



19 September 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. John Rietveld
Message: Do You Want to Get Well? (John 5:6)
Reading: John 5:1-15

6:00 PM Br. Corey van Garderen
Message: God and Marital Faithfulness
(Exodus 20:14)

Readings: Lord's Day 41; Exodus 20:1-21

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Rev. Bill Berends
6:00 PM Br. Herman Linde

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – RTC

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Vicariate

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,308.19
Deaconate	\$845.55



ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: J. Otto, R. Painter, D. Mekking

Next Week: C. van Garderen, J. Schapendonk,
R. Salvaratnam, J. Appel

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Kevin de Jong, Paul Cholel

Next Week: Phillip & Paul Ellings

GREETERS

Today: Martin & Coby van Rossen

Next week: Yke & Anneke Laverman

From the Pastor's Desk

As I am in Sydney this weekend for the wedding of Phil and Rowena I am thankful for those who are leading the services for us. May God bless the preaching of his word by both John Rietveld and Corey van Garderen. John is bringing us a message from John's gospel and Corey is continuing our journey through the Heidelberg Catechism and the 10 commandments, looking at the 7th commandment, 'You shall not commit adultery'.

This week I will be taking a holiday break with the family, so any pastoral issues or concerns should be directed to Henni Burggraaf or an Elder.

During the week I read a devotional that challenged me and so I thought I'd share it with you.

In a World of Hurt

15 year old Greensburg, Indiana freshman, Billy Lucas, committed suicide after suffering increasing harassment from his peers at school. According to fellow students, in an article on the Fox59 News website, Billy was "different" and didn't "quite fit in."

" . . . The 15-year-old never told anyone he was gay but students at Greensburg High School thought he was and so they picked on him. 'People would call him 'fag' and stuff like that, just make fun of him because he's different basically,' said student Dillen Swango . . . Students told Fox59 News it was common knowledge that children bullied Billy and from what they said, it was getting worse . . . some students told Billy to kill himself . . ."

Thursday evening, Billy's mother found him in the family's barn; he'd hung himself.

(Read the full story at www.fox59.com)

What does scripture teach us about the need for us to show the compassion of Christ?

Matthew 9:35-38. Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Everyone has a story. Sadly, many people have a story that is filled with a twisted plot and a tragic theme. Billy Lucas, seems to fit Matthew's description of someone who is "harassed and helpless, like a sheep without a shepherd". Jesus feels great compassion for people who have problems so great that they don't know how to get

help, or they are so down, they don't respond to help that is available. He wants to bring healing and hope to their lives through His love, forgiveness and power, no matter how deep their pain.

The amazing thing is that He wants to use us. Jesus said we should pray for people to respond to His need for workers. Quite often, when we pray for something, God uses us to answer our own prayers! He wants us to see the need and trust Him to empower us to meet the needs of others. Many people are ready for the turning point in their life story. They will give their lives to Christ if someone shows them and tells them God's Story. Are you willing to be that person?

This story and scripture resonated with me in the light of the opportunities God gives us every day in our lives, but more specifically with the connections through the Caravan Park and boarding houses of Dandenong.

So what are some practical ways we can respond to the story and Scripture passage?

Thank God that He sent Jesus to rewrite your life story. Praise Him for the fact that you know your story will have a happy ending - living with God in Heaven forever! Ask His Spirit to empower you with Christ's compassion for those who are hurting, in pain, and feeling helpless. Pray that people will respond to the need for being God's workers. Ask Jesus to give you a willing, humble heart to be one of those workers.

For the next few weeks, especially when you are near someone who is very different from you, and you may not really know this person . . . remember that Jesus knows and loves this person . . . and that He wants you to be ready

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Newsletter compiled by Adrian de Vos. Email newsletter@dcrc.org.au Phone 9547 6878

News items dead line is 5 PM Wednesday.

when He nudges you to reach out to those who are harassed and helpless. At least once a week, be intentional about showing Christ's compassion to someone who seems harassed and hurting, without expecting anything in return.

Write a note of thanks to someone who showed Christ's compassion to you at a time when you may have been carrying a lot of pain and feeling helpless.

God bless. Pastor Jim

Warburton WA SWIM Team

Anyone interested in being part of the team to Warburton in Jan 2011, should contact Pastor Jim or Peter Abetz (pabetz@crca.org.au) to express your interest.

Peter has been in touch with Sue Clark in Warburton, and she suggests we come the week of Sunday 9th to Sat 15th Jan, or the week after.

Volunteers needed at Outlook Gardens

Outlook Gardens is currently in need of volunteers to assist our activity and nursing staff with our residents' social and medical appointments.

Please call 9795-7566 and speak to Hilda or Maggie if you could possibly help us.

A big thank you to all members of the congregation for their continued support and hard work.

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!

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!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Pia Antheunis	September 21
Trean Koch	September 21
Jos Berends	September 23
Karrissa Esselbrugge	September 23
Wilma van Brussel	September 23
Stien Ploegsma	September 24
David Ellings	September 25
Monday Cholel	September 25

You treat each moment as a gift from God – live life to the hilt. Love those around you. And others see it, feel it ...pick up on it. You spread good vibes. Live your truth.

INVITATION

The Church Council and Congregation of the Christian Reformed Church of Geelong have pleasure in inviting you to the installation service of the Reverend Ron Nauta, minister of the Word and Sacraments. The service will be led by Prof. Henk De Waard on October 3, 2010 at 3:00pm in the Hall at Covenant College, Creamery Road, Bell Post Hill, *Mellways Ref. Page 441, C1*. We are grateful to the Lord that He has provided a minister to serve in this congregation.

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.

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 Audrey Kloppenberg's Unit 47 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.

VENTURE BIBLE STUDY

(young adults bible study)

Venture Bible Study meets this Sunday at 4 at Noorbergens and the following Sunday we will meet before the Youth Service at Casey at 4 then go on to the Youth Service, if everyone could bring a snack to share and drink to share it would be great- see you all then.

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 Ada's place this week- note new address: 5 Ben Court Endeavour Hills. For further information about our group contact Mark Meenks on 97045516.

A peaceful witness to life

For those who may be interested on Saturday 9th October at 2pm there will be a March for Babies held in the city in remembrance of the day the Victorian government passed the Abortion Law Reform Act in 2008. It is for the more than 20,000 babies aborted each year in Victoria (1 in 3).

The march will gather at Treasury Gardens and move peacefully to Parliament house, where there will be singing, speeches and prayer. For more information visit their website: www.marchforbabies.org.au

CAR BOOT SALE

Set aside Saturday **23rd October** in your diaries for our annual Car Boot Sale. Please think about how you can help out this year. We need people to man the BBQs from 7.30am for bacon and eggs until about 1.30pm for the sausage sizzle. If you can help with advertising please let us know. Any enquiries to Nel Steunenberg or Anita de Witte.

DEACONS: Please give generously for the work of the deacons today.

We want to ask the congregation if they will give generously when we have the collection for the deacons today. We need to raise \$3500 for a loan project.

As deacons we also want to acknowledge the financial support that has been given to us from the Op-Shop ministry. Thank you all for enabling us to work in this way on your behalf. Kevin, Vera, Aafke, Gerry and Henni

Box Hill Youth Service

September 26 · 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Theme : 'All of life for God's glory - how to praise God while brushing your teeth'

Come and explore the theme of how we praise God in everyday living, there will be food after the service. Stay discuss the topic further and meet some people...

Thank You by Ted Slagter

My thanks go out to our Pastor Jim and Henni for their support in my grief by the death of my wife, Mies. Especially Jim for the excellent manner he spoke at the gravesite and the church service after.

My appreciation also for church members, village people, and hostel residents whom attended.

High esteem for all the ladies of worth who rose to the occasion of catering at counter, serving at tables and cleaning up after. Thanks to all.

Ted Slagter

PAKISTAN FLOODS - 20 MILLION AFFECTED

We do thank the churches for their generous support to this great humanitarian disaster. Your giving enables love to be expressed in the name of Jesus Christ in Islamic Pakistan.

Last week I watched the "4 Corners" ABC TV documentary on the disastrous flooding in Pakistan. It was entitled "After the Deluge". I was particularly saddened that so many malnourished children are dying of dehydration because of water borne diseases. This will go on for a long long time. So many will die. If you didn't see it, please take some time to view it on line: <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/> Most churches have given their members an opportunity to give to the WD&R appeal. If you would yet like to give or make an additional gift, the opportunity to do so is still there. Just place your gift in the offering at your church. Seal your gift in an envelope and mark it "Pakistan Flood Appeal". Your church's treasurer will do the rest.

Bert Kuipers WD&R publicity.

COM Spread the Word

COM continues to grow in its ministry and mission to reach the people in every village of India. As we are well aware the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. To increase their ability to spread the gospel they have produced a range of messages recorded on memory sticks and DVDs. The aim is to take audio units out to the villages with a support volunteer. The gospel messages are then broadcast through the audio units and a trained missionary will follow up with the people in the village who respond. Imagine how quickly the Word of God would spread throughout India by this audio program.

We have the opportunity to partner in this mission project. Each radio unit costs \$30 and the aim is to have 12,000 units operating within a year. To support this work of COM we are holding a special offering after the services on Sunday 26th September. All money raised through this offering will go to the

purchase of the audio units.

There will be a video presentation during the service outlining the work.

Elder/Deacon Nominations

The Church Council is seeking nominations from the congregation of suitable people to be considered for the ministry of Elder or Deacon in the church. We have three Elders who are finishing their terms (Yke Laverman, Peter Noorbergen and John van Breen) and one Deacon (Kevin de Jong). Please prayerfully consider whom you might nominate or even whether you might be able to stand yourself. Nominations must be received before our next meeting on the 7th October.

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- It was good to gather as a community with **Ted Slagter** and his family, this past Tuesday, to give thanks to God for the life of **Mies**, his loving wife, and to hear of God's enabling grace in their lives, as their rock and firm foundation on which their relationship was built. May God continue to comfort and support Ted and the family with his loving presence in their loss.
- **Heather Nicholson** has been in The Valley for treatment and further investigations this past week. She is very limited in her energy levels but knows God's gracious presence with her.
- **Pastor Jim** is in Sydney for **Phillip & Rowena's** wedding this weekend. We trust that this will be a time of celebration for the whole Van Neutegem family.
- **Dahneale Moore's** surgery has been postponed which was a disappointment for her. She waits for further news now of a new date.
- For those who wish to send a birthday greeting to **Pia Antheunis** while she is in respite she is in: Room 38, Overbeek Lodge, Dutch Care, 736 Mt. Dandenong Road, Kilsyth 3137.

Shawlands Workgroup

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES:

Our next meeting has been changed to **Monday 4th October** at Jim's place

in preparation for the next BBQ at Shawlands on **Sunday 10th October**.

SHORT MINUTES OF

Church Council Meeting of Dandenong Christian Reformed Church

9th September 2010

Your Church Council met and spend some time discussing and reflecting on Ministry Models from a timely book "The trellis and the Vine" and prayer.

Some of the items that Council dealt with were : looking at the options of impacting needy people with the gospel in our community by way of setting up housing and discipleship homes. Brad Maidment shared his experiences with his two homes in Hallam and Hampton park. We will consider the possibility to be involved in this type of ministry.

The issue of pastoral care in our church was discussed and given the existing focus on outreach and the chronic manpower shortage that we continually face in this congregation, It was decided best to target priority visits in the short term but we will be considering restructuring the model for pastoral care in the medium term. The congregation is reminded to approach an elder if you require a visit , or if you know someone who needs a pastoral visit.

We plan to celebrate our varied ministries and those involved in them in the forthcoming AGM. This will be held on the 23rd October. Please put this date on your calendars and make an effort to be there as we will be having a meal together, discussing some of the exciting things and blessings that have happened in the past year and we will be looking forward to the coming year how God will challenge and bless us.

Our Afrikaans language evening services have resulted in more than 60 people attending. It was decided to continue the trial over the twelve months with a service to be held on the second Sunday of each month. (to be reviewed six monthly) It is hoped that unconnected South African families

will come and join our fellowship. In addition a pre-Christmas event for the Afrikaans community on Saturday 4th December is being planned.

We reviewed the preaching roster and thanked God for willing servants to proclaim his word to us. It was decided NOT to have an evening service December 26th. Evening services will be combined with Casey over the January holiday period. The Village will be shown service DVD's.

As we have three elders and a deacon retiring in February next year, the Congregation is called to seriously pray about this and talk to and encourage people who they think would be suitable and nominate names for consideration. One of our elders who is over 75 years old has been serving for over FIVE years because no-one has been willing to step up to the plate. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling YOU to assist us in leadership. Age does NOT disqualify you. Nominations need to be submitted before our next meeting on October 7th.

We rejoiced that God still works miracles in the lives of people. We will be celebrating the profession of Faith of Ian Meenks (The brother of Mark Meenks) on October 3rd.

We plan to support further ministry of COM in India. We will advertise a plan to help spread the gospel to remote villages by raising money to buy MP3 players for missionaries to give to village elders with the gospel message preloaded on them. A retiring offering is planned for September 26th.

Our Arabic Christian friends who use the church facilities on Friday evenings hosted a conference on August 20th-21st aiming at reaching out to the Islamic community locally. Over 150 people attended and was very positive. A good response was experienced by those who were door knocking and bibles given were well received.

We brought before the Lord those with pastoral needs and also gave thanks for continuing opportunities to minister in his name.

Censura Morem was observed , and we verbally expressed our unity together in preparation for the upcoming Lords supper 12th September 2010. Our Next Meeting will take place on: October 7th 2010

Your reporter: PN