



# Newsletter

22 May 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: The Greatest of These  
(1 Corinthians 13:1-3)  
Reading: 1 Corinthians 13

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte  
Message: Our Daily Bread (Matthew 6:11)  
Readings: Lord's Day 50  
Exodus 16:1-5; 11-31

## WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte  
6:00 PM Pastor La'Mont Ferreira  
(Pastor Jim in Langwarrin)

## OFFERINGS

### THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church  
2 – Solomon Islands Workgroup

### NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church  
2 – CRCA Resources

### LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,596.15
Leadership Training	\$584.30

## ROSTERS

### COFFEE SERVING :

Today: D. Mekking, R. Selvaratnam, L. Dixon  
Next Week: Vanderkruk, Steunenberg, Vanderjagt

### PA & VIDEO :

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

### GREETERS

Today: Rita Piening  
Next week: TBA

## From the Pastor's Desk

In the latest 'The Briefing' Tony Payne wrote a short article entitled, 'Why the Bible is like a newspaper' and it is great food for thought. He writes: "The Bible is like a newspaper in many ways:

- Generally speaking, the reading of newspapers is in decline- many today prefer to get their information from the internet than read a newspaper.
- Newspapers are printed on their own particular kind of paper, and have their own distinctive layout.
- Oppressive regimes tend to tightly control the distribution of newspapers.
- There was a time when people read the newspaper daily, but these days those people who do open a newspaper do so only on the weekends.

- Purveyors of newspapers use increasingly bizarre marketing gimmicks to try to get people to buy them.

“Each of these statements can easily be applied to the Bible. You can probably think of others. And you can also probably think of numerous ways in which the Bible is not like a newspaper (e.g. it’s not that good for wrapping fish heads in).”

Tony goes on to focus on three serious ways in which the bible is like a newspaper.

1. Like a newspaper, the Bible is read- not interpreted. We just read the news story without trying to interpret it. As you read you take note of what is happening and how the story unfolds, filing away what you learn. Those skills should be used when we read the Bible, but because of its importance we should read it more thoroughly and carefully.
2. Like a newspaper, the Bible is an interpretation of reality. What the newspaper writes and publishes don’t just explain the story, but also the meaning and significance of what happened. The bible, likewise is an interpretation of world...shaping our understanding of reality with an infallible author being the God who made the world.
3. Like a newspaper, the Bible can set the daily agenda. Newspapers set the agenda for discussion in our society. The Bible should also shape our daily agenda, so reading the Bible every day is a wise and fruitful habit.

Tony finishes by saying, ‘Christians are in the news business- the good news business, that is. Let’s open our Bibles every day, and read all about it.’”

If you want to read the full article, then see Pastor Jim.

### Wanted

Gerry de Groot has a friend looking for a self contained unit or flat in the Dandenong area, if you know of something that may be suitable please contact Gerry on 9701 0662 thank you.

### CRCA National Youth Convention

‘Thy Kingdom’, exploring creation, fall, redemption, recreation, is the theme of the National Youth Convention to be held in NSW, 3-8<sup>th</sup> January 2012. The main speakers for the convention are Murray Capill (RTC) and Matt Jacoby (Sons of Korah). All youth are encouraged to check out their pigeon holes and join the facebook group (CRCA Youth Convention 2012). For the latest updates.

### Video Sermons

At our recent Church Council meeting we discussed the use of video sermons. There is a great deal of fantastic preaching and teaching, by many gifted men and we would love to make use of them in the future. At the end of July we would like to trial the use of some video sermons in our evening services. The service would run as normal, led by our Pastor or an Elder. It would comprise all the elements of a regular service like prayer and singing, with the message being brought via video. We think that this would be a great way to utilise the blessing of gifted teachers to expound God’s Word to us. We look forward to feedback from the congregation after we have trialled it.

### FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

#### THE GRACE GROW GROUP (Triple G)

Meets this Wednesday from 2.00-3.30 pm in the home of Audrey Klopenberg. Leader is John Nicholson. Everyone is welcome. Contact on 97956252

**OASIS GROWTH GROUP** meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the home of Harry and Henni Burggraaf (7.15-9.15pm) Ph: 9791 2601

**COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY** meets each Tuesday during the school term, at 10am in the church. All ladies welcome to attend.  
Helen van Garderen

### Christian Reformed Church of Dandenong

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<p><b>Pastor</b> <b>Jim de Witte</b> Church Office 9795 7267 Home: 9701 0453 <a href="mailto:Jim@dcrc.org.au">Jim@dcrc.org.au</a></p>	<p><b>Pastoral Care Worker</b> <b>Henni Burggraaf</b> Church Office: 9795 2170 <a href="mailto:Henni@dcrc.org.au">Henni@dcrc.org.au</a></p>	<p><b>CRCA Website</b>      <a href="http://www.crca.org.au">www.crca.org.au</a></p> <p><b>Our Church Website:</b> <a href="http://www.dcrc.org.au">www.dcrc.org.au</a> Please visit our Website</p>
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the venue has had to be shifted. It will be held at Lighthouse Community Hall, Keysborough.

During the program we wish to present to the council and community the wonderful multicultural nature of the church. There will be musical items from different ethnic Christian groups, like the Soul Salvation Assembly.

As a local Dandenong Church it would be great if many of us could attend this breakfast as join together with the wider Christian body to give thanks to God and display our unity in the Gospel to the wider community.

We still have a few tickets left for the day. For further information please see Pastor Jim.

### **Marriage Enrichment weekend:**

Last year Casey CRC held a marriage enrichment weekend for a number of couples from our church for the purpose of building better relationships between husband and wife.

Because the weekend was so well received by the participants; Council decided that we should hold it again this year.

So if you have a desire to learn and develop some more communication and relationship skills for your marriage then this is for you!

Venue: Convention Lodge Belgrave Heights

Date 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> August

For more details please call either Betty or Herman Westendorp: 97968626

### **Church Planting Initiative**

As a denomination we have been challenged, via Synod, to consider Church planting initiatives. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow the church and see God's kingdom grow. A number of meetings have been held with some leaders from the local CRCA churches to consider a collaborative missionary church plant in the SE suburbs of Melbourne. At the heart of these meetings is a strong desire for the local churches to be united for the sake of the gospel, as we network together. Classis has given support to the initiative and things are beginning to take shape.

Following these meetings a small group is working on a draft mandate/memorandum of understanding for approval and there is work being done on identifying leaders and people who would be part of the church plant. The next step is a planned meeting of interested people in Pakenham on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June. Further information will be given at a later date.

God has put this vision on the hearts of some people and we ask that all the churches be united in prayer for work. While there are things happening we are really waiting for the Lord's direction on the best way to proceed. Please uphold this vision in prayer, asking for God's wisdom to prevail.

More information will continue to come through as things progress in this exciting venture. Further details can be obtained from Peter Noorbergen or Pastor Jim.

### **Pastoral and Prayer Points**

- Pray for God's love and comfort to surround **Colin Harrison** who received news of the sudden death of his eldest brother Geoff, this past week. Pray for his parents, Don and Evelyn, as they grieve the loss of their son.
- **Henny de Vos** passed away peacefully at Monash Medical Centre early on Thursday morning. Pray for Adrian at this time of loss that he may know God's loving presence and the comfort and support of God's people around him. Henny's funeral will be on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 11.45 am**, at the Boyd Chapel at Springvale Crematorium.
- Pray for **John de Haan** was hospitalized at Knox Private, for a chest infection, this week.
- **Elvi and Esko Oinonen** gives thanks to God for providing work for their son Petri after a long period of unemployment!
- **Peggy Hodgkinson** is thankful to be home and now awaits her heart valve surgery.
- **Con Daniels** is hoping to go to Holland in the near future to spend time with his family there, especially his brother who is not well. May God give you safe travelling.
- Pray for **Peter Bruinewoud and Esko Oinonen** as they continue receiving treatment for their cancer. Peter required a blood transfusion this week to boost his energy.