



25 September 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 always Hopes
(1 Corinthians 13:7)
Readings: Genesis 12:1-5; 15:1-6; 21:1-7;
Romans 4:18-25

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte (Youth Service)
Message: Voices in the World
Reading: Reading: 1Samuel 3:1-21

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Br Chris Pretorius

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Vicariate

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – KRUPA Children's Home

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$3,002.45
Reformed Theological College	\$535.45



ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: H. van der Kruk, N. Steunenberg,
H. van der Jagt

Next Week: G. Zomerdyk, H. Burggraaf, C. Yong

In 2 Weeks: J. van Breen, C. van Garderen,
M. van Rossen.

In 3 Weeks K. Appel, L. Barrot, D. Barrot

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron

Next Week: Kevin de Jong, Ian Meenks

GREETERS

Today: Yke & Anneke Laverman

Next week: Corry Blik

From the Pastor's Desk

In Australia, the "gay marriage" issue, or so it has been dubbed, continues to saturate media and political debate. This was seen with the Q&A panel wrestling with the issue and now the Tasmanian House of Assembly passing a motion (13-9) to give in-principle support to marriage equality. In effect they are putting the pressure on the federal Government to endorse full relationship equality for same-sex couples.

The Q&A program was very disappointing in the way questions were asked, and the way that the audience responded, on the whole, to answers given by Jim Wallace with sneers and ridicule. It seems that so many advocates of Gay marriage seem to confuse opposition to gay marriage with Homophobia.

It was disappointing that the former NSW premier, Kristina Keneally, was presented as a Christian voice on the matter. Her main theme was that God told us to love one another and so if same-sex couples show love for one another they are living out the command of Jesus. It was disappointing that there was no opportunity to really talk about what God says about marriage and homosexuality when the panel also contained two agnostics and an atheist lesbian.

A huge statement from the audience went unchallenged, and accepted as right. The statement was that children born to same-sex couples have a right to have those 'parents' married. Can children be 'born' into same-sex marriages? When the Bible was used a comment from the audience was that it was thousands of years ago so we should 'move on'. When a great question came up asking for Scripture about God's view on homosexuality Jim Wallace was cut off just as he started. Considering the difficulty of the task, the dynamic nature of the show, and the biased ABC and audience, I applaud Jim Wallace for his efforts but was not a very balanced debate.

The Tasmanian parliament decision does not change any laws and it can be argued that it will have minimum impact to the overall debate, because the marriage act is governed federally. But the decision will certainly put pressure on the federal government as they continue to discuss the issue.

So why do same-sex couples now demand the right to be married?

The issue relates to terminology in the Marriage Act that defines marriage as the union between a man and a

woman. The argument that in a secular democracy legislation should not discriminate in terms of sexual orientation, sex or gender identity.

With this in mind, the answer should be simple. In a secular democracy, where the law gives marriage no religious or reproductive significance, legislation should not discriminate in terms of sexual orientation, sex or gender identity. Since 2008 de facto recognition offers same-sex and heterosexual couples the same rights, entitlements and responsibilities under federal law. Regardless of whether a couple is married or not, they can still be recognised as a couple for the purposes of taxation, superannuation, immigration, parenting, veterans' benefits and social security. But what the lobby groups want is marriage equality reform that will ensure the right for same-sex couples to have civil equality when it comes to relationship recognition.

I believe it goes deeper in working to undermine our society as we know it, based on the standards, principles and morals laid down by God in his word. What this demonstrates is that there is a shifting understanding of what is "natural" in the context of marriage. It is, as it says in Romans 1, the suppressing of the truth of God. While the issue of handling and understanding people with homosexuality desire is complex in some ways, Scripture is quite clear on the act of homosexuality.

So what did Jesus teach? No one on the program pointed out that Jesus explicitly condemned homosexual behaviour in Matthew 15: 19 and Mark 7: 22, where Jesus talks about the evil things which come out of a person.

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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>		

Moreover, in Matthew 19: 4-5, Jesus affirmed marriage as male-female: “Haven’t you read that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?’ ”

What should our response be? Keep in prayer for those in government that they will hold to the ‘traditional’ view of marriage being the union between a man and a woman. Pray that God would revive his church and make it strong. Pray that the voice of the concerned majority might be heard and listened to. Lobby where necessary and make sure you understand the issues at hand.

Pastor Jim

Survey Forms

The Church Council has drawn up some survey forms that we would like members who attended the evening video sermon series to fill out. The forms will help us to better understand the impact of the messages and give some input as to the way forward in the use of video messages. Please see Br. Corey Van Garderen if you need a form.

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)

Eternity

The September issue of Eternity newspaper is available for you to read. It has some interesting articles on such diverse things as the crisis in Africa, review of Rob Bell’s ‘Love Wins’ and human rights. Pick up your copy today.

News from the Churches

Vance Green from Blacktown Christian Reformed Church writes, “The message I bring to you today with thankfulness to God is, Rev. Brian Vaatstra has

accepted a call to serve as the full time Pastor for Blacktown Christian Reformed Church. He will take up duties at a date yet to be determined, in the early part of the new year.”

Preaching Conference

This Thursday and Friday (29-30 September) I will be attending the Reformed Theological College Preaching Conference in Geelong. The theme for the conference is ‘Preaching and the work of the Holy Spirit’. Please pray with me that the conference will be a blessing to all who attend and that it will bring glory to God.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

David Ellings	Today	September 25
Monday Cholel	Today	September 25
Felix Berman		September 29
Susan Lepema		September 29

With many special thoughts of you and prayers that God will bless Your birthday and the year ahead with every happiness.

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 two Elders who are due to finish their terms (Corey van Garderen and Peter Noorbergen) and two Deacons (Henni Burggraaf and Aakfe Span). 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 6th October.

SAVE THE DATE:

This year the Car Boot sale is being combined with a Family Fun day on the 5th of November so please mark it on your calendars and spread the news! More details will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- We give thanks that **Peggy Hodgkinson** has been able to come home from hospital and for the recovery she is making. Weekdays she is with her daughter Margaret, but home with Angela on the week-end.
- Pray for **Hanny Eshuis** who remains at the Valley Hospital being treated for pneumonia.
- A number of people have had health tests this week and will need to await results, we pray for God's peace of heart and mind for that waiting period.
- Fred Piening has completed his chemo and it has left him very tired. Please continue to pray for the healing and recovery he needs...also as Fred and Marianne wait 3 weeks before the final PET scan can be done and the results.



The pointy end of convention planning is upon us with less than four months until the population of Uki is doubled! The next time the planning team are getting together will be at the convention site for what is hoped will be an extremely productive weekend. We urge you to be praying for this weekend and for strength and wisdom for the entire team as they ramp up the process of planning. So far we have conventioners registered from every state apart from the ACT (yes, we even have some from the Northern Territory!!) covering almost 20 different churches! Remember that the **closing date for all registrations is 27/11/11** so please continue to encourage your youth to come along. We have received a number of questions about whether billeting can be provided prior to convention. Unfortunately billeting is unavailable, however if you are needing accommodation before or after convention we can recommend a couple of places so don't hesitate to email us at youthconnection@crca.org.au or check the posts on our facebook wall.

Thank you

Thank you to our Church familie for all your prayer, cards , phone calls and visits durring Ray's sickness and now with my hip replacement. Jesus love shines through you all.

Thanks to Him.

John & Ann van Breen



Ladies Day

Saturday 22nd October 2011

10am – 3pm

Reformed Church of Box Hill

Speaker: *Lynne Dickson*

Topic: **“I Love to Tell the Story...”**

Morning and afternoon tea will be provided, and a choice of soups for lunch – all free of charge. Bring your own sandwich if you need extra. You are also asked to bring something small used/unused from home that you no longer need, to donate for the trading table – these will be available for purchase during lunch, and proceeds will go to the SWIM Mission in the Solomon Islands.

About the Speaker – **Lynne Dickson**

Lynne Dickson has been a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ since childhood. Mother to 7 children, grandma to 11 and great gran to 3 (at last count), she also provided home-accommodation to many international students and troubled teenagers during her years in Hallam. Becoming involved with Maranatha Christian School in 1973 when she enrolled her children, she was later the receptionist at Doveton Campus from 1987 until retirement in 2009 but is still involved at Maranatha as a volunteer. Now living in ‘tulip territory’ in picturesque Mt Evelyn, Lynne is a Life Group Leader and teaches Sunday School at Hope City Church in Croydon. She is also an enthusiastic promoter of CRE (Christian Religious Education), teaching in four local State primary schools each week. From her regular contact with children over many years, Lynne has a wealth of

stories to share, but most of all, she loves to impart 'the greatest story ever told'.

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. This week we meet at John & Heather Nicholson's Unit 56 Outlook Gardens. 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:

is meeting this Wednesday at 8pm at the home of Kath and Colin Harrison. Did you all do your homework? For more information please call Mark Meenks on 0411953821.

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY GROUP:

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

Shawlands Workgroup Meeting

Could all team members note that the next meeting for the Shawlands Workgroup will be Monday 10th October at the Church at 8pm to organise the next bbq and Christmas planning.

Holidays

Henni Burggraaf, Pastoral Care Worker, will be on holidays for two weeks from this weekend. Any

pastoral concerns can be passed through to Pastor Jim de Witte, or one of our Elders or Deacons. We pray that Henni, Harry and Jonno will have an enjoyable break in sunny Queensland.

CRCA Women's Convention

Friday 24 – Monday 27 February 2012

At Camp Clayton, Ulverstone, Tasmania

'the finest secret'

This event is for women of ALL ages!

Enrolments are coming in for the
Convention February 2012.

It is great to see women excited about coming to
Ulverstone, Tasmania.

Next month you will be receiving a notification
about the workshops that will be available
so you will need to make your preferences.

If you are still thinking about enrolling,
enrolments close on 16 December 2011.

Please see your church leader for enrolment forms.

For any enquiries email: crcwc12@gmail.com





No this isn't another John Farnham comeback

Or the TV reality Show

BUT IT IS

DANDENONG'S STATE YOUTH SERVICE

SEPT 25th

@6pm

GUEST SPEAKER- CLAYTON BJELAN- LIGHT FM

JOIN US FOR EATS AND DRINKS AFTERWARDS