

# Mainstream



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Ministers:  
Andrew Tonkin  
Joshua Cole

**31st January, 2016**

This weekend Ruth Jackson and I are in Horsham ministering for Simon Risson at the Horsham Church of Christ, leading a prayer retreat on the Saturday and preaching at their Sunday Church service. It is a privilege and honour to share with the Horsham people and another reminder of the rich relationships we share with our sister Churches.

Throughout this year I am looking forward to continuing and increasing our relationship with many of our local Churches. We will continue to send preachers to our Churches in Dareton and Robinvale. The Red Cliffs Church of Christ is doing The Story. I believe that it was one of the best programs we have ever done and this year we will be assisting Red Cliffs with the preaching of that series. I am also in talks with a small local Church about giving assistance with their worship at various times through the year.

Of course, Come Together Sunraysia promises to be one of the most exciting events of the year. This evangelistic crusade is being coordinated by almost every Christian Church in Sunraysia. To see so many ministers and Church leaders working together is an incredibly wonderful thing.

**EPHESIANS 4: 3-6** says, "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

The witness of the Christian Church will become stronger and stronger the more we are unified in the Spirit and the more that unity is expressed among our Christian brothers and sisters and the more it is clearly displayed to our community.

**ANDREW TONKIN**



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, 31st January, 2016**

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 10.00 am         | Jon Armstrong   |
| Worship Leader   | Matthew Cameron |
| Communion Leader | David Ling      |

**Grace—Not Just What You Say Before Dinner**

|         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| Reading | Ephesians 2: 4-10 |
|---------|-------------------|

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 6.00 pm        | Jon Armstrong |
| Worship Leader | Joshua Cole   |

**Next Week, Sunday, 7th February**

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| 10.00 am | Andrew Tonkin     |
| &        | <b>THE CHURCH</b> |
| 6.00 pm  |                   |

**Ephesians 2: 4-10**

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

## Loving God - Loving People

**GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL**

## PRAYER WEEK

"If Jesus needed to pray—being what He was, how must we need it—being what we are." James Stalker



The first week of each month is a time when we particularly encourage our church family in prayer.

The church will be open throughout the week between 7 and 9 am and during office hours on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Come and join with others or simply spend some time in quiet prayer.

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." Mark 1: 35

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, March, 7th at 7.30 pm

We invite all Deacons, Group Leaders and Bible Study Leaders to contribute to the AGM Booklet which will be brought out mid-February. Please write a report on your group's activities in 2015 and send it to the Church Office **by the end of January**. **Thank you to all who have sent in early reports.**

## PEANUT PALS

By now you should have all received your new Peanut Pal for this year and contacted her and wished her a Happy New Year. I know some Pals have already had birthdays, so hopefully, if your Peanut Pal is one of them, you have wished them a Happy Birthday as well. For those who weren't at our Peanut Pal night, the red stars that you received in your envelope are a way of remembering to say hello, maybe once a month, to your Peanut Pal by placing a star on a day each month. May you continue to enjoy a Peanut Pal and may you be a blessing to each other.

## W.I.G.S.

We had our planning meeting last week, and there will be a program out shortly. Just wanted to let the WIGS ladies know that we raised \$216 to give to the Zoe Support Program that we had been supporting last year. Put your thinking caps on for our first meeting as we decide who we will support this year.



## Family News & Prayer



- Continue to pray for Marianne Haigh as she recovers from her operation.
- Sadly, Peter Staley died Thursday 21st January and his funeral was held in our chapel last Thursday. Our thoughts and prayers are with Carole and the family.

When in sorrow, read John 14  
When people fail you, read Psalm 27  
When you have sinned, read Psalm 51  
When you worry, read Matthew 6: 19-34  
When you are in danger, read Psalm 91  
When you have the blues, read Psalm 34  
When God seems far away, read Psalm 139  
If you are discouraged, read Isaiah 40  
If you are lonely, or fearful, read Psalm 23  
If you feel down and out, Read Romans 8: 38-39  
If you need courage, read Joshua 1  
If the world seems bigger than God, read Psalm 90  
If you want rest and peace, read Matthew 11: 25-30  
If you get bitter or critical, read 1 Corinthians 13  
For a great invitation, read Isaiah 55

## Words of encouragement from Billy Graham

*"Do not focus on your own problems. Instead, shoulder those of others, then God will take care of your problems. If God allows you to go through difficult times of sorrow and disappointments, then do not miss the lessons that go along with them. Instead, feel honoured to have served the Lord under difficult circumstances. God is preparing his heroes in the wilderness. And when the time has come, they do appear and everybody is wondering where they are coming from.*

*If you are in danger of complaining, then look at the cross of Jesus and think what he endured for your sake. Then begin to thank him for this, and peace will flood your soul again. Strive to live closer to Jesus every day of your life. Remember that he has won the victory. It's time to quit being the victim of your circumstances, focusing on Jesus, the great Victor. And if the Lord blesses your ministry and lets you experience great spiritual victories, never forget to give the glory to the Lord! And remember; The greatest triumph is yet to come!"*

# Mission Update



## New Vision for Japan

Asian Access has launched Vision 2020 for Japan, with an ambitious plan for one million new Christians, 1,000 new churches and 1,000 missionaries from Japan to the major cities of Asia. Following the triple disaster of 2011—earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear-plant meltdown—huge barriers were broken down between the Church and Japanese society, as the Church helped with the relief and rebuilding. These efforts have given Japanese Christians a sense of hope that the 2020 Vision could be within reach.

Asian Access says that already more churches have been planted, more quickly, than they ever could have imagined. Now Dan Amos, CEO of Aflac Insurance, has issued a challenge to financially support Vision 2020. Mr Amos says his family Foundation will offer a matching challenge of \$250,000 by the end of December to help reach Japan for Christ.



**FUEL YOUTH** Friday night 7.00—9.00 pm

**XLR8 & IGNITION**

Night at the Aqua Coaster

\$10

Meet and Pick up at the Aqua Coaster  
Bring bathers and towel



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## YOUTH / CHILDREN WORKERS

There will be a Meeting on Tuesday night at 8.00 pm in the Chapel for all Youth and Children's Leaders and Helpers.

## Seeking Helpers

Adventure Club commences in February but there is a desperate need for some assistance in the kitchen helping to prepare the evening meal. If you can help out on the roster, once a month, then please speak to Josh Cole.

## Pushpay

Pushpay is designed to simplify everyday giving for anyone with a computer or Smartphone. Load your banking information, debit or credit card once, and make payments with security and ease!

From your computer log on to <https://pushpay.com> or from your Smartphone search "Pushpay" in the App Store and download the app for free.

You will be walked through steps that will download your bank or card information and you will also choose a 4 digit security code. After registering you can give online quickly and easily. You simply choose Mildura Church of Christ and our profile will come up. You first enter the amount to give, choose the reference, decide on recurring gifts, enter your emailing address, then press Give and enter your password or code...and you're done.

Please Note: All church Bank Account Numbers have now changed! When keying in BSB, it may come up with INDUE Ltd BSB, but this is correct. Please change your bank account debits as soon as possible.

\*Must Say 'Mildura Church of Christ' on both accounts now.\*

Have you changed your direct deposits yet? Please do this before we close off the NAB Accounts!

**This includes the Extend Account!!**

## GENERAL ACCOUNT

**DIRECT DEPOSITS- Mildura Church of Christ**

BSB number 703-810 Account Number 05300208

## EXTEND ACCOUNT

**DIRECT DEPOSITS - Mildura Church of Christ**

BSB number 703-810 Account Number 05300270

## PRAYER WEEK *This Week* Week of Prayer and Fasting



|           |      |         |                  |
|-----------|------|---------|------------------|
| Sunday    | 31st | 9.30 am | Prayer           |
| Monday    | 1st  | 7.30 pm | Board Meeting    |
| Tuesday   | 2nd  | 6.00 pm | Orange Dinner    |
|           |      | 8.00 pm | Leaders' Meeting |
| Wednesday | 3rd  | 7.30 pm | KYB (with Ruth)  |
| Thursday  | 4th  | 1.00 pm | Sunraysia Prayer |
| Thursday  | 4th  | 1.30 pm | C.W.F.           |
| Friday    | 5th  | 7.30 pm | Youth Groups     |

FEBRUARY



**Sunraysia Prayer**  
**Come Together—Billy Graham**  
Thursday, 4th February  
1.00—2.00 pm  
In Chivell House

### **C.W.F.** **CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Our first meeting for the year is this Thursday, 4th February. We will meet at 1.30 pm. Each lady is asked to bring a short talk (1 to 2 minutes) about their favourite place they have visited, or one they would like to visit.

Devotions—Mina Straub—Ready for God's Call Luke 1: 26-38; 46-55

Hostesses—Heather Atkins and Dot Hind

We will be having fruit salad and ice cream instead of afternoon tea, so no need to bring a plate today.

### **Wednesday Night KYB (Know Your Bible)**

Re-commences at 7.30 pm, 3rd February.  
Meeting in Chivell House (Cameron Room)

STUDY: "The Gospel of John –Part 1 (Chapters 1-10)  
First night is an Introductory Night  
All ladies welcome

### **NEXT WEEK, 7th February 2016**

10.00 am

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

A. Tonkin  
R. Jackson  
B. Eaton  
M. Cox, D. Clark  
A. Alabaster, E. Tonkin, B. Herman, B. Kiley, B. Moritz  
P. Bekker / C. Waters  
W. Whitehead  
TBA  
R. Hawtin / M. King  
P. Diggle, M. Straub, J. Renfree, I. Cross, Volunteer, J. Cox, C. Staley, M. Cameron, J. Cooke

Crèche

Cuppa

Communion Prep.  
Cleaning / Grounds

R. O'Connor, E. Gibbs  
K. Underwood, G. Beruldsen, J. Purcell

6.00 pm

Worship Leader  
Singers  
Band  
Projector/Sound  
Officer on Duty  
Reception

A. Tonkin  
B. Kiley                      Prayer R. Jackson  
J. Gardner, A. Kiley  
B. Kiley, B. Herman, R. Jemmeson, I. Stewart  
E. Moore / B. Moritz  
W. Whitehead  
J. Kelly

Setting: A small rural community, so small, in fact, that the minister of the only church in town must also double up as the local barber to make ends meet.

There happened to be a man in this small community who had invested wisely and was enjoying his newfound comfort. This man got out of bed one day to go through his daily routine. He looked into the mirror as he was about to shave and decided, "I make enough money now, I don't have to shave myself. I'll go down to the barber and let him shave me from now on." So he did.

He walked into the barber shop and found the minister/barber was out calling on the housebound. His wife, Grace, said "I usually do the shaves anyway, sit down and I'll shave you." So he did. She shaved him and he asked, "How much do I owe you?" "\$25," Grace replied. The man thought that was somewhat expensive and that he may have to get a shave every second day. Nonetheless, he paid Grace and went on his way. The next day, he woke up and found his face to be just as smooth as the day before. No need for a shave today, he thought, well, it was a \$25 shave. The next day he awoke to find his face as smooth as a baby's bottom. Wow! He thought. That's amazing. On the third day his face was still as smooth. Now somewhat perplexed, the man went down to the barber shop to ask the minister why his face was as smooth as it had been the first day it was shaven. The kind old pastor gently retorted, "Friend, you were shaved by grace ... and once shaved, always shaved."

*"I tremble for my country when I  
reflect that God is just."  
Thomas Jefferson*