



7 March 2010

Welcome *A warm welcome to all who join us today in giving worship and praise to our great God and Saviour. May this be a time of growing in grace and strengthening our relationship with the Lord and with each other. Please join us for a cuppa after the service. If you are visiting today, please sign our visitor's Book. We have an information leaflet explaining our church's ministries and activities, feel free to take one or ask for one.*

WORSHIP TODAY

9:30 AM Rev. Crosbie de Kretser
Message: Life in the Desert
Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

6:00 PM Rev. Harry Berends
Message: Giving up for Lent (Phil 3:3-9)
Reading: Philippians 2:1-11; 3:1-14

Duty Elder: Corey van Garderen

Duty Deacon: Aafke Span

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Keith Vethaak
6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte

Duty Elder: Peter Noorbergen

Duty Deacon: Kevin de Jong

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Music Ministry

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – URY

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges \$3,150.25
Solomon Island Work Group \$684.30

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: A. de Vos, A. de Witte, M. Eleveld
Next Week: Y. Lavermans, J. Lepema, J. Mans

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Kevin de Jong, Paul Cholel
Next Week: Phillip & Paul Ellings

DATA PROJECTOR

Today: Cameron de Witte
Next Week: Dave Barrot

GREETERS

Today: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud
Next week: Martin & Coby van Rossen

From the Pastor's Desk

I am very grateful that Crosbie and Harry are willing and able to lead our services today in my absence. It means I'm able to spend the time with family in Sydney for the first family wedding.

This week I was reading about the Global Atheist Convention that is being held in Melbourne next weekend. At that meeting the 'world's superstars of athiesm', such as Richard Dawkins, PZ Meyers and Peter Singer will be keynote speakers. The event is confidently (and unfortunately appropriately) titled *The Rise of Atheism*.

They have billed it as the biggest ever atheist event in Australia's history. They go on to add, 'This is your chance to hear world-class atheist speakers, and meet

Australian and internationally acclaimed atheists, skeptics, humanists, rationalists and academics in one of Australia's most vibrant and exciting cities.

'The bigger we can make this convention, the stronger the signal it will send to Australia's religious and political institutions that atheism and secularism are forces to be reckoned with.'

They may be a force to be reckoned with, but they are not all that willing to make that stand on a public debate with Christians. Creation Ministries International (CMI) publicly challenged these global atheists to a formal televised debate with CMI's scientist-speakers while they were in this country for the Convention. They declined this invitation. In its place CMI have organised a free mutli-session afternoon conference at Life Ministry Centre in Chirnside, called *Countering the Rise of Atheism: the evidence for creation*.

It is a way of making a public stand in the face in the face of this global atheist gathering. This is a stand for the truth and relevance of the Bible in our age. the conference will be held from 2-6pm at Life Ministry Centre (Old Melbourne Rd, Chirnside Park). Speakers will be Dr. Don Batten (Evolution: the key to unbeleif); Dr. Carl Wieland: Surrounded by evidence) and Dr. Jonathan Sarfati (Evolution: no first cell, and not enough time). This will be followed by a Q&A time with all three speakers.

CMI want to fill the 900-seat auditorium and really make a stand for the truth of creation—and with it, the gospel of Christ.

For further information see the posters hanging in the foyer or go to ministry@creation.info

Women's Convention

This weekend sees some 250 women from our churches across Australia gathering at Phillip Island for their national convention. We know that a great

deal of work and prayer ahs gone into the convention and we pray that God will richly bless the talks, workshops, small groups and the whole gathering. We pray that they will be moved, encouraged, challenged and grown as they study God's word together and as they fellowship together. We look forward to hearing what God does during the convention.

News from the Churches

Yesterday (Sunday 28 February) the Campbelltown CRC in Adelaide was deeply grateful and thanked the Lord for His guidance and provision when Rev Dr Dawie van Vuuren announced that he had accepted the Call the Congregation had issued the previous Lord's Day.

It was Dr Phillip Scheepers (recently appointed to the RTC) who recommended last November that Campbelltown take up contact with Dawie van Vuuren. He spent 8 days with us a month ago, following which the Congregation was enthusiastic to issue its Call. Dawie and Alma van Vuuren have three children in high school in London, so the family will probably move to Adelaide next July – August. With Rev Fred Vanderbom due to retire before the end of 2010, this timetable allows for a useful period of overlap.

For more information about Rev Dawie Van Vuuren, visit our Church's website at <http://www.adelaide-church.org/> and click on "Breaking News".

Church Council

Next Thursday (11th March) the Church Council will meet at 7.30pm in the church. If you have any issues to discuss please see your elder, deacon or Pastor.

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Pastor Jim de Witte Church Office 9795 7267 Home: 9701 0453 Jim@dcrc.org.au	Pastoral Care Worker Henni Burggraaf Church Office: 9795 2170 Henni@dcrc.org.au	CRCA Web site www.crca.org.au Our Church Web site www.dcrc.org.au Please visit our web site Your comments are welcome
Newsletter compiled by Adrian de Vos. Email newsletter@dcrc.org.au Phone 9547 6878 News items dead line is 5 PM Wednesday.		

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN

Due to the many ladies attending the CRCA Women's convention at Phillip Island there will be **NO KIDS CHURCH** and **NO CRECHE TODAY**.

Children can obtain a colouring sheet and pencils from the greeters in the Foyer.

Parents are free to use the crèche area and care for their own toddlers if this is necessary. Just make sure you leave the area tidy.

Church Op Shop

We open Thursdays 11.30am-4.30pm and Fridays 10am- 4.30pm. Donations can be dropped off during these times. Please remember we cannot accept electrical items. If you would like to volunteer some time to help us either for set up on Thursdays at 10am, pack up on Fridays at 4.30pm, or general help sorting donations and sharing cuppas with customers, please speak to Anneke Laverman or Anita de Witte. We would love some extra help!



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The VIC/TAS/SA Target 21 is in the advanced stages of planning for June 27 – July 10.

We are now accepting nominations for this year's program to be based in Geelong and Melbourne. If you are/or know a young person between 16 and 19 with demonstrated aptitude for Christian leadership and want to invest in him/her then please nominate today.

Places are limited to 9 people and nomination closes April 19.

Information has been sent to all sessions and can also be obtained by emailing the Resource Centre resources@crca.org.au

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

THE GRACE GROW GROUP (Triple G)

Meet in the Prayer room at church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 2.00-3.30 pm. Everyone is

welcome. For further information contact Maurice Eleveld (8740 2397)

OASIS GROWTH GROUP: Meets from 7.15pm – 9.15 pm. New members are welcome.

Contact Harry Burggraaf on Ph: 9791 2601.

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY,
Meet at the church at 10am. All ladies are welcome to join us for a coffee, as we have fellowship and study God's Word every Tuesday morning.

RUMPUS ROOM

(young adults bible study)

All those 18+ are welcome, we meet fortnightly on a Sunday from 4-6. We look at the bible via talks, dvds, and study books to see what God's call for

Our life is in His world.

If you would like to come and join please see David Barrot or ring him on 0401 073 954.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY is on again this week at the de Witte's, 73 Murray Rd Dandenong North. We will start a bit earlier this week- 7.45pm to blow out a lot of candles! Hope to see you all there!

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- **Pastor Jim and Anita and the family** are away this week-end to participate in a family wedding in NSW. Pray for safe travel for them and also for all the women who travel to attend the CRCA Women's convention.
- **Ben Hamilton's** recovery is slow and this past week he has had a brace fitted to protect the re-attached tendon while it heals.
- **Hetty Tjoa** remains in Cabrini hospital. She can be visited in Ward 4 North, room 462. While she is recovering well from the surgery, she does not have much strength and will be in hospital for a week at least. (This was from seeing her on Wednesday).
- **John Hettinga** (Outlook Gardens) has been hospitalized after experiencing shortness of breath. They have discovered some clots in his lungs and John is being treated for these. He is already experiencing relief and is expected home before the week-end.

• **John Nicholson** will go into the Valley hospital for a hernia repair on Tuesday 9th March. Please pray for John as he undergoes this surgery.

• Pray for health and strength for all those who are struggling with chronic health issues.

• Pray for God's blessing on the women as they gather at Phillip Island that they may be encouraged and refreshed and grow in their faith and in their walk with God.

From the Deacons:

CORNERSTONE FOOD COLLECTION this MONTH

On all the **Sundays in March** could everyone bring nonperishable food items which we will then contribute to Cornerstone to help rebuild their pantry supplies.

Foods that can be used for their bi-weekly lunches and which can be given as food parcels for those in need are things like pasta, rice, soups, sugar, tea, coffee, milo, longlife milk, breakfast cereals, baby foods in jars, instant noodle meals, instant rice meals, muesli bars, and other canned foods. We will place a container under the table in the foyer to receive these items. Thank you as participate in this work of mercy.

On behalf of **the deacons**

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Jannette Van der Jagt	Today	March 7
Jim (James) de Witte		March 10
Audrey Anderson		March 11
Con Daniels		March 12
Joan de Wever		March 13
Lorraine Holtzhausen		March 13

May God look down and bless you Now when your birthday's here
And keep you in His loving care Each day throughout the year,
And may He grant you happiness In everything you do--
Today, tomorrow, always, Every day your whole life through!

JTeam Craft- Achoo!

Tissue Boxes! We still need a few more to have enough for each JTeam child. Please drop them off at the church before Wednesday 4pm. Thanks, Anita.

TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE

AN ATHEIST IN THE WOODS

An atheist was walking through the woods..
"What majestic trees! 'What powerful rivers!
'What beautiful animals! He said to himself

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him.
He turned to look and saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path.

He looked over his shoulder & saw that the bear was closing in on him.. He looked over his shoulder again, & the bear was even closer. He tripped & fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw & raising his right paw to strike him...

At that instant the Atheist cried out, 'Oh my God!'
Time Stopped.

The bear froze.

The forest was silent. A bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky.

'You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident.

Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament?

Am I to count you as a believer?'

The atheist looked directly into the light, 'It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a believer now, but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?'

'Very well,' said the voice.

The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed. And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head & spoke:

'Lord bless this food, which I am about to receive from thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen.'

