

Hello Friends and Family,

I get the opportunity to share the Gospel on the other side of the world, in Australia.

Last December, a couple of Faith Worship Community leaders, Amber Ross and Tabitha Blessum, went to the Sydney area and the Central Coast of Australia to meet with teachers, ministers, and community leaders to see how we can partner with these folks in what the Lord is doing in that incredible Land Down Under. God moved in gracious ways while these leaders/missionaries were there and called a team to return this Summer.

We will be traveling June 14-29, 2018, from Costa Mesa, CA, to Sydney and Woy Woy, New South Wales. Three high schools invited us to join them in building relationships with students, share our testimonies, and participate in a chapel program with the goal of bringing the students closer to Christ. Further, we have the possibility to work alongside local communities to complete a refugee housing project, assist in the care of homeless friends, partner with a street evangelism ministry, and support a church art conference.

As the Lead Pastor of FWC, my desire for this trip is twofold. 1. I long to see this trip unify and transform us as we work together in expressing our love for Jesus by caring for his people. I come alive when given the opportunity to share the Gospel to people. When we do it as a team, I appreciate the special bond that can take place that is both enlivening and sustaining between us, as we love Jesus by caring for others together (John 20).

2. I look forward to the life and growth it will have on our team, me personally, those who we will meet, and on FWC when we return. We cannot change without seeing others change too. My prayer thought this mission trip is that we experience the surpassing greatness of knowing Jesus and His resurrection power (Phil. 3) as He works through us and in others we meet. I want us to encounter His Life anew as we bring His Hope to people that may never otherwise experience who He is.

How you can partner with us

Prayer Support

Please support us through prayer: print out the prayer prompts on the next page and keep it somewhere visible! Lift up the team to the Lord and partner with us in this ministry.

Financial Support

Please support us financially, you can do so online or by mail. My goal is to raise \$2,500.

Fundraisers

Please support us by donating to our garage sale(s), by attending upcoming events, and dinning opportunities.

Donate online:

<https://fwc.givingfuel.com/australia-2018>

Checks made payable to:

Faith Worship Community Church
Note: Australia Missions team (Brad McDermott)

Mail checks to:

Faith Worship Community
PO Box 2906, Costa Mesa, CA 92628

In the early planning stages, Amber and I were considering resources and weighing a trip to Australia with the devastation of hurricanes and shootings in Texas. Why go around the world when there is so much need around the corner? God reminded us that while caring for physical needs is important (the Good Samaritan), Christ does not get caught up in the pressing needs of the “urgent.” When he came to redeem us, He didn’t throw off Roman tyranny nor change other external circumstances to simply make life “better” for people. His work was much bigger and more

transformative: He saved our souls from sin and death by restoring us back to being Sons and Daughters of the Creator of the universe.

Son/Daughter-ship is what’s missing for people; it’s not external affluency or lacking that impoverishes the soul that has everlasting effects. On the surface, in many ways the Aussies are doing just fine. They have access to many of the same resources as any other “Western society.” They have tremendous churches and ministry throughout their nation that reach the entire world. Further, their State Constitution mandates that Scripture classes be taught in all public high schools, so the local churches band together to provide much of the financial resources used to pay the teachers for these classes.

We are not bringing much in the way of external resources to Australia; rather, we get to be a part of the encouragement and cross-pollination that God does when he sends people from their culture and comfort to partner with what is already happening elsewhere. People have needs, and they are important; however, Jesus’ deepest need was to be aligned with his Father’s will (Mark 14), and He taught us that it is ours as well (Hebrews 12). We get to help interrupt the poverty that comes from the devastating and disheartening trend towards agnosticism and atheism with the redemptive, abundant Life found in Jesus’ Love, Salvation, and Hope. Therefore, we are answering The Call to proclaim and express His Abundant Love to Australians.

Australia Mission Trip Prayer Requests

Soft hearts for the harvest and salvation for Australia (*Matthew 9:37-38*)

Wisdom (*James 1:5*) and discernment of the Lord's guidance

Opportunities to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ
Chance encounters and divine appointments

Our tongues, for they hold the power of life or death (*Proverbs 18:21, James 3*)

Safety and health for the team
Confidence in sharing our testimonies and the Gospel of Jesus Christ (*2 Corinthians 4:5*)



Will you participate with us? Please intercede with and for this team through prayer, your presence at our events, and/or financial resources to help with the costs of travel. God is at work. Let’s join Him!

Peace,
Brad McDermott
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