eNews June 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the Lord. Zephaniah 3:9 (ESV)

As I walk around both military and civilian locations, I have noted that the general speech of people has over time deteriorated with more profane language and increasingly blasphemous language. This is an indication of the rapid slide into a people who are sinful and depraved. However, this is not new, as Solomon stated – *there is nothing new under the sun* (Ecclesiastes 1:9b). The good thing is that being a resurrection people we know that the time is coming when Christ will return and all this will be no longer an issue. In the meantime, we need to stand fast, to holdfast and to be faithful as the storms of anti-Christian sentiment howl about us.

Recently I was able to attend a one day Faith and Freedom under Fire conference hosted by Christian Faith and Freedom, there were a number of inspiring speakers who spoke about issues within Australia as well in the Middle East and the challenges of Islam both here and in the world. These were people with lived experiences be they having their faith challenged in Australia or conflict overseas. The keynote speaker was Canon Andrew White formerly the Vicar of Baghdad and even though he is crippled with MS and had a stroke he was still full of joy and life and a desire to see the Good News spread throughout the world in a pure and uncompromised manner.

People get dismayed about the lack of interest in MCF groups etc however can I encourage you to persevere as many people may not attend however they are comforted and blessed when there are people meeting and praying for their workplaces. Jesus stated that when two or three are gathered together He is there (Matthew 18:20), and Paul exhorts us to not become tired of doing what is right (Galatians 6:9). Please join with us on 24th June for the National Day of Prayer.

Can I encourage everyone within the MCF-A to continue to hold fast to that which is good, enabling Christ to sustain you and protect you, guarding your heart and mind and soul.

Godspeed

Steve Neuhaus
MCF CHAIR

(The talks given at the Christian Faith and Freedom Conference can be viewed here on YouTube: CFFC Conf 2023)

MCF-A 2022/23 tax deductable donations

The MCF-A is a tax deductable charity - donations received over $2 can be claimed against your tax.

The only government assistance received by MCF is some office space. MCF is run via donations from its members and supporters and through the generous gifting of Bibles and some of the other Christian material MCF uses. If you wish to financially contribute to supporting and building God's Kingdom in Defence you can do so via direct debit (don't forget to put your name in the reference box), directly out of your pay (don't forget to add your name) or via a donation

link. All the info can be found at Donate - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (mcf-a.org.au) with instructions for each method on the right hand side of the page. Remember to scroll to the bottom for all the info.

A huge thanks to those who have given financially this financial year. If you don't already have your tax receipt one will be emailed to you by the end of July. You can email mcf.office@defence.gov.au if you don't received it by then or if you have any questions.

National Day of Prayer for Defence – this June

Hosted by MCF-A



All who have a heart to pray for Defence are welcome to join in praying together over important Defence issues and its people. Groups will be meeting all across Australia and it is hoped the **Canberra event will be livestreamed** for those unable to attend or host an event in their area. The link is below. Please get involved and uplift the Australian Defence Force in prayer.

Everyone is most welcome; ***you don't need to be in Defence to host or attend a gathering***. Gatherings can be in a Small Group, at a Defence Base, in a local Church or by getting a few friends together to pray for these important issues. **You are welcome to organise a time of prayer that works for you and your location.**

Suggested time: 24th June, 2023 has been nominated as the date for this event, but you are welcome to host an event before the end of June 2023 if possible at a day and time that suits your Base or Church situation.

To register your event, time and location, or for if you have questions please email:

mcf.office@defence.gov.au Churches are most welcome to host an event, so let your church leaders know and make sure your MCF leaders know.

Use the link below for more info, to find if there is an event near you, and for the Prayer Booklet template that can be adjusted for your local area:

National Day of Prayer for Defence - 2023 - Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (mcf-a.org.au)

YouTube clip you can use to advertise your event - National Day of Prayer for Defence video

National Day of Prayer for Defence 2023 – Canberra/National *livestreamed*

Date: Saturday 24th June, 2023

Time: 11am (Canberra/Sydney/Melbourne)

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86753449583?pwd=VzVFSmxIUEg4NU5TUEY0ZWRKbmE3QT09

Meeting ID: 867 5344 9583 Passcode: MCFPrayer

It is hoped a recording will be available on the MCF-A YouTube channel soon after the event.

Alpha – Fisherman's Bend, Vic

All at or visiting Fisherman's Bend are welcome to join in their upcoming Alpha course at any time.



You're Invited

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and God in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Time & Location

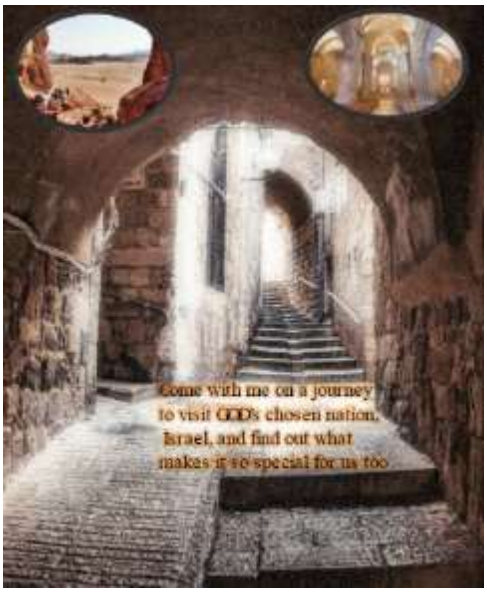
Wednesday, lunch times from 12:30 to 13:30 pm, 12 July 2023 onwards, 10 weeks
Makerspace, the Hub, Building 22, Fishermans Bend
Drinks and snacks will be provided
Research the Christian faith, gather the facts and form your own hypothesis!

Contact Details

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Find out more
alpha.org.au

Are you interested in hearing about The Holy Land, or visiting there sometime?



One of the MCF-A supporters in Adelaide has just returned from The Holy Land, they would love to share their trip and insights with other MCF-A members and supporters. They are also happy to discuss options for doing a trip to The Holy Land and answer your questions if possible.

An MCF group in Adelaide is being given a presentation by this supporter to trial what may be the best way to do this.

If you are interested in joining an online presentation sometime to find out more about The Holy Land or visiting there, or to put forward some questions for the gathering, please email and/or register your interest at mcf-a.office@defence.gov.au

If there is enough interest to run an event those who registered will be consulted to find a best date and time.

ANZAC videos

Note: These videos are on YouTube and need to be viewed on a personal device.



Each year City Hope Church in Brisbane do a special Anzac video which they release to the general public after Anzac Day. This year the video was: Fallen – A The Tragic Story of The Unnamed.

Fallen | A Tragic Story of The Unnamed (Anzac Documentary)

For those who missed it, a few years ago they did one on Padres in WWI.



Padre – Where is God in this?

Padre - 'Where is God in this?' (Anzac Documentary)

You are welcome to share these with anyone but please acknowledge City Hope Church Brisbane if using in a public space.

Films

Do you like movies? Would you like to know when Christian movies are coming out in the Cinema or how you may be able to have them screened near you? You may like to find out more by clicking the link below.

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The home of captivating stories.

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Movies Change People and People Change the World.
We exist because of you.

Movies Change People

Other items

Have you posted or moved house? Are you deploying or away from home for a long time?

Posted or moved, please update your details HERE

Deploying overseas or in Australia, or on a long exercise?

MCF-A would love to support and pray for you while you're away. (You are welcome to ask for restrictions on info shared) Let us know at: mcf.office@defence.gov.au

Membership

Membership is free and ***open to every Christian***. If you've not had an association with Defence or you don't identify as Christian you can be an associate member via the same link.

Donations

MCF is supported almost entirely through freewill donations by members and supporters. Please look at Supporting MCF in prayer, with your time and through financial support. (Direct debit preferred – details at right side of the webpage link. Please make sure your donation was accepted. You will be emailed a receipt in July each year for use when doing your tax.)

Note that donations (over $2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.

Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the Prayer Calendar please email the MCF Prayer Coordinator Dr Brendan Pell: brendan.pell@defence.gov.au

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, or enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior, by contacting Brendan.

Contacting the MCF Office

PHONE: 02 6132 7845

EMAIL: mcf.office@defence.gov.au You can also find us on Facebook, ForceNet and Twitter.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter please contact: mcf.office@defence.gov.au