



Jenni does MTS!

<https://www.jennimurraymts.com>

Term 3 Update

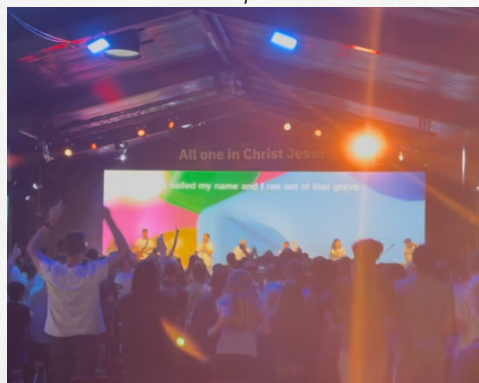


Dear friends,

As hard as it is to believe, Term 3 is finished, and Term 4 begins next week! God has continued to bless me with heaps of awesome opportunities to grow and learn this term which I'm so excited to share with you!



Being interviewed at Mission Minded and enjoying the worship at KYCK.



If my apprenticeship was a book, the chapter narrating Term 3 would be titled 'Camps and Conferences,' with the starring locations being Port Hacking and Katoomba. There was House Conference at Port Hacking in August and MTS Mission Minded at KCC in early September. Both of these were refreshing and challenging. At House, we considered the cost and joy of sacrifice, something I hadn't considered in great depth before, but which is so helpful when doing ministry full-time. At Mission Minded I talked with trainers and apprentices about moving into ministry later in my thirties. MTS offered me the fantastic chance to be interviewed about this on stage during one of the night sessions and to MC the morning sessions, which was hugely encouraging! And both conferences gave me time to spend with friends and meet lots of new people from churches all over NSW.

Once the conferences were finished, it was time for the camps! A few weeks after Mission Minded we headed back up to Katoomba for KYCK with our Junior Youth in Years 6-8. It was an incredible weekend focusing on the book of Galatians and the message we find there of true freedom in Christ, a message that is so important for our youth to hear and which was a fantastic reminder for me in the midst of a busy time! It was also wonderful to spend time with the leaders and kids, playing games, baking, going bushwalking, and getting to hang out as God's family together. A few days later it was back down to Port Hacking for the 'Taking It Home' session of Leaders in Training, a camp for Years 9-12 run by Youthworks. During this session the youth who attended shared what they had learned throughout the week and what they wanted to bring back to their serving at church. While I wasn't there leading for the whole week, it was wonderful to hear from our kids about all the great things they'd experienced during the camp. Both camps highlighted what an incredible privilege I have to be able to spend my time with our youth and leaders this way!

Other highlights of Term 3 included our Friday night series 'Blessed' on the Psalms at Youth at Norwest, where I had the opportunity to speak on Psalm 2. I continue to learn so much about writing and delivering youth talks, for which I am so grateful – it's likely no surprise to any of you that I like to talk, and being able to talk clearly and impactfully about Jesus is something I'm so passionate about learning to do well! I found it a challenging passage to speak on, but as always, the staff team were incredibly helpful in streamlining my ideas, and as one of my teachers came to observe as part of an assessment for College, I was able to get detailed feedback and spend a good chunk of time reflecting on the whole process. I've also been challenged in leading the Year 11 and 12 girls in our Discipleship Communities on Sunday afternoons, as they decided they wanted to read through Ecclesiastes, a book that really confronts our understanding of what is important in our lives, and I'm so thankful for the chance to continue grappling with complex ideas as we work through this book together.

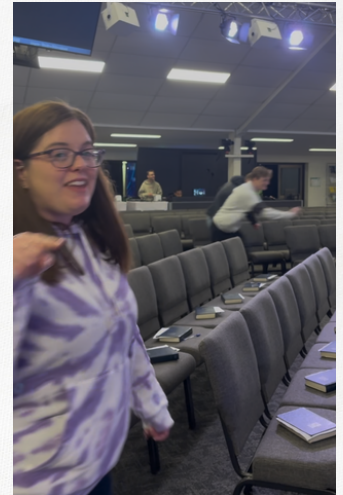
My study at Youthworks College is going well, and I find myself continuing to get back into the routine of being a student – it's a process that has honestly taken almost the whole year! I guess old teaching habits take a while to fade as I swap back into student life. I've just finished an assessment where we had to write our own 8-week teaching program for a Gospel, and while it was at times an overwhelming task, it was so good to dive into Matthew and look at the theme of scriptures fulfilled in Jesus in his Gospel. Co-leading our young adults Community Group and teaching SRE to Year 2 both continue to be highlights of my week and give me regular opportunities to improve my skills in leading and teaching those near the start of their schooling journey and those who've recently finished it!

If you would like to support me through prayer, please give thanks for:

- God's continued provision and guidance when there were lots of different things happening at once – He continues to amaze me with the way He carries me through all things and I'm so thankful for His faithfulness and love!
- The great experiences shared and lessons learned at House, Mission Minded, KYCK and Leaders in Training.
- Continued growth in my knowledge and skills through the activities I'm involved in each week.
- The amazing encouragement from my husband Pete, the staff team, and from you guys! My supporters who care for me so generously, whether through prayer, finances, or checking in with how I'm going and what I've been up to in my apprenticeship.

And please pray for:

- God to continue using my experiences each week to grow and refine me so I will faithfully serve Him and His people, seeking Him first in everything I do.
- Increased discipline in prioritising the habits that will help me do ministry well: time in the Bible and prayer, and managing my health with exercise, nutrition, and good sleep.
- Effective preparation and delivery of my two youth talks this term on God's character: 'Holy' on the 24th October and 'Just' on the 14th November.
- Continued focus and energy for College as Semester 2 draws to a close, particularly for a big assessment outlining my ministry philosophy due on 30th October.



Filming the game instructions for Friday night youth is always fun!

Your support is invaluable in my MTS journey, and it is such a privilege to partner with you in my apprenticeship! But I'm doing it not for me, I'm doing it so that others, particularly youth, might benefit by hearing about, knowing, and trusting in Jesus. I'm so thankful for your prayers that help sustain me in this important work! One of the other areas in which I need continued support is through financial contributions. These are tax deductible and can be a one-off or a reoccurring payment. No matter the amount, each contribution helps towards the cost of this apprenticeship, providing me with the means to continue serving in ministry full-time for the next 14 months. If you're in a position to consider supporting me this way, you can find the details on my MTS website using the link at the top of this update. Please also feel free to chat more with me about it anytime! And if you think there are others who would be interested in following my MTS journey or supporting me during my apprenticeship, please feel free to share my website link with them!

Thank you all so much! Looking forward to updating you again in Term 4!

*Grace and peace,
Jenni.*



Enjoying the drive down to Port Hacking at Audley Weir in the Royal National Park, and cheering on our youth as they try their luck at catching the rubber duck containing a prize at the Year 13 stall at KYCK.