Book Review: Becoming Elisabeth Elliot

In 1952, missionary and gifted linguist Betty Howard was posted at San Miguel, Ecuador, immersed in studying the language of the Colorado Indians. When she had arrived in San Miguel she had had no doubts about God’s will for her time there. She would learn the language, create an alphabet, transform the Indians into a highly literate community and then present them with the scriptures translated into their native tongue.

Aiding her in these projects was the perfect translator’s assistant: Don Macario, maybe the only person on the planet who was completely bilingual in Spanish and Colorado. Over the months that followed, Howard’s language research hummed along. Everything was on track for a fruitful ministry to a largely unreached people group.

But then tragedy struck. Don Macario was violently murdered by an armed mob. Not long after, the suitcase containing the entirety of Betty’s notes and charts on the Colorado tongue was stolen off the back of a truck. Nine months of language work, including a completed phonemic alphabet, lost forever.

Did God not want the Colorados to have the scriptures in their own language? Had she come all this way for such a fruitless exercise? What was God doing? Suddenly Betty was forced to reckon with the inscrutable will of the God she served. It would not be the last time she grappled with such questions. Howard later married missionary and former classmate, Jim Elliot, who would be senselessly killed by tribesmen he had hoped to reach with the gospel.

What struck me as I read this volume of Elisabeth Elliot’s biography was just how much of this famous missionary’s ministry was actually marked by failure, futility and feebleness. Her unflinching obedience and determined passion to reach the lost are a great encouragement, but so is the reminder that God grows his kingdom in strange and hidden ways, often imperceptible to his servants, like yeast hidden in dough (Mt 13:33).

- Susan Pursell
National Church Life Survey (NCLS)

Today we will be conducting the National Church Life Survey (NCLS) after our services.

Complete the survey online:
attendsurvey.ncls.org.au
Church code: ANS74401
If you would prefer a paper copy, you can collect one on Sunday.

Our church's contribution will form an important part of the national snapshot of the whole Australian Church. For more information visit 2021ncls.org.au.
This is a voluntary and anonymous survey. Please only complete the survey once.

AGM - 13th March

Our AGM (Annual General Meeting) will be held on **Sunday 13th March** after the morning service, at **11.30am** in the church. A pot-luck lunch will be held afterwards (further details to come).

We will be electing representatives for Wardens, Parish Council and Parish Nominators. **Nomination forms are now available**, please prayerfully consider who you would like to nominate.

SISMB Commissioning Service

On **Thursday 3rd March** at 7pm, we will be hosting the SISMB Commissioning Service.
Please save the date, and be praying for the service.

Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Angela Pursell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Zacharie Firley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anniversaries

Financial Update

(YTD 17 February 2022)

Income $18,994

Expenses $21,246

Difference -$2,252

The people who are serving us

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>20th Feb</th>
<th>27th Feb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Welcomer:</td>
<td>R Slocombe</td>
<td>J Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Reader:</td>
<td>K Dobbie</td>
<td>R Hannam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prayer Leader:</td>
<td>D Young</td>
<td>D Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kids' Program:</td>
<td>R Hannam/V O'Regan</td>
<td>P &amp; G Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morning Tea:</td>
<td>J Orange/C Smith</td>
<td>C Bonnici/J Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meal Clean Up:</td>
<td>D Orange</td>
<td>C Smith</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>20th Feb</th>
<th>27th Feb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Welcomer:</td>
<td>A Peters</td>
<td>D Rainey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bible Reader:</td>
<td>E Hick</td>
<td>A Peters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prayer Leader:</td>
<td>V O'Regan</td>
<td>P Taylor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Afternoon Tea:</td>
<td>R Slocombe</td>
<td>G Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meal Clean Up:</td>
<td>D Rainey</td>
<td>P Taylor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cleaning Saturday: A & M Peters

Mowing Saturday: C Smith/P Taylor
Luke’s Gospel

Jesus calls his disciples


Sam Pursell • 20th February 2022

1. Great crowds and a great catch (1-7)

2. Jesus calls sinners to be disciples and disciple-makers (8-11)

Next Sunday...

‘Jesus wants to heal (but not just sickness)’ • Luke 5:12-16 • Sam Pursell
Information about our Church

Your kids are welcome
Children are welcome to stay with you during church. Kids church starts roughly 15 mins into the 9:30am service (during school terms).
You may also take your child to the Cry Room at the rear of the church to watch us live on a TV.

Check out our bookstall
View our quality selection of Christian books for sale at the bookstall located at the rear of the church.

Join a small group
Our midweek small groups are great for connecting with others. To join a group, contact the office.

We are filming church
(9:30am service only)
For those unable to attend, we are streaming and recording video at live.oakflatsanglican.com.
You may be filmed.

Kids and Youth programs
In school terms, we offer a range of midweek programs for toddlers, children and youth.

COVID Safety Practices
A reminder that:
- Wearing masks is mandatory indoors.
- There is no limit to numbers on site.
- Doors and windows will be open to maximise ventilation.
- Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m where possible.
- Hand sanitiser is still easily accessible.
- Please stay home if you are unwell, even if your symptoms are mild.

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Prayers

CURRENT PRAYERS
People in need
Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Jean Beetles, Olga & John Covetz, Dave & Jan Crook, Sherida & Gary Findell, Auriel & Barrie Hadley, Raija & Robert Hannam, Joy Meyer, Pam Moore, Charlie October, Paduch family, Allan Quinn, Merv Sercombe, Sue Simpson, Sandra & Ed Stanojevic, Mary Straughan, Betty Uren, Greg & Sue Vickery, Chris & John Wilson.

Family and friends of Hanno Stanojevic
Give thanks to God for the life of Hanno Stanojevic, who passed away on 17th February.
Pray that Sandra, Ed and family will find comfort in the hope of the resurrection of the dead for those in Christ Jesus.

Peter Evans
Pray for Peter and Joy as Peter prepares for heart surgery on Friday 25th February. Pray for the team of Doctors and nurses who will be looking after him.

High School SRE
Give thanks for the appointment of John Delezio as the High School SRE teacher at Oak Flats High. Pray for John as he starts on Friday 25th February.

Upcoming AGM
Pray that our Annual General Meeting (Sunday 13th March) will serve well to share the church vision and to recruit the right men and women to serve in elected positions.

World tensions
Pray for the tension between Russia and Ukraine to be resolved helpfully and peacefully.

REGULAR PRAYERS (CYCLE 3 OF 4)
Government
The Premier and NSW politicians.

World Focus
The continent of Asia.

Mission Partners
Stewart Continuing Ministries - training leaders of the persecuted church in ministry.

Organisations We Support
Youthworks and the Bible Society.

Word Ministry Training
Ministry Training and Development (MT&D) and the Ministry Training Strategy (MTS).

Staff and Senior Leadership
Wardens and Parish Councillors.

Children and Youth Ministry
Kids' Church.

Adult Ministry
Seniors (Prime Time).

Local Evangelism
Outreach to emergency services and community groups.

Members unable to attend church
Those house-bound or living in nursing homes including Bob & Margaret Abrahams, Marlene Arthur, Audrey Ford and Lily Lyddiard.

Local Public Schools
Oak Flats Public, Balarang Public and Oak Flats High.

Contact our Prayer Coordinator, Geoff Kyngdon with any prayer requests or if you wish to be part of the prayer chain. He can be contacted on either 0417 044 565 or geoff.kyngdon@oakflatsanglican.com.