



10 November 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: God builds the church His way
Reading: Genesis 16.

BSB: 083 191 Account Number: 02717 8132

Name "Reformed Church of Dandenong Inc"

Note please also add senders name.

6:00 PM Pastor Garry de Vries
Message: Watch out when Christ becomes distant
and remote
Reading: Colossians 2 : 16 – 19.

ROSTERS

COFFEE SERVING :

Today: G. Huinink, F & M. Piening,
H & R. Piening

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

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

Next Week: Y & A. Laverman, D & M. Koch,
N & M. Stuenenberg

November 24 M & E. Marjee, C & E. de La Porte,
G & R. Eybers

December 1 J. Gully, J & S. Lepema, E. Oinonen

OFFERINGS

THIS WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Kids Church

GREETERS

Today: Peter & Atie Bruinewoud

Next week: Martin & Coby van Rossen

NEXT WEEK

1 – Local Church
2 – Wycliffe Bible Translators

LAST WEEK

Freewill/Pledges	\$2,003.25
BUDGET	\$2,885.00
DEFICIT/SHORTFALL	\$881.75
Music Ministry	\$140.75



Those 'man-made' confessions

People say that the 'confessions' of the church are man-made, and this is true because we can easily find out who the authors are, and we know these men were not infallible. However, what we need to realise is, that the authors of the 'confessions' are dealing with the infallible truth of God's Word.

Note. For those people who want to do direct credits our bank details National Australia Bank

So, to say that because the ‘confessions’ are man’s work they are not to be regarded as important is wrong thinking. The ‘confessions’ are man’s work but so are a lot of other technological advances we wouldn’t live without today.

The point is, we believe the ‘confessions’ not *in so far as* they agree with the Word of God, but we believe the ‘confessions’ because they actually summarise the Word of God and are in total conformity to that revelation.

The Canons of Dort are the least known of our ‘confessional statements’ and they are also the most criticised. People often criticise our ‘confessions’ and they say we should have more up-to-date statements of faith, especially because our ‘confessions’ don’t say anything about the problems we face today, like the problems of HIV-aids or Homosexuality and Genetic Engineering and all those other problems we need to deal with in the church today.

And again, I say that’s true, they don’t, and why should they?

If you write your statement of faith to say something about all the problems of today, a decade from now you will have to write some more because you’ll have a different set of problems; but the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession of Faith, the Canons of Dort and the Westminster Confession of Faith have stood the test of time. They don’t have to be re-written, and this is because when you deal with the Word of God (as all good confessions should) and when you write your ‘confession’ to express what the Word of God actually teaches, the teaching doesn’t change unless of course it needs to be revised or is plainly wrong according to Scripture teaching.

Our ‘confessions’ show us what the Scriptures teach and only the Bible is infallible. The Bible is the Word of God and we can rely on the teachings of the Bible. All things have to be judged by the Word of God.

This is why we have more than one ‘confession’. We have more than one, so that when for example it comes

to the matter of ‘*my only comfort*’ we go to the Heidelberg Catechism. And when it comes to a Biblical summary of what we believe about the ‘*doctrine of Scripture*’, or what we believe about ‘*the church*’, we go to the Belgic Confession; but when it comes to a summary of what the Bible says about ‘*predestination*’ we go to the Canons of Dort, and we also go the Canons of Dort when we want to explain the so called ‘*Five Points of Calvinism*’.

A living faith and a confession belong together and we can see this throughout the Bible. The Biblical idea is to make a statement, to bear witness, to make a solemn declaration of personal and corporate faith. It is generally recognised by Biblical and systematic theologians that the development of ‘fixed creedal formulas’ like we’ve got in our green ‘Book of Forms’ goes right back to the question that Jesus Himself asked His disciples in Matthew 16:16 when He asked “**Who do you say that I am?**” And at that time Peter replied on behalf of the others “**you are the Christ the Son of the Living God!**”

To confess Christ and His way of Salvation before men is to proclaim His name as the hope of the world for “**there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved**” (Acts 4:12). To confess Christ is to believe, to live by, and to tell this story to the nations.

The irresistible power of Christ will work through His church to the establishment of His kingdom in the hearts of men. The Holy Spirit poured out upon the church will make its members fearless before governors and kings. That self-same Spirit will make them challenge the wisdom of this world with the Bible teaching so wonderfully summarised for them in the

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

Pastor
Garry de Vries
Church Office 9795 7267
Home: 9763 5168
Mobile: 0434 254 944
garry@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.

'confessions'.

In the name of his Lord, the believer will plead with all men including those who profess but compromise His name, to repent and believe to the saving of their soul and to the praise of their Saviour.

Prayer:

Lord, continue to bind our federation of churches (CRC-A) into a unity, and give us a message for more than just the passing moment. Amen.

Personal

Almighty God, your ears are always open to the prayers of your people and you promise your saving help in every time of need. Therefore we lift up our hearts to you and give you humble thanks for all your gifts.

Remember our dear brother **Peter Bruinewoud** who continues to languish. Efforts are being made to get a hospital bed and other specialist equipment into his home so he can stay put without having to go back and forth to hospital. At the time of writing, Brother **Ted Slagter** continues under observation in the Casey hospital.

Sister **Jean Joseph** underwent major surgery at the Women's this past week, we pray for complete healing – a bright prognosis. Also as mentioned, brother **John vanBreen** had a facial skin cancer removed, and our sister **Corry Blik** is pretty much right in the middle of some pretty serious cancer treatment that often makes her very sick – pray for healing !

Please remember those of our number in constant need of prayer support.

Today, it is also our pleasure to uphold our **Syrian brothers and sisters** in prayer.

Prayer for Syria

Dear Lord, we pray for your church in Syria. May all that is divisive, evil, and wrong in that place be done away with ; may all who profess your name in the Middle East continue to serve you in truth, purity and loyal devotion no matter the obstacles. Lord, make your church in Syria secure against the powers of hell. Teach your people there to be patient in hope, firm in trust, and faithful in prayer until that day comes when you will send your angels to gather your own into your everlasting kingdom. Strengthen our brothers and sisters in the Middle East suffering persecution. Supply the needs of those who have lost their homes and loved ones. Fill your people in that place with patience in every test. Protect them from war, disease and every calamity, from greed,

rebellion and lawlessness. Live in your church in Syria and make all your people eager to fulfil their role in your kingdom. Make your church strong in faith and good works and give it a living hope in all your rich promises.

In Jesus name we pray.

A **retiring offering** will be conducted today.

All donations to be marked Syria, and will be forwarded to WD&R. Money received will be channelled through MERF diaconal aid. Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Hennie Burgraaf	November 12
Colin Koch	November 12
Jennie Van Der Wolde	November 12
Harry Piening	November 15

ON YOUR BIRTHDAY It's time to celebrate...
...the day God blessed the world with you!

SHAWLANDS COMMITTEE NEWS.

The Shawlands Committee will be organising the Monthly BBQ for the Shawlands Park Community for FRIDAY the 15TH NOVEMBER. Please pray for us as we make our preparations for this day. Pray also that the Lord will enable us to continue to touch the lives of the residents in the Park, as we meet with them and extend our Christian hospitality, understanding and support. May God bless our endeavours, all those involved, and provide blessings to the Park residents.

On behalf of the Shawlands Committee – Monica Austrums.



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 John & Heathers place unit 56 Outlook Gardens. 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!

J-Team needs your help!

J-Team is seeking donations of lollies to give as gifts to the kids at our end of year Christmas event on November 27th. Any amount of lollies would be greatly appreciated! If you can help, please see Julie de Jong. Thanks in advance!

Today Booklets

Boy where has the year gone, here it is time again to pay for next years subscriptions. The current subscribers will find an envelope in their pidgin hole.

For those who are new to the congregation or simply would like to receive these daily devotional booklets, I will leave some envelopes on the table in the foyer.

The cost for the standard print booklets is \$12.00

The LARGE print booklets are \$17.00

You receive the booklets bi-monthly. That is 6 booklets per year. Please return the envelopes with the money inside to me or Martin van Rossen. Thank you, Adrian de Vos.

G.O.S.P.E.L. Prayer Points

1. Missionaries from our mission field in 3 states of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh thank the Lord God Almighty for His guidance and help in their respective ministry so far. They exalt the sovereign King for blessing their ministry in every aspect. They are particularly grateful to God for adding 114 new believers in His Kingdom. Please continue to pray for these young believers who have professed their faith in Jesus Christ by taking baptism. Pray for their growth in Scriptural understanding.

2. A Women Fellowship meeting was conducted on 1st, Nov, 2013 at Wangan in our mission field in South Gujarat district. There were one hundred and twenty women who participated in the meeting. They had good fellowship together. It was indeed blessing for many women from different worships groups. The meeting was for the South Gujarat cluster. Every congregation was represented.

3. We thank God for all the social projects like Tuition Centers, Special Coaching Classes, Children Clubs and Adult Literacy. Children from Tuition Centers, Special Coaching Classes and Children Clubs had first semester exams in the month of October. They have all prepared well for the examinations. Please pray that they may achieve good grade in their exams.

4. The state Government of Rajasthan is planning to construct a dam in place where many believers and also our workers are living. They all have to vacate that land as soon as possible. Hence, they are worried now, because all believers will scattered to different places. They may have to move their residence and may even relocate their ministry to nearby places. Please pray for this situation.

Bert Kuipers

