



Naden News

with Neville & Kathie Naden



February 2025

As I reflect on the last quarter of last year, I am in awe of God’s grace and mercy—first for my family and second for the ministry being carried out by many faithful people in the BCA family, including my Indigenous brothers and sisters in Christ.

It hasn’t always been smooth sailing. Ministry in any context comes with its challenges. However, the God we serve can do far beyond what we can accomplish or imagine.

NSW AEF family camp

AEF and BCA share a relationship demonstrating the oneness in Christ we are called to live out. BCA has partnered with the AEF on various initiatives, including supporting the AEF NSW Family Camp.

2024’s event was held in Condobolin, NSW, and approximately 350 people attended. People travelled from across the country, including Perth (WA), Adelaide (SA), and Brisbane (QLD).

The camp is always a wonderful time of fellowship, showcasing the oneness we share in the gospel. The gathering includes people from various denominations and ethnic backgrounds.

This year’s theme was ‘The Victorious Life’, with keynote speakers Phil Wheeler and Terrence Lennon. Phil pastors Living Water Indigenous Church, while Terrence, his understudy, is also a BCA bursary student. It was a blessing to hear Terrence open the Scriptures and guide us through the theme. This is what true gospel partnership looks like.



Neville & Kathie with new Granddaughter Avery Isla Naden

In the evenings, several leaders opened the Bible for us. Pastor Tom Sloane, an Indigenous leader, preached on Friday night, while Phil Spiers, who is not Indigenous, shared on Saturday evening. Jono Manton, another Indigenous leader, preached on Sunday night.

David and Alana Burges and their team once again led the children's ministry, and they did an excellent job.

Kathie Bird spoke at the ladies' meeting, and David Cox led the men's session. Both were well attended, with around 70 men and women at each gathering.

We are so grateful for our BCA Nomads, who helped with various tasks around the campsite, including meal preparation. Some sittings saw 400 meals served, with people often coming back for seconds due to the quality of the food!

A special mention goes to Kerry Gainsford, who, despite farewelling her mum last year, still dedicatedly coordinated the meals. We pray God continues to bless Kerry for her faithful service.

A big thank you also goes to the musicians, most of whom play by ear without formal training. Their talent for country gospel music brought the camp alive.

We're already looking forward to this year's family camp, which will again be held in Condobolin. Nathaniel Naden has agreed to be the keynote speaker, with the theme 'Better Together: Christian Unity in the Gospel', drawing lessons from the Corinthian church.

A flyer for this year's camp is in the works and will be distributed soon. Why not plan to join us as we seek to show what true reconciliation looks like?

Speaking Engagements

Over the last quarter, I've been blessed to speak and promote BCA's work at several churches.



Condobolin showgrounds witnessing the feeding of the masses during the AEF family camp



Neville at Dubbo Anglican church where he preached and promoted BCA's work

One such visit was to the Port Augusta Gospel Chapel. Long-standing friends of ours, who faithfully serve in Port Augusta among our people, needed a break. We were glad to assist by leading services over a couple of weekends and caring for their Bible study group.

I also had the opportunity to visit Shannon Smith in the Bendigo Diocese and caught up with Bishop Matt Brain and his family. It was encouraging to see Shannon's work and hear the bishop's heart for Indigenous ministry. Thank you, Shannon and Bishop Matt, for welcoming me and sharing the work you are doing.

Over the next couple of years, I will focus on visiting various Indigenous churches nationwide. There are several reasons for this. I want to help these churches think through good gospel ministry while identifying people BCA can invest in to support their growth and formation.

Please pray for this!

Being a Sounding Board

When I'm not on the road, I often act as a sounding board for churches serving in the Indigenous space. Please pray for Kathie and me as we seek to offer wise counsel to those who come to us for guidance.

We are also eager to visit our partner churches whenever possible, connecting with supporters of BCA's work.

Let me conclude by thanking you all for your prayers and support for us and our people.

The apostle Paul had a heart for his people, and so do we. Please pray that God would raise up workers for His harvest and transform lives for His glory.

With Christian love,

Neville (& Kathie)



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