



ACBM eNews

Preaching the Word - Caring for the Brotherhood

Fiji

1 February 2023

A group of 18 from the Burnside Ecclesia (SA) visited Fiji for the last two weeks of December, 2022. We had a very happy and warm welcome from the brothers, sisters and young people at the Suva Ecclesia. They sang a welcome song and gifted us handmade necklaces. Our theme for the week was 'Remember Your Creator', focusing on young people in the Bible. Interactive studies were led by Fijian and Australian young people throughout the week. It was encouraging to see some as young as twelve asking questions and contributing to the discussion.

Day trips around Suva included a challenging hike up Mount Korobaba, swimming at a local waterfall, and visiting the museum followed by games in the park and a trip to the beach. We travelled to these places with the young people all packed into the back of a truck, often singing hymns along the way. We had two ecclesial lunches with the Suva Ecclesia using the traditional Fijian lovo, an earth oven made by heating rocks in a fire. Everyone was involved in the process – the young men start the fire early in the morning, men scrape the coconuts while the women prepare the meat and veggies.

The new year was celebrated Fiji style – commencing with a song and praise night. Fijian hymns and songs are all sung acapella with the opening line sung by a few of the sisters to set the key. It was wonderful to see the young people so actively involved in the ecclesia, putting together the program and getting involved in items and readings during the night. Fireworks soon followed the conclusion of the song and praise night, with lots of flour, baby powder and buckets of water thrown which resulted a huge mud fight. There was lots of noise from banging on pots and pans, and plenty of mud was thrown around. The night finished at 2am with many cleaning up the mess – “you make it dirty, you better clean it” was the catch phrase of the night!

The Suva Ecclesia is enjoying being back at the hall again with face to face contact after the pandemic, with Zoom still available for those that are unable to make it. The trip to Fiji was a reminder to us of the worldwide family and the wonderful fellowship that we can share with brothers, sisters, and young people across different cultures and places. The response from sharing a week together with like-minded people made it hard to leave and sad to say our goodbyes.

For more information, contact: fiji@acbm.org.au



Climbing Mt Korobaba



The Fiji Team



Asia-Pacific Christadelphian Bible Mission Inc

National Publicity: ☎ PO Box 160, Modbury North SA 5092

Craig Hill ☎ +61 448 449 910 ✉ publicity@acbm.org.au 🌐 www.acbm.org.au