



18April 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 Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: What does the resurrection mean for the World?
Reading: Acts 17:22-44

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: Gracious Giving (Mark 12:38-44)
Reading: Isaiah 1:10-20

Duty Elder: Yke Laverman

Duty Deacon: Aafke Span

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Ron Nauta
(Classis Pulpit Swap)
Duty Elder: Colin Pretorius

Duty Deacon: Kevin de Jong

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – CCES/RE – Council for Christian Education in Schools

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – RCYC Reformed Churches Youth Committee

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,678.85
Krupa Childrens Home India	\$576.60

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: G. Huinink, F.& H. Piening,
Next Week: J. Otto, R. Painter, D. Mekking

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Matthew Noorbergen, Dave Barrot
Next Week: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron

DATA PROJECTOR

Today: Dave Barrot
Next Week: Cameron de Witte

GREETERS

Today: Vera Steendam, Con Daniels
Next week: Rita Piening

From the Pastor's Desk

As a family we are back from our holiday break, refreshed and looking forward to the new term of school and ministry. It was great to have spent time in Sydney celebrating with family life and marriage.

While I was in Sydney I came across an interesting article that I think highlights the fact that the Christian faith and witness is being pushed further and further to the margins. There seems to be a growing resistance to Christians speaking the things of God.

The press release was titled 'Easter Show bans Jesus'. The report went on to say that the Sydney

Royal Easter show has banned an Easter display about Jesus by the Bible Society NSW on the grounds that it is too religious.

Sources say that the Easter Show did not want to upset other religions by allowing a stand promoting Jesus. The Easter Show is Australia's largest annual event, attracting around 900,000 visitors.

The Bible Society NSW has received communication that it was not able to secure a 'Jesus. All About Life' stall at the Sydney Royal Easter Show this year due to it being of a religious nature.

Thousands of Easter Eggs, Scripture resources and Youth material meant to be handed out at this year's Royal Easter Show will now be given away at an alternative location.

Bible Society NSW, organiser of the Jesus. All About Life (JAAL) multimedia campaign, has expressed dismay at not being allowed to have a JAAL stall at the Show. Preparations for the event began weeks ago on Bible Society's understanding that it was being considered for an available exhibition space at the Show. However, a letter sent last week by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, organisers of the Sydney Easter Show, advised Bible Society that there was no space available.

"It's a curious thing that an event bearing the name "Easter" has disallowed anything to do with the very thing Easter is all about – the death and resurrection of Jesus," says CEO of Bible Society NSW, Daniel Willis.

Curious indeed...but not unexpected. I read also that another group in Geelong had to stop a public Passion Play because a couple of people were offended. The police moved in and shut the play down, but later apologised for their overreaction to a couple of complaints from passersby, when quite a crowd were attentively watching.

I do not think we should be surprised by this. In Romans 1 Paul writes about godless and wicked men who suppress the truth by their wickedness and who exchange the truth of God for a lie. We see this reality being played out all around us. But what is our response? Do we shrug our shoulders and say it is the way it is going to be or do we stand firm? I believe that we need to stand firm and remember that "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes." (Romans 1:16).

This morning we are looking together at the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for the world. It is Paul, standing before the Areopagus in Athens who said, 'but now he (God) commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him (Jesus) from the dead.' (acts 17:30-31).

News from the Churches

Ron Nauta writes, "Just to let you know that we have accepted the call to Geelong. We thank the Lord, that after 5 weeks of considering this call, He has given us direction and peace with this decision. Thanks for your thoughts and your prayers. Please continue to pray for both the Leongatha and Geelong congregations during the upcoming period of transition."

Thank You

Truus Mans and family like to thank every one for the prayers and support we received during the past 18 Month of sickness before John's passing Into eternal glory

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<p>Newsletter compiled by Adrian de Vos. Email newsletter@dcrc.org.au Phone 9547 6878 News items dead line is 5 PM Wednesday.</p>		

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!

Target 21

This is just a friendly reminder that nominations for Target 21 2010 are due in next Monday the 19th.

This is an excellent opportunity for young people in your church to develop their leadership skills and have some Theological training at the RTC as well experience some practical mission.

Please pray about this and encourage any young people aged 15 to 19 who you think will benefit from this great program.

Each Church has received an information pack with nomination forms which need to be filled in by both the candidate and the person who is nominating them. The nominator is normally either the Pastor of the church, a youth leader or someone in a position of leadership who knows the candidate well enough to provide the T21 committee with the relevant information. (Please pass this reminder on to any youth leaders in your churches where applicable)

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and can't wait for another fantastic year of Target 21.

Jemma Lichtendonk

Men's Convention

Now the women's convention is over we men have an opportunity to attend a Men's convention to be held at Belgrave Heights Convention Centre (22-24th May). I would love for a group of men to join me at that

convention (just the Friday night and Saturday). Because of its proximity to home we do not need overnight accommodation but can sleep in our own beds. The theme for the weekend is The Gospel: know it and live it. I will be putting notices in your pigeon holes in the weeks ahead, so you can respond.

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.

Please note:

we are meeting next **Sunday the 25th at 3pm** then going to the youth service in Tecoma.

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

This week we are meeting at Mark and Nyomie Meenks: 7 Meldrum Crt Narre Warren South, at 8pm. For further information about our group contact Mark Meenks on 97045516.

Leprosy Mission

**April is Leprosy month
could all those with a savings box
please hand them in to me asap
Thank you Corry Blik**

Pastoral and Prayer Points

Last Thursday morning, we gathered as a community for the service of thanksgiving and funeral for Jan Mans. We pray for God's love and comfort to surround Truus, her family, and friends at this time of loss.

After spending some time in hospital for septicaemia John van Neutegem was able to return home. Pray that he will continue in his recovery from this setback.

Jo de Vries is recovering from Bell's Palsy, which is an unexplained episode of facial muscle weakness or paralysis that begins suddenly. The majority of people with Bell's palsy recover full facial strength and expression over time. Please pray that God would grant recovery and bring her peace and comfort during this time.

Congratulations to Chris and Michelle Span (and the proud grandparents, Cor and Aafke) with the safe birth of Curtis Joe. We thank God for his wonderful answer to prayer for this couple and pray that he will guide them as loving parents.

Pray for all those who are struggling with chronic health issues, that they may experience God's daily strength and grace, and also for those who care for them.

RTC Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Reformed Theological College has scheduled the Annual General Meeting of the RTC to be held on Friday 23 April 2010 at 7.30pm at the College, 125 Pigdons Road, Waurin Ponds, Geelong, Victoria.

STATE YOUTH GAMES 2010

June 11 – 14

All forms are out and are with your

Youth Leader or SYG Leader.

Be quick and fill in all the details

you don't have much time to spare

**as all forms are due by next week
the 25th of April! Invite your
friends, family even your
imaginary friend. You don't need
to play sport to join in on the fun!**

Hope to see you all there!!!

SYG 2010 TEAM



J-Team Meeting

On Wednesday 21st April there will be a meeting of all J-Team leaders and helpers in the church at 4pm. At the meeting we will plan the new term and encourage each other in the ongoing and growing ministry. Please uphold this team and ministry in your prayers.

J-Team will begin again the following Wednesday (28th April).

URY Meeting

The URY leadership will be meeting at 7.30pm in the church. At the meeting we will review the past term and plan out the new term. Please uphold this team in your prayers. The team is small and the work is huge. If you can help in any way that would be greatly appreciated.

URY will begin again the following week (27th April).

ACCESS Ministries

ACCESS Ministries, formerly CCES, is an inter-denominational body which provides Christian Religious Education and Chaplaincy in State Schools in Victoria, under the provision of the Education Act 1958 (revised 1999, 2006). It provides this service in partnership with Christian churches. We are one of those partnership churches and today our second offering is in support of this ministry so it can continue to reach children with the message of Jesus Christ.

Every day of the school year, ACCESS ministries CRE teachers and chaplains are sharing God's love with over 200,000 young Victorians. They are helping students explore their lives with meaning and purpose. Well-trained, culturally sensitive and with great respect for students and their schooling, CRE teachers and chaplains are introducing young Victorians to the spiritual dimensions of life.

With the closure of Greenslopes Primary School last year and the amalgamation of the students into Lyndale Primary School (now Lyndale Green) there were significant changes to the CRE teaching staff and schedule. There was some confusion in the establishment of CRE in the new setting and the CRE classes took some time to commence. They did start late last term with Gary Ellings taking on the grade 1-2 children, in big classes of about 60. Please pray that Gary will do this well, and the goepel will continue to go out. Pray for the other teachers taking on the prep classes and the grade 3-4 children in that school. Please pray too that CRE will be made available to the grade 5 & 6 children.

On another note we wish to say a huge 'Thank You' to Maria Smedes and Helen van Garderen for their years of tireless CRE teaching in Greenslopes Primary. Helen is taking a break for the first half of this year and Maria is finishing up CRE teaching. The CRE program depends on dedicated volunteers like Maria and Helen and so we say thank you for the blessing you have been to many children over many years.

But there also continues to be a big need for more CRE teachers to reach the hundreds of thousands of Primary aged children across Victoria. They would love to train and send out many more teachers. If you feel this might be something you can do, then talk to Helen van Garderen soon on how to get involved.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Elvi Oinonen	Today	April 18
Christo Otto	Today	April 18
Adrian de Vos		April 22
Phillip van Neutegem		April 23
Aileen Brown		April 24
Sydney Johnson		April 24

To feel joy deeply, to live love daily,
to forever know God's presence in your life...
these are our wishes for you.

We are blessed

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy. And if you have your own computer you are part of the 1% in the world who has one. Also, if you woke up this morning with more health than illness you are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day if you have never experienced the fear of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation you are ahead of 700 million people in the world. If you can attend a church meeting without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world.

TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE

The two women were on their coffee break and the conversation drifted to efforts to try to lose a few pounds. But then one of them produced a humongous sweet roll and began to devour it. "Is that allowed on your diet?" the other asked.

"It's only OK on my second diet," the first explained.

"You mean you're on two diets?"

"Uh huh."

"I don't get it."

"The first diet didn't give me enough to eat."