

17 Princeton Street
KENMORE 4069
5th April 2020

To my faithful supporters,

I do want to thank you all again for your faithful support – because of your faithfulness in giving and praying, it helps me to keep going with all the opportunities and challenges that are out there. I do want to assure you that I do love my work in spite of all the difficulties and frustrations and I thank God for the opportunity that he's given to me.

All of our Christmas activities went off very well with both lunches on the north side of Brisbane and out at Goodna and I was also able to help Faith down at Logan by giving her some money for their gathering – usually about two or three hundred people attend that event and that includes Aboriginal and non Aboriginal people. The Rev Don Campbell and his wife Lurline from Upper Coomera Anglican Church on the Gold Coast were also able to support Faith at Logan. The Campbells have been wonderful supporters of Aboriginal ministries for many many years.

Towards the end of January we were able to organise a number of meetings around the Country to do with the 26th of January. We had three big gatherings here in Brisbane and all were very well attended and people came from a number of denominations including the North and South Coast. For many it was the first time they ever attended an Aboriginal Christian event.

After the Brisbane meetings Brooke and I went on to Sydney and Melbourne. The Sydney meetings were tremendous – the first one in Sydney, just north, I thought we would have about 30 people attending but was shocked to find out that the numbers went to 150. Again they came from different denominations and some very good contacts were made there. The main meeting in Sydney was at St Andrew's Cathedral and it was packed out. I was told that 700 had attended and again it was the first time to be at an event to do with Aboriginal people. At the main event in Melbourne that was held in the Anglican Cathedral about 500 attended the service. It was interesting to see a mixed group of people – older folk who came by train as well as many younger people. I was thrilled to meet up with folk I hadn't seen for years – some were leaders of Missionary and Christian organisations. I was grateful to the Archbishops of both Cathedrals for giving us the opportunity for these events to take place. It was good to make some new contacts too. Brooke was able to go on to Tasmania for similar meetings. There's real interest in this country for these services to take place but we need more people to come on board to help us with their prayers and their interest. We were both very exhausted after all of these meetings but we thank God for the opportunities given to us.

Early in January my relative Glennie Naden (nee O'Chin) organised a camp at Coffs Harbour. Glennie and her husband Kevin have been running camps for almost 30 years. There are many Christian young people around the Nation who have attended these camps over many years and some of them are leaders today. Some of you have supported these camps over those years. Faith (nee O'Chin) her brother Craig and his wife Mary and myself were able to take a busload from Brisbane and altogether about 100 attended the camp. From the takings from the Christmas Café in December we were able to support some of the children we'd taken down plus some money from our Vision Trust was put towards the camp in general. It was good to have the camp almost right on the beach and they certainly enjoyed going into the

water. It was the first time some of the young people who had gone from Brisbane had been out of the City. If it is possible, Glennie hopes to have a similar camp next January.

I guess we are experiencing something in our country today which is causing us a lot of concern but also to know that our God is still there with us and of course like many others, we are experiencing difficulties with some of our families because of poverty and living where they are is also creating a lot of problems. I am grateful for a small group of people who are trying to help with food etc- so many of our people do not live near shops and do not have vehicles and they are spread, not only in our City but around the Nation. What we have we've been able to share with others in Ministry. Next month (May) we were to have our annual Soup Night but that has had to be cancelled. It would have been 23 years old. In August we were to have our annual Dinner – it would have been 26 years old. Almost all of these events have been held at St Andrews Anglican Church in South Brisbane and I'm grateful to Rev John Arnold and the Rev Allan Moore for enabling these events to take place – I am also grateful to Dave Andrews for the part that he played with so many of the young people from the Waiter's Union who have come on the journey with me in Aboriginal Affairs and have made tremendous contributions. Many of these young people have helped organise these events and have given in so many ways. Christians from many denominations have attended these functions – they have been good bridge building and so many have become very supportive of Aboriginal issues and ministries. Both John and Allan have been tremendous with the support they have given too. The Rev Allan retires toward the end of this year and we were going to use one of these events to say goodbye to him and to thank him. He has been so faithful in not only attending these events but in the way he has supported them. I don't think it will be possible to have the dinner in the middle of this year, so maybe we could combine the Soup Night, the Dinner and the Christmas Café at the end of the year if that's possible, given the restrictions of the Corona Virus.

Finally I want to inform you all that the house where I am now living will be up for sale at the end of this month. I do not know for sure where I will be living but I would very much like you to pray for me and my future, especially about accommodation. I am fairly busy trying to sort out my belongings and to pack and I am praying that the Lord will provide some place for me to live. I trust you will be with me in your thoughts and prayers and will try to keep in touch with you all. If you have any questions, it's not always possible to keep in touch with me but I'm sure Amy (phone number 0416107129) or Robin Lake from St Andrews (38441246 – 0407620970) will inform you of my whereabouts and any other questions you might have.

Thanking you all again
Christian love

AUNTIE JEAN