

## Church Update 4 February 2022



Dear Church Family,

This Sunday represents something of a gear-change as we move from our Summer Sundays format to our regular pattern of 8.30am and 10.30am services. It's so exciting to see all our regular ministries starting up again for 2022! As the year gets underway, let's be mindful of Peter's encouragement in the verses below for us to strive always to be like Jesus in our interactions with one another.

*"Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing." 1 Peter 3:8-9*

With Omicron now present in the community we are anticipating ongoing changes and government updates, and so will continue these Friday Covid Updates as deemed necessary.

### 500+ Attendance Numbers

Previously we had been advised that if our attendance numbers were to exceed 500 we would require proof of vaccination. However, we have now received advice from the Baptist Ministry Centre that this is not the case. Regardless of attendance numbers, churches do not require proof of vaccination. The mandate to wear masks remains in place and we would urge you to refrain from physical contact, handshaking, hugging etc at our gatherings for the time being. To minimize risk of spread we will not be serving tea and coffee in our services at Booragoon this Sunday, and our Sunday Café will be closed. This may change in weeks to come.

### Covid Exposure Site

One of our Music Trainers at the College tested positive for COVID late Thursday (3 February) afternoon. Some of the College staff were in contact with him for a brief period yesterday morning before he was asked to go home and get tested. He was at the College for only 25 minutes. His contact was limited to the College staffroom area, hence there is no risk to the rest of the facility, students or church staff. The staff that were in contact with him have immediately been asked to isolate and be tested, and the College/Church reception and staff rooms were cleaned overnight. We are in contact with WA Health and following their advice and instructions. Our facility may be listed as an "exposure site" in the foreseeable future, but at least you now know the context and facts of the matter.

That said, we certainly encourage you to join us at Booragoon at 8.30am or 10.30am, or at Thornlie Community Church at 9.30am or for their Family Day Celebrations from 11.00am. And for those who for any reason are wary or unable to join us, please join us virtually at **8.30am on Zoom**.

With the continuation of our Virtual Zoom of the 8.30am service, we are needing some more volunteers to help make this possible. If you are have experience running Zoom and would be willing to serve in this way, our Communications Team Leader would love to hear from you. Please email [kellie.parsons@mounties.org.au](mailto:kellie.parsons@mounties.org.au)

May the Lord continue to lead and guide us through these times. Hope to see you Sunday!

Blessings,

Nick Scott  
**Senior Pastor**