



27 February 2011

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: Fan the Flame
(2 Timothy 2:6-7)
Reading: 2 Timothy 2:1-14

6:00 PM Pastor La'Mont Ferreira
(Pastor Jim in Langwarrin)
Message: No Troubled Heart
Reading: John 14:1-14

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Crosbie de Kretser
6:00 PM Br Dave Barrot

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Solomon Islands Workgroup

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Music Ministry

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2230.25
COM	\$824.15
Previous week 13-2-11	
Freewill/Pledges	\$1950.65
J-Team	\$491.35
Flood Relief	\$50.00

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: P & J. Bruinewoud, T. Raatjes.
Next Week: J. Blik, E. Poppenbeck, Johnson, Kimmer/Wang.

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron
Next Week: Kevin de Jong, Ian Meenks.

GREETERS

Today: TBA
Next week: Vera Steendam, Con Daniels.

From the Pastor's Desk

It was with terrible sadness that we heard and saw another huge earthquake hitting the New Zealand city of Christchurch. It has only been a couple of months since they experienced a large earthquake. Though smaller on the Richter scale than the September 2010 earthquake, the city has sustained much more damage, including the loss of lives. At the time of writing, there are 98 people confirmed dead, and over 200 people missing.

As a denomination we have a close 'sister church' relationship with the Reformed Church in New Zealand. Some of us have friends and family who are part of the churches there. There are three

RCNZ churches in Christchurch – Christchurch (Cornwell Street), Bishopdale, and Dovedale.

We received an email from Rev. Robert van Wichen in Christchurch informing us that they, at present, have experienced no loss of life. Following is what Robert has written,

“Thank you for your concern. While we greatly appreciate your expression of concern and offers of financial support, it is probably too early to have a special collection. The extent of the need is not yet clear, and at this point, we are coping financially. So we suggest that you hold off calling for a national special collection for now. We will certainly let you know if we need financial help or if significant opportunities for service become apparent.

“We have made our congregations aware of your offer of accommodation and assistance with the cost of flights. Some members of our congregations are struggling to cope with the aftershocks, and leaving the city for a reprieve may be just what they need.

“Here is a brief summary of how our churches have been affected:

1. The Christchurch Reformed Church building and Marantha Homes have sustained significant damage due to liquefaction. The full extent of the damage is not yet known. The church building is unlikely to be usable (based on reports I have received).
2. To the best of our knowledge no one in our congregations has been injured. There were a number of close calls. We are very thankful that God has preserved us.
3. Some of our members' homes have been damaged and businesses seriously affected.
4. A significant number of our members are without power or water.

“On the positive side, the earthquake has brought people

closer together and is giving us ample opportunity to be of service.”

In Christ's service,
Robert van Wichen,
Reformed Church of Bishopdale

Keep the city of Christchurch in your prayers in the coming weeks. Pray for those who are in a high state of distress, suffering shock and trauma. Pray too for those who have suffered loss and those who are left wondering where they are going to live. This is a major disaster and may it be a time when people reach out to support one another and may it be done in the name of the Lord. Pray especially for the Christians there, that they may be a source of comfort, grace, and service to many hurting and distressed people in their city.

Next weekend I and the family will be in Sydney for the wedding of a niece. It will be a quick trip up on Friday and back on Sunday night. If there are any pastoral concerns over the weekend than please contact Henni Burggraaf or an Elder.

World Day of Prayer.

This day will be held on Friday 4th March 2011 at 10am. It will be held in The Salvation Army Centre (55 James St Dandenong). The speaker on this day will be Major Winsome Merrett, talking about the question of Chilean women, ‘How many loaves have you?’

BILD

Someone asked me this past week what BILD stands for. BILD is the acronym for Biblical

Christian Reformed Church of Dandenong 255 Outlook Drive, North Dandenong, Vic 3175 Church Office Phone: 03 9795 0576		
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.		

Institute for Leadership Development. It is a teaching institute with a strong focus on equipping the local church to be a place that provides theological education. The Reformed Theological College and CRCA Synod approved Task3 as a ministry training path. BILD forms part of the church based training of ministry candidates. BILD courses are also an ideal way to train other local leaders as it encourages in-depth reading of Scripture and working through a better understanding of various issues.

We commenced the first BILD course last week Wednesday. In this first course we are looking at the book of Acts, specifically 'Keys to the establishment and expansion of the first century church'. The overall objective is to determine the fundamental biblical principles regarding the mission of the church and its role in missions, developing guidelines and strategies from these principles for a local church's involvement.

Induction of New RTC Old Testament Lecturer

We are delighted to announce that Rev John de Hoog has commenced work at the College. He will be formally inducted as Lecturer in Old Testament at the Reformed Theological College in a special service held at the College today 27 February at 5.00pm.

We warmly invite all friends of the College to join us on this special occasion. Rev de Hoog will be the main speaker so it will be a great chance for people to hear him and also to meet him, his wife Sallee and their family. Supper will be provided afterwards.

We also request that churches continue to uphold your College in prayer as we seek together to fulfil our vision "...to raise, equip and support a generation of leaders for the advance of the Gospel..."

Simon Edwards

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- After hearing of the Christchurch earthquake, we are thankful that Helen and Corey Van Garderen have been able to come home safely from their NZ visit.
- **Wilma Van Brussel** traveled to Tasmania this

week for the Thanksgiving service of her brother-in-law Piet Kossen who died last week. Hold her in prayer, and others who you know are grieving the loss of loved ones.

- **Peter Bruinewoud** requires a 6 week course of chemotherapy for the cancer in his lung which has increased in size somewhat. Both Peter and Atie have accepted this as a necessary treatment, and are at peace, knowing God holds Peter's life in his hands. God has upheld him so far and they trust him for the future. Pray for God to bless this treatment.
- Pray for **Peggy Hodgkinson** who is still having further tests done and waiting for further information about the surgery she requires.
- Continue to **pray for all** who are unwell or receiving treatment for cancer and ask for God to bless their treatment for their healing.
- A number of our ladies are away for a week-end retreat, and we trust they will be refreshed by this time away together.
- I was able to go and see **Grace Fokkens** who spent time in hospital this past week after a fall. She was able to return to Malaleuca Lodge, (Cowes, Phillip Island) but was quite shaken by the impact. She receives loving care there and is thankful to have her son close by.

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!

News from the Churches

Ben Murphy has declined the call extended to him by Casey CRC and will accept the alternate call that was extended to him by the Willetton CRC (WA). We pray that God will bless him in that continuing work and team ministry in Western Australia.

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 on 97956252

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,

will commence for the year with a coffee morning on Tuesday 8th February at 10am. All ladies are very welcome to join us. Helen van Garderen.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

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

DISCOVER BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Meets on Friday the 4th of March at 7:30pm in the church office lounge room. Contact Martin van Rossen on 97957869.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Raymond Hamilton	February 27
Jean Joseph	February 28
Timothy Cameron	March 1
Alison Berman	March 3
Truus Mans	March 3
John Blik	March 4
Anneke Laverman	March 4

After a certain number of birthdays, we begin to see the spontaneous beauty of the life God gives us each day, and we appreciate its unique pattern...

After a certain number of birthdays, we marvel at our own original design May this year of your life be blessed by knowing in every moment, in every day, He is shaping you in His loving and perfect design.



It is with very much pleasure and thanks to God that

Janny Spruitenburg

&

Adrian Van Poppel

wish to let you know their desire to share their future life together. The wedding will take place D.V.

Saturday 5th March 2011

1:30pm at Christian Reformed Church of Dandenong
Cnr. Outlook Drive and Gladstone Road,
North Dandenong.



PART TIME

Children's and Youth Support Worker

Situated in the Dandenong Ranges, Hope in the Hills Christian Community has a vacancy for a Children's and Youth Support Worker (2.5 days per week). We are looking for a successful applicant who will partner in growing and developing effective faith nurture and mission through our children's and youth ministries.

Skills in communication, team work and a heart for children and youth are essential and an understanding and appreciation of the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia would be advantageous.

An application can be sent to office@hopeinthehills.org.au; and a full job description is available on request.

Applications close: 28th February 2011

Hope in the Hills Christian Community is a part of the Christian Reformed Churches of Australia.

For further information contact Pastor Michael Vanderree: 9754 6809, michael@hopeinthehills.org.au
3 Clifford Grove Tecoma, PO Box 691, Belgrave 3160, Victoria

Squeaky Clean Comedy

Every year Melbourne hosts the Comedy Festival. Some Christians are preparing a show called "Squeaky Clean Comedy". It's a stand up comedy showcase with no swearing, blasphemy or offensive material. This is the first time a show like this has been produced in the comedy festival, and we're reaching out to us to support the show and make it a success.

This year Candlelight Productions (an arts group based at Tabor College www.candlelightproductions.com.au) have decided to produce a clean comedy show for people seeking an alternative to the crass and offensive comedy so often seen at the Melbourne Comedy Festival.

Squeaky Clean Comedy features a line up of the best clean comedians from around Australia and overseas, including American headliner Dave Wiggins. Dave's hilarious clean comedy has been a huge hit overseas, and we're really excited to be bringing him to Australia. Supporting Dave are a number of other Christian performers you may have heard of such as Cam Semmens, Luke Holt (from Light FM), Phil Andrews (Triple J), Jason Pestell and Lach Ryan and Michael Connell. The show is suitable for all ages, and would provide a great night out to anyone looking to have a good wholesome laugh.

Further information will come out in the weeks ahead, when we receive the promotion material.

Wedderburn Christian Campsite

On Saturday March 26 Pro Campo Ltd, currently known as Wedderburn Christian Camp site, will celebrate its 50th year at the camp since the property in NSW was bought. Anyone interested on attending this day, starting at 10.30 am is most welcome. Free accommodation is offered for the Friday and/or Saturday night at the camp if so required. For further information contact: Arie Baalbergen on arieb@bigpond.net.au or on 0412-595692

J Team Craft

We are in need of:

- wrapping paper rolls,
- glad wrap rolls and
- egg cartons

If you have any of the following, would you kindly collect them for us and hand them to Kristy

Noorbergen.

Thank you. =)

Shared by an anonymous doctor

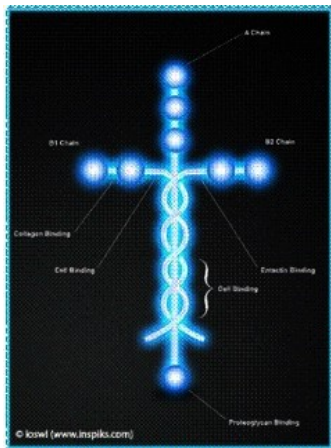
A couple of days ago I was running (I use that term very loosely) on my treadmill, watching a DVD sermon by Louie Giglio... And I was BLOWN AWAY! I want to share what I learned... But I fear not being able to convey it as well as I want. I will share anyway.

He (Louie) was talking about how inconceivably BIG our God is... How He spoke the universe into being.... Then He went on to speak of how this universe creating God ALSO knitted our human bodies together with amazing detail and wonder. At this point I am LOVING it (fascinating from a medical standpoint, you know.)... And I was remembering how I was constantly amazed during medical school as I learned more and more about God's handiwork. I remember so many times thinking.. 'How can ANYONE deny that a Creator did all of this???'

Louie went on to talk about how we can trust that the God who created all this, also has the power to hold it all together when things seem to be falling apart...how our loving Creator is also our sustainer.

And then I lost my breath. And it wasn't because I was running my treadmill, either!!! It was because he started talking about laminin. I knew about laminin. Here is how Wikipedia describes them: 'Laminins are a family of proteins that are an integral part of the structural scaffolding of basement membranes in almost every animal tissue.' You see... Laminins are what hold us together.. LITERALLY. They are cell adhesion molecules. They are what holds one cell of our bodies to the next cell. Without them, we would literally fall apart. And I knew all this already. But what I didn't know is what they LOOKED LIKE.

But now I do. And I have thought about it a thousand times since (already).. Here is what the structure of laminin looks like... AND THIS IS NOT a 'Christian portrayal' of it... If you look up laminin in any scientific/medical piece of literature, this is what you will see...



Now tell me that our God is not the coolest!!! Amazing. The glue that holds us together..... ALL of us.... Is in the shape of the cross. Immediately Colossians 1:15-17 comes to mind.

'He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible And invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in Him all things HOLD TOGETHER.' (Colossians 1:15-17)

Call me crazy. I just think that is very, very, very cool. Thousands of years before the world knew anything about laminin, Paul penned those words. And now we see that from a very LITERAL standpoint, we are held together... One cell to another... By the cross. You would never in a quadrillion years convince me that is anything Other than the mark of a Creator who knew EXACTLY what laminin 'glue' would look like long before Adam breathed his first breath!!

What an amazing God. In God We Trust!
Amen.

Upcoming Events 2011.

☆ Forrest Edge Music Festival – March 11-13
Featuring Gracernote, Stellar Kart, No Greater

Sky and many more new Christian bands.

If you need more info on any of these events check the youth notice board.

Christian Reformed Church of Cobden (Inc)

103 Curdie Street COBDEN VIC 3266

“Seeking first the Kingdom of God in Christ”

Position Vacant

Are you wanting a seachange?

Interested in leading a keen but under skilled church into effective ministry, work with an interesting range of people of all ages, enjoy the country lifestyle of a dairy rich landscape and the Great Ocean Road. You could be the person we are looking for.

We are a small self motivated church, situated in Cobden, not far from the Great Ocean Road.

There is a range of ages and characters involved in the community in positive ways such as R.E, Kid's Hope, Spring Festival weekend, Lovely Banks Nursing Home, Easter and Christmas events.

We really need someone to come and work with us. Whether you're just starting out or wanting to slow down, this could just what you are looking for.

In the past we have been a starting block for many young ministers. We feel God has a purpose for us to continue His work here.

Cobden CRC is looking for a self motivated mission and pastoral worker (.5) who can lead us into effective ministry and mission.

Will you come if He speaks to your heart?

Applications Close: 31 March 2011

To express interest and to receive a detailed job description, write to:

Fred van Leerdam
31 Boundary Road, Cobden. Vic.3266
Ph. 0428334007
email. clerk@cobden.crea.org.au

Walk Thru The Old Testament

Walk Thru the Old Testament (WTTOT) is a simple but effective way of teaching people to understand and know God better.

This is an excellent seminar for all believers. It is an interactive and catchy presentation which has helped many people find the missing pieces and then link the jig saw into a picture of God's plan for mankind.

*"Ah ha, now I see how it all fits in together", says
12yr old Amy*

Like Amy, the people, places, prophets and passages come alive in an event that you, your family members, and fellow believers will never forget.

Robert Siakimotu, will be presenting this seminar on

Saturday 26th March 2011

9.00 am to 5.00 pm

*Mount Evelyn Christian Reformed Church
45-47 Birmingham Rd, MOUNT EVELYN, VIC,
3796*

Robert, originating from New Zealand is a lively personality and with many years experience of teaching WTTOT. He is currently also the International President of Open Air Campaigners and was one of the founders of Polynesian Ministries. He is also very active with WTTOT in the Pacific Islands. He will be here personally to walk you through the Old Testament. This will be a life-changing experience for you.

This inaugural WTTOT event is subsidised.

Participants need to contribute only \$20 per person
Refreshments provided, BYO lunch

This seminar is hosted by **Mount Evelyn Christian Reformed Church**

45-47 Birmingham Road
Mt. Evelyn 3796

Contact: Church Office – 9736 1087

For testimonials see YOUTUBE – search "walk thru the bible"

Enrolment forms are also available from the Office.



AN INVITATION:

PASTOR JIM IS TURNING

50!

To help him celebrate we are having an
open breakfast at the church.

Saturday 12th March

8am-11am

Pop in for a cuppa and a crossiant and

wish him a happy birthday!

All welcome!



J-Team

J-team is for children Prep-Gr4 and meets on Wednesday afternoons (4-6.30pm) for food, fun, music, craft, games and Bible time. We will be starting up again this Wednesday 2nd March.

With J-Team we are in need of support help and so we are appealing to anyone who might have the time and energy to help to think about supporting us. Support is needed in the way of things like helping children make their crafts, sitting with them at meal times, joining in singing and Bible time, or helping in the kitchen with food preparation. See Pastor Jim, Henni Burggraaf or Jeannette Noorbergen if you are able to help.

Pastor Jim

News from the Churches

Ben Murphy has declined the call extended to him by Casey CRC and will accept the alternate call that was extended to him by the Willetton CRC (WA). We pray that God will bless him in that cont

RTC News

College News

- There's lots happening again at the RTC as we gear up for the new year of teaching and training. Several lecturers are undertaking an intensive Cert IV in Training and Assessment this week; next week Task3 training takes place for CRCA pastors and Steve Voorwinde will run the Intensive Greek course; then on the 21 February we have Orientation Day and the start of lectures.
- We are encouraged by a good intake of students again this year. The student body is slowly growing, for which we give thanks.
- The biggest new development this year is the launch of Sola Ministry College – a new ministry of the RTC designed in partnership with local Geelong churches to provide a Cert IV in Christian Ministry and Theology. We look forward to this exciting new way of serving the churches of our region and helping strengthen their work of equipping and training people for ministry and mission.

Faculty news

- This year we welcome Rev. John de Hoog to the Faculty. He takes up the great task of teaching the Old Testament and Hebrew. John will be inducted to his new role at a special combined Church service held at the College at 5.00pm on Sunday 27 February. All friends of the College are most welcome to join us for this special occasion.
- We have recently begun to advertise for a new New Testament lecturer. At the end of this year Dr Steve Voorwinde will retire after many years of effective ministry at the College. Please join us in giving thanks for Steve's work and asking that God would provide a very able replacement.

Distance Education

If you receive RTC Monthly by email, there's no reason why you could not receive a whole lot more from the RTC as well. Distance Ed is growing as we offer an increasing number of units online. This year two New Testament units will be available for the first time. The options this semester for Distance study are:

- Church History (1550 – Modern Times) – taught by Dr Phillip Scheepers
- The Content and Setting of the Gospel Tradition (an overview of the Gospels and their historical/cultural setting) – taught by Dr Steven Voorwinde

- The Doctrines of Grace and Eschatology (a theological study of the grace of God in salvation and what will happen when Jesus comes again) – taught by Dr Bill Berends

For information on these units, contact the College or go to www.refstudy.org (We apologise for some problems with the server recently while upgrades have been done. If you have any problems, just contact the College).

CRCA Children & Youth ministry training.



Stretch

Stretch your thinking, skills and enthusiasm.

Topics include:
* 5 Keys to effective children's ministry
* Youth outreach to schools.
* and much more.

SAT. APRIL 2, 2011
8: 45- 12:30.

DANDENONG CRCA
Cnr Outlook & Police Rds

BRING THE WHOLE TEAM!

Presented by Ray Rus Jonathan Vandenberg and others.

CONTACT RAY RUS
97362412
0407915553

CRCA Women's Convention

will be in 12 months

Friday 24 – Monday 27 February 2012

At Camp Clayton, Ulverstone, Tasmania

Bedding and towels will be supplied and

no need to use high bunk beds!

So why not start planning your holiday to peaceful Tasmania!

More details soon

For any enquiries email: crcwc12@gmail.com