

## Walkabout Ministries Report 2017

The Elders Outreach Group continued to meet every Tuesday during the school terms at Holy Trinity hall. We have had 5 new ladies join our group. This year they again attended the Elders Olympics in Orange, a cultural trip in Moree, attended schools and been involved in cultural activities in the community. They have continued to have guest speakers during the year as well as visits from health professionals and a massage therapist. They continue to enjoy craft sessions and held an open day on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November for people to come along and see what they had been making, talk with the Elders over a cuppa and giving people the opportunity to buy some of the craft items.

Once again, my ministry joined with the North-West River Convention Circuit (run by the Australian Indigenous ministries). Eddie and I and a few community members joined the convention in Brewarrina, Lightning Ridge and Walgett. The convention finished in Dubbo with us all joining the Community Kitchen at Holy Trinity on the Friday night for fellowship and entertainment. On Saturday, we all met in the church hall for the day for prayer and fellowship before holding an open-air Gospel sharing evening and sausage sizzle in a park attached to one of the housing estates.

The Reconciliation Luncheon held on the 19<sup>th</sup> September was attended by 70 guests. We were fortunate to have Bishop Chris McLeod as our guest speaker and have received many favourable comments on his talk. Ken Phillis was our MC for the day and the Welcome to Country was given by Eddie. The Aboriginal Girls Circle from Dubbo Campus helped with the preparation and serving of food and clean up. This was greatly appreciated by all and the girls were very ably supervised by Margaret Pickette. Our Aboriginal dancers were joined by some of the girls. Bishop Chris spent the week here in Dubbo and it was good to catch up with him and we hope he will come again next year, when hopefully we will also have Fr Victor, Salu and the Bamaga youth group.

The women's camp was held at Lake Burrendong from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. The ladies enjoyed craft, guest speakers during the days with a smoking ceremony and dance on the Saturday night and a healing church service on the Sunday morning.

A family fun day in October was going to be held as an overnight camp in the Goobang National Park, unfortunately we were washed out and arrangements were quickly made for the day to be held in Dubbo. We had several new people attending the day, and they are keen to join us again next year. Everyone had a great time playing games and chatting during the day. A BBQ lunch was provided for everyone.

The Women of the Bible afternoon was held in November. A few of our regular ladies were unable to join us on the day but asked for copies of the booklets. The women looked at were: Mary & Martha, Rahab, Naomi & Ruth, Queen of Sheba, we ran out of time and didn't get to look at Song of Solomon. The afternoon invoked a lot of sharing and personal stories

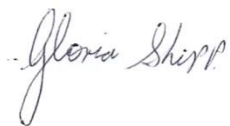
amongst the ladies. We asked the ladies for feedback at the end of the day and they all expressed a desire to have at least two of these afternoons next year as there was so much content and discussion that we could easily fill two days. We have already organised our first one for May 2018.

Eddie and I had a workshop with the JJ's boys in May painting boomerangs for NAIDOC week. In June this year I resigned my position as Chaplain at the Orana Juvenile Justice Centre, due to ongoing health issues, the boys presented me with a painting and flowers in appreciation for the time I had spent with them. I had been working in the center 2 days a week as well as holding Sunday service out there once a month with Fay Jorgensen assisting me and significant days' services.

I continue to take funeral services, weddings and baptisms when requested. NATSIAC continued to take a lot of mine and Jenni's time. The Gathering was held in Melbourne in 2017, with all accommodation and flight bookings being done through my office.

Eddie continues to be a great support to me. He always willing to lend a hand whenever I need him whether it be driving a bus, helping with transporting people/equipment for functions and leading the men's camps. Another support is Jenni continuing to come on Wednesday to help with the administration side of the ministry and helping with set up for functions.

I continue to be thankful for all the support given to this ministry from ABM which enables these programs to continue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Shipp".

Rev Gloria Shipp

# Elders Outreach Group



## Family Fun Day



## Reconciliation Luncheon





## Women's Camp





## Juvenile Justice



## Baptisms



# Women of the Bible



But the LORD stood with me & gave me strength.

WALKABOUT MINISTRIES

## Women of the Bible

November 2017

### Opening Prayer

*Heavenly Father, send forth your Spirit to enlighten our minds and dispose our hearts to accept your truth. Help us to listen to one another with openness and honesty, eager to learn from the talents and intuitions that you have given each of us. Never let differences of opinion diminish our mutual esteem and love. May we leave this meeting with more knowledge and love for you and your Son. In the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

At my lowest...  
 God is my **HOPE**.  
 At my darkest...  
 God is my **LIGHT**.  
 At my weakest...  
 God is my **STRENGTH**.  
 At my saddest...  
 God is my **COMFORTER**.