



# From the Principal...

The invitation to pray is an extraordinary privilege. I don't often stop to consider that truth as much as I should. How is it that I, with all my weakness and failure, my fragility and limited perspective, could have anything to say to the holy and sovereign God of all the universe? Why would he want to hear from me?

The remarkable thing is that the invitation to pray comes from God himself. Jesus taught his first disciples to pray and gave them that pattern for prayer which we call the Lord's Prayer. He promised that we could ask for anything in his name, confident that our Heavenly Father loves to give good gifts to his children. It is not the grandeur of our words, the clarity of our vision, the duration of our prayers, or the position in which we pray them that carries weight with God. Rather it is the simple fact that we are his redeemed children, the objects of his loving care, and he has invited us to come to him in this way.

Our prayers are not plaintive attempts to persuade God to care for us, to provide for us or resource our ministries. Sometimes we fall into the trap of thinking like that. But he does not have to be persuaded. His arm does not have to be twisted before he pours out blessing on his children. We call on him as "Father", just as Jesus did, and though we recognise God's sovereignty as we pray—he is the Lord whose will must prevail—before we even begin to pray we know he wants what is best for us. We pray to him, not to inform him of needs he did not know about, since he already knows all things, from the beginning to the end of universal history. Rather, we pray as an expression of our dependence upon him for everything that is good in life.

At Moore College we want to cultivate an appetite and habit of prayer. That is because we know that all we do and hope to do is dependent upon God and his grace. Our Heavenly Father has richly blessed us far beyond our imagining. As we continue to serve the churches and seek to honour our Lord, we know that only God can keep us faithful, only God can provide the resources we need in an uncertain future and a challenging present, only God raises up and equips labourers for his harvest field. Under the veneer of hostility or indifference in our community, there is a real hunger for integrity and hope, for a way out of guilt and shame, for good news rather than the horror stories which are becoming our present cultural diet.

Will you pray with us that God will do something astonishingly good in this city, country and world, and that our College might be both faithful and effective in equipping men and women to play a part in that? As you pray through the names, events and current needs of the College, with gratitude for all God's goodness to us in the past and present, will you pray for God's protection and his enabling, and, most of all, that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, might receive all glory and honour, as he is due? Thank you.

Mark Thompson

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### **June 2023**

Page numbers in brackets after a person's name refer to profiles in SOCIETAS 2022.

#### Focus for June:

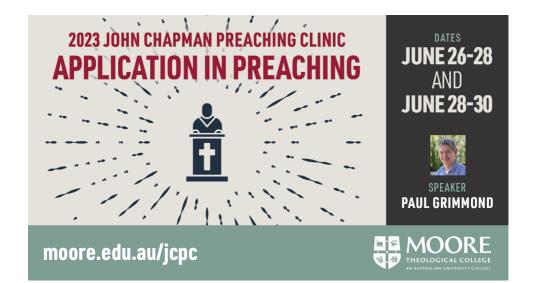
- Exams 16 -23 June
- John Chapman Preaching Clinic 26 28

### Week 1: Thursday, 1 June - Sunday, 4 June

- Give thanks to God for the **recent GAFCON conference held in Kigali.** Give thanks to God for keeping all those who attended from College safe as they travelled, and for the connections and friendships that were made. Give thanks for the faithful teaching and reminders of the truths in the Bible.
- Thank God for the many prospective students and friends of the College who engaged with the College at our May **Open Events**. Pray that many might be convinced of the importance of full-time study at College and join us.
- Give thanks for the **College Missions** held earlier this year. Give thanks that our Faculty, chaplains, and students had the opportunity to experience and be involved with such a large variety of ministries and communities. Give thanks to God for the many non-believers that heard the gospel during mission week, and pray that God would bring many of those people to him.
- **Rosie Rice (1st year)** Give thanks for all the ways that God has brought me comfort and encouragement in my transition to life in Sydney. Please pray for wisdom and godliness as I love and serve the elderly congregation I meet with on a Sunday at Coogee Anglican.
- Give thanks for those who **generously support the College** through prayer, advocacy and financial support, as we approach the annual End of Financial Year Appeal. Pray that many more would consider supporting the College in these ways. Pray especially for the planning and fundraising around the John Chapman House Capital Development Project, to allow for new and improved student accommodation and learning spaces.

### Week 2: Monday, 5 June - Sunday, 11 June

- Moore College Mission Minchinbury and Rooty Hill Give thanks for the thoughtful and creative ways MBM Rooty Hill and Minchinbury Anglican churches are reaching people with the gospel in Greater Western Sydney. Give thanks for the opportunity that the team had to be a part of the evangelistic event that six churches in the area put on.
- David & Michelle Brackenbury (MTh, p18) Thank the Lord for the opportunity to declare Christ's offer of eternal life to students from John's gospel. Pray that he would strengthen me to persevere in Christ, love my family and complete my studies.
- Pray for Paul Grimmond as he finalises his talks for the upcoming John Chapman Preaching Clinic in a couple of weeks. Please also pray for the staff members and others involved in organising the retreat, that the final preparations would go smoothly. Pray that those attending the retreat will be able to prepare well so that they can make the most of their time away.
- **George & Koula Athas (Faculty, p48)** Thank God for our church community at Marrickville. Thank God for Koula's ministry and supportive environment at St George Christian School. Please pray for the wellbeing of our family here in Australia and also in Greece, struggling with various health issues and other hardships. Pray also for the good reception and usefulness of George's forthcoming book, Bridging the Testaments.



### Week 3: Monday, 12 June - Sunday, 18 June

- **StuVac (12 15 June)** Pray that students would be able to focus well during this week of study in the lead-up to exams.
- Moore College Mission Blacktown and Doonside Give thanks for the opportunity that some of the team had to join in on some Alpha courses that were run over the week, and that many attended and were able to discuss questions about the Bible. Pray also for M, a Muslim man the team spoke and prayed with during the week that he would come to know Christ and get connected into a church.
- **Exams (16 23 June)** Pray that the students would be able to recall all they have learnt and not be anxious. Pray also that through preparing for their exams they might know God better and be better prepared for their future ministry.
- Thank God for the opportunities Faculty have through their writing and other
  activities to help resource ministries around the world. Pray for wisdom and
  insight for them as they engage in those activities, particularly that their efforts
  might encourage others and bear much fruit for the gospel.

# Week 4: Monday, 19 June - Sunday, 25 June

- Rose & Isaac Condie (1<sup>st</sup> year) Give thanks to God for being able to study together, the welcoming community at College and the opportunity to serve at a new church. Please pray that we continue to grow in our love and knowledge of God during our time at College.
- Archie & Ainsley Poulos (Faculty, p49) Please thank God for the progress and consolidation of thinking about clergy competency as a result of my doctoral research. Give thanks for the reception of a new first-year unit that involves orientation, and integration of the different disciplines the students explore and its impact on their lives. Give thanks for the joy all my family members have in their jobs, and the opportunity of three weeks of long-service leave in June-July. Pray for the writing of a useful unit on practicum (ministry engagement) and re-writing of a pastoral care unit. Pray for our great clergy who are recovering from lock-down times and facing ever-increasing pressures in ministry, and wisdom as we think through the best ways to be used by God in the coming years.
- Pray for those students who are struggling with **learning biblical languages**. Pray that they would be persistent with their study and encouraged by what they're learning.
- **Winter Break (24 June 16 July)** Pray that students and Faculty would have a refreshing break during their time away from time in the classroom.

#### Focus for July:

- Centre for Global Mission event 26 July
- Mission Awareness Week 24 28 July

# Week 1: Monday, 26 June - Sunday, 2 July

- Thank God for the opportunity to provide specialised academic support for struggling students through the work of Gordon Cain, our **Academic Support Officer**. Pray that students will come and receive the support they need.
- Ian & Leanne Chew (PhD) Thank God for supplying us with the grace we need each day—at home, in school, and at work. Pray that our pastors and friends from our church back in Singapore (Kay Poh Road Baptist Church) will continue speaking the truth in love and growing up in every way into Christ.
- Give thanks for all those attending the **John Chapman Preaching Retreat** this week, and for the time they have to be away together while working on their preaching skills. Give thanks for the focus during the clinics on application in preaching. Pray for those attending as they put what they learn into practice.
- **Moore College Mission Alice Springs** Give thanks for the many opportunities the team had to share the gospel with the people of Alice Springs. Pray for the ministry happening in the local hospital, and for the hospital chaplains that they would persevere in their ministry and see many come to know Christ.



## Week 2: Monday, 3 July - Sunday, 9 July

- **Moore College Mission St. Peter's Tamworth** Give thanks for the opportunity that the team had to be involved with the Sunday services at St. Peter's Tamworth. Pray for the missionaries on home assignment from Uganda that the team met while they were away as they continue to share the work they've been doing.
- Pray for the Governing Board members of the College. Thank God for the time commitment that each member makes to the various meetings of the Board and its committees.
- Moore Mission Team Bathurst Praise God for the gospel work that is going on in
  the Bathurst Diocese. Give thanks for the opportunity to teach Scripture at the local
  high school, and pray that many students would continue to attend and hear the
  gospel.
- Give thanks for the **Operations Team** and the opportunities they have to serve the students, Faculty and staff on a daily basis. Please pray for efficiency and wisdom as they respond to and manage the wide variety of jobs and issues that arise from the running of the College each day.

# Week 3: Monday, 10 July - Sunday, 16 July

- **Dom & Gillian Kuek (1**st **year)** Praise God for the 1st year weekend away that has really helped our year group to build relationships with one another and with our families. Please pray that Gill and I would be disciplined in our studies and would keep rejoicing in the privilege of studying God's Word.
- Give thanks for the recent appointment of Ankita Chaves as People and Culture Manager at College. Pray for her as she joins the College and ask for wisdom and energy as she settles into the role and gets to know the College.
- Pray for the **team of chaplains** who assist in the pastoral care of our students. Pray for good relationships with the students they serve and that the chaplains will balance their College ministry and other responsibilities well.
- **Moore College Mission Jamberoo** Give thanks for the opportunity some of the team had to join the social dessert night for women with members of Jamberoo Anglican church and share their testimonies. Give thanks for the encouragement this was for them to continue growing in godliness.

### Week 4: Monday, 17 July - Sunday, 23 July

- **Semester 2 Term 3 Commences (17 July)** Pray for energy and enthusiasm for the start of the new term, and pray that the College community would keep serving each other with joy.
- **Moore College Mission Lismore** Give thanks for the many people in Lismore that were open to having gospel conversations with the team throughout the week. Pray for the many children that heard the gospel at various Scripture assemblies that they would come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.
- Give thanks to God for the **variety of team members in the External Engagement Team**, and their work to effectively communicate about the College.

  Please pray for strategy, fundraising, the Alumni network and recruitment of future students who might be equipped for gospel ministry.
- Pray for those **churches in Sydney and around Australia** who are planning to **hold Moore College Sunday events** in August. Help them to plan and prepare well in the lead up to the events, and pray that many would be encouraged by the events when they happen.



### Week 5: Monday, 24 July - Sunday, 30 July

- **Mission Awareness Week (24 -28 July)** Pray that this would be a time of encouragement as students hear more of what the Lord is doing in the world, and an opportunity to consider how they might be involved in these gospel ministries.
- **Ben Gibson (1st year)** I'm really enjoying my first year at College and am very thankful for the faithful and encouraging people in my year group! Please pray that I will grow in my love for God through my studies at College and my time serving at St George North Anglican Church.
- **Moore College Mission Seven Hills and Lalor Park** Give thanks for the opportunity that the team had to visit five different schools in the area and share the gospel. Give thanks also for the experience that a few of the team had to give talks to different public audiences over the week. Pray for the care van ministry in the local area and thank God for the support this provides to many.
- **Supplementary Exams (24 28 July)** Pray for those students sitting supplementary exams. Pray that they will be able to demonstrate their knowledge well and not be anxious as they prepare.
- Give thanks for the **Centre for Global Mission (CGM) event (26 July)** looking at humility at the heart of mission. Pray for Simon Gillham as he prepares to present at the event. Pray that those attending would be encouraged to use and apply what they learn in their own ministry situations.



### **Focus for August:**

- Moore College Sunday 1 August
- Annual Moore College Lectures 14 -18 August

## Week 1: Tuesday, 1 August - Sunday, 6 August

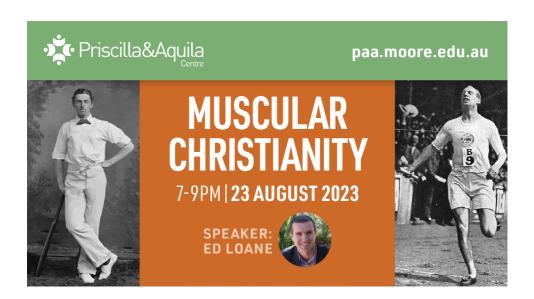
- **Moore College Sunday (1 August)** Give thanks for the many churches that will be praying for the College and hearing about the work that God is doing here. Pray that many people might be encouraged to join those who already support the College in prayer, financially and in many other ways.
- **Moore College Mission The Lakes Evangelical** Praise God for the opportunity to be involved in the 21st birthday celebrations of the Lakes Evangelical church while on mission. Thank God for the opportunity this provided for many new people to attend church for the first time.
- **Ryan & Emily Barcham (1styear)** Praise God that we have settled into Sydney from Bathurst and have already begun building solid friendships in what is such a strong community. Please pray for our marriage as we juggle College, church and parenting two kids, Ezra (3) and Anastasia (1) together.
- **Moore College Mission Albion Park** Give thanks for the opportunity that the team had to join some of the local growth groups and answer tricky questions. Praise God also for the opportunity to witness the baptism of three girls from All Saints' Church.

### Week 2: Monday, 7 August - Sunday, 13 August

- **Lionel & Bronwyn Windsor (Faculty, p 49)** Give thanks for Adelaide's marriage to Tom in January. Please pray for them as they serve Jesus together. Pray also that God will use the writing projects Lionel completed during his recent study leave to encourage and equip many for His glory—including a forthcoming book about truth and truthfulness.
- Pray that God will grow the students of the College in prayer, humility and love
  as they explore opportunities to learn and serve amongst people from other cultures
  around College and in their churches.
- **Moore College Mission Wahroonga** Give thanks for the time spent in the community talking with locals, and at the local retirement village sharing the story of Mark 8. Give thanks for the opportunity to be involved with and invite people to the evangelistic night with Archbishop Kanishka Raffel.
- Pray for those in the **satellite campuses at Croydon Park and North Parramatta**, that they might be well connected to the central campus at Newtown.

### Week 3: Monday, 14 August - Sunday, 20 August

- **Annual Moore College Lectures (14 -18 August)** Pray for T. Desmond Alexander as he delivers his lectures on the New Testament use of the Pentateuch with reference to Christ. Pray that many people would be encouraged and grow in their understanding from these lectures.
- **Ming Zeng (1st year, p18)** I'm very thankful to God for the blessing of a loving and supportive Christian community here at Moore College, as I walk through a difficult season of life. Please pray that God will continue to give me grace to rest well, to be faithful in service and to grow in Christlikeness.
- Pray for those who are considering coming along to our next Open Week (21 25 August). Pray for those organising and facilitating the event, that they would prepare well. Ask that those attending would prayerfully consider future training with Moore College.
- Moore College Mission Sans Souci Give thanks for the ministry of the Wednesday playtime group at Sans Souci Anglican. Pray that this would be able to continue and reach many of the community to share the gospel. Give thanks also for the opportunity that some of the team had to lead some training in one-to-one Bible reading with church members. Pray that this training would enable many people to be in God's word regularly.



### Week 4: Monday, 21 August - Friday, 27 August

- **Moore College Mission Mt Druitt and Oakhurst** Thank God for the encouragement it was to see people from different backgrounds praise God and witness faithful gospel proclamation in culturally appropriate ways at many churches over the week. Pray for the new training ministry starting up in the area that aims to reach people in marginalised communities.
- Marcus & Naomi Robertson (2<sup>nd</sup> year, p13) Give thanks for the safe arrival of Angus (12/04/2023). Pray that God would grow our godliness and wisdom in all areas of life. Pray also for us as we help in our church's evangelistic courses this term.
- Pray that the P&A event on Muscular Christianity (23 August) would be an
  encouraging and challenging time for all who attend. Give thanks for those involved
  in preparing for the event and pray that those attending will reflect on muscular
  christianity and complementarianism.
- Give thanks for the **senior students of the College** and all that they do to serve the College community. Pray that they will be able to balance their duties with their studies and other responsibilities.

**Personal Prayer Notes** 







