

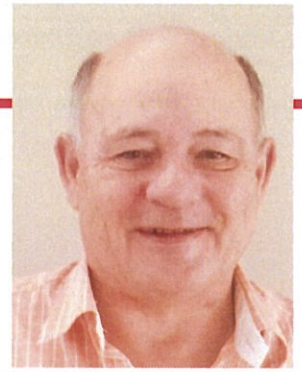
June 2022



Strong Family Church

Kawana Waters Uniting Church

A word from Schalk



Hi Everyone,
Warm Greetings,

Lee Strobel is the author of "The Case for Heaven (and Hell)" (2021) in which he consults with experts in various disciplines such as medical, science, sociology, psychology, philosophy, Biblical scholars, history, archaeology, and theology to investigate evidence for the existence of the soul and life after death.

This has been the study material of our Friday Night Group for the second term of this year and has certainly challenged us to cultivate the eternal perspective more strongly by being more supernaturally orientated and to bring to earthly considerations the fact of heaven and the fact of Hell.

Why does this matter?

The Christian view is that we live on the edge of eternity with an eye on heaven. That is to say, we look beyond this life to another one, namely, to be "in our Father's house", living with Jesus. We also have an eye on the God-loved world, urgently sharing the message with all that the Kingdom of God is near and offering ourselves heart and soul as servants of the King.

This is so different to modern secular thought which puts its trust in this life and makes earthly happiness and well-being its primary concern. This leads to a self-sufficient world where eternity is simply a "ceasing to exist", with no room for the supernatural.

The two views of life are starkly different.

Strobel tells the story of Nabeel Qureshi, a devout Muslim and medical doctor, who investigated the evidence for Christ and as a result came to faith in Jesus. He earned two further advanced degrees, became a bestselling author and worldwide speaker. Sadly, he contracted cancer and at 34 years of age died in 2017. During his struggle with cancer, he said the following, "**... it's a popular belief that there is no such thing as the supernatural. What the resurrection**



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means, then, is that this is wrong. There's something more to this world—something that can bring people back from the dead. There's hope—no matter what."

Friends, we all live on the edge of eternity. Let us live with an eye on heaven, in order to bring God's love to bear to a broken, hurting and sinful world, beginning with us.

The gospel writer, John shows us how this can happen:

"Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." John 1: 12

Looking Forward

Guest Preachers

I am grateful to our guest preachers leading our worship services during my leave period from 19 June to 17 July 2022.

Please welcome James Stevenson, Dennis Harth, Costa Stathakis, Philip Hulme and Liz Gaynor.

Please contact **Dennis Harth** for any pastoral emergencies during my absence. His mobile number is **0410224320**.

New Preaching Series A MESSY, BLESSED LIFE – The story of Jacob. From Sun 24 July to Sun 28 August roughly covering Genesis 25 – 48. Our Kingdom Kids and Friday Night Group will be following this theme and scripture passages during this period as well.

Congregational Retreat: All are invited to the congregational retreat from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm on Sat 13 August 2022 at the church. The purpose of the retreat is to reflect on the life of our church with a view to God's leading for the future. The retreat will be led by Dr Lloyd Walker.

A little bit about Lloyd:

I met Lloyd and his family when I arrived at Kawana over 12 years ago and together, we began our efforts towards reaching out to Youth and families. He

and his family re-located to Victoria in 2015 for work reasons and has now returned to the Sunshine Coast and to our church.

With his permission, I share a brief part of his resume:

Lloyd Walker (Dr)

I am an experienced leader of research, clinical, education and policy teams in the disability and allied health sectors. Since 2015 I have been leading outcomes focused assistive technology (AT) advice and market development in the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). I take a collaborative, evidence-based approach informed through lived experience of disability to my work.

I am an internationally acknowledged leader in assistive technology policy and standards, and sought out by Australian AT stakeholders and industry for my strategic thinking, integrity, communication skills and commitment to delivering positive outcomes for people with disability.

I'm a recognized Lay Preacher in the Uniting Church, and in 2021, led a community engagement and planning program for St Luke's Uniting Church (with a Geelong City Council Grant) to develop a master plan for the St Luke's Highton campus (see <https://stlukesuca.org.au/2021/12/17/dreaming-big-dec2021/>)

Education and Credentials

PhD (Bioengineering) 1991– University of Strathclyde, Glasgow *Biomechanics of the Foot & Lower Leg*

MTheolStudies 2014 (Flinders) – major in bioethics/disability ethics

BE (Hons) Mechanical 1987 (Qld)

Biomedical Engineering credential: FIEAust, CPEng, NER(335732), IntPE(Aus)

GAICD: Graduate – Company Director's Course, Australian Institute of Company Directors

Experience

2015 – PRESENT

Director – Assistive Technology (EL2)/ National Disability Insurance Agency

Lead delivery of the NDIS AT Strategy, while continuing to provide AT technical and sector subject matter expertise across the Agency, and to other areas of the Australian Government as required

Looking Further Ahead

Concert: A congregational Concert will be held from 2:00 pm till 4:30 pm at the church on Sat 10 September 2022. The concert is to be a fun event and the organiser's, Adele Wallace, Margeret Nicol and Bryan Lendrum, will be 'tapping on shoulders'' to seek your participation. The theme will be AROUND THE WORLD.

Much love to you all.

Blessings

Schalk