

[Christian Centre, Normanton](#)

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Elton Thompson

Dear friends and supporters,

Firstly I want to thank each and every one of you for your prayers and other acts of support over the last 6 months. It is hard to believe that I have been up here for that long. Where does the time go? With Christmas around the corner I would like to wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!

At the end of October I was the male support person on the year 7/8 grade school camp, which took us down the Tallebudgera Beach School on the Gold Coast and also 2 nights in Brisbane. Even though there were only 8 kids on the camp and of those 8 there was only 1 boy, it was an amazing opportunity to get to know the young people and build relationships with them. This has proved beneficial in an ongoing friendship that is growing slowly with at least 6 of those kids. Being part of the year 8 class 4 times a week has also been a great opportunity to get to know some of the problem kids and my prayer is that in time they will feel comfortable in coming to me to have a chat.

I am currently involved in the Normanton Youth Rural Skills Program that is running for 2 weeks in December and 3 weeks in January. There are around 170 kids signed up for this program and to be able to have contact with this many young people during this time I believe will be beneficial for the Enrichment Program next year as well as being able to build relationships with the younger generation in Normanton. God willing if I end up being here for the long haul then it's these kids that will keep the church going here in the future. We can only pray that there is a Pastor in amongst these kids. The other side of being involved in this program is my contact with all the adults that are involved in the program; it gives a great opportunity to build relationships with them as well.

I am always thankful for the opportunities that God provides, the centre has been involved in both the schools Christmas Carols in which I was asked to share the Christmas Story and then we were also involved with the community carols as well. It has been good to have been asked by both groups to be part of their carols and to show the community that we are part of what they do and not a separate entity.

I have also been asked to be part of a committee that's being set up to deal with petrol sniffing here in town. This involves looking at ways to help the kids that are sniffing, but also targeting the parents of these kids and making them accountable for what their children are doing.

We are going to be having an outside carols service this Sunday night and will also have a service on Christmas morning. This is a great opportunity to share with a number of people that normally wouldn't come to church.

Prayer Points

Please pray for continued strength each day, I am finding that my days seem to be getting busier and I have to keep the right balance... I did a 17 hour day last week and need to be careful that doesn't happen too often.

Please pray for our carols service and our Christmas day service

Please pray that we will be able to find 2 suitable people to assist in the After School Enrichment Program next year.

Please pray for my time up here over the Christmas period, its hard being away from family and friends! God is good and will provide my every need, but human emotions still kick in!

Please pray for the Elderly here at the church, they all have their health issues which could be a major problem for them at any time

Please pray for the young people up here that they would come to know the Lord Jesus Christ in a real way, not just because they think it's expected of them.

Your Brother in Christ,
Elton Thompson