

**Next Week 31st March , Easter Sunday**

<u>10.00 am</u>	A. Tonkin
Worship Leader	R. Jackson
Communion Leader	D. Homfray      Prayer Leader H. Atkins
Children's Church	M. Straub
Singers	K. Whitehead, D. Clark
Band	B. Moritz
Projector/ Sound	P. Bekker / J. Armstrong
Officer on Duty	J. Cooke
Welcome/Reception	D. Beasy / A. Eaton
Helpers	W. Duke, F. Duke, W. Whitehead, K. Underwood, N. Underwood, volunteer, C. Meade (reader), H. Atkins
Crèche	L. Homfray
Cuppa	G. Beruldsen, N. Bell
Communion Prep.	R. Bekker
Flowers / Cleaning	A. & B. Munro
Grounds	D. Homfray, G. Hughes
<u>6.00 pm</u>	
	NO EVENING SERVICE

**Direct Approach**

Pastor Dixon had a problem. He had to ask the congregation to pledge more money for church repairs than they anticipated. On his way to the pulpit, he asked the band to be ready to play something suitable for the pledging.

At the appropriate time, Pastor Dixon announced, "Brothers and sisters, we are in great difficulty. Our roof repairs have run five thousand dollars over the estimated cost. That means we must raise that amount this morning. Any of you who are willing to increase your original pledge, please stand up."

At that very moment, the band played, "Advance Australia Fair."  
And the whole congregation stood.



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& Tenth St.  
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MILDURA  
3502  
Ph. 5023 1201

Minister:  
Andrew Tonkin

# Mainstream

MILDURA CHURCH OF CHRIST

24th March, 2013

And the result of our pledges and offerings for the Extend Program is..... Well that will all be shared during the service today.

But whatever the final figure is, I have been so incredibly blessed that this has been a 'Church effort'. What I mean by that is that so many people have made generous and sacrificial contributions towards our Extend program. It has not been left to just a hand-full of faithful individuals, but so many have truly extended themselves in faith.

It stands to reason, doesn't it, that God's vision for his people will be a vision so significant that only as all of God's people contribute, can it become a reality. I am convinced that the Vision before us is only possible as each person in our church searches their heart and is open to the leading of God and is willing to make a sacrificial gift to the vision that God has given us. The realisation of this vision is well beyond the resources of a few faithful people. God has given us a vision so big that only the involvement of all can see it become a reality.

If you haven't yet made your pledge then it is still not too late. Simply fill out a pledge form and place it in the offering plate at any time. I also appreciate that there are some for whom various circumstances have meant they have not been able to make a contribution at this time. That is completely understandable (read 2Cor 8: 13-15), however, if your circumstances do change there will always be the opportunity for you to sow in the years ahead.

I am so proud of this Church, the greatest Church in Sunraysia. My prayer is that God will richly bless you for being so generous with your finances, your time, your encouragement and your prayers.

**ANDREW**



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 24th March

10.00 am

Andrew Tonkin

#### **“EXTEND SUMMARY**

Worship Leader

Joshua Cole

Communion Leader

Michael Waters

Reading

Matthew 16: 13-18

6.00 pm

Andrew Tonkin

#### **“EXTEND SUMMARY**

Worship Leader

Joshua Cole

Communion Leader

Ruth Jackson

**Good Friday Service** 9.00 am

### Next Week, Sunday, 31st

10.00 am

Andrew Tonkin

**Easter Sunday**

#### **Matthew 16: 13-18**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

# Loving God - Loving People

**GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL**

### *This Week*

Sunday	24th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.30 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7 FM
Monday	25th	11.00 am	Craft
		7.30 pm	Board Meeting
Tuesday	26th	5.30 pm	Adventure Club Picnic
Thursday	28th	12 noon	Meet And Eat
Friday	29th	9.00 am	Good Friday Service



# MARCH

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2013**

March	29	Good Friday
	31	Easter Sunday
April	2-5	PlanetShakers
	10	Mystery Bus Tour
	14	Hymn Singing
	20	Lane Sale

### **HEARTBEAT SUNRAYSIA**

*Would anyone be interested in joining this organization, dedicated in assisting our local community by way of a support group for cardiac patients and their families?*

*See the poster on the notice board.*

*Phone Lynette Black on 0417 135348*

### **EXAMINATION SUPERVISORS**

Latrobe University is currently looking at casual employment for Supervisors for the Semester 1 exam period to be held from 14th June to 5th July.

It pays about \$23 per hour.

Application forms are on the Notice Board and should be taken to Gail Ahearn at the La Trobe Campus by Monday, 8th April. Phone 5051 4002.

### **MEET AND EAT**

Join us on Thursday at 12 noon for a delicious lunch

At Jenny's Coffee

Lounge

At the Eighth

Street

end of the mall.

All welcome.



**Tuesday, 26th March**

**5.30 - 7.30 pm**

## ADVENTURE CLUB FAMILY PICNIC

**At Park for Play**

**In Eleventh Street**

**\$3 per person**

**Please bring a salad and  
finger food dessert**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20th**

# LANE SALE

**It's on again!  
Our Annual Trash and Treasure  
Fund-Raiser**

Search your cupboards and the shed for all  
those unwanted items you are storing  
Put them aside for collection/donating  
Books, furniture, electrical items in working  
condition, tools, kitchen ware, crockery, glass-  
ware, records, DVDs, linen, craft, fabric, art,  
toys, plants, jewellery , ornaments  
But No Televisions please!

**We also need your help during the  
week to set up, collect and price.**



**Friday, 29th March**

**At 9.00 am  
Followed by  
Hot Cross Buns  
Morning Tea**

**Easter Sunday**

**10 am**

**only**

*Easter*  
**SERVICES**

## **PLEDGES**

Today is Extend Celebration Sunday when the total pledges from everyone will be announced. What a great blessing for our Church to have so many committed members.

We have opened up a new Bank Account specifically for donations to the **Extend Program** for your convenience to Direct Deposit.

**Mildura Church of Christ**

NAB - BSB number 083764    Account Number 15423 4854

**DIRECT DEPOSITS- Church of Christ Mildura**

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



## Family News & Prayer



- \* Continue in prayer for Matthew Eaton, Claire Foster and Edith Giddings as they recover from surgery.
- \* Congratulations to Edna and Doug Clarke who are celebrating 60 years of marriage on Thursday, 28th March.
- \* Congratulations also to Jenny and Don Clarke who will have been married 40 years next Sunday, 31st March.

### **BAPTISM**

What a blessing it was to see Sean Huggan baptised on Sunday, 10th March. We welcome Sean into our fellowship along with his wife Paula and newborn son, Jobe.

Suzanna Adams is still looking for somewhere to store a small amount of furniture, for a small rent, while she travels. You can call Suzanne on 0400 887220 if you have a garage or shed you're not using at the moment and can help her out.

### **EGG CARTONS**

Samantha Armstrong is looking for egg cartons for craft work with the children. If you can help, please give them to Sam.



*Thank You*

*Lyn Potter received a lovely note from a visitor to our church in late February. Marion writes;*

*"We really appreciated sharing with the Mildura Church and sensing the love, joy and adventure that is there as future plans are considered - so VERY good, and you will be in my prayers."*

### **HYMNS OF PRAISE**



2.30 pm  
Sunday, 14th April  
Wesley Church

Come along and enjoy an afternoon of singing the good old hymns along with some special musical items.

Hosted by the  
Bible Society of Sunraysia  
Voluntary donation for Bibles for  
Rwanda

## Mission Update

In North Korea loyalty to and worship of the ruling Kim family is mandatory, as is acquiescence to the doctrine of *juche* (self-reliance.). The official website of North Korea states: "the *Juche* idea is based on the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything. It is the man-centred world outlook and also a political philosophy to materialise the independence of the popular masses..."

Consequently being a Christian is a serious political crime. Some 200,000 'criminals' are incarcerated in the secretive State's gulag, including tens of thousands of Christians. Possession of a Bible is punishable by public execution. To eliminate disloyal family lines, the regime's policy dictates that three generations of any dissident be incarcerated in concentration camps where starvation and gross cruelty ensure the death rate is kept high. It is almost beyond belief that this horrific reality could have endured for more than 60 years.

Refugee survivors such as Soon Ok Lee have testified that Christian prisoners are treated even more harshly than other political prisoners. As survivors' testimonies become available, the terrors of the North Korean gulag are exposed.

On Tuesday, 19th February, refugee survivors Shin Dong-Hyuk and Kang Chol-Hwan will headline the fifth annual Geneva Summit For Human Rights And Democracy. This event is organised by a coalition of some 20 non-government organisations headed by UN Watch. We must pray that their testimonies are widely reported and effective in raising awareness of this horror.

Shin Dong-Hyuk's testimony is unique as he is the only known surviving escapee from a North Korean 'total control zone' camp. Three generations of Shin's family had been incarcerated after the Korean War as punishment for his grandfather's and uncle's defections. Shin was born and raised in Camp 14. When he was about 22, Shin met a new prisoner, Park, who had been on the outside and even in China. Until then, Shin had been totally unaware that an alternative reality even existed. One day the starving pair decided to escape. Park died in the attempt, but Shin eventually found his way to China and subsequently to Sth Korea. His testimony of life in Camp 14 is absolutely shocking. He says perpetual starvation drives prisoners to hunt rats and insects for food. He recalls the public execution of his mother and brother, along with the torture meted out to him when he was 13.

When three generations of Kang Chol-hwan's family were incarcerated in 1977, he was only 9. Kang survived 10 years in Camp 15 at Yodok. His testimony is remarkably similar to Shin's, except that Kang was released in 1987 after his 'disloyal' grandparents died. Kang subsequently fled to China after being alerted that security police were coming to arrest him for listening to foreign radio broadcasts. Kang became a Christian in Sth Korea where he lives today working as a journalist and human rights advocate.

*Elizabeth Kendal, international religious liberty analyst and advocate.*