

Mainstream



Church Office:
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MILDURA
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Minister:
Andrew Tonkin

7th September, 2014

Grape vines are mentioned more than any other plant in the entire Bible. The grape vine was very important culturally and economically in Biblical times. Because of its centrality in everyday life, it is often used symbolically in Scripture. A fruitful vine was a symbol of obedient Israel, while wild grapes or an empty vine spoke of Israel's disobedience (JEREMIAH 2: 21, **"When I planted you, I chose a vine of the purest stock -- the very best. How did you grow into this corrupt wild vine?"**)

A fruitful and bountiful harvest is regularly used to describe God's richest blessing for His people. The Promised Land was a land where the grapes grew in large clusters as reported by the spies sent into Canaan (NUMBERS 13:23). The bunches of grapes were so large that they carried them on a stick between two men.

In the New Testament the grape vine takes on a more personal and intimate image. Those who believe in the Lord Jesus become a part of His vine, called to connect deeply into Him and to bear good fruit. The fruitless will be cut off and discarded, while the fruitful will continue to be pruned so as to produce even more and better fruit. (JOHN 15: 1-8)

As you drive around Sunraysia and see grape vines beginning to bud and grow for the coming season, remember the significance of the grape vine in Scripture and be motivated about being a fruitful part of the vine.

ANDREW TONKIN

Welcome

Welcome to church today. If you are a visitor we offer you a special welcome. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee following the morning service.

Today, Sunday 7th September

<u>10.00 am</u>	Andrew Tonkin GOSPEL OF MARK "The Stone the Builders Rejected"
Worship Leader	Ruth Jackson
Communion Leader	Robyn Hawtin
Reading	Mark 12: 1-12
<u>6.00 pm</u>	Andrew Tonkin "The Stone the Builders Rejected"
Worship Leader	Sam Armstrong
Communion Leader	Robyn Hawtin

Next Week, 14th September

<u>10.00 am</u>	Michael Waters
&	APOLOGETICS
<u>6.00 pm</u>	

Mark 12: 1-12

He then began to speak to them in parables: "A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watch-tower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. He sent still another, and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat, others they killed. He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ...

Loving God - Loving People

GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL

DARETON HOLIDAY PROGRAM

We need volunteers

To work with the program involving the children from Dareton.



From Monday, September 30th
To
Friday, 3rd October

Give your name to Josh Cole and let him know how and when you can help.

We need helpers for the kitchen, set up and pack up, meal preparation, food preparation, as well as those who can help with games, story-telling, etc.

EXTEND ACCOUNT

DIRECT DEPOSITS - Mildura Church of Christ

NAB - BSB number 083764 Account Number 15423 4854

Money pledged	\$437,494
Given in 2013	\$164,000
Given 2014 so far	\$99,196
Total given so far	\$263,196
Balance to come	\$174,298

Faith Promise for Missions 2014

Banked to 24.8.14 \$1,964.70

DIRECT DEPOSITS- Church of Christ Mildura

NAB - BSB number 083-764 Account Number 51591-4637

Budget Weekly Average	\$3,554
Actual Weekly Average	\$3,392



Family News & Prayer



- * It is with sadness that we read of the death of Isobal Betlinski who was living at the Chaffey Care Homes in Merbein. Isobal died on Thursday, 28th August and a funeral service was held for her last Wednesday at the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE BOXES

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Samaritan's Purse boxes are now available for collection with a brochure from the church Foyer.

Remember to put a strong rubber band around your boxes to hold them shut. Robyn is now wanting to fill the second box, so if they are ready you can bring them in to the office.

Churches of Christ Hall's Gap Women's Retreat

Friday, 10th - Sunday 12th October

"Come, Just as You Are"

Red Cliffs Church of Christ Committee

Guest Speaker - Cheryl McCallum

Registrations close - 13th September

Full Camp = \$180

At the Norval Centre, Hall's Gap.

Further information and registration forms are available from the notice board in the foyer.

The Salvation Army

Home League Birthday

Thursday, 18th September

1.30 pm

Celebration Service

Guest Speaker - Naomi Thorne

RSVP to Captain Julie Moyle on

5021 5103 or 0408 546 344

By 11th September

- * The sale of the plaster pieces taken down from the Chapel original ceiling has raised \$400, mostly through the work done by Faye Duke. Thank you Faye. The sale of some old crèche furniture raised \$115, and the sale of the old chapel carpet, \$200. All money will go into the Extend program.

YOUTH GROUPS

Friday, 12th September
7.00 - 10.00 pm

IGNITION - for years 5-8 and XLR8 - for years 9-12

Amazing Race

Come with your sneakers on ready for the battle of the term!
\$3

BIG - Blokes Into God

Fishing Trip to Keera Station

When: Friday evening 12th and/or Saturday 13th September.

Time: Leaving the church Friday evening at 5.30 pm.
Or come at anytime Friday evening or Saturday

- What to bring:
1. Victorian fishing licence
 2. Boat/canoe or things that float and carry people if you have one.
 3. Fishing gear and bait if you have it
 4. Food and drink
 5. Camping gear if staying overnight.

There is a sign-up sheet in the hall foyer. Please, put your name down, and also list if you have a boat, need a ride, need fishing gear, need camping gear or to share a tent.

We'd also like to know when you will be travelling - with the group on Friday or at a later time. See Peter for a mud map of where to go.



SHOES IN CHURCH

I shower and shaved - I adjusted my tie, I got there and sat in a pew just in time.
Bowing my head in prayer, as I closed my eyes
I saw the shoe of the man next to me touching my own. I sighed.
With plenty of room on either side, I thought, 'Why must our soles touch?'
It bothered me, his shoe touching mine, But it didn't bother him much.
A prayer began: 'Our Father', I thought 'This man with the shoes has no pride.
They're dusty, worn and scratched, even worse there are holes on the side!'
'Thank you for blessings,' the prayer went on.
The shoe man said a quiet 'Amen'.
I tried to focus on the prayer but my thoughts were on his shoes again.
Aren't we supposed to look our best when walking through that door?
'Well, this certainly isn't it,' I thought, glancing towards the floor.
Then the prayer was ended, and the songs of praise began
The shoe man was certainly loud, sounding proud as he sang.
His voice lifted the rafters, his hands were raised high.
The Lord would surely hear, the shoe man's voice from the sky.
It was time for the offering, and what I threw in was steep.
I watched as the shoe man reached into his pockets so deep.
I saw what was pulled out, what the shoe man put in
Then I heard a soft 'clink' as when silver hits tin.
The sermon really bored me to tears, and that's no lie
It was the same for the shoe man, for tears fell from his eyes.
At the end of the service, as is the custom here
We must greet new visitors, and show them all good cheer.
I felt moved somehow, and wanted to meet the shoe man
So after the closing prayer, I reached over and shook his hand.
He was old and his skin was dark, and his hair was truly a mess
But I thanked him for coming, for being our guest.
He said, 'My name's Charlie, I'm glad to meet you, my friend.'
There were tears in his eyes, but he had a large, wide grin.
'Let me explain,' he said, wiping tears from his eyes.
I've been coming here for months, and you're the first to say "Hi".
I know that my appearance is not like all the rest
But I really do try to always look my best.
I always clean and polish my shoes before my very long walk
But by the time I get here, they're dirty and dusty, like chalk.'
My heart filled with pain and I swallowed to hide my tears.
As he continued to apologise for daring to sit so near
He said, 'When I get here I know I must look a sight
But I thought if I could touch you then maybe our souls might unite.'
I was silent a moment knowing whatever was said
Would pale in comparison, I spoke from my heart, not my head.
'Oh, you've touched me,' I said 'and taught me, in part
That the best of any man is what's found in his heart.'
The rest, I thought, this shoe man will never know
Like just how thankful I really am that his dirty old shoe touched my soul.

This Week

Sunday	7th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.00 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7 FM
		7.15 pm	Church Café
Monday	8th	11.00 am	Craft
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Tuesday	9th	5.30 pm	Adventure Club
Friday	12th	5.30 pm	B.I.G. Trip
		7.30 pm	Youth Groups



SEPTEMBER

Adventure Club Kitchen -Ash & Danni Gray and Red Team

Church Café - 14th September - Women's Ministry - Kaye Underwood

SHARE GROUP

The yearly program has SHARE Group meeting on the 27th September, but this has been changed as it clashed with the Football Grand Final.

This will be a combined celebration of the 80th birthdays for Joan and Denis Ferrett at The Vines at 2 pm.

Everyone is welcome to come, not just SHARE Group people.

For catering purposes, please let Susan, 0407 695538, or Karen, 0438 433271, know you are coming.



W.I.G.S. Women In God's Service

Card Making With Sue Ferguson

Monday, 15th September at 7.30 pm
At the Church

Come along and learn how to make a couple of cards with an expert!
Cost for two cards is \$7.50.

Numbers need to be in to Robyn by Wednesday, 10th September to allow Sue time to put the required number of packs together.

Phone the office or
Robyn on 0428 234148.



NEXT WEEK, 14th September

10.00 am

Worship Leader
Communion Leader
Children's Church
Singers
Band
Projector/Sound
Officer on Duty
Welcome/Reception
Helpers

M. Waters
J. Cole
W. Whitehead + Prayer
M. Straub
M. Cameron, M. Cox, R. Fox
A. Alabaster, A. Tonkin
P. Bekker / J. Armstrong
J. Kelly
M. King / A. Eaton
G. Diggle, W. Duke, J. Barthelson, I. Cross, P. Leng, volunteer, C. Beasy, E. Wagstaff

Crèche
Cuppa
Communion Prep.
Grounds

K. Hawtin
P. Castleman, G. Beruldsen
R. Bekker
R. Barthelson, G. Hughes

6.00 pm

Worship Leader
Communion Leader
Children's Church
Singers
Band
Project./Sound
Reception
Crèche

M. Waters
B. Moritz
D. Morrall
K. Kiley
N. Moritz, S. Armstrong, A. Gray
G. Cowling, B. Moritz, B. Kiley, I. Stewart
A. Fabich / J. Armstrong
A. Munro
R. Fox

A minister rushed down to the train station every single day to watch the Sunset Limited go by.

There was no chore he wouldn't interrupt to carry out his ritual. Members of his congregation deemed his eccentricity juvenile and frivolous and asked him to give it up.

"No, gentlemen," he said firmly. "I preach your sermons, teach your Sunday School, bury your dead, marry you, run your charities, and chairman every drive you conduct. I won't give up seeing that Southern Pacific train every day. I love it! It's the only thing in this town I don't have to push!"

