



Learning for Life

Engage · Encourage · Equip

Vol 9 Issue 3
www.lfl.asn.au

Good News!

God Loves You Group

The God Loves You ladies made their bi-monthly visit to Rangeview Remand Centre in August to teach 20 young women how to knit and crochet. The ten seniors captured the girls' attention with their wealth of experience and life stories.



"I couldn't believe it," said a Juvenile Justice Officer speaking of the girls. "I've never seen them sitting still for more than ten minutes."

Ninety three year old Macy Paterson said the girls were quiet at first and then opened up. She said they were all very respectful. Afterwards one girl thanked the group for coming to see them "and doing something normal" and the ladies received a thank you card from the girls, addressed to the "Nannas".

GLY member Norma Warner recently ran into one young woman who had just been released. The 15-year-old thanked Norma for the group's visit. She returns to her home in Broome this week and told Norma she doesn't want to return to detention. Norma recalled teaching her French knitting and saying she has good hands.

"The church service was really great ... for that time, the uniforms didn't matter and we weren't in detention."

Church Services at Banksia Hill

South Perth Church of Christ and Bull Creek Anglican Church recently hosted church services at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. One service was attended by 70 kids, three who joined the band on guitar, drums and vocals and one gave a bible reading. "The church service was really great," said one Juvenile Justice Officer. "For that time, the uniforms didn't matter and we weren't in detention."



Subiaco Church of Christ will host the next service on Sunday, 4 October.

Lipscomb University

This year marked the ninth anniversary of Lipscomb University's involvement with Learning for Life. Students from Lipscomb, based in Tennessee, USA, visit Perth to share their stories and lives with young people in detention. This year's team encouraged young people with games and drama that addressed issues of self-esteem and shame. The group also participated in NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day of

Observance Committee) Day celebrations at Rangeview by serving food in conjunction with YWAM. Education services were not running for one of the weeks the team was visiting so Department staff especially appreciated the group's input.



Youth With A Mission

Every week, young adults from Youth With A Mission (YWAM) visit young people in Rangeview Remand Centre. Most recently, Kristen Truby and ten women from the US delivered a highly successful program dealing with identity and purpose to the young women. Two of the young women have since been released and are attending a local church.

City to Surf



Congratulations and thanks to the team that participated in this year's City to Surf to raise more than \$3500 for LFL. Ryan Brogden, Adam Lee and board member Josh Nipps ran the marathon; Jim Dai completed the half marathon; John Wood completed the 12km; and Annabelle Lee, Dorinda Sullivan, Hayley Nipps, Amy Anstey and LFL Corporate Development

Manager Eddie Anstey covered 4km.

New Team Members



LFL welcomes Caesar Al-Samarrie, Mark Ogden, and Wes Soet to the

Visitation Team. Wes attends City International Church with volunteer Scott Jones. Mark and Caesar both attend Calvary Chapel in Rockingham. Mark had been feeling drawn to helping young people in detention, and learnt about LFL while cutting staff member Eddie Anstey's hair. LFL's visitation program provides mentors and role models to young people in detention in settings like evening meals, activity time, in living units during evening activity time, and through education support in classrooms.

Prison Ministry Conference

Executive Officer Tim Sullivan spoke about the work of LFL at the recent conference "What's so amazing about Prison Ministry?" in August. Experienced prison workers as well as people considering prison ministry for the first time were equipped and encouraged at the conference, coordinated by Alpha and Prison Fellowship WA.

"LFL provides mentors and role models to young people in detention."



Alpha Course

Eight boys are participating in an Alpha course at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, and six have now made significant faith commitments. One boy, a 17-year-old re-offender with considerable family issues, has been in detention for eight months. He has been reading the Bible and wants to attend church. Alpha explores questions such as: Why am I here?, Where did I come from?, Where am I going?, and Is there a God?

Scott Jones on the Alpha Course

Scott Jones has been an LFL volunteer for almost six months, helping with the Alpha Course and visitation. He missed a week of the Alpha course after damaging knee ligaments while playing football. He describes his return the following week:



"It seemed there was a real desire and curiosity in the boys. By the end of the session we had four guys profess their belief in Jesus and ask God for a new life. We prayed with the boys and a few moments later one of the boys asked if he could pray for my leg. I was blown away. He put his hand on my shoulder and asked God to heal me. This was one of the most powerful things I have experienced in my Christian walk, to see a young man's heart softened by God, to see him turn and ask for forgiveness, and then see God working through him immediately. It was amazing."

LFL at Church

Thanks to Westchurch, Wembley Downs, Subiaco, Dalkeith Road and Mt Pleasant Churches of Christ who have hosted us recently. Please contact us if you'd like LFL to share the good news of what is happening in the detention centres with your church.

Upcoming Events!

Giant Garage Sale

Saturday, 10 October

9:00am – 1:00pm

Mt Pleasant Church of Christ

16 Darnell Ave, Mt Pleasant

Items to be donated can be dropped off on

Friday, 9 October

9:00am – 5:00pm

Quiz Night

Friday, 16 October

7:00pm

Tickets: \$10

Mt Pleasant Church of Christ

16 Darnell Ave, Mt Pleasant

Call to Reserve a Table!

Make A Difference!

You can make a difference! LFL needs volunteers, ideas, supporters, and sponsors. If you are keen to help or would like more information, please contact us. We welcome both single and regular donations (e.g. \$25 / month for 12 months) to help continue LFL's work. EFTPOS and Credit Card options are available. **All donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible in Australia.**

PO Box 1034 Canning Bridge WA 6153

Phone: +61 8 6102 2572

Email: admin@lfl.asn.au