thurs 9am-12noon
 - Marion Mugs Mon 9:30-11:30am
 - Budget Couns. Mon by appointment
 - Brekky 4 Blokes Fri (2nd & 4th) 9am restarts 22 Jan
 - Comm. Garden Tues/Thurs am restarts 12 Jan
 - Community Meal 1st/3rd Thurs 6.30pm—restarts 21 Jan
 - Women Together Wed—restarts 3 Feb
- If you need crisis support in the coming weeks, or anytime, please call Lifeline on 13 11 14.*

OUT NOW FOR 2021! MCC Worship CD!

THIS IS A
NEW YEAR

They will be available to purchase on before and after services. EFTPOS will be available. Great New Year Presents!



Stay Connected with the MCC Team

Church Office: 8277 7388
Email: admin@marioncc.org.au
Pastors: Bill Tyrie, Sonya Bertram,
Mark Selke, Stephen Scott
ML Director: Leighton Boyd

Ways we give with generosity & commitment

OnLine | Envelope | APP | Automatic

DETAILS FOR CHURCH:

BSB: **703-810**
Account No.: **05 300 944**
Acc Name: **Marion Church of Christ**
Ref: **Offering**

DETAILS FOR MARIONLIFE

BSB: **035045**
Account No.: **408616**
Acc Name: **MarionLIFE Gift Fund**
Ref: **Your Name (for receipt)**

Prayer Word:

Heavenly Father, I pray today that my spirit may be yielded to You completely and that throughout the day my focus will remain on You.

Lord, I thank You that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness and that as I depend upon You in thought, word and deed, You in Your grace, supply all my needs according to Your riches in glory.

Thank You, that in You I have the strength I need to face the day, the wisdom I need to inform my choice and the grace I need to live godly in Christ Jesus, no matter what difficulties or problems may manifest themselves.

Lord, I know that without You I can do nothing, but I praise and thank You that I can do all things through Christ, Who gives me the strength. Praise His holy name.

- Please pray for our leaders both local and global
- Please pray for our community for their hearts to be open to receive Christ
- Please pray for those of us who are feeling isolated and alone especially during this break, whilst a lot of things are closed.
- Please pray for comfort and peace for people dealing with loss and grief
- Please pray for safety for our church family during the holiday time
- Give thanks to our God for His many provisions; for who He is and His unending love for each one of us
- Please continue to pray for Governing Council, Pastors and Leaders as they prepare for the new year

Thoughtful Word : — Focus!

Have you ever driven a car into merging lanes, where traffic is to the left and right of you and you are all driving at full speed?

On my route to work, this happens daily. I have found that if I keep my eyes straight ahead and focus on my lane and speed, it all happens smoothly.

If however, I notice in my peripheral sight a large car, or truck merging towards me on my right and I take my eyes off the road ahead and look at their large, looming tyres, I can have a moment of panic!

It is likely to only be the perspective I am viewing the vehicle in the lane beside me, but it appears to be very, very close, even to the point I feel I need to swerve to avoid it. You and I both know if one swerves, it is not going to end well.

Isn't this so like us in life? When we take our eyes off Jesus, we can so easily become overwhelmed by our surroundings. They can even seem bigger than they actually are, but it is too late, we have gone into panic mode. The obstacle can become our 'soul' focus, we are now consumed with everything that is negative and troublesome and can't see our way out. We are not alone in this. Let us look at Psalm 123:

"Unto You lift I up my eyes, O You that dwells in the heavens. ² Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden to the hand of her mistress; so our eyes look to the LORD our God, until that he has mercy on us. Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt. ⁴ Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorn of those who are at ease, and with the contempt of the proud".

This Psalm starts by calling us to look up. It is important to remember that God has a perspective that no one else has. He alone can see all sides of a situation and He alone knows what the future holds and how situations will impact the future.

The Psalm also asks for mercy, or in other words favour, to be gracious towards. If you ever feel undeserving of God's help, join the club.

All of us are in need of a gracious God.

The Psalm finishes off with a believer of God in the middle of a hostile and scoffing world. Sound familiar? It is God alone and in His perfect timing that will right the wrongs. It is our challenge to keep our focus on God.

The key to this is surrendering to God as Lord (that is the One in control of our life) every day. If we acknowledge His Lordship then we will be following Him up the mountains of life rather than asking Him to follow us. As David wrote in Psalm 23, if the Lord is our Shepherd, we lack nothing.



**COVID-SAFE
CHECK-IN**

Marion Church of Christ

Checking in is quick and easy and a **requirement by SA Government. If you don't have a smart phone, we can still register your attendance with the COVID Register.**

Thank you

**Keep in touch over
the New Year**



Ring – Chat – Pray!



Please register your interest via Church Office or website/app
New date....
19th Jan 2021

**KICK
START
2021**

**YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS.
3 DAY EVENT.
8:30AM-3:00PM EACH DAY.**

**REFUEL & REFRESH YOUR HEART AND MIND FOR THE YEAR AHEAD
LEND A HELPING HAND BY SERVING WITHIN THE CHURCH**

**FRIENDS | FUN | FAITH | GAMES | DEVOTIONS | ACTS OF SERVICE
(CLEANING, GARDENING, PAINTING & MORE)**

**JANUARY 20-22, 2021
MARION CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**SEE PASTOR STEPHEN FOR MORE DETAILS & TO REGISTER!
EMAIL: SSCOTT@MARIONCC.ORG.AU**