



23 December 2012

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 Rev Harry Berends
Message: "God's Sign to a Sinful People"
Readings: Isaiah 7:1-17, Matthew 1:18-23

6:00 PM No Service

Pakenham Community Church Plant (PC3)

10.30 am today
Pakenham Living Learning Centre
6B Henry Street Pakenham.

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – RCYC- Youth Comm

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$1,882.80
R.O.A.D.	\$539.85
Compassionate	\$625.00

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Rev Harry Berends
Message: Paul's Pattern for Prayer Col 1:9-14
Reading: Col 1:1-8

6:00 PM No Service

WORSHIP CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 AM Rev Harry Berends
Message: TBA
Reading: TBA

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK
1 – Local Church
2 – Cornerstone

CRISTMAS DAY

1 – Local Church
2 – WDRW- Empty Hands Appeal

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: P & J. de Jong, T & J. Cram,
C & K. Harrison, I. Meenks

Next Week: A. de Vos, C. de Haan,
M & T. Eleveld, B. Bence

6th January D & J. Mekking, S & C. Johnson,
E & I. Poppenbeck

13th January P & J. Noorbergen, R. Heerdink,
M. Kruizinga

PA & VIDEO :

Today: David Cameron, Glenn de Jong

Christmas Day Kevin de Jong

Next Week: David & Phillip Ellings

GREETERS

Today: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud

Christmas Day: Martin & Coby van Rossen

Next week: Yke & Anneke Laverman

Our Worship Today and Christmas Day

This morning we welcome **Rev. Harry Berends**, from Wonga Park, to share with us in worship and bring us God's word. **Harry** will also be with us on Christmas day morning, to share the good news of God's incredible grace to us in the gift of His Son, and as we celebrate that in our worship together. There will be no evening service today, as we recognize the desire of families to share together, at this time of the year. May God's Word of grace and good news, challenge, comfort and inspire us with joy and hope, as we seek to live for God in the week ahead.

Reflection

The real story of Christmas is messy isn't it? Not at all "Christmassy"! An unmarried mother, her anxious fiancée, and the long-expected Christ- or Messiah born there, stuck in a smelly stable, with no midwife support, -hardly the proper room for the birth of a baby... and it all happens under such difficult circumstances away from familiar community connections. God plans the birth of his Son's arrival into our world to take place in a quiet humble stable with the angelic fanfare being out in the paddocks, amongst the lowliest group of people: -loyal shepherds, faithfully keeping watch over sheep... they get to be the first ones to hear the announcement of the birth of God's Saviour - which is good news of great joy for all people! As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us reflect on how we will share this news with others, with the resources God has given us as we have the privilege of a far less messy Christmas...

than Mary and Joseph or the shepherds.

May God bless each one of you as you celebrate the Saviour's birth, and rejoice in God's provision for us and for all mankind.

Henni

Makes your heart smile
"The first"



"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary.

To one without faith, no explanation is possible"

Op Shop

Our Church Op Shop opens on Thursdays from 11:00am - 4:30pm and Fridays from 9:30am - 4:30pm. We raise money for various local mission projects. Donations can be dropped off on those days only.

Why don't you drop in sometime.
The Committee

Christian Reformed Church of Dandenong 255 Outlook Drive, North Dandenong, Vic 3175 Church Office Phone: 03 9795 0576		
Church office Tel 9795 0576 Email admin@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.		

PLEASE HELP

We are urgently seeking support from Young Or Not so Young on a regular/rostered basis during the Sunday morning worship service for people to use the computer/data projector.

Only basic computer skills are required and full instructions and training are supplied for everyone to use. Speak to Colin Pretorius for further information about Data Projector training.

URY in 2013 – We Need YOU!

Dear congregation,

At the end of this year, several leaders from URY will be finishing their roles as they move into different church ministry areas. As a result, there is an urgent need for new volunteers to give a little bit of their time on Tuesday nights to help minister to youth from both our church and the local community. Any help that you can offer in 2013 will be greatly appreciated! If you are interested, please contact Lynette on 0423 889 912.

Dear Congregation,

Whilst Church Council consider nominations for vacancies in our eldership and the need to again consider the calling of a minister, we are pleased to announce the willingness of previous serving elders to assisting in the area of pastoral visiting. We recognise that the work commitments of our Pastoral Care worker Henni Burggraaf need be put on hold for a period of time to enable her to find rest whilst also dealing with current family issues relating to the health of her husband Harry.

Both John & Anne van Breen and Yke & Anneke Laverman have made known their willingness to visit congregation members in need of pastoral support. Together with current elders we trust that your pastoral requests may be attended to. Please contact any elder if you require a visit or know of another member needing support so that we can delegate someone to contact you. We also encourage those who are members of a small group to seek support from other group members if required or if possible offer support to fellow members in need.

In the time of vacancy in Dandenong we are looking at all options in terms of meeting congregational

needs. To that end we have also be made aware of the willingness of Sonia Vowles, who is currently employed as a Pastoral Care Worker by Outlook Gardens, to assist in visiting members one day a week during the summer months. We will ask the elders and Henni to liaise with Sonia as to which members may require visits. Sonia is a capable pastoral care Worker who is already known to many members.

Pastor Crosbie De Kretser has also indicated his willingness to assist when it is felt that the situation is best dealt with by a minister. We understand his many other commitments too so we encourage members to liaise through our own elders or appointed PCW's first.

Please continue to pray for our brother Harry, sister Henni and family during this difficult time.

on behalf of Church Council

Harry van der jagt

Pastoral and Prayer Points

- Last Monday, a number of our congregation gathered to give thanks for the life of **Sjaan Siepel**. May Sjaan's family know God's comfort and love, and the love of God's people in their loss.
- Pray for all those who find this season difficult due to the loss of loved ones, that they may find comfort in knowing that "God is with us" and find grace and hope for life again in their sadness.
- Pray for Church Council and the Search Committee as they reflect prayerfully on the next step forward, in the calling process.
- **Harry Burggraaf** is still with us... this week the breathing machine has been off and amazingly Harry has been sustaining his own breathing patterns for considerable periods of time. As a family we continue to wait in this difficult space to see what God is doing in Harry's life and take one day at a time. Harry is very much in God's hands and we are thankful for his resilience to this point. We continue to value your prayerful support for Harry and the family.

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

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 IN THE WORD SMALL GROUP

Anyone who is not currently in a group is welcome to come along and join or just check us out.

We have started to study Galatians. All welcome. Any questions can be directed to Harry and Jannette Vanderjagt on 9703 1613 or 0438 872000.

VENTURE BIBLE STUDY

(Young Adults) is on a Monday on a fortnightly basis starting at 7:30 and meeting in the resource room at church. If you want to be part of this group let David Barrot know on 0401 073 954, it would be great to see you there.”

Christmas Appeal for tough times.

When times are tough economically, giving through offerings is often reduced. As a WD&R committee we do understand why this happens. Yet we ask you to spare a thought for those whose lives are even tougher.

Please continue to generously support the WD&R offering held at Christmas, so we can support the poor and needy. We have many projects which (for example) assist women by delivering access to water, empowering them through basic education, providing health services etc. Your giving enables us to continue

to develop communities and to express the love of Christ in a hurting world.

Thanks for your concern, prayers and giving this year. Bert Kuipers for the WD&R committee.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Tina Meijer	December 24
Auyen Arou	December 27
Katie de Jong	December 28
Doris Kreun	December 28

You treat each moment as a gift from God – live life to the hilt. Love those around you. And others see it, feel it ...pick up on it. You spread good vibes. Live your truth.

Please Note:

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

There will be a New Year's Eve service at the Casey CRC at 7:30pm on 31 Dec, to be led by Pastor La'mont Ferreira.

DVD of the EMMANUEL CANTATA By the JUBILATE CHOIR

A DVD is now available of the recent Emmanuel Cantata sung by the Jubilate Choir at the recent combined service. It has turned out to be a really nice DVD and well worth giving as a Christmas gift. To order a copy, please contact Harold or Janneke:

Phone: 9700-2378

Email: harold@infoxpert.com.au

Price: \$15 each, or \$25 for two copies.

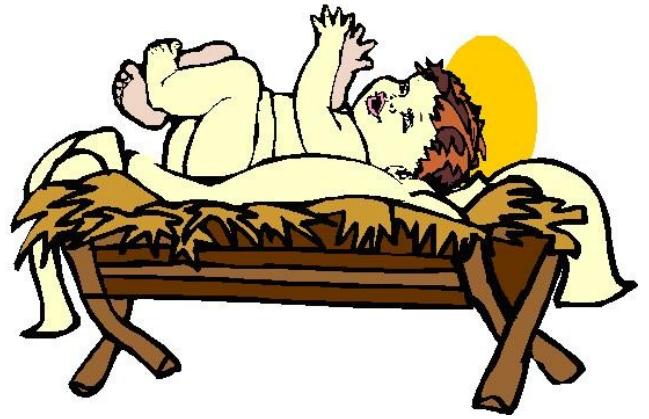


Thank you:

To all who helped by providing articles or graphics for use in the newsletter, it makes my job a lot easier.

I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Adrian de Vos. (Editor)



Please Note:

Below is a list of combined evening services for January 2013. **NOTE the special time of 5PM on January 20.**

6 JANUARY	13 JANUARY	20 JANUARY
<i>Prayer Service</i>	<i>Prayer Service</i>	<i>Family Service</i>
La'Mont Ferreira	Lourens Nel	Michael de Kretser
La'Mont Ferreira	Michael de Kretser	Lourens Nel
(Combined service at Casey with Dandenong & Langwarrin) (6PM)	(Combined service at Casey with Dandenong & Langwarrin) (6PM)	(Combined service at Casey with Dandenong Langwarrin) (5PM)