



20 June 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: The Prophet and His Burden
(Habakkuk 1:1-4)
Reading: Psalm 13

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: God's Good Name (Exodus 20:7)
Readings: Exodus 3:1-15; Matthew 5:33-37
Lord's Day 35 & 36

Duty Elder: Yke Laverman

Duty Deacon: Gerry Smedes

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Rev. La'Mont Ferreira
(Pastor Jim in Leongatha as part of Classis pulpit swap)

Duty Elder: Colin Pretorius

Duty Deacon: Afke Span

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Lord's Supper Diaconate

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Cornerstone

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges \$2233.55
GOSPEL \$692.15

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: M. Cholelel, G. Zomerdyk, H. Zwaal
Next Week: P. de Jong, M. Meenks, C. Harrison

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron
Next Week: Kevin de Jong, Paul Cholel

DATA PROJECTOR

Today: Glen de Jong
Next Week: Cameron de Witte

GREETERS

Today: Martin & Coby van Rossen
Next week: Yke & Anneke Laverman

From the Pastor's Desk

Last Sunday evening I spoke about the use of images in the worship of God. We have not replaced God, but have added some aid which is meant to help draw our attention to God. While the theory seems sound the directive from God in the second commandment is that we do not do it. The question was put, 'How do we know if some image or symbol has become and idol?' The answer was, that if it was taken away how would people feel. Did they feel they could they still effectively worship God without that thing being there, whether it was the organ, piano, pulpit, cross, Lord's Supper elements or baptismal fonts. It is a serious question that deserves our careful

consideration. If we think that by the removal of any of those symbols then our worship of God would be diminished then perhaps we have made that an idol.

I recently received an email about the destruction of the 'King of Kings' statue (also known as the 'Touchdown Jesus'). It was a 6 story (18m) high statue located in front of the Solid Rock Church near Cincinnati, Ohio. It showed Jesus from the torso up and was nicknamed Touchdown Jesus because of the way the arms were raised, similar to a referee signalling a gridiron touchdown. It was made of plastic foam and fibreglass over a steel frame. As storms swept through the area it was struck by lightning and burned to the ground, leaving only a steel frame.

As locals heard about the statue of Jesus catching fire, people flocked to the scene - some were there to mourn the loss of such a well-known landmark, others came to snap pictures, and still others to make jokes about the irony of how "God struck God" (daytondailynews.com).

Although the statue of Jesus was, I'm sure, built with good intentions, and it drew countless visitors to the church, you have to wonder what God thought about it. In Isaiah 40:18-22a God makes it clear that there is nothing that man can build or create that can even compare to Him - no image we can dream up and no statue we can build. In fact, He makes us feel a little foolish for thinking our images of God come close to capturing even half of who He truly is! Or that the things man creates might somehow compare to God's incredible and indescribable Creation. The passage warns us against the dangers of ever thinking we fully know and understand the God of the Universe. Never will we be able to fully capture Him in a picture, paragraph, or even a 6 story statue. And,

although the thought or image of a statue of Jesus burning may frighten some, as believers, we can rest in the faith and knowledge that the God we serve is alive and well, and that he is still sitting "enthroned above the circle of the earth" - the loss of a man-made landmark does not change that.

Do you ever find yourself trying to pinpoint God? Trying to fully understand Him and why He does/doesn't do things? Do you find yourself putting God in a box by your limited knowledge of Him and what He can do? It's natural to be curious about and want to create an image of God that we can cling to but perhaps instead of spending so much time trying to understand God, we should put our energies into replicating, and living out the *character* of God.

Pray that God would use you to be the picture/image of Christ so that those around you would not feel the need to create their own images of a god they imagine exists.

Connecting with your Neighbors' Conference

This is a not to be missed conference that will be held in our church on Friday night and Saturday (20-21st August). It promises to be an informative gathering on sharing God's love and care with our Muslim neighbours led by some of Melbourne's own who have vast experience ministering among Muslims. The speakers will be Mark Durie, Bernie Power & Steven Cooke.

The Connecting with your Neighbors Conference will help you:

- Understand the Islamic worldview on spirituality.
- Know what they believe about spiritual issues such as sin, judgment and eternal life.
- Learn key Muslim assumptions about life.
- Acquire many practical know how's of ministering

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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>		

to them.

· Help Muslims get past roadblocks to coming to faith.

It will help you to better relate to the Muslims who live around you and the steps needed to lead them to Christ will be much clearer to you.

The conference starts at 7.30pm on the Friday night with the message: "*Seeing the world through Muslim eyes: tools for talking with your neighbour*" by Mark Durie. The Saturday program includes sessions on "*Meeting felt needs*", "*Sharing your faith*", "*Apologetics*" and "*Dos and don'ts of Muslim Ministry*", plus a testimony of a believer from a Muslim background.

The conference cost is only - **\$25** Conference & Lunch - **\$30** (Tea & Coffee provided).

Registrations close August 15th.

Enrolment forms to follow soon.



Wantirna Christian Community Church is continuing to reach the lost, grow disciples and care for the hurting in the outer Eastern suburbs of Melbourne. In order to continue this work we are currently seeking two or more passionate kingdom workers with experience in youth, missions and children's work. We are currently seeking:

Youth and Missions worker – full time

Children's worker – 2 days per week

These roles are a combination of coordination of ministry teams and hands on involvement in ministry. We seek people who have experience in leading teams, a passion for kingdom work in and outside the church and a love for young people. Both roles will include working with local state schools and the missions aspect will have emphasis on local, national and international missions.

Roles will include:

Vision development - Growing leaders - Team leading - Hands on involvement

Applications close on June 30th 2010. More information or full Position Descriptions are available on request by emailing admin@wccc.net.au

Crossroads Bible Institute

To help raise funds for the Crossroads Bible Institute, which facilitates bible studies in prisons across Australia and the Solomon Islands they are selling a music CD 'White Picket Fences' by Heidi and Greg Walker. The CD is contemporary, family friendly music which encourages and promotes a true walk with God.

Each CD costs \$20 and orders can be placed through Jean in the office or by contacting Anne Bruinsma awbrnsma@tpg.com.au If you want to sample the music before thinking of buying, then see Jean for the sample disc.

Religion in the Public Square

The Church & Nation Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is organising an inaugural three day colloquium, *Religion in the Public Square*, from Thursday–Saturday, July 22–24, 2010 in the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins St, Melbourne.

We have a keynote speaker, a noted ethicist, Dr Scott Rae, whose texts are on the reading list for quite a few theological colleges.

The papers on offer fall into six areas:

- Business ethics and the future of capitalism
- Securing freedom of religion in a hostile environment
- The case for Religion in the Public Square
- Understanding vocation
- Affirming and promoting pro-life policies
- Sex: the worst and the best

Hopefully, we have managed to put together an attractive programme with excellent speakers.

The freedom of religion segment we expect will generate considerable interest as we seek to push the boundaries in favour of freedom of conscience, thought and religion in what has become an increasingly hostile environment.

We warmly invite our friends from the Christian Reformed Churches to consider attending, and if so to get their registrations in early as we may exceed seating capacity!

The link to the registration flyer, giving details of the programme and speakers as well as costs is <http://candn.pcvic.org.au/media/ColloquiumFlyer.pdf>. See Pastor Jim if you need a registration form or flyer and you cannot access the website.

Pastoral and Prayer Points

As a community we gathered on Wednesday to give thanks to God for the life and witness of **Joan de Wever**. It was good to hear the stories of her life and relationship with the Lord and so get a more comprehensive picture of who she was. Pray for God's comfort to surround Arie, Robyn and the family as they grieve the loss of Joan.

Tini Schram is doing really well after her knee surgery. Please uphold John and Gerry de Haan in your prayer. John de Haan has returned from respite care and Gerry has the news that she will need surgery for her problems in the near future.

Our congratulations go to **Gerry de Haan** who reached the significant milestone of turning 80 in the past week. We pray that God continue to watch over and bless you.

Many of you would know **Truss Hamilton**. On the way up to Queensland for a winter escape she became unwell while in Coffs Harbour. She needed to be flown by air ambulance back to Melbourne for further tests for the possibility of Leukemia. She is currently in The Alfred hospital undergoing these tests. Please uphold Truss, Barney and the wider family such as Ben and Karen and Ray and Jen in your prayers.

Afrikaans Worship Services

Starting in July, the Church Council is extending an invitation to South African families to attend special worship services held in our church in the Afrikaans language. The services will be conducted by Rev. La'Mont Ferreria and Br. Colin Pretorius. This missional experiment is designed to help us reach out and connect with the many South African migrants in our area. We would like to meet with them and invite them to become connected with our regular church community. These services will be on the second Sunday of each month (July, August & September) at 6pm. We value the prayers of God's people as we build bridges that reach out to this group of people.

Youth service June 27th At the new time of 5pm

At The Christian Reformed Church Of Geelong: 233 Pakington St, Geelong West

Our Theme is "THE MOTIONS"

What does being a Christian mean to you?

Why do you believe?

How do we put our faith into action as young Christians?

God has something to say to us and through us.

Food after the service / Stay and meet people!

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

THE GRACE GROW GROUP (Triple G)
Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 2.00-3.30 pm. Leader is John Nicholson. Everyone is welcome. Contact Regina Gnanathurai on 9795 6252
This week we meet at Peter & Betty van den Berg's, Unit 54 Outlook Gardens

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, dvd's 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

Wednesday night Bible Study For further information about our group contact Mark Meenks on 97045516.



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!

Shawlands

Today is our monthly lunch with the residents of Shawlands and we look forward to the growing relationships strengthening and bearing fruit. This past week we have had the privilege of working with Sothern Health to relocate a family from the park into

their own home. What is really wonderful is that the people from Southern Health came to us asking for our help. It is good to see the growing links with other organisations really working. Please pray that we can keep contact with this family and continue to be like Jesus to them.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Matthew Noorbergen	June 28
Arou Arou	June 29
Harry van der Jagt	June 30
Johan Otto	July 1

May your day dawn bright with beauty, rich in the promise of good things to come.

Eternity

The latest *Eternity* newspaper is available from the hall. *Eternity* is a national newspaper for Christians that contains news of from around the nation, testimonies, opinions, feature articles, justice issues and so much more. Pick up your free *Eternity* newspaper from the hall after church. Read it, share it.

J TEAM

Another great term for J Team has finished and again we have had lots of fun. Having Henni away on leave meant that we were down one person when it came to leaders to teach the bible lessons. So it was great to be able to once again call on the services of Helen Van Garderen and to also have Mr. Lynton Allan, an artist come in and do a bible story in painting. We were able to combine his visit with a family night and have some of our parents join in for part of the night. Our lessons this term were about Loving our neighbour, Sharing, Forgiving, Trusting God and Being Thankful. We used the Vegietale DVDs to help us teach these important values to the children.

The number of children attending is increasing to 25 - 30 which makes for a lot of noise but also lots of fun. Thank you to those who helped us out with lollies. We could always use more and we would also value your prayers.

Jeanette Noorbergen

PRAY FOR NORTH KOREA

It has a population: 23.5 million (about the same as Australia)

Food shortages continue to add to the already immense grievances of the North Korean people. North Korea is a country which has and continues to be stricken by chronic food shortages. Malnutrition and starvation continue to remain a serious problem.

Please pray for all those who are desperately clinging to life in such a fragile situation.

Pray for the human rights situation in North Korea, particularly for all those who continue to suffer under the repressive state.

There is an absolute dictatorial rule where the people are heavily repressed.

South Korean intelligence estimates that there are around 200,000 people incarcerated there.

With such harsh conditions, being sent to these prisons is often described as a virtual death sentence.

Please pray for all those suffering horrific persecution in the camps, that they will be given courage, hope and a strong spirit.

Pray for courage for our brothers and sisters in the prison camps facing intense and unrelenting pressure to abandon their faith.

The persecution of religious believers in North Korea ranks as one of the worst in the world.

No belief in a higher authority is tolerated and being a Christian is viewed as an extremely serious crime.

Kidslink

In 2008 a group of us joined Kidslink in a mission trip to Mozambique. That fledgling mission continues to grow and flourish in its ministry training of local Sunday School teachers and bringing clean fresh water to local communities. They are developing a training school for women in sewing and planning to do so with hospitality. The greatest priority at the moment is to purchase their own property in Mozambique as the ministry base. The centre currently used is becoming too expensive every month and doesn't have the space needed for training people. The cost of a suitable, Portuguese built property is about \$35,000. They have raised over half of the needed funds, but are looking for more support. To help raise funds Kidslink is holding a trivia night on the 23rd July. See details elsewhere in the newsletter.

SHORT MINUTES OF

Church Council Meeting of Dandenong Christian Reformed Church

3rd June 2010

Your Church Council met and spend some time dwelling in Gods word by reflecting on Luke 10:1-24 where the Lord sent out his servants into the world and the reception they received and of the promises of Gods power in fulfilling his purposes.

Some of the business Items that Council dealt with were :developing ministry experiences in partnership with Target 21. A program of leadership development and training for people under the age of 21 (next school holidays). Another of our up and coming leaders, Amy Noorbergen has committed herself to this, it was ratified that, again, we would partially fund this opportunity and support any fundraising activities that would be associated with her involvement. Amy has undertaken to also contribute towards the costs herself.

We are continually excited by the contact opportunities that Shawlands caravan park continues to bring to us. Ladies attend craft mornings as well as the park residents who attend the regular monthly BBQ's. The committee is continually looking for willing people to help out this vital and growing ministry. A number of ideas will be followed up to further impact our connections into our community.

3 evening services in the Afrikaans language will be conducted as a trial over the next three months to contact and bring to us unconnected South African families. It was hoped that this venture would result in more families joining our fellowship. We reviewed the preaching roster and thanked God for willing servants to proclaim his word to us. We are also continually thankful to God for the ministries and the leaders in our church community as a council we are looking for ways to support and encourage ministry leaders. There are the faithful people who continue to give of themselves in multiple ways. We intend to organize a leadership retreat to allow us to dream, think and plan for the future.

Ideas were brought forward how best to use recent bequests to upgrade our services such as building a pathway for walking frames to the church front door and better digital TV cameras.

Our Arabic Christian friends who use the church facilities on Friday evenings will be hosting a conference on August 20th-21st aiming at reaching out to the Islamic community locally.

We were thankful for the work George Zomerdijk had put in to draft a quote on walling in the outdoor area near the double rooms. As re-shuffle of the rooms has been completed, it was decided not to proceed with these works for the time being.

It was noted the positive contribution the Op shop ministry has made to our church life and contact with the wider community. Monies raised have been given to Shawlands Caravan Park project and Cornerstone.

Support is also given to community project such as Handbrake turn which aims to equip young people with new life skills to end the cycle of unemployment and set them on the path of positive contribution to society.

On going leadership training opportunities continue to present themselves. A Global Leadership Summit is being organised in October. A number of leaders and potential leaders will be encouraged to attend with Jim

We praised God for announcements such as weddings (Phil van Nuetegem) but also brought before him those with needs, the ill, and bereaved.

After we briefly dealt with incoming items of correspondence, we observed Censura Morem, and expressed our unity in preparation for the upcoming Lords supper 20th June 2010.

Our Next Meeting will take place on: July 1st 2010

State Youth Games 2010

Well another SYG has come and gone, and this time it was the wettest, muddiest, slushiness (if it is a word) coldest, but greatest weekend had. From the 11-14th of June 18 people all together from 4 churches Dandenong, Wonga Park, Hope in the Hills and Mt Evelyn made the trek to Lardner Park in Warragul to join another 3 thousand youth and not so youth in a weekend of sport and worship. We had Uno, Mario Karts, Soccer, Touch Football, Volleyball and Pool Volleyball, there was singing, speakers, fun games, food and warm fires. This was a weekend of red mud and fun, as a group we came 22nd out of 74 churches which was great, but it wasn't our focus- our focus was to have fun, enjoy each other's company and give praise to God with other youth from around Victoria. We were very Thankful to Julie, Col (who was given a leave pass for the weekend) and Kaitlyn from Mt Evelyn who woke up an hour early in the morning to make, create and provide us with full stomachs to the point of explosion. All in all it was a great weekend and even though it was wet and muddy, it provided us with a chance to create friendships and strengthen the ties between the 4 churches.

David Barrot

SO YOU THINK YOU'RE PRETTY CLEVER HUH?



TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY 23TH JULY 2010

\$20 ENTRY PER PERSON

GREAT PRIZES

**\$180 PER
TABLE OF 10**

1330 CENTRE

1330 FERNTREE GULLY ROAD SCORESBY
7:15PM DOORS OPEN - 7:30PM START

BOOKINGS CLOSE FRI 16 JULY 2010

ENTRY PRICE INCLUDES TEA, COFFEE AND NIBBLES!

BYO ALL OTHER DRINKS

BOOKING THROUGH YOUR KIDSLINK REP OR
AMY BROWN 0422053582 AMY@KIDSLINK.NET.AU

**ORGANISE YOUR OWN TEAM NOW AND
ENJOY A GREAT NIGHT OUT WITH FRIENDS!**