



27 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 Strange Ways of God
(Habakkuk 1:5-11)
Readings: 2 Kings 23:36-24:7; Romans 8:28-31

6:00 PM Rev. La'Mont Ferreira
(Pastor Jim in Leongatha as part of Classis pulpit swap)
Message: TBA
Reading: TBA

Duty Elder: Yke Laverman

Duty Deacon: Afke Span

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Rev. Harry Berends
6:00 PM Rev. Keith Vethaak

Duty Elder: Peter Noorbergen

Duty Deacon: Kevin de Jong

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Cornerstone

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Solomon Islands

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2909.60
Diaconate	\$462.80

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: P. de Jong, M. Meenks, C. Harrison
Next Week: J & W. Joseph, F & C. Berman

PA & VIDEO :

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

DATA PROJECTOR

Today: Cameron de Witte
Next Week: Cameron de Witte?

GREETERS

Today: Yke & Anneke Laverman
Next week: Nan van der Kruk

From the Pastor's Desk

I nervously write this article for the newsletter because I do not want to start a political debate in our church community, but how can I not respond to the news of the day as I prepare my items for this newsletter. Kevin Rudd has been dumped as Prime Minister of Australia and his Deputy, Julia Gillard has taken his place. Rudd is the first incumbent Prime Minister to be chucked out before seeing his first term in office completed.

Kevin Rudd's undoing was due to several factors, but the main reason for his dumping was Labor saw him as unable to beat Tony Abbott at the next election. So pragmatism ruled the day, and a spill had to take

place. Rudd did himself no favours when he did major back flips on things like the ETS. There is the utter disaster with the home insulation scheme and the problem of illegal immigrants did not help matters. He was seen as control freak who alienated many people, including many Labor heavy weights. He was increasingly out of touch both with traditional Labor voters as well as many Australians.

Julia Gillard's win in the Labor spill means we have our first female Prime Minister. It also means we have our first atheist Prime Minister. The win for Julia shows at least several things: the Labor Party is deeply divided; factionalism is alive and well in the Labor Party; and the powerful union movement still has a huge influence in the Party. It also shows that the person you vote for in an election may not be the person to remain in the job just a few years on.

How Julia fares remains to be seen. But what do we make of all the political manoeuvring in the light of our sermon series on Habakkuk and other portions of God's Word. With political leadership here and across the globe distancing themselves further and further from any Christian foundation I am reminded of this:

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.

Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 2:1-4, 10-12

The Bible is littered with stories about those in human authority who think they can ignore or depart from God's ways and improve on them. Think of Pharaoh or the kings of Israel and Judah and even Caiaphas.

I think that one of the things that disturbs me with Julia Gillard as PM is her lack of support for marriage, seeing she is going to the Lodge with a live-in partner, not a husband. She obviously has no grasp of the significance and importance of marriage, as a relationship or as an institution in society. That surely will be reflected in her stance on family issues.

The underlying theme in the book of Habakkuk is the sovereignty of God and we always need to keep that in mind, ultimately God is in control. All those in leadership and authority need to keep in mind Isaiah 40:6-8 'A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All men are like grass, and their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely people are like grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

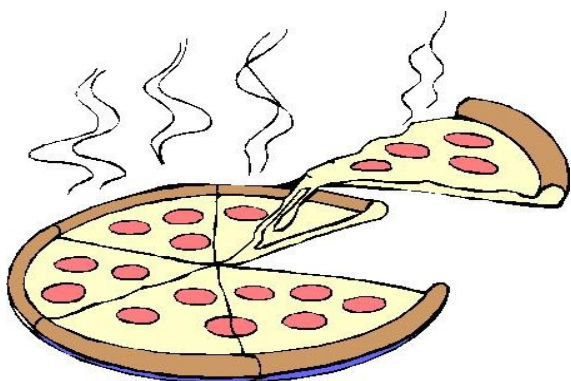
We need to continually bring our nation before God in prayer that he would continue to show mercy and grace to us.

Worthy Women's Dinner

Friday 20th August is time for women of all ages to come together for a great night of food, fun and a challenge through the guest speaker. The Worthy Women's Dinner is an annual event run by the Mt Evelyn Christian Reformed Church. It is a shared meal together to encourage women to realise what God can do through them by using whatever gifts he has given them. Because of increasing numbers of ladies attending the Dinner is being held at the

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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.		

Chateau Wyuna, Mt Evelyn. The cost is \$35 per person. See Anita de Witte for more information.



Church Council

The Church Council meets this Thursday at 7.30pm in the church.

Correction

Last week the collection amounts for the 13-06-2010 were incorrect they should have read,

Freewill/Pledges	\$1520.50
GOSPEL	\$393.05

my apologies. Adrian de Vos

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 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.



TARGET 21 BAKE SALE!

Today is the last day to purchase yummy home-baked choc-chip cookies, cupcakes and chocolate cake. Target 21 officially starts on the 4th of June and goes till the 11th of June. It will be a week jam-packed full of some lectures, a couple of workshops, a whole bunch of mission work in the Melbourne CBD and the suburbs and then some time putting it all together with debriefing.

A big thankyou to all those who helped contribute to the fund raising and those who are upholding me, and the organising committee in prayer.

Please continue to keep the organising team in your prayers and all those participating.

Amy Noorbergen.





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

Again, as a church we want to uphold in prayer another grieving family. On Tuesday night the Lord called home our brother **Cec Campbell**. As a church family we will gather with Cec's family on Tuesday

morning (10am at Springvale and 11am in the church). Pray for God's comfort to surround Vic and Joy and their families as they grieve the loss of Cec.

It is the cold and flu season, with a number of the congregation being struck down. Pray for God healing touch in the lives of these people, that they will be able to quickly resume their regular activities.

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 TONIGHT 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

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.

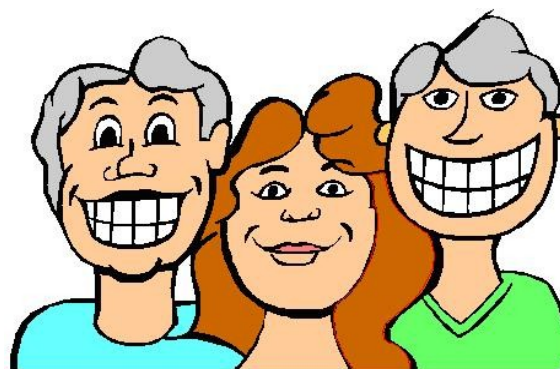
If you would like to come and join please see David Barrot or ring him on 0401 073 954.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday night Bible Study is on this week at the home of Kath and Colin Harrison. We will be starting a new book about God's Comfort. Please bring \$10 to pay for your copy. See you then. 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!



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

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

In the beginning, God added something new to creation each day.
Then He stood back and said, "this is good...really good."
Same thing happened the day He created you.

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.

Teach Me Thy Way

In the late 60's and early 70's this book was fruitfully used in some churches in Australia. It was prepared by the committee on Education of the Christian Reformed Church in the USA. With the reported revival in Indonesia (TIME Magazine 26 April) this book could be an ideal tool for instruction in the Bahasa Indonesia. While our friends in Jakarta are busy with the translation of Marian Schoolland's "Leading Little Ones To God", this book could be an ideal follow-up. So it's with this thought in mind that we're asking around the churches and its members in Australia for donation of any copies of this publication that may be gathering dust on shelves. The intention being to forward these on to Jakarta so that they can be used to teach English at Christian schools. Our friend who is busy with the translation of Marian Schoolland's books is also chairman of an Association of 27 Christian schools in the Jakarta area, which has a population of 10 million people. If you should have a copy of "Teach Me Thy Way" on your shelf, would be willing to make to available for this wonderful cause? You can mail it to me PO Box 78 Glenbrook NSW 2773. Thanks a million!!
Gerald Hanscamp.

A poem of Majorie Pizer:

IMPORTANCES

O how important are all the things of life, Friends
and possessions, political struggles
And the future of the human race, Sex and sport and
who said what about whom,
And the job and the shopping,
And being tired and being happy
And being young and being old.
How important all the everyday things are
Until death steps near And strips away all the
paraphernalia which surrounds us -
Then all these importances turn into trivia In the face
of the great mystery
Of where we come from And where we go to at the
end.

A prayer by Alan Gaunt:

Lord,

we cannot always see beyond our pain and sorrow to
the triumph of faith!

We think we have cause to complain when things go
badly for us:

when friends let us down, when neighbours hurt our
feelings, when sickness and death deprive us of
happiness.

Help us to see clearly how much greater is our cause
for joy and hope through the love you pour into our
hearts;

help us to see that all these things that hurt us are the
trials through

which we triumph through the power of him who
loved us;

so that in good times and bad our lives may honour
you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"There is no language in the world eloquent as a
holy life. Men may doubt what you say, but they will
believe what you do." Charles Spurgeon