



20 November 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: Apprentices of the Master
(Mark 1:14-20)
Readings: Psalm 25:1-15; Mark 1:9-20

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: The Relevance of the Trinity
Readings: John 16:12-15; Romans 8:12-17

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Pastor Keith Vethaak

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – RTC

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Diaconate

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$3,212.35
Wycliffe Bible Translators	\$472.90

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: P. de Jong, I. Meenks, C. Harrison
Next Week: J. Otto, G. Heerdink, P. Noorbergen,
M. Kruizinga

4 December A & Y. Pleiter, D. Cameron,
D. van Neutegem

11 December J. de Jong, R. Painter, V. Steendam,
M. van Rossen

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron

Next Week: Kevin de Jong, Ian Meenks

GREETERS

Today: Corry Blik

Next week: Rita Piening

From the Pastor's Desk

During the past weeks I have been noting an increasing amount of industrial action as unions (on behalf of their workers) push for better pay and conditions. I'm always intrigued by the 'spin' each side of a dispute puts on their stance. A case in point is the current nurses' dispute. We are continually bombarded with 'Today Tonight' type reports on the crisis in our health system; a system that is stretched



to the limit; a system that makes people wait extraordinary lengths of time for much needed surgery. Then the nurses take industrial action, closing up to 1000 hospital beds across the state, while claiming that no lives are put at risk and patient care is still their priority. So which is it? If 1000 beds can be closed without effecting patients, then can't they stayed closed and save the state millions of dollars in revenue. Their argument could imply that these beds are surplus to patient needs. On the other hand there is long waits in Emergency care, and there are delays in elective surgery which implies the need for extended hospital care being available.

This is not unique to the Nurses' dispute, but can be replicated across just about any dispute. When the disputes make the news people will say whatever they think it takes to sway community sympathy and whatever it takes to win the argument. What all this escalation in disputes says to me is that, generally speaking, people are not content with life, but are trying to get as much money as possible, for the least amount of effort. Now, I am not saying that the nurses are being greedy, or greedier, than others; nor am I saying they don't work hard; what I am saying is that there is a general sense of discontent in our society. People are searching for the things that bring contentment. If it is not found in our work, then perhaps it can be found in the money we get for the work we do; or maybe in the toys we buy, or the house we live in, or the holidays we experience. So the push is on to get more money to get more things.

The truth of Scripture is that where our hearts are, there our treasure will be (Matthew 6:21). While there is nothing wrong with the things people have, there is a problem if they are the treasures we put our heart into. People will put a huge effort into getting the things they think have great value and importance. In Luke 15 Jesus told a series of parables giving examples of how very important it is to get our priorities right, and make God the supreme value in our life. We should make God, and

His Kingdom, the ultimate treasure which we value above everything else. I love the transformation in Paul when he writes, "for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty and want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:11-13). May these words of Paul echo our hearts.

***Eternity* Newspaper**

The November edition of *Eternity* is available for you to read. It raises the question of how we are to view people who predict the rapture...and get it 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)

COM Christmas Appeal

We have a wonderful opportunity to bless the children of Chennai, India. On **Sunday 27th** November we will be holding a door offering after both services. The funds collected then will be passed through to our Children's Home in Chennai so they too can celebrate Christmas, and each child will also receive a gift. For more information please John & Ann van Breen.

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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.		

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.

OP SHOP REQUEST

We are in need of able bodied people at pack up time on Friday afternoons from 4.30pm-5pm. We have different people who pop in and help us when they can which is great, but we have had some weeks where we have had no help and it has been left to a few of the older volunteers. It is an enormous task which can be done very quickly if we have a few strong people. If you think you can help once a month, or every Friday I am making a roster up until the end of the year. The dates are 25/11, 2/12, 9/12, 16/12. We then have a break until 2nd Feb. Please consider helping us- we really need it. Anita de Witte.

NO BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Pakenham Church Plant

On Sunday 27th November Jack de Vries will be meeting with all involved with the new work to give some input, ideas, encouragement and motivation.

The meeting will be held on **Sunday 27th November at 2pm at Pakenham Baptist Church (1 Bentley Close, Pakenham)**. Jack is renowned for his work in Church planting, so it will be fantastic for us to glean as much as we can from him on this visit.

Anyone interested in this new ministry are welcome to be part of the day, whether you are curious or committed to it, come along on the day.

Mentor Training Day

The training day, planned for yesterday, has been postponed to a later date due to a low number of people available on the day. We will try for a Sunday gathering after church to maximize people's

availability.

As a Church Council we feel the training will be useful, not just for new mentoring, but to give each member of the congregation tools, ideas and support for the mentoring you already do in both casual and intentional relationships.

Keep an eye out for a rescheduled meeting.

Pastor Jim

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- **Welcome to Jan and Helen Otto** (Johan's parents) who are here from South Africa, on an extended visit to enjoy the family. We trust that you will enjoy your stay and have a special time with Johan and Leonie and the boys.
- Pray for healing for all those who have been unwell or who needed hospitalization this past week:
- Give thanks to God with **George Zomerdijk** who is making a good recovery after quadruple by-pass surgery last week. Leny is living in the city for ease of access. Please pray for the healing George needs after surgery.
- **Katy De Jong** was admitted to Dandenong Hospital last Sunday but was discharged again later in the week after being treated for a chest infection.
- **Les Barrot** was glad to be able to come home from hospital but continues to need some follow-up care. He now needs further surgery next week for ongoing problems. We commit Les into God's loving care as he again submits to surgery.
- **Audrey Anderson** was hospitalized at the Valley for investigations and finished up having a stent inserted on Tuesday.
- **Mieke Van Daalhuizen** continues her treatment for a leg infection at the Caulfield Health Hospital. Pray that she will build up her strength and well being again.
- There is a sigh of relief and freedom from books for **Emily de Witte** who completed her final VCE exam!
- **Pray for Pastor Jim and Anita and the De Witte family** as they process prayerfully, the **call to Toowoomba**

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:

will be meeting this Wednesday night 8pm at the home of Nel Steunenberg, 18/237 Outlook Drive North Dandenong. Please park on the road outside the village, or in the church car park.

Article Uploads for T&S Website have begun
Eleven feature articles published from September to December 2009 in the Trowel & Sword magazine have been uploaded to the T&S website, together with some letters to the editor from October 2009 - (<http://www.trowelandsword.org.au/Contents/Back%20Issues/Feature%20Articles/2000s/2009/archF2009.htm>)

At the moment we are concentrating on loading feature articles and will now move into 2010 before going back to 2000 and loading up all types of items to the end of 2010. After that Lord willing we will go to the 90s folders.

We have sent off emails today to various sources from which we gleaned articles for the physical magazine. Many requests have been lodged to both upload items already published in T&S as well as permission to upload new items in the future to the stand alone internet version of T&S.

Geoff van Schie
Interim editor

J Team Christmas Play

On the 30th of November we will be having our end-of-year Christmas breakup for J Team. The kids will be singing and presenting a play to which parents and family will be invited. Please pencil this date into your diaries as it is always wonderful to have people from the congregation come along and share this night with us. More details will follow. As we would like to make up lolly bags to give to the children on this night, we are asking if you would be able to.



Change of Address

Ada Coe will be changing residence next week and will be at: 2/45 Albert Road, Hallam. 3803 and the mobile number remains the same - 0407 162 596.

SHAWLANDS CHRISTMAS REQUEST

Do you want to bless another family this Christmas with a small gift?

We invite congregational members to participate in the gift hampers we are preparing again this year for all the families and single units that make their home at the Shawlands Caravan Park.

We want to include a **festive tin of biscuits** in the gift packs this year.

You can help us by donating tins of biscuits for each caravan. We need at least 100 and require them at church by the 4th of December. If you can include one in your next few shopping lists that would be really appreciated.

We will have a table set up to receive them.

Final Youth Service for 2011

The Youth of Mt Evelyn invite you to the **FINAL STATE YOUTH SERVICE OF 2011!**

Date: 6.00pm, Sunday 20th November

Venue: Mt Evelyn CRC, 45-47 Birmingham Rd, Mt Evelyn

We're going to finish the year in **CONCERT OF PRAISE** featuring the **MERCY YOUTH BAND!!!**

PLUS we'll be commissioning a team of 21 young people as we send them out to **AFRICA** for the inaugural **SCHOOLIES REVOLUTION 2011**.

We look forward to **PRAISING OUR GREAT GOD WITH YOU!**

Toowoomba CRC

During this past week I received an official 'Letter of Call' from the Toowoomba CRC to come and minister amongst them. Now that things have moved from maybe to definite Anita and I would value your prayers through this process of seeking God's leading. While this is official from Toowoomba there are still the inquiries from Hope in the Hills and Redlands, as well as the ongoing call to minister here in Dandenong. Please pray for God's peace and His leading through this time.

ACCESS Ministries

Did you know that every week of the school year ACCESS ministries CRE Teachers are sharing God's love with over 130,000 young Victorians? They are helping students explore their lives with meaning and purpose. Well-trained, culturally sensitive and with great respect for students and their schooling, CRE teachers are introducing young Victorians to Jesus, the Bible and the spiritual dimensions of life.

Did you know that this is a God given opportunity to bring the Gospel into the schools?

Did you know that, even locally, there is a huge need for more trained CRE teachers to be placed in local Primary Schools? With the recent merger of Lyndale Primary and Greenslopes we are now reaching the children in Lyndale Greens Primary, but there is the need for more teachers.

Don't you agree that Victoria's children need to know God cares for them? They need positive role models and strong values. They need to develop skills and strategies to break the negative cycles in their lives.

And you can help with amazing task. The time commitment can be as little as one 30 minute class a week or up to as many classes as you can fit in. Based on biblical foundations, ACCESS provides comprehensive lesson outlines, materials and activities making lesson planning and class presentation easy.

Talk with Helen van Garderen or Pastor Jim to find out more.

DUTCH CHRISTMAS

NEDERLANDS KERSTFEEST

We would like to extend a warm invitation to your congregation to come along and celebrate Christmas in the Dutch language, which will be held D.V. on Saturday, 10th December at 6.00 pm at the Dandenong Christian Reformed Church.

The program will include community singing, choirs and a Christmas message.

A collection will be held for Palliative Care.

Supper with Raisin Bread – Krentebrood – will be served at conclusion.

We trust that the Dutch Christmas will be a great and God honouring event as it has been in the past.

Ria Driehuyzen,

On behalf of the sub-committee

Jubilate Choir





**The Combined Colleges of
Sri Lanka Choir Inc.**

invite you to join them in

***A Service of Nine
Lessons and Carols***

Sunday 4th December 2011

7.00 p.m.

Reformed Church Dandenong

Corner Gladstone Road & Outlook Drive, Dandenong

Melway 81 D 6

*The Offertory taken at the Service is
dedicated to Charities in Australia & Sri
Lanka.*

