



11 December 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: Christ's Advent- Our Incentive
Readings: Luke 2:8-20; 2 Peter 3

6:00 PM Jubilate Choir & Rev. Peter
Mechielsen

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: J. de Jong, R. Painter, V. Steendam,
M. van Rossen
Next Week: G. Huinink, K. Knol, F & H. Piening.

25 December **No coffee serving**

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

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

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Matthew Noorbergen, Glenn de Jong
Next Week: Jennifer van Neutegem,
David Cameron

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Transit

GREETERS

Today: George & Leny Zomerdyk
Next week: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – ROAD Workgroup

LAST WEEK

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Freewill/Pledges | \$1,830.25 |
| Church Planting Taskgroup | \$395.85 |
| Donation Hall | \$175.00 |

From the Pastor's Desk

Thank you for all the tins of biscuits that you brought in and also the money you donated for the Shawlands Christmas gifts. We are grateful for your support and participation in bringing joy to the residents of the park. Please pray for God to bless our sharing with them, in this celebration of the good news of Jesus' coming, and as they reflect on this experience of God's love in the days ahead.



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)

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 HOLIDAYS

The Op Shop will be closing for the holidays, and a well deserved break for all the volunteers. Our last day open this year will be **Friday 16th December 2011**. Please do not bring any donations in after this date as storage will be an issue. We re-open again on **Thursday 2nd February 2012**. A very big thank you to everyone who regularly helps, and especially to those who recently responded to our needs at pack up time. **The Op Shop Team.**

A CHRISTMAS INVITATION.

We would like to extend an invitation to lunch, to anyone in the congregation who will be alone on Christmas day. Please RSVP to Anita de Witte for catering purposes. Phone: 97010453.

Jim and Anita de Witte.

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.

Transit

Transit is run by a group of committed community volunteers who seek to engage and connect with people from all walks of life, expressing God's love by providing a FREE meal, friendship and support to those who are marginalised and lonely within the broader Narre community.

Transit is run out of Narre Warren Christian

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

Church and offers a safe environment in which everyone can enjoy a nutritious meal amongst friends.

Our Op shop has been giving regular support to Transit and our second offering today is a way in which we as a church can support this great work, as it builds bridges to touch the community with God's love. For further information contact pastor Keith Vethaak 0438 398 594.

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- Pray for **Peggy Hodgkinson** who was admitted to Monash Hospital for a painful bulging spinal disc, and at this stage, it is unlikely that she will be able to return home to her independent lifestyle, as her care needs are changing.
- **Janny Stekelenberg** continues to be very frail and tired, and needing a lot more care – pray for her and her family- Maria & Gerry and Jack & Jane- as they support her in these changes.
- We give thanks with **Audrey Anderson** who was able to come home this week
- Pray for **Mieke Van Daalhuizen** who continues at the Caulfield Health Hospital, but who may move to an interim care facility soon, as she awaits placement in a residential care place. This is a big transition to make for Mieke.
- Pray for God's loving presence and comfort, for all those who will feel the empty place of a loved one, this Christmas season, as well as those who feel isolated from families and are in need of our encouragement.

Synod 2012

I would like to advise the churches that Synod 2012 will be held at Blacktown Christian Reformed Church, 240 Richmond Road Doonside, NSW from Monday 7 May to Friday 11 May 2012

Synod will be preceded by a Prayer Service during the Sunday evening worship service in the Blacktown Christian Reformed Church on Sunday 6 May 2012, and will commence its business on the following day

Christian greetings

Maria Jobse

Synodical Administrator

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Cameron de Witte | December 13 |
| Gerry de Groot | December 15 |
| Jacob van der Jagt | December 15 |
| Tayla Hamilton | December 16 |
| Hannah Hauke | December 16 |
| Monica Austrums | December 17 |

May God look down and bless you Now when your birthday's here and keep you in His loving care each day throughout the year, and may He grant you happiness In everything you do--
Today, tomorrow, always, every day your whole life through!

Newsletter

The last Newsletter for 2011 will be published on Sunday 18th December. All articles, rosters and information for January 2012 should be submitted to Adrian de Vos before then.

Today booklets

The "Today" booklets subscriptions are due again, standard size print booklets are \$12 per year and the LARGE print booklets are \$17 per year. Any one interested in joining the current distribution list can contact Adrian de Vos, the office staff or Pastor Jim.

Holiday Services

During the month of January (8, 15 & 22) our evening services will be combined services with Casey and Langwarrin. This year Casey will host the services at 6pm. For those from the Village and Hostel who are unable to make the trip to Casey there will be a DVD broadcast service through the video loop in place of a live broadcast. It will be a copy of the service from the week before in Casey. We will resume our own regular evening services on January 30.

As part of the holiday services Casey will be holding a New Years Eve service at 7pm on Saturday 31st December, to which all are invited to join in with. Consequently there will be no evening service on Sunday 1st January.

COMPASSIONATE CATALOGUE 2011 contains 16 great opportunities to support ministries in developing countries where God's Word and deeds done in Christ's name come together. When you choose a gift from CC11, you can know your gift is placed with integrity and **NO overheads**. Since our launch last Sunday there's already been an excellent response. CC11 is able to be seen at

<http://www.wdrw.crca.org.au/catalogue.html> and on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Compassionate-Catalogue/298949950137920>

Bert Kuipers - CC11 editor.

J-Team

We received a lovely card from a family connected with J-Team for many years as all three children have been a part of J-Team from Prep to Grade 4. They will all now be a part of URY. This is what they wrote:

'Thanks for everything in all the time these years on a Wednesday afternoon. It will not be the same without J-Team!'

We are thankful that we can do this for families like this.

Results of the East Africa Famine Appeal.

Here's a word of gratitude for the excellent result for our recent appeal. May God be praised. With the matching grant from the government, the total we raised as a denomination was well over \$250,000.

We received this note from the TEAR Australia director: *"That is a huge contribution to the huge needs in the region – please extend our deep thanks and appreciation on behalf of our partners (CRWRC) on the ground dealing with this crisis!"*

Bert Kuipers WD&R publicity.



Have you seen a copy of **RTC FOCUS**? This is the RTC's new newsletter, containing more articles and photographs of College activities and deputations, as well as keeping College members and supporters up to date with the programs being offered and the changes which are occurring.

The current edition of **RTC FOCUS** is now also available of the RTC's website (www.rtc.vic.edu.au). However, the College wants to correct the reference in the printed edition to Rev Ben Aldridge being a member of the Greens political party. This is not true and has been deleted from the online version. The Reformed Theological College wishes to apologize sincerely for this mistake and for any embarrassment it may have caused.

We hope you'll enjoy **RTC FOCUS** and we encourage you to pray for the RTC and for new students enrolling for the 2012 year. May we, together with your help, continue to *"raise, equip and support a generation of leaders for the advance of the Gospel"*.

Dr Henk DeWaard

Editor

EVERY CHURCH HAS ONE, SOME HAVE MANY...

He is always down front near the pulpit, uninspiring, silent, un-supportive in every way - and disturbing.

He is the mortal enemy of the preacher.

He never helps with passing the plate, singing a hymn or making the responses.

He robs the preacher of his power and steals melody from the anthems.

He never whispers, does not squirm, he does not look at a clock.

He just sits.

He is visible and *a* living testimony that someone does not care.

He is evidence of spiritual degeneracy.

He advertises better than a billboard the indifference of people.

He is where those sit who send word from the golf course that they are present "in spirit."

He cannot be moved.

