



14 August 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: Love Keeps no Record of Wrongs
(1 Corinthians 13:5)
Reading: Matthew 18: 15-35

6:00 PM Br. Chris Pretorius
Message: TBA
Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Keith Vethaak
(Pastor Jim in Leongatha for Pulpit supply)
6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Ministry Formation Workgroup

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – COM India Children's Home

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,804.20
Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF)	\$451.80
Famine Relief Africa	\$2,009.20



ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: A. de Vos, A. de Witte, M. Eleveld,
W. Tiley

Next Week: J. Joseph, S. Johnson, C. Berman,
C. Blik, Kimmer/Wang.

In 2 Weeks: J. Esselbrugge, H. Zwaal,
V. Steendam, R. Painter.

In 3 Weeks Y. Laverman, J. Iepema, E. Oinonen,
J. Gully.

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron

Next Week: TBA

GREETERS

Today: Corry Blik

Next week: Rita Piening

From the Pastor's Desk

If you want to get a picture of how civil society comes unravelled you need look no further than London and the riots of the past week. These riots were precipitated by the police shooting of a man thought to possess a gun. The riots then spread across London, mostly to poor neighbourhoods. "Disenfranchised youths," the media has written consistently, have been responsible for most of the

looting. In the days that followed we watched as entire neighbourhoods and businesses were destroyed.

The question that comes out of all of this is, 'What really sparked the riots?' Was it race issues, class issues or something else? Why are the streets of London aflame? How do we account for all this in a modern, prosperous Western nation?

I think that what we are seeing is what society looks like when it loses its fear of God and worships man and materialism. We are seeing what happens when a nation turns its back on Jesus, with Christian moral and ethical values being rapidly and increasingly pushed out of society, removed from homes, schools, universities, governments, etc. We are looking at what happens when you tell people there is no right or wrong answers to questions of morality. I was surprised by a BBC interview with two teenage girls on the streets during the riots who were enjoying the smashing of windows, chucking bottles and stealing stuff. They called it 'madness', good fun and a good time. They wanted to show the police and the 'rich people' they could do whatever they liked. (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6iLggKf1qM&feature=player_embedded). Living life with no morals and no boundaries. It struck me how little care or concern they showed for their own community.

Further, we are looking at what happens when society experiments with radical attempts to change the very nature of community, family and marriage. Bill Muehlenberg identifies a number of other issues including the abject failure of multiculturalism; the rise of the welfare state and the incessant demand for entitlements; the secularisation of society; and the stranglehold of political correctness.

Short term issues can be addressed, such as the police force taking control. It was also great to see people take to the streets in huge numbers with brooms to reclaim

and clean the streets. But the bigger, more entrenched problems such as the welfare state, the failure of multiculturalism, the de-Christianisation of England, will require much longer and deeper solutions.

So what about us? With the fabric of our society unravelling around us here in Australia we too should be concerned that the same issues could result in the same outcome. We need to be in prayer for our leaders, our communities and our neighbours. We need to pray for wisdom to be granted to policy makers and we need to be in prayer for God to intervene to change hearts and lives.

But we also need to speak out when and where we can. In Proverbs 14:34 we read, 'Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people'. I also think the quote of Edmund Burke is also worth mentioning, 'All that is needed for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing.' Jesus commands us to be salt and light in the world and so we need to find ways in which we can do that to preserve our way of life. We need to be beacons of light that proclaim there is a God that he has determined what is right and wrong.

OP SHOP

Our Church Op Shop opens on Thursdays from 11.30am –4.30pm and Fridays from 10am-4.30pm. We raise money for various local mission projects. Donations can only be dropped off during opening times. Volunteers may contact Anneke Laverman (97005686)

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<p>Pastor Jim de Witte Church Office 9795 7267 Home: 9701 0453 Jim@dcrc.org.au</p>	<p>Pastoral Care Worker Henni Burggraaf Church Office: 9795 2170 Henni@dcrc.org.au</p>	<p>CRCA Web site www.crca.org.au Our Church Web site www.dcrc.org.au Please visit our web site Your comments are welcome</p>
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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: 7:30 – 9:30 pm. New members welcome to attend. Ph: 9791 2601

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY:

The Coffee Break Ladies Bible Study meets each Tuesday during the school term, starting at 10am. All ladies are very welcome to join us. Helen van Garderen.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:

now meets fortnightly on alternate Wednesday nights and Sunday afternoons. For more information please call Mark Meenks on 0411953821.

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY GROUP:

Meets on Friday night 19th August at 7:30pm in the Church Office Lounge Room. Contact Martin van Rossen on 97957869.

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- More folk are traveling overseas this week, **Gerda and Leo Huinink** leave for Europe on Wednesday and **Yvonne Pleiter** leaves for the US and Canada on Thursday. We pray for God's care over you as you travel, and for the creating of wonderful memories to enjoy when safely home again.
- **Congratulations** to **Fred Piening** who will be 70 tomorrow, but Fred celebrates today, as he has to have chemo on Monday. Not a desirable birthday gift, but a necessary one! May God bless you as you celebrate this milestone of His care and provision over your life, and as you reflect on all the blessings that have been enjoyed.
- **Congratulations** also to **Janet de Jong** who will celebrate her 50th birthday this week. May God continue to give you health and strength for the

work you do at school, at church and bless you in your family.

- Please pray for Kath Harrison's mother, Glenys who has needed more surgery after some complications from her first surgery. Pray for her recovery and healing. Little Isaac will also need surgery in the near future, for the insertion of grommets for his ear problems.

WORTHY WOMEN'S DINNER-DANDENONG TABLE!

Last year we had a great night on our table, so this year I will organise it again! The first 10 ladies that pay me \$38 will get a spot for a delicious dinner, fellowship, fun and a great guest speaker to listen to. Friday 19th August 7pm at Chirnside Country Club. We will organise a few cars for transport. Please see Anita if interested. Ph. 97010453.

40 Hour Famine

Next weekend (19-21 August) some of our young people will be joining in with thousands around Australia in the World Vision 40Hr famine. All the funds raised will be used to support families in East Timor. Every \$40 raised will feed a family of 5 for one month! Our family can't even be fed one McDonalds meal for that price. The funds will help develop seed banks in green houses to produce more food each harvest, improve food storage to get them through the 'hungry season' and establishing kitchen gardens.

Our URY guys will be together on Friday night to support each other through the first part of the Famine. Some are going without food, others without things like technology, furniture and even sight. If you want to support them in the Famine, then look out for them walking through the church today and next Sunday.

Eternity

The August edition of *Eternity* newspaper is available from the foyer table for you to pickup and read. It is an Australian publication which comes out monthly and contains some very interesting articles wrestling with life and church.

To the churches in Australia and New Zealand:

Yes, the *Fan the Flame* conference is on again in 2011.

This year the conference will be held over the last weekend in November (**Saturday 26th to Monday 28th**).

Previous conferences have been very well received and the responses indicate that they have helped many people who were thinking about training for ministry or undertaking some kind of theological study – either soon or in the future. *Fan the Flame* provides a great opportunity to think about different areas of ministry, various training models, and the whole issue of calling and guidance. It also gives participants the chance to visit the College and spend time with the lecturers.

A poster and registration form are attached to this email. We would greatly value your help in passing these on to people you think would benefit from this conference, and advertising it in your bulletins. We also ask that you join us in praying that the Lord may use this conference to raise up more workers for the harvest field. The need for ministry workers in our churches continues to be very great.

2 Timothy 1: 6 - 7 (NIV) For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

African Relief Appeal

A huge thank you to all who contributed to the African appeal we held over the past two Sundays. Over \$4000 was raised in just two weeks. We will ensure that the funds will go to the much needed work on the ground in East Africa, under the advice of our World Development Relief Workgroup. I spoke this week with Steve Goudswaard (from the Tecoma CRC) who is currently on the ground in Africa working for World Vision to be part of a team which, cooperatively, coordinates the work and effort of many aid organisations. Working together they can

achieve much more than working alone.

Let us continue to pray for the millions of people facing drought, hunger, and conflict. Pray for the humanitarian relief agencies working to meet the needs of those affected. Pray that regional governments and the international community will work together to address the current crisis, and to reduce the effects of future droughts in this and other regions of the world. Pray that God will intervene to bring the needed rain and the much needed peace and stability to the region.

URY

URY, for youth grade 5 and over, will start again on Tuesday 26th August at 7pm in the church. Everyone welcome.

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

I received this email from COM on Wednesday. “We have just received news from our Children’s Home in Sambalpur, Orissa, that there are about ten children who are currently being affected by demonic possession. These children have been literally jumping three to four feet into the air and are crying out that they are burning. Some of our zone directors are currently on their way to Sambalpur to join our local missionaries there for a full day of fasting and prayer for the demonic release of these children.”

COM is calling on all people to pray for the children and to claim them back in the name of Jesus.

At the time of writing the latest update was: “In India it is 10.30 in the morning. The latest update is that since the last demonic attack last night at 8.30 there has not been another attack (ALMOST 14 HRS) ‘Praise the Lord’. The prayer team had chain prayer on the campus the whole night.”

We thank God for answered prayer. But please continue in prayer for this many children’s home spread across India for God’s grace and protection.



Video Sermon Nights

We have now completed our first trial of the use of video presentations for the message. Thank you to those who have offered some initial feedback. As a Church Council are seeking written feedback on the series of sermons presented via video these past couple of weeks, so we can assess their suitability at other times. Your written feedback can be handed to the Church Council Secretary (Janet de Jong) or an Elder or Deacon.

Afrikaans Service

Tonight, at 6pm, we will be holding an Afrikaans Service. Through this service we are extending an invitation to South African families to attend a special worship service in the Afrikaans language. The service will be lead by Br. Chris Pretorius.

We value your continued prayers for this missional activity that gives us the wonderful opportunity to reach a section of our community with the gospel so they might say 'we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!' (Acts 2:11). It would be wonderful if members of our church community could join in with these services. We might complain that we can't understand the Afrikaans language (and I certainly know that is true for me) but we can participate in the service (most of the hymns sung we know and can join in singing the English version) and we can join in the fellowship after the service. This would be a great way to welcome visitors into our church community as we get to know them.

Can You Help?

The laptop computer we currently use in church for the data projector is no longer adequate to run DVDs and power point presentations. We have been using peoples personal laptops for these purposes. Due to

budgetary constraints FMC cannot purchase one this financial year. The one we need costs \$940. Would anyone in the congregation be able to help by giving a donation towards the cost of this? If you are able to help please put your gift in the offering bag in an envelope labelled "LAPTOP". Thankyou.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Scott de Jong	August 15
Regina Gnanathurai	August 15
Fred Piening	August 15
Peggy Hodgkinson	August 16
Ted Slaughter	August 16
Atie Bruinewoud	August 19
Janet de Jong	August 19
Ria Raatjes	August 19

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.

On the way home from church a little boy asked his Mother: "Is it true, Mummy, that we are made of dust?" - "Yes, darling." "And do we go back to dust again when we die?"

"Yes dear."

"Well, Mummy, when I said my prayers last night and looked under the bed, I found someone who is either coming or going."

