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Report on PRAY - Australia Day Prayer Yarrabah 26 Jan 2010 By Ps Barbara Miller



Left- Fr Edward Murgha with Ps Norman & Barbara seated, Above right –Ps Seni, PNG & PNG team from Tabernacle of David, Cairns, Bottom right – Combined St Albans & Tabernacle of David worship team

Introduction

Leaving Cairns at 8.15am, we drove the 1hr trip from Cairns to Yarrabah Aboriginal community in extremely heavy rains from cyclone Olga but we were not to be deterred despite the rising water on the road. We took 4 carloads in convoy from our church with 14 people and we phoned the couple who were to do the videoing when we were about a quarter of the way to tell them not to come as the road was not safe for their little car. They were to leave a half hour after us as we wanted to be early. Travelling with us was Sally Humphries who had flown up from Melbourne especially for the event. She is originally from Hong Kong.

Ps Carl Musch and a visiting pastor from PNG, Francis Seni also travelled the very wet road from Mareeba. The rain not only kept others from Cairns and surrounding areas away but the driving rain kept many of the Yarrabah people confined to their homes. The local Aboriginal council had put up a sign to cancel all Australia Day activities, and, as the prayer rally was part of the official program for the day, many considered it cancelled too.

However, we arrived nearly an hour before the prayer rally was due to start and Fr Edward Murgha, our Yarrabah host from St Albans Anglican church sent word out it was on after all and those who were hungry and thirsty for the Lord started to arrive. We had about 50 people attend the 2 hour prayer rally followed by a BYO lunch to share afterwards.

The picture above is clip art and doesn't do justice to the beautiful church on the beach at Yarrabah. While we had heavy rain for most of our prayer meeting, you could still see the beautiful beaches on the way to Yarrabah and at Yarrabah itself.

This was a very strategic time for Yarrabah and the nation as the priest and traditional elder of Yarrabah, Fr Edward Murgha repented for idolatry and other sins on behalf of the community and re-covenanted Yarrabah to the Lord. This had been done before in 2006 and it was renewed today.

After the prayer and lunch, people started to spontaneously share the visions they had received and a very animated time of sharing followed. Many said how they had wanted something like this to happen for a long time so now this would just be the start. Nothing was taped but I took notes of the prayers and discussion afterwards and have done my best to reconstruct it. One of our team took some photos on a mobile phone and we're waiting for them.

Prayer begins

Bishop Jim Leftwich gave his blessing to the prayer rally but was unable to attend. Fr Edward Murgha did the welcome to country as an elder of the Khunggandji (or Gungganyji) people and priest of St Albans. Roger Wall from our church blew the shofar in the four directions as we called people into the kingdom of God facing the 4 directions.

A combined Tabernacle of David and St Albans team lead worship with two songs we had written – "Transformation" and "Redigging the Wells" and then the well known "The Great Southland".

Fr Edward handed over to Ps Norman Miller to be the MC and Norman shared a brief message on the vision of the prayer rally before inviting various people to come up and lead prayers on various topics. The written word can't convey the heartfelt and anointed prayers by all who led them.

Norman said that the rain was a sign of blessing. He said that before our July conference, "The Glory is Mine" in Cairns, he saw a hand so he watched and waited like Habbakuk. As we humble ourselves and repent, God will hear us. 2 Chron 7:14. I saw the hand of God with the letters PRAY. The Lord said to me to call a prayer rally. I said yes, Lord where? Then I realised it was at Yarrabah – P-Prayer, R-Rally, A-at, Y-Yarrabah. He then gave me the date – 26 Jan 2010- Australia Day. You know what that date means to many Aboriginal people. Some years ago, I hesitated to celebrate this day too because it's a day that celebrates colonisation etc. But things are beginning to turn. Gen 50:20 – what the enemy meant for wrong, God is turning it around for the good.

The Lord gave me the scripture Gen 26, the first book of the Bible for the first month of our calendar with the 26th chapter for the 26th day. It's where Isaac redug the wells of his father Abraham. Many Aboriginal communities have experienced revival, including Yarrabah. God wants to open up the well again in Yarrabah. Can anything good come out of Yarrabah? (Yes the people called out). The media might say no. I'm so excited God's going to open up this well again! Abraham became rich and wealthy. The Philistines stopped up the wells Abraham dug because of jealousy. Nothing will stop revival here! God wants to breathe His spirit upon you afresh.

We may have allowed idolatry to come in. We don't want to serve other gods like the rainbow serpent. We need to turn away from them and turn to God, re-covenanting to Him.

Arise and shine for your light has come (Isa 60). Arise Australia! Arise Yarrabah! Arise every Aboriginal community and the nations God has brought here – PNG and Hong Kong. Isaac re-opened the wells. We need to re-covenant ourselves to God and the Holy Spirit will re-open these wells. With joy shall we draw from the wells of salvation. There are prophecies that Australia would see the last great move of God. Isaac had to dig to discover fresh water. We need a time of rediscovery in God's word, to dig deeper and deeper into His word. As Isaac dug, there was quarrelling, a spirit of strife and conflict so he called that well "esek". The Philistines quarrelled over another well Isaac dug so he called it "sitnah" or enmity and hostility. He didn't give up. He dug another well and there was no quarrelling. God had given him room in the land and he knew he would flourish so he named it "Rehoboth". (We made a Rehoboth well for our 2003 Redigging the Wells and Transformation conference. We keep it in our church).

The emu and kangaroo are on Australia's emblem and they can't go back, only forward. The people of Israel were coming out of Egypt into the Promised Land but they wanted to go back when things got tough. Sometimes we want to do that too. In Ex 14:10-15, the people said to Moses, did you bring us out here to die? God doesn't want us to stay where we are or to go back but to go forward. But God said to Moses to stand firm for the Egyptians you see today, you will never see again. And I say, what's held the Aboriginal people back, won't hinder you again if you can get a hold of God's purposes for your life. God said to Moses, why cry to Me? Tell the Israelites to move on. We need to move on and move forward!

Kris Schylder noted it's 222 years from the first settlement in Australia in 1788 till today. It makes me think of Rev 22:2, the river of life flowing from the throne of God and the tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. Get ready because God is a healing God and as He brings health and restoration to you, you'll be like a tree of righteousness.

Barbara Miller shared briefly that the Lord had given her Ezek 22:30 on the way over and that the Lord's eyes were searching the nation for someone who would stand in the gap on behalf of the nation. He only needed one. His eyes are on you today as you stand in the gap for Australia and your community of Yarrabah. His eyes are on those who stand with us in prayer around the nation today and those who don't know about this prayer rally but are interceding for Australia. So don't be disappointed about the numbers.

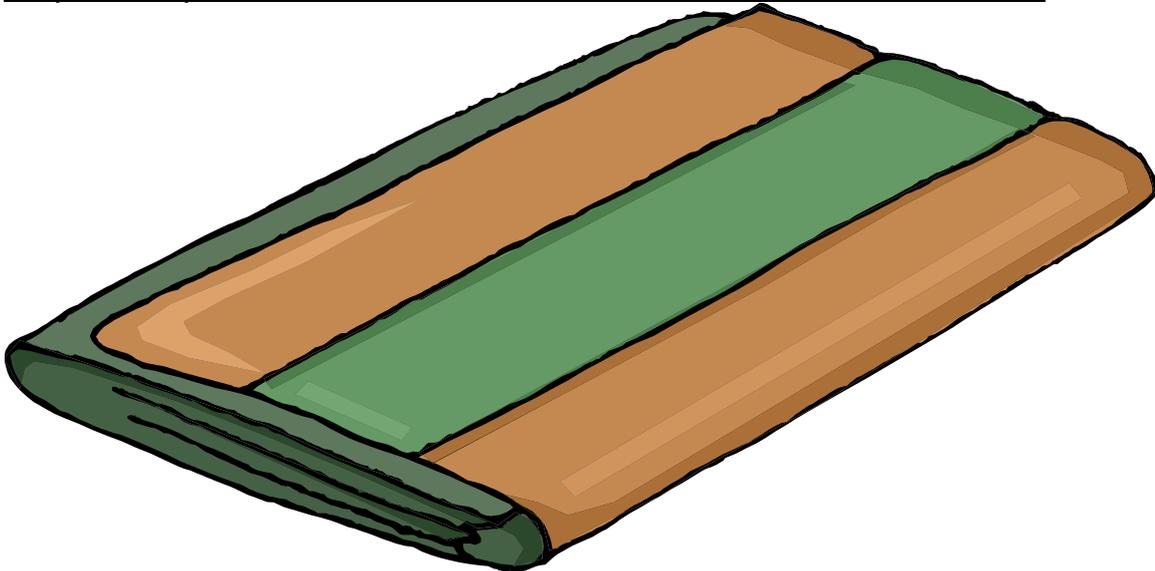
Fr Edward Murgha led a prayer for repentance for idolatry and other issues. Our God is a reconciling God. There are things that stop us moving forward. Josiah gave us an example of laying down idols that needed to be smashed. Thank you for your message Norman. We have idols on the throne of our hearts. We need to lay down the things that cling to us, that make us unfaithful and stop us moving forward. We need wells of fresh clean water. Till now the water was mud. (He read 2 Chron 34:29-33). Father, I ask forgiveness. We made covenant with you on Sept 20 a few years ago (2006) and we ask for your forgiveness for turning our backs on that covenant and we'll uphold that covenant in Jesus' name. I stand for the people of Yarrabah to smash idols and things over this community and place your holy angels at the four corners of this community. Give us the wisdom to govern your people.



Left – Debbii Miller & Colleen Burfitt
Right – Yarrabah prayer leader

Norman gave Edward a prayer hanky from Ps Graham Olwen Chigwidden from Townsville and Fr Edward read it out the message with it. Fr Edward thanked all the people from around Australia and overseas who were standing with us in prayer today and asked them to continue to do so.

Prayer Hanky for Yarrabah from Ps. Graham and Olwen from Townsville.



anointing oil

Habakkuk 3:2; 2 Corinthians 5: 18-20

Lord

We pray, "Revive Your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make it known; in wrath remember mercy."

Thank you Lord You've given us the word and ministry of reconciliation. We declare this over our state and our nation. Enable us to walk in what You have already given us through Your grace. We thank You in advance for the outpouring of Your Spirit. Give us grace and wisdom to maintain what You've given us and to increase.

Deborah Miller, Cairns – Prayer for Government.

Debbii read out Isa 9:6. She prayed for God's will to be done in Australia and Yarrabah as it is in heaven. This is the year of the Lord's favour (Isa 61). Lord please raise godly men and women in government who will rule and reign in Yeshua's name. Breathe on Cairns, Yarrabah, our nation and the indigenous communities. Turn the evil around to good. All things are possible through You. Lord, come and take your rightful place in our nation and in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We give our land, our nation back to You.

Colleen Burfitt, Cairns – Prayer for land issues.

I would like to honour the traditional owners of Yarrabah. I work at the National Native Title Tribunal. I pray for the Khunggandji clan. I pray for unity. Lord you've given the land to Yarrabah to look after. We ask that you bless Fr Eddie and the people. We ask that you change the hearts of the people at Yarrabah. We pray for breakthrough in sorting out native title issues and we pray for healing.

Mary Kyle, Yarrabah - Prayer for business and industry.

Yesterday I asked the Lord to give us a prayer for today. I thank the Lord because we've talked about doing something like this prayer rally for a long time. You know the hearts of the praying people of Yarrabah. We're crying out for help. We thank the Lord for the businesses and services they provide. We thank the Lord for Poppi Henry's takeaway giving us food and milk when there is no store and thanks for the store reopening. Thanks for Bruce Sands and staff working each day in the flood. Thanks for the milkman, servo and ITEC job network providing jobs and training after CDEP left. Thank you and bless you Lord.

Ps Norman said yes Lord please raise up the local entrepreneurs.

Ps Carl Musch, Mareeba – prayer for the church.

I've asked Ps Seni to pray for the unsaved which is part of what I was asked to pray for as he comes from the Sepik and has a heart for mission for Aboriginal people. The early Pentecostal missionaries were in the Daintree (Nth Qld) reaching out to Aboriginal people and as it appeared the Kuku Yelang people were not responding fast enough, the missionaries were ordered to go to PNG and went to Ps Seni's people. They took with them a love of the Aboriginal people which they passed onto the PNG people who took up the gospel quickly and are praying for the Aboriginal people. They also have a heart for the indigenous people of Indonesia.

Mt 16:18. prayer –Jesus, I can't see it but You made a promise to build Your church. You didn't say St Albans or Living Waters, Anglican or AOG but your church. He might not be upset if some churches closed but He builds HIS church. Tear down idols and wash clean Your church. Rebuild and repair the walls of Your church. Eph 2:14, You've broken down the walls of division. We see trees that grow weird and have to be pruned. Prune the church too. Religion is weak but there is power in You. I repent of my business at the expense of time with You. Help us to sit at our feet. On behalf of the believers of Australia, we give You Your church. We hand all of it back to You.

Ps Francis Seni, PNG – prayer for salvation of unsaved.

Three of the PNG ladies from our church and Roger Wall, stood with Ps Francis as he prayed. God you love us. Move across this land. Lord help us to go out and preach the gospel so people are saved. Bring the ministry of reconciliation to Australia. God touch them to do miracles and go to the highways and byways. Let our word be preached to all Lord. Bring revival and let there be healing and deliverance.

Ps Shirley Miller, Cairns – prayer for families.

I love my natural family and the family of God. Lord please heal the broken hearts. You are a God of breakthrough, restoration and healing. Thank you for healing the land at Yarrabah and please bring healing from fighting, violence and abuse in families. We pray today for transformation, for children smiling, not rebelling against parents, for women thriving and for men restored. Turn the hearts of the fathers and mothers to the children and the children to the parents. No one touches us like You do. I pray for reconciliation in families. We pray that all our families may be able to say, as for me and my household, I will serve the Lord.

Merton Bulmer, Yarrabah, - prayer for health.

When 2 or 3 are gathered to pray, the Lord hears us. I pray for our local health service and the hospital and all health organisations everywhere. I pray more health programs will be provided for physical and spiritual healing. I come against bad spirits, alcohol and drugs and diabetes and tell them to go back to the pits of hell. I pray for healthy families and organisations. I pray for minds and hearts to be healed and the land and people of Yarrabah to be healed.

Lillian Miller, Cairns – prayer for education.

Statistics tell us our indigenous students are failing national benchmarks. We pray for a breakthrough Lord. Can anything good come out of Yarrabah? Yes! We pray for the teachers to teach well. We pray for the students to have open ears. We pray the parents will be vigilant and support the schools. We pray parents will go up to the schools and find out how their children are going. Bless Yarrabah library. Bless every school in the nation as school starts tomorrow for the new year.

Josie Murgha, Yarrabah – prayer for police and courts.

I pray for the police, justice group, magistrate and council – those that crack down on injustice in the community. Thank you for this day. It's special to us. Father we struggle today with the justice system. Sometimes the police won't listen to us. Sometimes we don't want to listen to police. We think we know better. We have 2 laws – State laws and local by-laws. None are working. We had the AMP (Alcohol Management Plan) placed on us and it's going nowhere. Our people are so tired. Turn their hearts and minds to You, Father. Bless the magistrate. She understands our people's struggle with colonisation. We grandparents sit in the magistrate's court every month on Wednesday in a closed court for children. It's going nowhere. The police struggle too. We need to see fairness here. Help us Holy Spirit to get on track to deal with injustice. Help us to stand up for what is right. We pray for the justice group including funding (a group of Yarrabah people who liaise with police and courts). Open our eyes and hearts to do the right thing. We pray for the Council. We pray for our leaders and the JPs. Thank you Father for the gift of a new day, the gift of family and the gift of those in authority.

Sandra Loughton, Yarrabah – prayer for armed and emergency services.

Cleanse us of our sins, known and unknown. Bless each armed service in Australia and bring protection to them. Ps 91. Cover them and the emergency services with the blood of Jesus. We thank you for the emergency services at Yarrabah – Lankey and Leon. Please may we not be forgotten when there's a flood here, that we need bread and milk and the basics. Thank you that you feed us. We pray for the armed services within the church as we do battle with spiritual forces in the world. Protect us and lift the enemy off us. Thank you for your Son Jesus. We'll arise and shine in Your name. Rise up.

Barry Cedric, Yarrabah – prayer for media and entertainment industry.

The musicians and singers were often sent out in front by the Israelites to do battle ahead of the army. Through the Lord, they brought victory. The sweet aroma of music has gone up to heaven today. We pray that the media and entertainment industry would come under godly influence. Let the cry of indigenous people be heard. The only book that sets us free is the holy word. 2 Chron 7:14. Turn us Lord to You in repentance and humility and You will hear our prayers.

Barbara Miller

As I prayed last night for a word or scripture for the prayer rally today, He kept giving me “Arise, shine for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you” (Isa 60:1) so we sang songs based on this text, as well as other songs, on the drive over. Barbara read out this scripture. Prophetic word. I sensed the Lord was weeping over the nation and answering the prayers that people have prayed in their quiet times with the Lord. I gave a prophetic word for Yarrabah but as it was not taped, I can only remember some of it. It was something like this – Arise and shine Yarrabah for your light has indeed come this day and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. The Lord is gathering your prayers, gathering your tears and revival will flow here and will flow like a river through this nation. You will be like a light on the hill and the nations will come to you. Yes today, Yarrabah, the Lord chooses to redig the wells of revival. He has seen your faithfulness and heard your prayers. Take heart, He will surely do it.

Norman Miller

Where there have been curses, we speak blessings. As we have repented, the blessings will flow. Gen 50:20 shows that when we move in forgiveness, God is able to turn around what the enemy intended for harm, to the good, the saving of many lives. Isaac sowed in a time of famine and received a 100 fold return. We’re going to sew a seed today to bless the community of Yarrabah. Norman asked Edward to bless the offering and then pray for revival.

Edward Murgha - prayer for revival

We pray Holy Spirit to You for revival. Give us dreams, visions and revelation. Let your light Jesus shine over all Australia and go out worldwide. WE stand on this and lift it up. This is the start of things to come. Let the fire spread.

Song – Amazing Grace.

We finished with this song, again with a combined band from Cairns and Yarrabah and there was a real spirit of rejoicing. As we sang “Jesus, Jesus”, Judy Miller saw Jesus standing in the church with His arms outstretched, a crown on His head.

After an enjoyable time of fellowship after lunch, an animated discussion took place with people sharing visions etc. I’ve done my best to record it. Thanks to Judy for taking some notes on what she saw.

Sandra – I saw a net in a river with everyone going through, not getting away, coming to Jesus.

Merton – When the scripture about “Arise shine” was read by Barbara, I saw God standing and a light shining around Him, getting brighter. A volcano erupted and overflowed. Then there was a waterfall going into a creek, cleansing away the rubbish. There was a fireplace in the church. It was the fire of the Holy Spirit. He wants us to be on fire.

Miriam Kyle – I saw Jesus standing very big at the altar. I saw an idol, a little man, coming in. It looked like a mask to start with, not the mud people mask; a timber one. I saw a PNG shield. She said later the little man was like an albino and he sat in a seat and watched her. It was like the devil watching. He sat near the instruments and it was like he was saying, I dare you.

Barry – While I was worshipping, I heard an utterance of the latter day rain is coming.

Norman – The Lord brought a breakthrough, Bal Perrazim. It’s like the Lord parted the waters and created something new. It’s more than Rehoboth. Record your visions.

Judy Miller – I saw a number of things as people were praying. In the opening prayer of Fr Edward, I saw a large diamond. It was a round ball with a ring around it. I believe it was the world and the world was encompassed with the swirling ring. I got “all around the world”. When he asked the Lord to smash the idols, there was a breakthrough. There was another breakthrough when he thanked the Lord for all the peoples standing as one. As Sandra prayed

we will arise, I saw a warrior's spear, a symbol of strength, determination and togetherness. As Mum (Shirley) prayed, I saw a large hand wrapping itself around us. It was a gentle hand as Mum prayed for the restoration of Yarrabah. As Br Francis prayed, it was like the Lord bringing the people out of bondage in Egypt to the Promised Land. I heard "It will be done". As Ps Carl prayed, the Lord reminded me of a crack in a dam with the water seeping for some time then the dam bursts and there's a flood. As Colleen prayed, I sensed that something good will come out of the land "a jewel in the Lord's hand. As Debbie prayed, I saw breakthrough. As Barry prayed, I sensed the hotter the fire, the more costly the vessel.

Norman and Barbara – the diamond reminds us of the royal diadem of Isa 62.

Carl – I've been weighing up the earlier vision. The shield means protection but at the second look it was an idol that curses us. In the NT, a man was doing a painting with cross-hatching, fine lines. If I'd stood back, I'd have seen the mimi spirit in it, like a vampire, but I was too close. The next minute the old man said this is rubbish one. We need someone to talk to us about the Creator.

Barry then asked a question about culture and Christianity and an interesting discussion started with Carl, Sandra and Barbara commenting.

Sandra – It seemed like we were in an ark while we were in the church.

Fr Edward – It was a very important moment for Yarrabah when we stood on the hill overlooking the community in Sept 2006 and covenanted Yarrabah to the Lord. We had the priests and the elders and invited Norman and Barbara as they had encouraged us to do it. We formed a spearhead and stood in formation with Norman and Barbara as the springboard behind us. Fr Mick Connolly saw fire when the prayers were finished. After this, the fish and birds came back and the sea grass grew back. However, we've turned away again and suffered for it so today I've asked for forgiveness for that and re-covenanted this community to the Lord.

Barbara – I pray each year for a word for Australia Day. What I saw this year was a bar being raised. God is raising the bar and what we got away with last year; we'll not be able to get away with this year. He is requiring a higher standard from us. It came to my mind about the dance called the limbo rock where people would get down really low to try to get under the bar and the song would say 'how low can you go?' I felt the Lord was saying 'how high can you go? Often we just do enough to get by but the Lord wants a higher commitment, a spirit of excellence.

Norman – Next year, we'd like to hold this prayer rally again at Yarrabah and combine it with a 2-3 day conference and invite indigenous and other people from around Australia to come. Would you like to co-host that with us? Would you like to see that happen? Fr Edward was very interested.

Barbara – To expand a little on the vision for that, the Lord showed me in August 08 that He wanted to use Aboriginal people to bring revival in Australia but that He wanted prayer on Australia Day each year till He says otherwise to renounce idolatry, particularly to break covenant with the rainbow serpent and to re-covenant the nation to the Lord. We did this in a national prayer meeting in Melbourne for Australia Day 09 and in about 20 simultaneous prayer meetings around Australia with large Aboriginal participation. What we have found travelling around is in some areas of southern Australia, there are other spirits that are more important than the rainbow serpent. So we need to get Aboriginal people from different parts of Australia together so we can discern and deal with spirits holding Aboriginal people in bondage.

Also, the Lord has shown me something that I've not heard anyone else talk about. He showed me prior to our 24/7 conference at Uluru in July 2005 that knowing the stories of the indigenous people was important to spiritual mapping to know what spirits were operating over an area. There are positive attributes to people or animals in stories that can build local people up but

there are also negative elements in these stories that can pull people down and can be used by evil spirits to oppress a people. (The Lord has shown me since then that it applies to any group of people and their formative written literature as well). This informed our spiritual warfare at Uluru and made it more effective and has informed the way we have done ministry, including our prayer meetings, since then. At the Bethany Gate APPA convocation in May 2006 in Cairns, it brought an important breakthrough for the Torres Strait in my session at which Torres Strait Islanders participated.

When we had our 9/11 conference on Darnley Island in the Torres Strait in 2006, we found that the west side of the island was totally resistant to the gospel. However the east side of the island was open. An immediate breakthrough was brought about by 2 things. One was identificational repentance over a well where people were killed on the west side of the island. The other was repentance and spiritual warfare over negative aspects of local stories, especially where worship of other gods was involved, People from the west came to our conference that night and are still coming to church now.

So on Australia Day 2011, we want to bring indigenous and other people from around Australia to Yarrabah and we can compare our stories and discern what needs to be dealt with in the spiritual realm. This will be a step forward for spiritual freedom for indigenous people and revival for the nation.

Fr Edward – I am excited about this. We want you to come. (So did the others).

We left Yarrabah about 3pm and the rain had cleared. By the time we got to Cairns, the sun was shining. I felt such a peace in the church at Yarrabah that time didn't matter. We were where we needed to be and time did not matter.

At our church service the weekend afterwards, our musicians gave the following testimonies. Thomas Miller (lead guitar) shared how wonderful it was to play in a combined band with the Yarrabah band and how he would like to return for similar events as well as visit other Aboriginal communities. Colleen Burfitt (keyboard) shared how, when Ps Shirley prayed, she saw us making cards to deliver to all the households in Yarrabah with the scripture "As for me and my household, I will serve the Lord". (Joshua 24:15)

Norman and Barbara have been taking a team from Yarrabah to the All Nations Convocation Jerusalem since 2006 and we are working towards 24/7 prayer at Yarrabah. There is a good connection between Yarrabah and Israel.

Prayer Report from Israel

We just wanted to let you know that we may not have been with you, in Yarrabah, but we were with you in Spirit. We got together and the Lord had us making declarations and praying over Australia, here in Jerusalem. We especially remembered you all there in Yarrabah.

We felt the message of the Lord was this, from Hebrews 11:8-10 & 13-16. As the Father, brings us into His house, of love and security and we know that we belong in the Father's house, we receive the heartbeat and DNA of the Father- this is the heartbeat for the nations.

Our most important culture is no longer, Australian, but Kingdom culture as we search for a better homeland, who's Maker and Architect is God. We become part of a nomad people, and a Kingdom people. This world is not our identity or home. We bring the gift of our culture into the gates (Revelation 21:24.) but our homeland is not our culture.

Shalom and thinking of you on this important day - Rachel Ford, (Sukkot Hallel) Rachel and Kay (Living Bread.)

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