

Dear Friends,

In my role at the Recovery Centres, I've witnessed the sense of community that is prevalent in these small areas. Neighbour helping neighbour, neighbour encouraging others to come into the centre for assistance. Neighbours checking on others. One young couple came in the other day, he has a boat, the only boat in the area where they live. They told me that during the last flood and again with this flood they used their boat to come to Wiseman's Ferry for food and other essential items for their neighbours. They had to walk through mud up to their knees to get the items needed and then take them back to their neighbours. They were like a breath of fresh air. Other community members would come in and see someone they hadn't seen for a while, and they would check on how each other were managing.

During the floods communication is almost nil. The power goes off and so do the landlines and of course television and computers. The government, due to lobbying by some of the community groups, has now given them walkie-talkies so they can check on one another, and in medical emergencies can get messages through. I hadn't realised before going to the Hawkesbury Region, how isolated the communities become. Electricity maybe off for a week or more, so no fresh water, septic tanks no longer work since pumps are out of action. Refrigerators and freezers stop and so food is lost. There is a lot of hardship as not only their homes have gone but in many cases their livelihoods and the opportunity to drive out of their areas to work.

As I mentioned the communities come together and help each other. Isn't this what Christ wants us to do, to love and support our communities wherever that may be. Our Church is a community of people who believe in Christ, he calls us to go out into the world to love and support others.

### [The Servant Song LYRICS - Bing video](#)

Brother, let me be your servant. (Will you let me be your servant.)  
Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey.  
We are brothers on the road.  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the night time of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you;  
Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping.  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow  
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, let me be your servant. (Will you let me be your servant.)  
Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I might have the grace  
To let you be my servant, too.

My prayer is that we will be willing to be Christ's hands, feet, eyes and ears in our communities and beyond, in everything we do.



Please continue to remember the communities in the Hawkesbury Region as they rebuild their properties, and their lives.

May the beauty of God  
be reflected in your eyes,  
the love of God  
be reflected in your hands,  
the wisdom of God  
be reflected in your words,  
and the knowledge of God  
flow from your heart,  
that all might see,  
and seeing, believe. Amen

In Christian love and service,  
Lyn  
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