



# The AUSTRALIAN TIMES

**Christopher Eckels Family March, April 2020**

**Serving the Lord in Australia Since 2006**

### Prayer Highlights...

- Ministering under Covid-19
- A Furlough
- Rachel's upcoming wedding
- Yolanda's cough

### Praises/Answered prayer:

- 2- saved live streaming
- Support from churches
- Our health is well.

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### Aussie word(s) to know!

**Maccas** — McDonalds

**Beauty** - Great

**Brolly** - Umbrella



### **Living under the dreaded Covid-19**

*Dear Pastor, Church Family, and Praying Friends,*

### Ministry Highlights...

It was smaller than usual considering we were just a few days from not being able to meet at all. We managed to stay under the 100-limit required by law at the time and God was gracious as we held our 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary with just members and some faithful attenders. We had Pastor Sam Joukhadar from Sydney and Faith Baptist Church. He has been the pastor there for some 30 years. He brought several timely messages for us. Our new yearly theme was revealed, "Continue in Fellowship". What a challenge right now to stay together as we are apart.

We have, like everyone else, moved to live streaming our services. Our first live stream service we saw one of our members lead their newly arrived parents into the country to the Lord. **Yes, two were saved from our live streaming services.**

Some of our members are handing out gospel tracks via mailboxes knowing we are not allowed to be out of our houses unless necessary.



**Our 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picture**

We are trying to keep connected through the virus shut down. We are still having our midweek Bible Study and prayer time along with prayer request and the church praying together in their homes.

We are so thankful that most of the church is still working at this time and no one has come down with the virus.

### Australia Highlights...

Our Prime Minister is handling the pressure of this Covid-19 virus well. Who would have believed in January the whole world would be shut down and churches not meeting? Our prayer is that the government will give back the freedoms they took from us under this dreaded virus shut down.

We continue to only go out for essentials. Sadly, when I went to the shops the game store was open and in full swing, yet the churches are nonessential. The government stressed for everyone to stay inside in a big way this Easter weekend. It was almost eerie the stress they made as if it was aimed at the church. I do hope they do not continue with this type of control. I am so glad God is still on the throne and we must trust Him at this time.

### Family Highlights...

One would think that we were living in a communist type country and not a first world country. With all the governmental controls in place they are controlling every part of our lives. I never thought we would have to line up to get into the grocery stores with empty shelves.

We continue to be in good health. Noah is almost finished with High school. Rachel is finishing up her bachelor's degree in graphic design. I have almost finished my master's degree. We continue to stay busy. My schedule has not changed much since the shutdown. Yolanda has a cough that is nagging and seems to take forever to clear up. Jeremiah and Marcela continue to work on her Permanent Resident visa. They are both still working which is a blessing.

### Your support received with much thanksgiving.

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 Christopher Eckels & Family