



27 October 2013

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 Garry de Vries
Message: The Victory of Faith
Reading: Mark 9 : 14 – 29

6:00 PM Pastor Garry de Vries
Message: Satan wants to sift you
Reading: Luke 22 : 24 – 34

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

9:30 AM Pastor Garry de Vries
6:00 PM Pastor Garry de Vries

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Lord's Supper- Diaconate

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Music Ministry

Oops Your editor got ahead of himself on the offering roster, for the last two weeks. But is now back on track.

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,053.70
Budget	\$2,885.00
Deficit/shortfall	(\$831.30)
Dandenong High School Chaplaincy	\$389.35
Donation Hall	\$200.00
Donation Jubilate Choir	\$1,000.00

Note. For those people who want to do direct credits our bank details National Australia Bank
BSB: 083 191 Account Number: 02717 8132
Name "Reformed Church of Dandenong Inc"
Note please also add senders name.

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: C & H. van Garderen, R. Mans,
J & S. van Garderen

Next Week: J & M. Austrums, C & A. Span,
J. Schapendonk

November 10 G. Huinink, F & M. Piening,
H & R. Piening

November 17 Y & A. Laverman, D & M. Koch,
N & M. Stuenenberg

PA & VIDEO :

Today: TBA
Next Week: TBA

GREETERS

Today: Vera Steendam, Con Daniels
Next week: George & leny Zomerdyk



The Lord's Supper

Christian Reformed Churches traditionally have a high view of the sacraments. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper must be seen as a 'true means of grace' – avenues through which the Holy Spirit works to portray visibly the promises of the gospel and mature us in Christ! At the same time, let us also understand that the grace we receive through the sacraments is not a different kind of grace than what we receive through the preaching of the Word and Prayer.

The sacraments are not ways to receive to receive a "better grace" nor are they "better" ways to access sanctifying grace.

They are just a different means to access the same grace. They are means that use our sight, taste, touch and smell – senses we do not have to use to participate in the other means of grace – to impress upon us the same promises of the gospel found in scripture.

Thus, the sacraments are not ends in themselves, but always point us to "*the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross as the only ground of our salvation*"

(H.Cat.q&a67). For that reason, Reformed thinkers have always emphasised the importance of performing the sacraments alongside the preaching of the Word of God.

The sacraments are a way to portray the gospel visibly and tangibly.

However, the rites themselves are apt to be mis-understood apart from a clear explanation of the gospel from Scripture.

Though they are effective means of grace, they are effective in confirming our belief in Christ Jesus, only if we receive them by faith.

Participating in the sacraments without faith only invites judgement (1Cor.11:27-30).

This is because "*Faith comes from hearing, and hearing*

through the Word of Christ" (Rom.10:17) so to administer the sacraments without preaching, is to invite those who may not have faith to incur judgement on themselves.

Acts 2:42 confirms that preaching and the sacraments went hand in hand in the practice of the early church. The first Christians devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread (the Lord's Supper), and prayer. In hearing Apostolic instruction, the earliest Christians were taught to put on Christ alone for salvation (Gal.3:27).

The sacraments, in turn, reinforced this teaching.

Something to learn: We must know the gospel to have faith in the gospel, and we must have faith in the gospel to enjoy the sanctifying benefits of the Lord's Supper. Thus the preaching of the word always has a certain kind of priority over the sacraments in worship. We must not have a high view of the sacraments at the expense of a high view of preaching, **so let us make sure to hear the Word preached whenever we can!**

Pastoral - Caring is a 24 / 7 Occupation

I'm astounded by the sheer number of people in and around our congregation who are intensively caring for someone in physical or mental need. Which is why we need to remember these brother and sister carers' in our prayers (!) because it doesn't get any easier with age. Thankfully the Lord knows each and every one of our carer's individual circumstances, and their names ! Your prayers are especially appreciated for **Corry Blik** whose oncologist has now decided to switch to different type of chemo-therapy which is bewildering for both **John and Corry** to say the least, considering she has had so much treatment

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CRCA Web site www.crca.org.au
Our Church Web site
www.dcrc.org.au
Please visit our web site
Your comments are welcome

already! **Corry's** new treatment will be administered in 3 week cycles with a three week break in between each of the three chemo doses. Pray that **John and Corry** may be able to stand firm in this test of their faith.

And remember **Tom Cram**, who is having reconstructive shoulder surgery this Monday, and, **Nettie Blenk**, that she may feel surrounded by the love of God through His people after her recent loss. And, as reported in the Church Council report, pray for our sister **Henni Burggraaf** as she seeks to discern the Lord's will for her future ministry as a mother and ongoing servant of God.

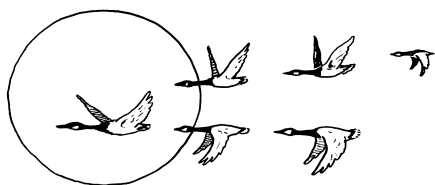
So what are we thrown back on? We are flung back on a confidence in the gospel, trust in the grace of God, and prayer for the Holy Spirit's presence.

"Take my life that it may be, all you purpose Lord for me ... Take my wealth all I possess make me rich in faithfulness ... Take myself and I will be, yours for all eternity."

Also **Ada Coe** asks for the congregation too pray for her sister in WA, she has cancer and has been receiving hospital treatment, but so far it has been unsuccessful and the doctors have sent her home.

SUNDAY THE 10TH OF NOVEMBER

WD&R is urging all congregations to pray and give towards the plight of suffering believers in and from Syria. The lives of Christians in Syria have been torn apart by the violent civil conflict in which they are particularly targeted by rebel forces. As announced in the Church Council report, **a retiring offering** will be conducted on Sunday the 10th of November. All donations to be marked Syria, and will be forwarded to WD&R. Money received will be channelled through MERF diaconal aid. Thank you.



Short Report – Church Council Meeting 17th October

1. The Sunday Worship 'Order of Service' will see one or two changes now that we are no longer vacant. Thank you for your patience. The Offering for the day will now also be published on the data screen.

2. Church council is debating the pros and cons of evening worship, in the context of poor attendance and stewardship of time. This issue will also be raised at the next Classis.
3. Church Council agreed that Pastor Garry's localised "maintenance goals" should remain his focus until early in the new year (**Preaching, Teaching and Pastoral Care focus**).
4. To encourage other pastors to get to know other church's and their members, Classis pulpit swaps will now be on a regular quarterly basis for the morning service only, on the last Sunday of August, November, February and May; between the churches who have pastors, and pastors will cycle through the churches in alphabetical order.
5. It is Dandenong's turn to conduct a state Youth Service on the 24th November in the evening service. Preparation for that is underway.
6. Dandenong's Pastoral Care Worker – Henni Burggraaf advises the congregation that her official task as pastoral care worker will come to an end this December. This will allow our dear sister to refocus on other pressing issues since her personal circumstances have so dramatically changed. Pray for Henni as she seeks to discern the Lord's leading and direction at this time.
7. Dandenong Deacons will aim to attend 'diaconal networking meetings' (communicate with other congregations about deacon's work) which are planned to run concurrently with Classis meetings. The first meeting will be held at Hope in the Hills Church (Tecoma).
8. Council is calling for nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon to replace Colin Pretorius (Elder), Vera Steendam and Gerry Smedes (Deacons).
9. In response to the church's leadership crisis: 'Apprentice Office Bearer Guidelines' were tabled for Church Council's consideration.
10. Communicant Membership transfers were received from Box Hill session on behalf of brother Joshua Esselbrugge and brother and sister Bill and Femke Prins whom we welcome with open arms. Sister Audrey Anderson was also admitted as a Communicant Member, for which we give thanks to the Lord.

11. A retiring offering is proposed for the 10th of November to benefit our suffering Syrian brothers and sisters. WD&R are co-ordinating the offering.
12. **PREACHING ROSTER** – The 24th November will see Rev. Keith Vethaak in Dandenong (GdV will be in Casey) in the am service. Notice is given that combined summer evening services will be conducted at Casey with the preaching at those services alternating between Pastors' La'mont and Garry. More details (dates and times etc) later.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Lorna Dixon	October 28
Sophie Wong	October 30
Riley Barrot	October 31
Glenda Zaphiris	November 2

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

College boxes.

The time has come again to empty the FULL college boxes. Please hand your boxes in asap so I can take care of it for the college.

I thank you all in advance for your faithful savings in aid for the students. Yours in Christ Janny Appel.

Friends of Rie van der Jagt are invited to join in celebrating her 90th Birthday on Sunday the 27th of October, 2-5pm at the Wonga park Christian Reformed Church.

COMING SOON. All CRCA folk are invited to consider giving a gift from the 2013 Compassionate Catalogue. Distribution of Catalogues should be complete by the end of November. There will be some 20 suggestions for supporting overseas Word and Deed ministries. You can give a gift of love given in our Lord's name.



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 will meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at the Burggraaf's from 7.30- 9.30 pm. Check with John and Sue Van Garderen - Ph: 8376 6556, if there are any changes.

COFFEE BREAK LADIES BIBLE STUDY

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

Helen van Garderen.

FRIDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

New members welcome. Call 97031613 for details.

IGNITE

Ignite (formerly known as Young Adults Bible Study) is on at 7PM every Sunday night during school terms. We meet at Lynette's house to build community and relationships, while also studying God's Word. For more information, please contact either Jesse Schram (0425 863 810) or Lynette Pretorius (0423 889 912). We would love to see you there!

Don't forget the Launch of the Kuyper Centre for Christian worldview studies.

The launch of the Kuyper Centre will take place at 7:30 pm of October 31 at the **Maranatha Christian School**, 146 Kidds Road, Doveton. Our featured speaker, Colin Youl, will speak on "Worldviews: does your north hand know what your south hand is doing?" Following this the Centre's director, Dr Bill Berends, will introduce the purpose and program of the Kuyper Centre. Light refreshments will be served at the close.

You can visit the Kuyper Centre for Christian Worldview Studies at: <http://kuypercentre.org.au/>

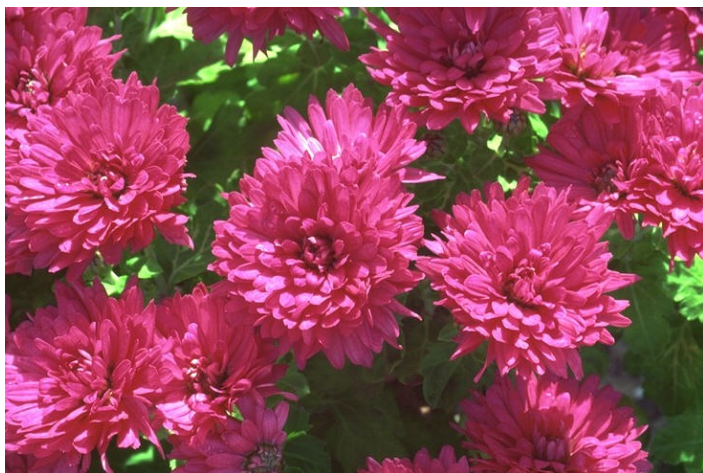
**Association for Christian Senior Citizens
Homes Inc.
Outlook Gardens Christian Aged Care
Facility & Village**

Annual General Meeting.

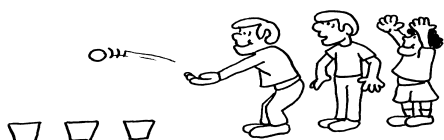
The Annual General meeting of the Association for Christian Senior Citizens' Homes Inc. will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday 23rd November, 2013 in the Outlook Gardens Community Centre, next door to the Reformed Church of Dandenong, at the corner of Gladstone Road and Outlook Drive, Dandenong North.

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](#)



You will have noticed that the flowers at the front of the church have been renewed. This was recommended and endorsed by church council. Jannette and Harry have paid for these flowers and would ask that anyone who can assist with the cost of the flowers please donate a small amount of money in an envelope and marked flowers. These can either be given directly to either Harry or Jannette or put into the collection bags. Thanks for your assistance with this. Jannette and Harry Vanderjagt



Tickle your funny bone

Shortly after the holy days of Lent and Passover, a priest, a minister, and a rabbi went off together on a fishing trip. They tried every kind of bait they could think of, but the fish weren't biting. So the priest got out of the boat and walked across the water to another spot. Then the rabbi got out of the boat and walked across the water. The minister got out of the boat, too-and started to sink. He floundered around, climbed back into the boat, and tried again. Once again he sank into the water. He clambered back into the boat, and tried once more, this time almost drowning. Finally the priest said to the rabbi, "Do you think we should tell him where the rocks are?"

Billy Graham tells the amusing story of a fire that broke out in a small town church. When the fire brigade, sirens wailing, arrived on the spot, the minister recognized one of the men. "Hello there, Jim. I haven't seen you in church for a long time," he chided.

"Well," answered the sweating man struggling with the hose, "it's been a long time since there's been any kind of fire in this church."

Pastor Phillips was delivering his sermon when a man in the back pew turned his head to one side, put his hand to his ear, and hollered, "Louder." The preacher raised his voice somewhat and continued with his sermon, which wasn't too interesting.

After a few minutes the man said again, "Louder!" The preacher strained even more and continued on, but by now the sermon had become quite boring.

The man shouted, "Louder!"

At this point a man in the front row couldn't stand it any longer and yelled back to the man in the rear, "What's the matter, can't you hear?"

"No," said the man in the back.

"Well," said the man down front, "move over, I'm coming back to join you."

Christian Reformed Churches of Australia

Women's Convention

2014



Friday 28.3.2014 to

Tuesday 1.4.2014

Register now, forms available from

Nel Andrews email crcwc14@hotmail.com
P.O.Box 3122 East Blaxland 2774 NSW

Rennie Vanderpol phone 02 4578 3630

We look forward to a wonderful
time together at the beautiful
"Elanora" conference centre
19a Wesley Street,
Elanora Heights NSW

For more details please obtain
the registration form.

