



Prayer Update

Dec11-Jan12

Hi friends! We have had a truly amazing year – so much to be thankful for! We have seen lots of growth and God is still drawing many people to Himself. Please keep praying for us and for the spread of the gospel in the region. On the family front, Sharon is pregnant and we are expecting #3 to arrive in May! So we're looking forward to meeting the little one next year. We really appreciate your prayers, encouragement and financial support. Here are some things to inform your prayers. Stand firm in Jesus, Chris (on behalf of CoastEC).

God is gathering and growing His people – CoastEC is made up of people from all walks of life and stages of faith. And there is a great sense of family and community amongst us despite our crazy diversity! We've had the joy of baptising several people who've started following Jesus, and seen lots of other people take big steps forward in their faith. We've also seen growth in numbers attending this year. Currently there are 73 adults and 43 kids who regularly attend the service, and 69 people in our home groups (bible study groups).

Training new bible study leaders – Praise God for raising up more people keen to lead our home groups next year. Pray for Min, Pete, Lynne, Andries, Jess and Thelma. Ask that God would equip them to shepherd a small group, and for many to grow in their love for the Lord as we seek to expand our home group ministry.

Another Service – We are hoping to start a second service so we can connect with even more people. We currently meet at 5pm but we're planning to do both a 4pm and 6pm service starting about Easter. Pray for wisdom about this. Pray for God to raise up solid core groups for both services.

Growing staff team – Thank God for sending Ruth who has been doing a great job overseeing our Ministries and music. We are also planning to employ a second pastor in 2013 to help us keep growing this work. Pray for God to provide the resources, and for the wisdom we'll need as we seek to identify the right man for job.

Christmas Eve Service (5pm) - pray for a great gathering as we proclaim Jesus and celebrate the incarnation. Pray for many locals to attend. There will also be lots of visitors in town at this time of year - pray we can connect with many of them and encourage them in their faith.

Solid Rock Youth Cafe Outreach (5th - 14th Jan) - a team of about 65 young adults is coming to town to share the gospel with Forster youth. Pray for many locals to be contacted and for them to be open to the gospel. Pray for us as we follow up kids after the mission is over, and ask God to help many make the transition to youth group, bible study and church.

Youth – Thank God for our youth weekend away. Almost 20 kids attended and they had a great time learning about persevering as believers. Pray that they will persevere to the end. We are starting a senior high youth group at the end of January. Please pray for us to keep building a solid core group of senior high kids, and for many from the solid rock mission to join the group. Pray for Andries, Jess and Ruth as they head this up.

Scripture – Please pray that we can keep teaching yr 7 scripture next year and that we'd also be able to teach yr 8. Pray for wisdom for Chris as he works with other churches and liaises with the school, that God would open the door and that many students would come to faith in Jesus.

Finances... Thanks to those of you who currently support us financially! Praise God for meeting all our needs so far! We are currently about 50% self funded. Pray for wisdom as our Admin Committee finalise our budget and for the next year and beyond (meeting 23rd Jan). As we grow, so will our expenses (like employing another pastor). So if you are currently supporting us financially, can you please keep it up? And if you're not, could you please consider starting next year? Thanks. Please head to www.coastec.net.au/give/ for info on how you can give.

"I thank my God every time I remember you...because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now"