

LATEST PUBLICATION

My journal article
Creating a Church Service to Facilitate Belonging for People Living with Dementia - Seven Principles and a Service Guide
has just been published in Stimulus, The New Zealand journal of Christian thought and practice

<https://hail.to/laidlaw-college/article/1KmxkF>

The photograph is from the Koorong Toowoomba, *Meet the Author Day*. Few sales, but some great conversations.



Dear Friends,

Sorry it has taken me this long to write. I have resigned from my chaplaincy role and am seeking God regarding what He wants me to do next. One option would be to enroll in a PhD, I have a topic, I am passionate, and I suspect that I have the capacity. HOWEVER it's a big commitment economically, chronologically and it would further specialize in my CV. AKA high cost and risk. Therefore, please join me in praying for God's direction, I am resonating with Acts 16:6-7, Paul and team tried to go to Asia and Bithynia but God stops them. I feel strong direction from God but it is all 'not that way'.

Thanks Ben

Lecturing

Spring has brought two guest lecture opportunities with students in Sydney, via zoom. Not only were there amazing opportunities to advocate for God's love of older people and people living with dementia. Critically I came out of both with more energy than I had going in!

Mary Andrews College

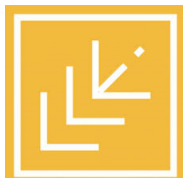
I spoke to MAC students studying disability about ageing and dementia.



Cornhill Australia

I spoke to the Cornhill students about preaching with older people and people living with dementia.

Here is the feedback I received:



'it showed me that God is faithful all the time'

'really engaging and something that is important but not taught about enough'

'your reflections on Imago Dei were particularly insightful. And a great example of how what may seem like esoteric theology comes home in real-life practice!'

'Teaching the Bible to older people felt like it addressed a key gap in our thinking. Very challenging and helpful'

Preaching in the face of Age & Dementia

Here are three foundational points about preaching with older people and people living with dementia:

- 1) Older people and people living with dementia need to receive best preaching of their lives, as they are often facing the greatest trials of their lives.
- 2) If you know one older person, you know one older person. AKA older people and people living with dementia are not homogenous.
- 3) Preaching is an important part of and is built on pastoral care.



Podcasts

[God's Grace in Dementia: A Caregiver's Perspective](#)

Premier.

[Do people with dementia forget their faith? - Inspirational Breakfast with Esther Higham - Premier Plus](#)

Reviews of Priceless People

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/reviews/want-to-minister-to-older-people-and-those-with-dementia-read-this-book/20420.article>

<https://theothercheek.com.au/turning-up-and-loving-people/>

<https://tma.melbourneanglican.org.au/2025/09/book-of-hope-and-love-for-caring-for-those-with-dementia/>

<https://faithinlaterlife.org/fill-resource/priceless-people/>

Other work

While I am currently without paid work my advocacy work is 'blooming'. I have had two low level journal articles accepted, submitted another two, and am working on another two. I am also focusing on writing an article for a significant journal on a controversial topic and submitted a pitch for another book to a UK publisher. Oh, and I have another few articles brewing in my brain. Basically, I believe the need for more advocacy and resources about Gospel ministry with older people and people living with dementia is CRITICAL. I think I have capacity to minister in this space; the question remains; is that what God wants me to do and how to fund it.

BREAKING NEWS

I have been invited to do an interview with Focus on the Family in the USA. While I have been doing radio slots internationally for a while this will be the biggest in terms of impact – PLEASE PRAY!



Prayer Points

- Give thanks for the publication of the dementia church article and other advocacy opportunities.
- Pray for divine direction for my life and ministry.
- Pray that in the midst of trials I would consider it pure joy and grow in faith hope and love.