

# Mainstream



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MILDURA  
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Ministers:  
Andrew Tonkin  
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8th March, 2015

At the very beginning of 1993, Kylie and I moved from Ballarat to Wollongong to attend the Churches of Christ Bible College at the Wollongong Church of Christ. It was a daunting move. We were leaving all our family and friends and two fulltime jobs to embrace God's call on our life. There were many challenges that we had to face, but the great thing was that this step of faith Kylie and I took meant we had to rely on God more than we ever had before.

That is the most exciting aspect of taking faith steps in following the call of God; that we have the opportunity to rely on him like we never have before. When we remain in our comfort zone we have the support and nurture of family and friends, the security of our job, the familiarity of our surrounds. In our comfort zone our reliance on God can easily take a back seat. Stepping out in faith quite often means we step right out of our comfort zone. We can then feel very alone, out of our depth, not sure what the next step will be. That is when our faith can really come alive.

The Bible tells us, "**By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.**" (HEBREWS 11: 8)

Abraham was called to a great step of faith. He was required to leave everything he knew in order to follow God's call. There were many challenges and trials on the way. It actually took approximately 25 years for God's promises to Abraham to be fulfilled. But the Bible tells us, "**Abraham believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.**" (GENESIS 15: 6)

As we study the story of Abraham today and in the week ahead, may you be challenged and stretched today regarding your faith. As God calls, may we each have the faith to believe and follow?

**ANDREW**

## Worship With Us

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 in the hall following the morning service.

### Today, Sunday 8th March

<u>10.00 am</u>	Andrew Tonkin
	<b>THE STORY 2 - God Builds a Nation</b>
Worship Leader	Ruth Jackson
Communion Leader	Craig Beasy
<u>6.00 pm</u>	Andrew Tonkin
Worship Leader	Sam Armstrong

### Next Week, 15th March

<u>10.00 am</u>	Andrew Tonkin
&	<b>THE STORY 3 - Joseph</b>
<u>6.00 pm</u>	<b>From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh</b>

### MY STORY

Available now: The Story for Little Ones	\$25
The Story for Children	\$25
The Story for Kids	\$18
From your Leaders Study Guides	\$13

Our sermons are now available on the Internet. Find them at:  
[www.milduracofc.podomatic.com](http://www.milduracofc.podomatic.com)

Or you can order them on a CD.  
Fill out an order form and leave it with the Officer on Duty.  
All CDs are sold for \$3.

# Loving God - Loving People

**GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL**



## Family News & Prayer



- \* Belated congratulations;  
to Nyoli Bell who celebrated her 60th Birthday last Tuesday, 3rd March.  
to Anne Beaufort on turning 80 on Saturday, 7th March.  
to David Cox who celebrated his 40th Birthday last Monday, 2nd March.
- \* Our sympathy is extended to two families:  
Denise and Nick Pragt - After Nick's father, Jack died this week  
Michael and Ursula Willsmore - Michael's mother Margaret died this week also.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
- \* Be in prayer for Marianne Haigh, Ian and Ruth Mansell.

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Friday, 6th March  
10 am  
Mildura Church of Christ  
"The Bahamas"  
All welcome  
Please bring a plate of morning tea.

### **ADVENTURE SUMMIT**

FRIDAY - SATURDAY, May 15-16  
*"Keeping the Edges Wild"*  
At Wallan Gateway Church  
SATURDAY - Celebration Event &  
AGM  
Register: With Auralie/Robyn before  
April 26th

**Please Note:** All groups using the buildings are reminded to clean the rooms after use and tidy up after themselves. Turn the alarms on in the office and sound room if you have been working in there. Thank you.

### **NEW ATTENDERS' LUNCH**

SUNDAY, MARCH 15th  
12 noon

For all our newest members.

Please reply to the invitation as soon as possible  
for catering purposes. Phone: 5023 1201.

Or see Jeanie Kelly or Auralie Munro today.

If you would like to come and haven't yet received an invitation, please see Auralie or Andrew.

## YOUTH GROUPS - *FUEL*

Friday, 13th March 7.30 - 9.30pm

**XLR8**

***GNOME ROAM***

Heading out with a special friend to show him the sights of Mildura.

**IGNITION**

***GIANT BOARD GAMES***

Playing some of your favourite board games with a massive twist.

### GROCERY ITEMS

We are running out of Grocery Items for our pantry cupboard. Could you please help by buying a little extra for someone in need this week? Meals in a can are a good choice, or cans of spaghetti or noodle packs where you can just add water.



# Mission Update

### CONGRATULATIONS SONNY GRAHAM!

On Australia Day, Pastor Sonny Graham was one of 600 Australians honoured for their contribution to our nation. Sonny was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for service to the Indigenous community of Western Australia. His story is one of hope, faith and love.

Sonny's parents, keen for their children to receive a good education, moved 200km west to Norseman so the children could attend the Churches of Christ mission. Sonny was eight at the time. He is grateful for this experience that influenced his life in such a positive way.

On completing his schooling, he was mentored by missionaries and later studied at the Churches of Christ Bible College. He returned to Norseman as the mission's superintendent and pastored the Norseman Church. He married Frances, a nurse, and they cared for their own three children along with a number of indigenous children. Together they modelled excellent leadership, mentored missionaries and served the churches and the communities at Norseman, then Esperance and later Port Hedland. Sonny was a Liaison Officer with the Education Dept. in the South Hedland schools before transferring back to Esperance.

## *This Week*

Sunday	8th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.00 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7 FM
Monday	9th	11.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	10th	5.30 pm	Adventure Club
			(Kaye & Noel Underwood & Red Team)
Friday	13th	7.30 pm	Youth Groups



## **LADIES' CAKE AND COFFEE NIGHT**

**WHEN:** Saturday, 21st March

**TIME:** 7.00 pm- 9.00 pm

**WHERE:** At the Church

The Women's Ministry Team would like an opportunity to have the Women of the Church together, for fellowship and to fill you all in on what is happening through the Church in the form of Outreach.

No need to bring anything, other than a heart for those less fortunate than yourselves. Please put your name on the list on the door, or speak to us as a guide for numbers for catering.

If you need more information, please speak to Kaye Underwood.

## **B.I.G. MEN'S BREAKFAST**

At the Church

Saturday, 21st March

Watch for more details in next week's Mainstream

## **NEW SWIPE CARDS**

Sometime in the next week the front door will be changed to a swipe card use only to enter. If you have a church key and you need access to the front door, please see Robyn to obtain a swipe card.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

March 15	New Attenders' Lunch
<b>March 21</b>	<b>BIG Men's BBQ Breakfast</b>
March 21	Ladies' Coffee and Cake Night
April 18	Prayer Retreat
April 19	Hymn Singing Afternoon
June 13/14	Leadership Weekend
June 22	Pastors' Prayer Partners' Dinner

## **NEXT WEEK, 15th March**

### 10.00 am

Worship Leader  
Communion Leader  
Singers  
Band  
Projector/Sound  
Officer on Duty  
Welcome/Reception  
Helpers

A. Tonkin  
B. Giddings  
R. Jackson  
M. Giddings, K. Hawtin  
A. Thorne, M. Gardner, E. Tonkin, C. Waters  
P. Bekker / B. Moritz  
R. Hawtin  
M. King / N. Cook  
C. Meade, K. Underwood, N. Underwood, J. Renfree, P. Leng, C. Armstrong, A. Broad, E. Wagstaff

Crèche

Cuppa

Communion Prep.

Cleaning / Grounds

### 6.00 pm

Worship Leader

Singers

Band

Projector/Sound

Officer on Duty

Reception

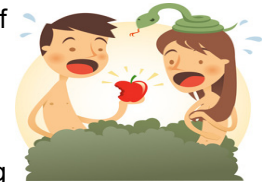
Crèche

R. Broad & H. Nicholson  
J. Bradford, R. Witcombe, B. Witcombe  
R. Bekker  
A. & B. Munro / N. Underwood & G. Hughes  
A. Tonkin  
B. Kiley Prayer Leader D. Morrall  
J. Gardner, D. Gray  
B. Moritz, B. Kiley, I. Stewart  
C. Tonkin / C. Waters  
A. Munro  
G. Muller  
M. Whitehead

"Whew", said God. 'I just created a twenty-four hour period of alternating light and darkness on earth.'

"What are you going to do now?" asked his angel.

"Call it a day", said God.



One of the Community Church pastor's favourite counselling jokes is this one: Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage. He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked.

The story of Adam and Eve was being carefully explained to the class. Following the story, the children were asked to draw a picture to illustrate some part of the story. Little Emily was most interested and drew a picture of a car with three people in it. In the front seat behind the wheel was a rather large man and in the back seat a man and a woman. The teacher was at a loss to understand how this illustrated the lesson. But little Emily was prompt with her explanation. "Why, this is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden."

*The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but the mosquito comes close.*