



8 August 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. Keith Vethaak
Message: The Parable of the Feast
(Luke 14:15-24)
Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:15-24

6:00 PM Rev. La'Mont Ferreira (Jim in Casey)
Message: TBA
Reading: TBA

Duty Elder: Corey van Garderen

Duty Deacon: Vera Steendam

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Br. Gerry de Groot

Duty Elder: Peter Noorbergen

Duty Deacon: Gerry Smeedes

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Middle East Reformed Fellowship

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Ministry Formation Workgroup

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,309.10
Deaconate	\$443.35
Donation	\$200.00

Collections Sunday 25th July

Freewill/Pledges	\$3,692.70
RTC College	\$666.80

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: A. de Vos, A. de Witte, M. Eleveld
Next Week: Y. Laverman, J. Lepema, B. Hamilton

PA & VIDEO :

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

GREETERS

Today: Yke & Anneke Laverman
Next week: Corry Blik

From the Pastor's Desk

This morning we welcome Rev. Keith Vethaak as he leads our service. We are always greatly enriched by the preaching of Keith and we pray that God will bless Keith as he leads us and that he will be used by God to challenge, encourage and spur us on in the faith. This afternoon is our second Afrikaans service and we are thankful for the availability of Rev. La'Mont Ferreira to lead this service.

I get asked my opinion on who Christians should vote in the upcoming federal election and I admit that the answer is not a straight forward as you might think because no party or person is the ideal. I think each vote is important so I believe that we should carefully and prayerfully the way we will vote. Last week I put out (and they are still available from the information table) a Christians Value Checklist. Following is also an article written by Jim Wallace from the Australian Christian Lobby that appears in the Eternity on-line paper. The link in there to their website is well worth a look at.

Jim Wallace: how should Christians vote?

With a Federal election fast approaching, campaigning is in full swing. Almost every day we are learn of a new policy being announced or a new campaign-tactic being tried. But what does this mean for Christians? How much impact will the Christian vote have at the Federal election and why should we get involved?

Christian engagement with the political sphere makes a vital difference to our nation. In a representative democracy, such as Australia, politicians are sensitive to the views of the electorate, particularly their own constituents. This means there is an opportunity for Christians to influence the way we are governed, through both an individual and combined voice. It means we can play a role in helping to shape our society to be more moral, compassionate and just.

In terms of the combined Christian voice, there are clear signs that we have had a growing impact on the political environment in recent years. The 2004 federal election was perhaps the first in more recent times in which commentators acknowledged the impact of religion in Australian politics and this was built on in the 2007 election, with politicians on both

sides of the political divide openly talking about their faith, and researchers finding the Christian vote played a significant role in the election of Kevin Rudd as Prime Minister.

The media have certainly taken an interest in the interaction between religion and politics since Julia Gillard was sworn in as Australia’s first female Prime Minister, and particularly with her stating that she does not believe in God. My office has fielded many media calls from journalists wanting to know what we think about this and our response to her living in a de facto relationship.

We have been upfront in saying that for people of faith who value marriage these things will be a factor in the way they vote, but that Christians will clearly also be looking at the policies as well as the character and lifestyles of the leaders.

How much influence Kevin Rudd’s Christian commitment had on securing Labor a greater amount of support from Christians at the 2007 election is also likely to continue to be a source of conjecture throughout the campaign period, with online polling showing that Christian votes are trending away from Labor compared with the last election.

Of course it is a generalisation to talk about a Christian vote, when in reality Christians don’t vote as a homogenous block. Research has shown, however, that Christians do tend to care about a wider range of issues than the general public, and to care more about moral and compassionate issues.

Unfortunately a number of the key issues which are of most concern to Christians tend to fall below the radar of the general election coverage, but it is vitally important that Christians make an informed vote. With this in mind the Australian Christian Lobby (ACL) has put 24 questions on a wide range of

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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>		

Christian concerns to all the political parties contesting the election and have posted their responses on a special election website at <http://www.australiavotes.org.au>. We are also distributing around one million booklets and flyers to churches to enhance access to this material.

Please remember that the Christian vote won't have a strong effect unless we all get involved and play a part. It is important that we pray for our political leaders, raise issues we are concerned about, and ensure we make a wise and informed vote on election day.

ACL is a non-denominational, non-party partisan lobby group representing a broad constituency of Christian supporters. ACL's vision is to see Christian principles and ethics accepted and influencing the way we are governed, do business, and relate as a community.

Connecting with my Neighbour Conference.

Just a reminder that the conference is just 2 weeks away and it promises to be a great weekend as we hear from gifted missionaries on how we can connect with our muslim neighbours.

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.

A huge thank you to those who have put their name down to help with our hosting of the conference. If you haven't put your name down, but can help out, please do so soon. The sign-up sheets are in the foyer.

For those who have put their name down the supper times are:

Friday night at 9pm (after the Keynote address)

Saturday: Morning Tea is served at 10.30am; afternoon tea at 3.30pm. Lunch is being provided by a local Sri Lankan restaurant. There will be an offering taken up on the Saturday to cover some of our costs for the conference.

The conference enrolment forms are now available (you will find one in your pigeon hole). More forms can be collected from the information table in the hall area.

THANK YOU

I just want to express my thanks for the love and prayers of the church and village community who have visited, sent me cards, phoned or remembered me in their prayers. It is good to know others are praying through these difficult days.

Keep walking in God's love. **Gwen Williams**

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- Keep the **Van Neutegem** family in your prayers. John's scan results show that the tumours are growing in spite of the chemo. They go to a specialist at the Alfred for further treatment options at this stage.
- **Annie Pilon** is home again after her corneal graft eye surgery. She now, needs to be patient for 6 weeks for healing to occur. Pray for God to bless this surgery with hopefully some improved vision.

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!

Worthy Women's Dinner
Hosted by Mt Evelyn Christian Reformed Church

Date: Friday 20th August 2010

Venue: Chateau Wyuna

170 Swansea Rd Mt Evelyn

Tickets: \$35.00 per person

For enquires and tickets phone

Karin: 9735 0035 or Julie 97355765

Email: julieana.bouma@bigpond.com

RSVP: 8th August

Be sure to invite your girlfriends!

Eternity

The latest *Eternity* newspaper (August edition) is now available in the church foyer. Pick it up and have a read. There are a number of articles in there dealing with the elections under the title 'Who Would Jesus Vote For', along with a range of other very interesting articles.

Pakistan flooding - Emergency Collection

On Sunday 22 August, the World Development and Relief Committee is launching a special appeal in all our churches. Through the program of the CRC of Nth America, we will join to target some 8,000 flood affected families.

Our assistance will be channelled through an interdenominational Christian organization in Pakistan. They will bring relief assistance in the form of food, shelter and other essentials.

Please pray for the situation there and give on 22 August. More details next week.

Bert Kuipers - publicity.

The 'Jubilate Choir'
together with

'Selah' of Oxley College

And Various Artists

Present an Evening of Music

At 'The Highway' Apostolic Church

1330 Ferntree Gully Road Scoresby (Melway
72H7)

21st August 2010 7.30 pm

\$15 pp - \$30 fam. - \$12 conc.

Tickets are available by ringing:

Harold & Janneke Dykstra on 9700-2378

Peter & Alice Krins on 9735-5334

Or check with Choir members in your congregation

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Anneke Holtzhausen	August	9
Hein Woning	August	9
Jo de Vries	August	10
Christopher Berman	August	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!

40 Hour Famine

Did you know that the Global Food Crisis continues into its third year and that more than 1 billion people can't get enough food to ensure their survival, let alone live a healthy life?

Did you know that hunger and malnutrition is the number one risk to health worldwide- greater than

AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined?

Did you know that every \$40 raised through the 40hour famine can help 6 children for one month?

As announced last week a number of our young people are taking part in the World Vision 40hour Famine. Currently it is Matt Noorbergen, Emily, Zoe and Asher de Witte. They plan to go without things like food, talking and furniture for the 40 hours starting on Friday evening (21st August) to the Sunday. They would love your support as they go without raising awareness and support.

The funds raised this year will support 40hr Famine projects in Nepal, Kenya, Laos and Cambodia. These projects are working to increase reliable access to food and clean water, reduce the effects of climate change, develop livelihoods through microenterprise development and training and invest in agricultural education and development.

The guys will be available in the hall after church to answer your questions and to accept your sponsorship. See how you can help!

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 97956252
This week we meet at Regina Gnanathurai's unit 53 Outlook gardens

OASIS GROWTH GROUP:

meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month (but not during school holidays) at the Burggraaf's: 7:15 – 9:15 pm. New members welcome to attend. Ph: 9791 2601

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY,

Meet at the church at 10am. All ladies are welcome 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 will be on this week at the home of the de Witte's at 8pm. We are doing Study 3. Hope to see you all there. For further information about our group contact Mark Meenks on 97045516.



DVD Lending Library

Over the years we have collected a number of children's DVDs and videos, like Veggie Tales, for J-Team. We would like to make these DVDs available for you to use whether that is with children or grandchildren. The DVDs are available from the lounge area. All we ask that you do is write in the book your name and the DVD that you have borrowed and that you return it within 2 weeks.

Care and Share is looking for **more** people who can participate in its visiting program. As some of our visitors grow older themselves we need younger people to replace them. If you have some free time to offer friendship and spiritual and emotional support to others in our church community please talk to Henni Burggraaf (ph. 9791 2601)

Care and Share is the visiting program that supports the elderly and the frail and those isolated in their own homes due to disability.

For all Care Share members there is a team meeting on **Monday 30th August at 1.30pm in the Church Office meeting space** to discuss issues that arise out of the visiting and to debrief and encourage each other. Henni

Thank You

Harry, Jannette Cory and Katie VanderJagt want to thank all those people who have been praying for little Arke's recovering over the past weeks. He has progressed very well since his operation which was to remove a small piece of small intestine which had not developed properly whilst he was in the womb. That operation has been a success and he will go home this week on Tuesday or Wednesday (3 or 4 August).

Please continue to pray for mother and child as Katie is very nervous about taking him home. We want to thank you all once again for your prayers and support during this very trying time.

Another point of praise we have is that Jacob got engaged whilst we were in Canada a few weeks ago and due to the fact that Arke was taking all the attention at the time we forgot to put something in the churchpaper. We are very happy to announce that Jacob and Alyce (Meyer) plan to be married on 29 January 2011. Many of you will know Alyce's family. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Tini Meyer who worshipped in this church for a long time.

Praise the Lord for He is Good.

Faith Book
WHERE REAL
FRIENDS MEET!

AN EVERYDAY SURVIVAL KIT

Here's what you need:

Toothpick, rubber band, band-aid, pencil, eraser, chewing gum, mint, candy kiss, tea bag.

Here's why:

Toothpick - to remind you to pick out the good qualities in others...Matthew 7:1.

Rubber band - to remind you to be flexible, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out..Romans 8:28.

Band-Aid - to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's...Colossians 3:12-14.

Pencil - To remind you to list your blessings everyday...Ephesians 1:3.

Eraser- to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, and it's okay...Genesis 50:15-21.

Chewing gum - to remind you to stick with it and you can accomplish anything ...Philippians 4:13.

Mint - to remind you that you are worth a mint to your heavenly father.. John 3:16-17.

Candy Kiss - to remind you that everyone needs a kiss or a hug everyday... 1 John 4:7.

Tea Bag - to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings... 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Poetic Advice

APPLE PIE

My mother used to say to us, when there was pie to eat,

"First eat the thing 'bout which you fuss, and then you'll have the treat. "

On any job or any work, the same rule could apply, do first what you 'd prefer to shirk, the rest is apple pie.

FREE DESKS!

We have 2 desks at the Op Shop we have not been able to sell. Would anyone like them? Please see Anita de Witte if you are interested. Also we are low on queen sized linen at the moment- donations are always welcome!