



30 October 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 Br. Harry Burggraaf
(Pastor Jim in Hope in the Hills)
Message: To the Saints in Dandenong
Readings: Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 1:1-14

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: Are You Good Enough
(Romans 10:1-4)
Reading: Romans 9:30-10:13

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM No evening service in Dandenong
(Combined Service at Langwarrin)

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Music Ministry

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Kids Church

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges \$2,948.70
Deaconate \$517.95



ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: J. Blik, S. Johnson, E. Poppenbeck.
Next Week: W. Tiley, A. Coe, C. Daniels,
G. de Groot

In 2 Weeks: K. de Jong, B. Elfring, D&P. Ellings
In 3 Weeks P. de Jong, I. Meenks, C. Harrison

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Kevin de Jong, Ian Meenks
Next Week: David & Phillip Ellings

GREETERS

Today: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud
Next week: Martin & Coby van Rossen

From the Pastor's Desk

Today Anita and I are worshipping with the Hope in the Hills Church, and meeting with the leadership after that as part of their search for a new pastor. Please pray that God will guide us through these unsettling times for us as a family, and us as a church family. I am thankful that Br. Harry Burggraaf is able to step in and lead the service. May God bless the service, to his glory.

Our world is shaped by what we believe and our daily activity reflects what we believe to be true and important. As a Christian Reformed Church we too

are shaped in our beliefs by our history and we need to learn from our history so we will better understand what we believe.

Today (30th October) marks the 494th anniversary of the date on which Martin Luther was reported to have nailed his 95 theses (points of dispute with the church) on the door of Wittenberg Castle. It was meant as a paper for learned discussion but, with copying and wide distribution, it became the catalyst for what we now call the Reformation.

Basically, the Reformation preached a view of God in which our relationship with God was not achieved by ritual practices. The way of reaching God involved grace and faith through Christ. It was not because some were more deserving, or earned favour with God, but through the free and gracious work of God who saves. God has done all that is necessary for our salvation, we embrace that with faith.

The Reformation was more than a change in liturgy, ceremonial practice or religion; it was a change in thought, life and world view. Sadly, many today are ignorant of the issues that split the church; issues for which the Reformers fought and died for.

Kristen Brikett (The Reformation) writes, ‘We do not need to learn the lessons of the Reformers out of love for history or tradition. Yet we need to learn the lessons of the Reformation, and be reminded that the truth that inspired that generation to protest, and to reform, is still true today.’

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)

Association for Christian Senior Citizens Homes Inc. Outlook Gardens Christian Retirement Village and Hostel

Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General meeting of the Association for Christian Senior Citizens’ Homes Inc. will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday 19th November, 2011 in the Outlook Gardens Community Centre, next door to the Reformed Church of Dandenong, at the corner of Gladstone Road and Outlook Drive, Dandenong North.

Members of the Association and other interested persons are invited to put this date in their dairies and to attend this meeting.

For all enquires please contact Hostel Reception on: 9795 7566

SUPPORT FOR C.R.E.

As Christians, we are privileged to have the opportunity to tell primary aged children about God through the Christian Religious Education program. Lyndale Greens Primary School, on Gladstone road, offers students weekly CRE. As this school is quite large, it is difficult for the few CRE teachers we have at present, to cover all the classes. We really need more people willing to teach CRE to join us.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please speak with Pastor Jim or Helen van Garderen. Training is provided so you would be ready to start in the new year.

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

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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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Peter Mechielsen Retirement Service

After 16 years in ministry, the last 10.5 years in Langwarrin, a retirement service will be held for Rev. Peter Mechielsen on Sunday 6th November at 2pm in the Christian Reformed Church of Langwarrin (cnr Warrantdyte Rd and Cranbourne Rd, Langwarrin). There will be an afternoon tea together following the service. The Jubilate Choir will be participating in the service too.

With the involvement of the Jubilate Choir in the service and considering Peter's contribution to the life of our congregation over the years, Church Council decided to make this service a combined service and we encourage our members to attend as a sign of thanks and support. (There will be a video service played through the video loop for those from the Hostel unable to attend). *Therefore there will be no evening service held in our building on Sunday 5th November.*

BIRTHDAYS LAST WEEK

Oooops Murphy struck again, last week I managed to list the previous week again. Don't worry you have not aged an extra year. The list should have read.

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Charley Nash | October 23 |
| Janis Gully | October 24 |
| Henny Eshuis | October 26 |
| Lorna Dixon | October 28 |

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

| | | |
|------------------|-------|------------|
| Sophie Wang | Today | October 30 |
| Richard Steendam | | October 31 |
| Juris Austrums | | November 3 |

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

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- A number of people have had surgical procedures (stents inserted, cataracts, gastroscopy, etc.) recently, and we thank God that these have been successfully performed with good outcomes.
- People have visited **Bill and Tinie Meijer** in

Dutch Care in Kilsyth - 736 Mt Dandenong Road in Overbeek Lodge. They are in rooms 40 (Tinie) and 55 (Bill) and now have telephone on in Bill's room: ph: 9728 7466. Pray for God's grace for them in this transition time.

- Pray for our Uni students who are finishing their year with final assessments and exams. Pray for clarity, understanding and strength to complete their exams well.
- Pray especially for **Emily de Witte** as she commences her VCE exams in the coming weeks. Pray for God's enabling strength to sustain her in her study and revision as she prepares for exams and for clarity of mind in the completion of them. Her timetable is as follows:
 - 3rd November- English
 - 4th November- Biology & Maths
 - 7th November- Maths & Psychology
 - 17th November- Food & Technology

This allows us to encourage her and pray for the specific tasks of each day.

TOUR OF ISRAEL, 2012

We have had a few requests to lead another tour of Israel, so after prayerful consideration and contacting our guide there, we have decided to lead another tour in September 2012.

The dates will be from Wednesday September 12 to Monday September 24, 2012.

We are still finalizing the details of the itinerary and will send it to those interested to join us as soon as it is finished. Our guide is also working out the costing details. We have had a look at flights to Tel Aviv, which are available at about \$2000 per person, return. These are early-bird fares. We have yet to decide whether to do a group booking or for everyone to organize their own flights.

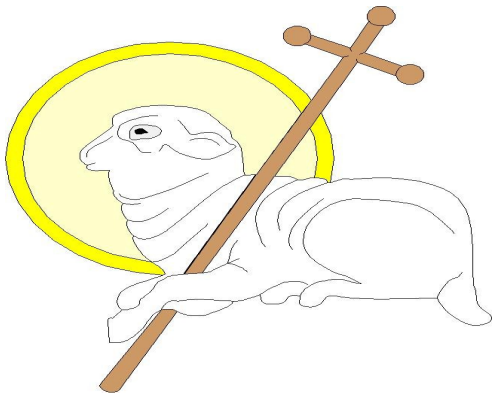
For more information contact us on peternel4@bigpond.com or on 0407095024.

Regards,
Peter & Nel Mechielsen

Mentor Training

As a Church Council we have been challenged to be more active in the area of mentoring and discipleship. We are working through some material on

why, how and whom. As part of our training we are holding a training morning on Saturday 19th November in the church. If you are interested in being involved then set this date aside and join us. If we don't hear from you, then we are likely to approach you about joining us. It is as we minister to one another we will grow as a church and community.



College Boxes.

The month of October is here again so it is time to empty the college boxes. All the ladies who have a box please bring it to the church and hand it to Janny Appel. The college needs our support to buy extra things for the students. So let us show our support through the ladies aid. Thank you for your cooperation.

Outlook Gardens Aged Care Facility Volunteers Wanted

Assistance needed to work with Leisure and Lifestyle programs. Activities include Ladies Groups, Morning and Afternoon Teas, Games, Outings, Shopping Trips, Craft etc.

Any assistance would be appreciated.
Please phone 9795 7566 and ask for Rosemary.

Church Council

Church Council meets this coming Thursday (3rd November) at 7.30pm in the church. We value your prayers as we discuss issues connected with the life and ministry of our church.

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.

News from Shawlands Caravan Park Ministry

We continue to have regular **monthly Barbeques** at the Park. These are a highlight for the residents. It has been cold and wet during the winter months, but the desire for a sense of friendship and community is so great that the residents themselves construct a makeshift-tarp over the actual BBQ area under which we huddle when it is raining or drizzling... we have committed to not cancelling, even though the weather may seem less than favourable, for we know how much the folk look forward, not just to sharing a simple meal with us, but to conversation and friendship.

We would like to see a more **permanent roof** over the van - the rain has been seeping in during this wet winter – and this would also allow for better use during extreme weather – heat in summer and wet and cold in winter -but this will be a big cost. Our first quote was over \$20,000. Juris and Colin have been working on this, and we now have a quote that

is half of the original quote. The WAYSS lady has offered assistance with the concreting and we are working out with Howard, how to progress.

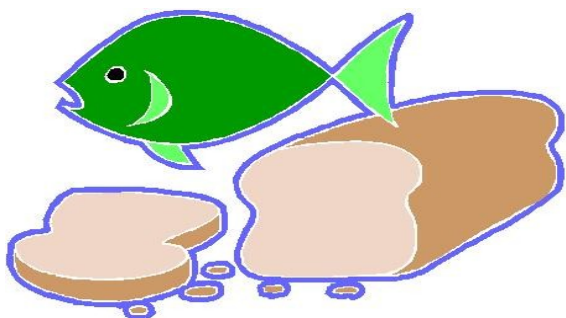
From the manager couple, Rob and Liz, we are often asked for **assistance** with new comers to the park, providing heaters, bedding, towels, linen, kitchen equipment, personal care needs, and even a bike so they can get to work. The oil heaters we are supplying are more economical and safer than the little blow heaters which are their cheapest option, but which guzzle electricity.

The Van is being well utilised as a 'community centre' for other agencies. There is now a regular weekly presence in the van from **support agencies** who are able to provide support for housing search, financial support and legal issues. Pastor Jim meets together with these agency reps. on a regular basis.

We have one more bbq on the 11th November and then 4 weeks later we will have the Christmas dinner party with Carol singing afterwards. **Christmas dinner** is the high light of our year with them. It is costly but it brings such joy. We are planning children's activities (with the Venture Bible study group involved) and a Christian children's entertainer. We have booked a Spit Roast caterer who will do the meal after which there will be gifts, and finally some carol singing with our own music group team providing the music, and Pastor Jim presenting the Christmas message. **Please pray for this ongoing ministry.**

You may not realise, but without the work of our faithful Op Shop volunteers, and the funds raised by the Op- Shop this ministry would not be able to be sustained financially. The Op Shop provides the Shawlands Workgroup with a regular monthly income that allows us to do all this ministry of mercy. There are many rewarding moments: like when we hear a person talking more freely about life and faith and their trust in God.

On behalf of the Shawlands Work Group (SWG).
Henni



Dear RTC Friends and Supporters,

After eleven years of tremendous service, Mark and Angie Almond have decided that the time has come to step down from their role as Residential Supervisors of Barkley Hall, the RTC's student residence. They have worked hard in many different roles over those years as Barkley Hall has grown and developed. We are deeply thankful for all they have done. And their service has not finished. Angie will continue in the RTC Office and Mark will continue as our caterer. So it is just their role as live-in supervisors of Barkley Hall that will come to an end. Next Wednesday evening we look forward to thanking them for their work at a special evening meal.

We are also very thankful that the Lord has already provided another couple to take over as House Parents. Rev. Peter Mechielsen and his wife Nel are about to retire from pastoral ministry in the Christian Reformed Church of Langwarrin. We have a keen sense of the Lord having led us to them at this time, and the work at Barkley Hall is a part-time ministry that they are very keen to take up. Lord willing they will begin their new work here on 14 November. Please remember them in prayer as they end one ministry and begin a very different one here. We look forward to Barkley Hall continuing to develop as a residence that provides excellent student accommodation in a Christian environment.

Yours in Christ's service, **Murray Capill**
(Principal)

SOLOMON NEWS

Greetings from Solomon Islands. This month, I'd like to introduce you to some key people who work hard to ensure that SWIM Mission including Bethesda continues to function well. You'll hear something about their work and roles.



Michael & Salome Rietveld.

Michael (son of Kevin & Machi) and Salome have two children – Lovelyn (12) and Mikey (5). They live at Bethesda,

and Michael's work is Property Manager at Bethesda. He is responsible for all the property

development and maintenance. He has a staff of 8 people working there – some of whom are security, some do cooking and cleaning for the Centre, especially when courses are on, and some help out with property maintenance and development, and looking after the chickens and egg production. Michael has been exceptionally busy lately with building teams coming from Australia to build a multi-purpose hall at Bethesda. We praise God that the building went really well. There is more to finish, but it will be ready for use by the end of this year. Salome works each morning at SWIM. She drives in from Bethesda, dropping a bunch of school children on the way. Salome is responsible for the distribution of all the goods that come in the containers. She processes applications forms, packs bags and boxes, sends things to different places including shipping to other provinces. With another container just arriving – thank you to the people in NSW - she will have her work cut out again. Salome also helps as a driver, doing banking and many other odds and ends. In the afternoons, she sometimes helps out at Bethesda, and both she and Michael occasionally do the Prison Ministry with Jair.

Lauretta & Jair Duinkerke. Jair is the Base Manager at SWIM. He oversees the care and development of the SWIM Base, including buildings, gardens etc. In addition to this, Jair has two men he supervises and trains in mechanics. Not only does Jair look after all our own machinery and vehicles, but we are able to assist some other missions and church groups in the repairs and maintenance of their vehicles. Jair and Lauretta are both involved in the prison ministry, visiting each week to collect and distribute Bible Crossroads lessons and doing some devotions. Jair is currently arranging for a special course to train people to do counselling for inmates who are violent or sexual offenders.

Lauretta is responsible for the Conference Centre bookings. The SWIM Base has local conference facilities, and we get many bookings – both from overseas and local. Keeping it all flowing is challenging. As well as this, Lauretta also looks after the Hospital school, where we have 3 local teachers working. In all, the Staff working at SWIM number about 19, some of whom are part time. In addition to



this, Jair and Lauretta (both from New Zealand) have recently adopted a lovely little girl called Theresa. They have had her from birth and she is now about 11 months old.

Susan Larsen, a trained occupational therapist, is the Program Manager at Bethesda. She has been in the Solomons now for two years, and she is the key person in running the courses for



people with Disabilities. She has some local staff to support her in some of the teaching roles in subjects such as agriculture, sewing, health and hygiene, food & nutrition etc. Some of these teachers only come when a course is on. Susan, a New

Zealander too, also does a lot of networking and liaising with other people working in this sector, including the Solomon Islands government Ministry of Health. In addition to this, Susan also interviews potential course participants to assess their suitability to attend a course at Bethesda. Susan is single, and she too lives on the Base at Bethesda in a small cottage. With another course about to start next week, Susan is busy making the necessary preparations with the staff.

Rob and Gemma Lichtendonk have been with us since about Easter this year. Like Susan, they are on an Australian Government sponsored program



to support developing nations. Rob is specifically here to train two administrators – one for Bethesda and one for SWIM. Seeing the workload at SWIM is much bigger, he has spent more time here, working with and training Sarah Numoa'a, who is the SWIM administrator. Sarah has learnt a lot and is still learning. Gabriel is being trained at Bethesda, although there is a possibility that he may be pursuing fulltime nursing studies next year, which means another person may be needed there. Rob has

done a great job in streamlining and fine tuning office procedures and implementing good business practices both at SWIM and Bethesda.

Jemma is a great support to Rob, but has been very occupied with the Hospital School too, where she has been continuing to train and model to the teachers a high degree of professionalism in the teaching tasks. He school has had a facelift with new paint and now has power supplied too.

Kevin & Machi Rietveld are the long termers at SWIM, having started there full time in 1998. Kevin is the Director, and is involved in various teaching ministries such as lecturing at Bible Colleges and clergy conferences, media ministry with a weekly column in daily newspaper, and daily radio devotions and weekly hymn program. On top of this are all the management related



issues for both SWIM and Bethesda, including the development of both centres etc. Machi is also busy with training workshops, and she has a speaking role in a women's convention of over 500 women in a few weeks. On top of this, she looks after all the sponsorship. Visiting SWIM Teams are mostly looked after by Jair & Laurreta, and Kevin & Machi, and they too take up time and effort to make things run smooth. 5 Teams recently came – with 3 at Bethesda and 2 in Central Province in Taroniara and Belaga villages. All did a wonderful job.

Next time around, we will share more about some of the exciting things that have been happening here, and how we continue to experience the rich blessings from God, which we are in turn able to share with the people of Solomon Islands.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Kevin, for all at SWIM

AN ATHEIST IN THE WOODS

An atheist was walking through the woods. 'What majestic trees!' 'What powerful rivers!' 'What beautiful animals!' He said to himself.

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him.

He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charge towards him.

He ran as fast as he could up the path.

He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him.

He looked over his shoulder again, and the bear was even closer.

He tripped and fell on the ground.

He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

At that instant moment, the atheist cried out:

'Oh my God!'

Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky.

'You deny my existence for all these years, teach I don't exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident.'

'Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament?'

“Am I to count you as a believer?'

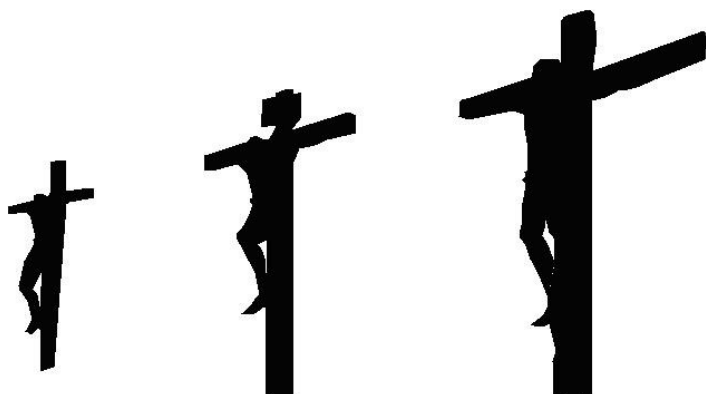
The atheist looked directly into the light, and said:

'It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?'

'Very well', said the voice.

The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed. And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke:

'Lord bless this food, which I am about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen.'



Family Fun Day

5th November

& Car Boot Sale

8am – 3pm

**Where: Cnr Gladstone Rd &
Outlook drive, Dandenong North**

Jumping Castle

Fairy Floss

Balloons

Face painting

Sausage Sizzle
& much more!!

Come along for
a great family
day out!!

If you are interested in holding a car boot stall please contact Debbie Van Neutegem on 9700 3244 or Kristy Noorbergen on 97900722.