



19 February 2012

THE CHURCH UNDER THE CROSS

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 Luke Scheepers
(Pastor Jim in Hope in the Hills)
Message: Preparing for Victory in Christ
(Nehemiah 2:1-20)
Reading: 1 John 5: 1-5

6:00 PM Pastor Jim de Witte
Message: The Ordinary and the Special
Reading: Mark 3:7-19

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Jim de Witte
6:00 PM Classis pulpit swap following meeting
(TBA)

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – J-Team

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Christian Outreach Ministry
(COM India Children's Home)

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$3,300.75
Leadership Training and Professional Development	\$445.00
Donation Hall	\$275.00

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: G. Smedes, J Schapendonk,
C. van Garderen

Next Week: J. Gully, J. Lepema, M. Meenks,
E. Oinonen

26th February J. van Breen, H. van der Kruk,
J. van der Wolde

4th March H. Burggraaf, C. Yong, G. Zomerdyk

11th March Check your rosters

PA & VIDEO :

Today: Kevin de Jong, Glenn de Jong

Next Week: David & Phillip Ellings

GREETERS

Today: Yke & Anneke Laverman

Next week: Corry Blik

From the Pastor's Desk

It is good to have Luke Scheepers lead us in our service this morning, bringing us God's word. Luke is from New Zealand and is studying at the RTC as a ministry candidate. We pray that God will open our ears and hearts as we worship him this day. This morning, while Luke is here, I am preaching in Hope in the Hills (Tecoma) as part of our Classis support of a vacant church. We pray for them too that God will

bring into their place the right person to lead them.

I am currently reading a book entitled 'With' (Skye Jethani) where the author wrestles with the different ways in which people, and Christians in particular, relate to God. He argues that the best understanding flows from a relationship 'with' God, as opposed to life 'under' 'over' 'from' or 'for' God. He gives wonderful illustration on how life 'with' faith frees us from fear and feeble attempts of control. He writes, 'Control is an illusion, but what is the alternative? How can we be set free from fear apart from our feeble attempts at control? Henri Nouwen, a Dutch priest, professor and author, found the answer in the Flying Rodlights, a trapeze troupe from South Africa. While in Germany, he attended a performance out of curiosity and found himself transfixed by the artistry of the acrobats. But in the flying and spinning Nouwen saw more than an exhilarating show- he saw theology in motion.

'Nouwen observed that the flyer- the person soaring through the air- is really not the star of the trapeze performance. While everyone is focused on the flyer's aerial manoeuvres, they sometimes fail to see that the manoeuvres are only possible because the flyer trusts that he will be caught. Everything depends on the catcher. This led Nouwen to a new way of understanding his life with God. "I can only fly freely when I know there is a catcher to catch me," he wrote... "If we are to take risks, to be free, in the air, in life, we have to know there's a catcher. We have to know that when we come down from it all, we're going to get caught, we're going to be safe. The great hero is the least visible. Trust the catcher."

Life with God breaks the endless cycles of fear and striving for control. When we live in rich communion with God, we are set free to fly, knowing that the Catcher we never let us fall.

CRCA Women's Convention

Friday 24 – Monday 27 February 2012
At Camp Clayton, Ulverstone, Tasmania

'the finest secret'

Only a few weeks to go!

There are 180 women of all ages coming to this event!

Please pray for safe travel and that the women coming will be blessed

by hearing God's word and the fellowship that will be shared.

For any enquiries email: crcwc12@gmail.com

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Annette Blenk	Today	February 19
Mark Steunenberg	Today	February 19
Karen Hamilton		February 22
Herman van Tol		February 22
John Lepema		February 14

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!

Christian Reformed Church of Dandenong
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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
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Newsletter compiled by Adrian de Vos. Email newsletter@dcrc.org.au Phone 9547 6878

News items dead line is 5 PM Wednesday.

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 Regina Gnanathurai's place unit 53 Outlook Gardens. Everyone is welcome. Contact on 97956252

OASIS GROWTH GROUP:

The **Oasis Growth Group** invites new members to attend. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month but not during holidays. (if you are dropping off kids at URY and want to join us we conclude at 9 – 9.30) At the Burggraaf's, 17 Edgewood Road, Dandenong – Tel 9791 2601 Mob 0408 120 159

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY,

Meets each Tuesday 10am, at the church, during the school terms.

Helen van Garderen.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT/ SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY:

will be on this week at the home of Mark and Nyomie Meenks, 8pm Wednesday. We will be looking at Part 2 of our book so read up to page 96.

For more information please call Mark Meenks on 0411953821.

Classis

Next Friday 24th (7.30pm) Classis Gippsalnd will be holding a special meeting for the Preliminary exam of Michael de Kretser. The meeting will be held at Casey CRC (350-352 Pound Rd, Narre Warren South). Michael has been serving his Vicariate at Casey CRC and is now seeking to do the exam and become eligible for call in the CRCA and the RCNZ. Please uphold Michael and the examiners in prayer. On the Saturday we will be convening a regular Classis meeting for general business.

Voting for Elders and Deacons

The Church Council is pleased to be able to put forward to the congregation the names of the following people for the office of Elder and Deacon.

For Elder: Harry Vander Jagt. For Deacon: David Ellings. Church Council regards each of these people as suitable for the task and unless any biblical objections can be raised against them, we ask the congregation to vote via acclamation (yes/no) for one elder and one deacon on Sunday, 3rd March 2012, immediately after the morning service.

If you are unavailable next Sunday then voting slips can be obtained from Julie de Jong or Jean Joseph. Please give prayerful thought as to how you vote. Church Council.

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)

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- Today (19th) **Nettie Blenk and Mark Steunenberg** celebrate their birthdays! We wish you a celebratory day, and God's blessing for another year.
- **Ishbelle Poppenbeck** is in the Valley Hospital after a knee replacement on Wednesday. Pray for the healing, and the rehabilitation process this requires.
- **Viola Hodder** is in the Dandenong hospital after a fall on Monday. She has broken her cheekbone and her nose. Pray for the healing and regaining of strength she needs.
- **Pray for Ulbe Siegersma** who will have day-surgery this coming Friday (24th). He would value your prayers that all will go well.
- **Annalyce Schaapendonk** has had a baby girl, Zahlia, 8lb 7oz, born on 6th Feb.- making Joanne an Oma again!
- This coming Friday a number of our ladies (at least 12) will be off to the **CRCWA convention** in Tassie – we pray they will be

blessed and refreshed by this time together.

- Pray for our **coming Synod**, the chairing committee and the delegates. Pray for wisdom, a clear vision of God's kingdom values, and our place as churches in a changing society, especially in the discussion of overtures and the issues that will be raised.

Data Projector

The church data projector is a wonderfully simple piece of technology that allows us to join together in worship. Presently there are only a small number of people who are trained to operate the computer, but we would like to change that! ☺ this would be for both/either the morning service and the evening service.

If you can click a computer mouse, and read and sing along to songs then you have more than enough qualifications to operate the data projector. See Pastor Jim today and we can give you all the training you need to be able to do it well.



Geelong Christian Reformed Church would like to invite you to join us at the first State Youth Conference. The theme for the day is 'Fear' and we will be running different electives and talks on this theme. The electives that will be run are Mission, Depression and Perseverance. We are also delighted to announce that we will have the pleasure of hearing Clinton Berends, Prof. Henk Dewaard and Mrs Mavis Thompson speak.

Where: Reformed Theological College (125 Pigdons Rd, Waurin Ponds, Victoria)

When: 10 am- 4pm 31st of March 2012 (Dinner and Bonfire provided after 4pm)

Ages: Year 7 – 25 years old

Cost: \$15 (\$20 if you register late)

Lunch and snacks will be provided for the day and if you want to hang around after 4pm we will be having a BBQ and a Bonfire at no extra cost. Registration forms are available from Pastor Jim. Please send them back with your details by the 20th of March if any later there will be an extra \$5 cost. Numbers are limited so please send your registration forms in as soon as possible.

You can send them to the
Youth Conference
PO box 7320,
Geelong West 3218

or email us at v.youth.conference@gmail.com and if you want any information you can always email or call Charis on 0402427205.

We pray that this would be an exciting time of praising and worshipping God.

The 2012 Bible Conference – “God’s Glory and the Power of the Gospel”

This conference - a weekend of fellowship and encouragement through the reaffirmation of the power of the Gospel to save the lost for the glory of God is rapidly approaching.

Date – 7pm Friday **9th** March till 3pm Sunday **11th** March

Venue – Box Hill Reformed Church, 28 Watts St, Box Hill

We would love to see you there.

Albert Esselbrugge

Tel: (03)9872 3720

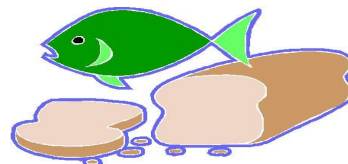
Mob: 0407 532 816

areb@bigpond.net.au

Yours in Christ

Reformed Church of Box Hill Session

Christian Reformed Church of Macarthur Session



Correction:

Mieke van Daalhuizen's new phone was incorrect last time it should have read 8874 6334

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

"Let Justice prevail"

Prepared by WDP Committee Malaysia.

FRIDAY 2nd MARCH 2012

Time:10.00am Morning Tea 10.30am

Service Place: ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Langhorne St, (opp Police Station)

Dandenong

Guest Speaker: Major Kaye Barber, State President

World Day of Prayer

PLEASE JOIN US.

A PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Grant me, O Lord, the strength today
For every task which comes my way;
Cover my eyes and make me blind
To petty faults I should not find.

Open my eyes and let me see
The friend my neighbor tries to be;
Teach me, when duty seems severe,
To see my purpose shining clear.

Let me at noontime rest content,
The half-day bravely lived and spent;
And when the night slips down, let me
Unstained and undishonored be.

Grant me to live this one day through
Up to the best that I can do.

Edgar A. Guest

Easter Yalata Mission—



We plan to make another Easter mission trip to Yalata Aboriginal Community for 10 days of serving and sharing the Gospel—especially with children. This means we are looking for **You.**

Leave Melbourne: **Friday 5 April (Good Friday)**

Return to Melbourne: **Sunday 10 April.**

If you are interested please contact Ray Rus ASAP on

0407 915 553 so we can start planning.

BIBLE CONFERENCE AT BOX HILL CRC

"God's Glory and the Power of the Gospel."

*Attendance and meals at this conference are **FREE OF CHARGE** ... but, for catering purposes, if you are interested in attending please let us know by next Saturday!*

The Christian Reformed Churches of Box Hill (Vic) and Macarthur (NSW) would like to provide a weekend of fellowship and encouragement through the reaffirmation of the power of the Gospel to save the lost for the glory of God.

DATE – 7PM FRIDAY 9TH MARCH TILL 3PM SUNDAY 11TH MARCH

VENUE – BOX HILL REFORMED CHURCH, 28 WATTS ST, BOX HILL, VIC

SPEAKERS

- Rev Peter Hastie – was a long-term minister at Ashfield Presbyterian Church in Sydney, and is moving to Melbourne to become the principal of the Presbyterian Theological College. For 14 years he was also the editor of 'Australian Presbyterian'.
- Rev Andrew Stewart – is the Pastor at Geelong Reformed Presbyterian Church.
- Pastor Terry Flanagan – pastoral worker at Macarthur Christian Reformed Church.

For further information or a registration form visit <http://reformedchurchboxhill.com.au>. - or call Albert on (03) 9872 3720, Terry on (02) 4647 8912, or email clerk@boxhill.cra.org.au

TAPESTRY

Rob Geijsman

I stand behind His massive tapestry
observing jumbled tattered threads.
Yet in perplexed awe at His design.

It stretches from eternity
encompassing His masterly will
and I,
I stand where He now places me.

Striving to see my own line
woven intricately and yet
so hard to see.

He only allows the obscured insight
but commands that I see and
glorify the Craftsman.

Patterns of time elude me.
I see so dimly.

In time new orders, new colours
reveal
themselves... till
in perfect time,
I will see all.

What is love?

It's patience when your neighbour's curt.
It's silence when your words would hurt.
It's deafness when scandal flows.
It's thoughtfulness for other's woes.
It's promptness when stern duty calls.
It's courage when misfortune falls.
(Author unknown)

Like those in New Testament times, Christians today need to make sure that they are not squeezed into this world's mould, but stand firm for the Christian principles affirmed by Christ Himself.

Keep your eye on the Problem solvers, not the problem!!!

