

# Mainstream



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Minister:  
Andrew Tonkin

14th September, 2014

*"But set apart Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defence to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is within you, yet with gentleness and reverence."*

1 Peter 3:15

I am excited and very passionate about this subject and my prayer is that after this four week series on the subject you will be too. To the vast majority I don't think I would be wrong when I say you don't even know what it is! But that's okay, even though it is not a widely known subject among the layperson, it should be. Because we aren't just called to give a defence, we are told! This passage in 1 Peter is very clear, and should be our mission, so let's be ready and prepare ourselves with the evidence, so sit tight and listen and be prepared to learn about some of the facts of why you believe what you believe.

Apologetics means a Defence: The reason for the misunderstanding is obvious: "Apologetics" sounds like "apologize." But apologetics is not the art of telling somebody you're sorry that you're a Christian! Rather apologetics comes from the Greek word apologia, which means a defence, as in a court of law. **Christian apologetics involves making a case for the truth of the Christian faith.**

The Bible actually commands us to have such a case ready to give to any unbeliever who wants to know why we believe what we do. Just as the contestants in a fencing match have learned both to block each attack as well as to go on the offensive themselves, so we must always be "On Guard."

If you wish to study in more depth what "Apologetics" is all about, and deepen your faith in "Why" you believe what you believe, put your name down to join a series of studies that will begin after our four part sermon series.

**MICHAEL WATERS**

## 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 14th September

10.00 am

Michael Waters  
**APOLOGETICS**

Worship Leader  
Communion Leader

Joshua Cole  
Wayne Whitehead

6.00 pm

Michael Waters  
**APOLOGETICS**

Worship Leader  
Communion Leader

Brendan Moritz  
Robyn Hawtin

### Next Week, 21st September

10.00 am

Andrew Tonkin  
**APOLOGETICS**

&

6.00 pm

There is something about my faith in the gospel message that I know I can't trade for anything. Far from being confining and oppressive, my faith in Jesus is affirming, freeing and life-giving. In the parable of the good shepherd, the goal is not just to keep the sheep alive, it is to also give the sheep a good life.

The good news comes to us by way of religion. It is what we human beings have built in order to transmit the message of the gospel. Religion, like the sheep pen, is necessary to protect the message of life, but it is the voice of the good shepherd that gives life.

Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." There is more to the gospel than just religion. It is about a life-giving relationship that allows us to lead a good life.

## Loving God - Loving People

**GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL**



# Family News & Prayer



- \* A belated Happy Birthday to Ian Cross who celebrated his 60th Birthday last Thursday, 11th September. Hope it was a great day, Ian.
- \* Congratulations to Joan Rosenberg who celebrates her 70th Birthday today, 14th September. Happy Birthday, Joan.

## **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 third 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  
Phone now if you still wish to attend.**

Full Camp = \$180

At the Norval Centre, Hall's Gap.  
Registrations on the notice board.

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

*When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.*

*Mark Twain*

## YOUTH GROUPS

Sunday, 21st September

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

### Church Invasion

We are having Youth group on a Sunday afternoon.  
Barbecue, games and an awesome Church service.  
Come along for the last night before the holidays.

## 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, craft, story-telling, etc.

## FAFFS

Friday, 19th September at 7.30 pm

### ***"SWEENEY TODD"***

Red Cliffs Musical Society Praoduction  
At the Powerhouse

Hugh King Drive (next to Jaycee Park)

Book now at the Mildura Information Centre



## *This Week*

Sunday	14th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.00 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7 FM
		7.15 pm	Church Café
Monday	15th	10.15 am	Aged Care Service
		1.00 pm	Admin. Meeting
		7.30 pm	W.I.G.S.
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Tuesday	16th	5.30 pm	Adventure Club
Friday	19th	7.30 pm	FAFFS
Sunday	21st	4.00 pm	Youth Groups



# SEPTEMBER

**Adventure Club Kitchen** - Kaye & Noel Underwood & Blue 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. It will now be on Saturday, 4th October.

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 I God's Service

*Card Making  
with Sue Ferguson*

Monday, 15th September at  
7.30 pm

At the Church

Cost for two cards is \$7.50.

Speak to Robyn if you would  
like to come and haven't  
booked in yet.

## NEXT WEEK, 21st September

<u>10.00 am</u>	Andrew Tonkin
Worship Leader	D. Clark
Communion Leader	B. Eaton
Children's Church	No Children's Church
Singers	D. Mountford, R. Jackson, J. Trewin
Band	G. Miller, M. Waters
Projector/Sound	J. Cole / B. Moritz
Officer on Duty	R. Hawtin
Welcome/Reception	Volunteer / S. Ferguson
Helpers	W. Whitehead, C. Meade, J. Renfree, P. Duscher, J. Booysen, J. Wiffen, A. Broad, J. Kelly
Crèche	R. Broad
Cuppa	K. Underwood, S. Huggan, P. Huggan
Communion Prep.	R. Hawtin
Grounds	
<u>6.00 pm</u>	A. Tonkin
Worship Leader	I. Fabich
Communion Leader	R. Hawtin      Prayer Leader R. Jackson
Children's Church	No Children's' Church
Singers	M. Gardner, A. Beasy, A. Thorne
Band	C. Waters, R. Jemmeson, E. Tonkin
Project./Sound	J. Corrie / P. Norris
Officer On Duty	J. Cole
Reception	G. Muller
Crèche	P. & S. Huggan

The sermons were always just twenty minutes in length.

One day, the preacher went an hour and twenty minutes. When asked why he explained, "I always put a LifeSaver in my mouth when I get up to preach and when it melts, I know the twenty minutes are up. In my hurry to get here today, I picked up a button by mistake!"

When dedicating the church's new public address system, the pastor told the congregation that the microphone and wiring had been paid for out of the church funds. Then he added, "The loudspeaker has been donated by a member of the congregation in memory of his wife."

Little Susie concluded her prayer by saying, "Dear God, before I finish, please take care of Daddy, Mummy, my baby brother, Grandma and Grandpa ...and please, God, take care of Yourself or else we're all sunk!"