

10.00 am

Worship Leader J. Cole
Communion Leader R. Hawtin Prayer Leader H. Atkins
Children's Church J. Cooke
Singers R. Fox, R. Jackson
Band M. Burrow, R. Jemmeson, I. Fabich
Projector/ Sound D. Kelly / J. Armstrong
Officer on Duty B. Moritz
Welcome/Reception D. Shields / M. Butler
Helpers M. Straub, L. Biggs, H. Atkins, I. Cross, P. Leng,
L. Arnold, W. Whitehead, G. Diggle

Crèche J. Kelly
Cuppa N. Cook, K. Underwood
Communion Prep. A. Munro
Flowers / Cleaning R. Hawtin, P. Leng
Grounds B. Eaton, G. Hughes

6.00 pm

Worship Leader J. Cole
Communion Leader M. Waters
Singers S. Armstrong, M. Burrow
Band A. Alabaster, M. Gardener, J. Waters, B. Kiley, I. Stewart
Project / Sound J. Cole? / P. Norris
Officer on Duty J. Kelly
Reception G. Muller
Crèche ?

Next Week 22nd December

A. Tonkin

J. Cole

R. Hawtin Prayer Leader H. Atkins

J. Cooke

R. Fox, R. Jackson

M. Burrow, R. Jemmeson, I. Fabich

D. Kelly / J. Armstrong

B. Moritz

D. Shields / M. Butler

M. Straub, L. Biggs, H. Atkins, I. Cross, P. Leng,
L. Arnold, W. Whitehead, G. Diggle

J. Kelly

N. Cook, K. Underwood

A. Munro

R. Hawtin, P. Leng

B. Eaton, G. Hughes

A. Tonkin

J. Cole

M. Waters

S. Armstrong, M. Burrow

A. Alabaster, M. Gardener, J. Waters, B. Kiley, I. Stewart

J. Cole? / P. Norris

J. Kelly

G. Muller

?

Nativity Fire

A rural Southern church in the US began the lovely Christmas tradition of staging a Living Nativity scene on the front lawn. A visitor driving through town stopped and admired the performance, but one feature troubled him. The three wise men were carrying fire-hoses, and they wore fire helmets. Unable to come up with an explanation on his own, the tourist went to one of the church members who stood by.

"Why the fire hoses and helmets on the three wise men?" he asked. The church lady shook her head in disgust and replied, "You Yankees never do read the Bible!" She pulled her Bible out from under her arm and rifled through the pages, finally jabbing her finger at one particular passage. Putting the Good Book right up in his face she said, "See, Yankee, it says right here, 'The three wise men came from afar...'"



Mainstream

ILDURA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Office:
Cnr Deakin Ave.
& Tenth St.
Box 2797
MILDURA
3502
Ph. 5023 1201

Minister:
Andrew Tonkin

15th December, 2013

Last week we had two funerals in the Church. Tomorrow I am conducting another funeral at the Nichols Point Cemetery. That makes it three funerals in five days. With less than two weeks until Christmas it just doesn't seem fair that people should be burying their loved ones.

But this is why Jesus came on that very first Christmas. Sin had brought with it the penalty of death. Right in the beginning God said to Adam and Eve that if they ate the fruit of the forbidden tree then they would surely die. The serpent tried to convince Adam and Eve that they would not die but they would become like God. Adam and Eve gave in to the serpent's temptations and death has been with us ever since.

Jesus came as the remedy of sin and death. The Bible says that there can be no forgiveness without the shedding of blood. That is how serious God takes sin. So Jesus came as the perfect sacrifice. He gave his perfect and sinless life as a sacrifice for all mankind.

In **JOHN 11:25-26** Jesus says, "*I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. They are given eternal life for believing in me and will never perish.*"

Take note that Jesus doesn't just give us life, he IS life.

Jesus then went on to say, "*Do you believe this?*"

It is a question that has thundered down through the passage of all time. It is the most important question you will ever answer. "Do you believe in Jesus?" Physical death will come to each and every one of us. But as Jesus said, every one who believes in him will live again. If you have never made the conscious decision to believe in Jesus then do it today. Speak to me or to a trusted Christian friend and tell them that you have decided to believe in Jesus and receive the gift of eternal life. It is the greatest decision a person can ever make.

ANDREW

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 15th December

10.00am Christian Union Team
Steve Blyth
Worship Leader Beth Giddings
Communion Leader Joel Thomas

6.00 pm *Carols by Candlelight*
No Church Service here

Next Week, Sunday, 22nd December

10.00 am Andrew Tonkin
&
6.00 pm Christmas

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

**Presented by Mildura District Chaplaincy
At Nowingi Place**

Sunday, December 15th

Program commences at 7.15 pm

Food and drinks available from 6.00 pm.



Loving God - Loving People

GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL

This Week

Sunday	15th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.15 pm	Carols by Candlelight
		7.30 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7FM
Monday	16th	10.15 am	Aged Care Service
		7.30 pm	Peanut Pal Night
Wednesday	18th	6.30 pm	FAFFS
Thursday	19th	7.30 pm	Admin Committee



DECEMBER

PEANUT PAL

Tomorrow night, Monday, the 16th, is the night we find out who our Peanut Pal has been for the last year. As usual, please bring a small gift for your Peanut Pal and a small plate of supper. We would also ask for a gold coin donation for the Kmart Christmas Tree.

If you haven't returned your new information, or haven't contacted Robyn to tell her you don't want to continue, you need to do that today. If you are new to our church family and a lady and would like to know more about how you can be a part of caring for another lady in the church for a year, then please see Robyn.

FAFFS

Christmas Get-Together

**Wednesday, 18th December
6.30 pm**

**Blue Salt Restaurant
Langtree Avenue**



Please reply to
Auralie
today thanks

Max Lucado's

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

A beautiful new Christmas film that is in the cinemas now.

It is based on Max Lucado's book and set in the English countryside in a small town called Gladbury.

Showing at the local cinema:

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
at 4.20 pm.



Eddi's Service

(A.D. 687)

Eddi, priest of St. Wilfrid, in his chapel at Manhood End,
Ordered a midnight service for such as cared to attend.
But the Saxons weren't keeping Christmas, and the night was
stormy as well.
Nobody came to service, though Eddi rang the bell.

'Wicked weather for walking', said Eddi of Manhood End.
'But I must go on with the service for such as care to attend.'
The altar lamps were lighted, - an old marsh donkey came,
Bold as a guest invited, and stared at the guttering flame.

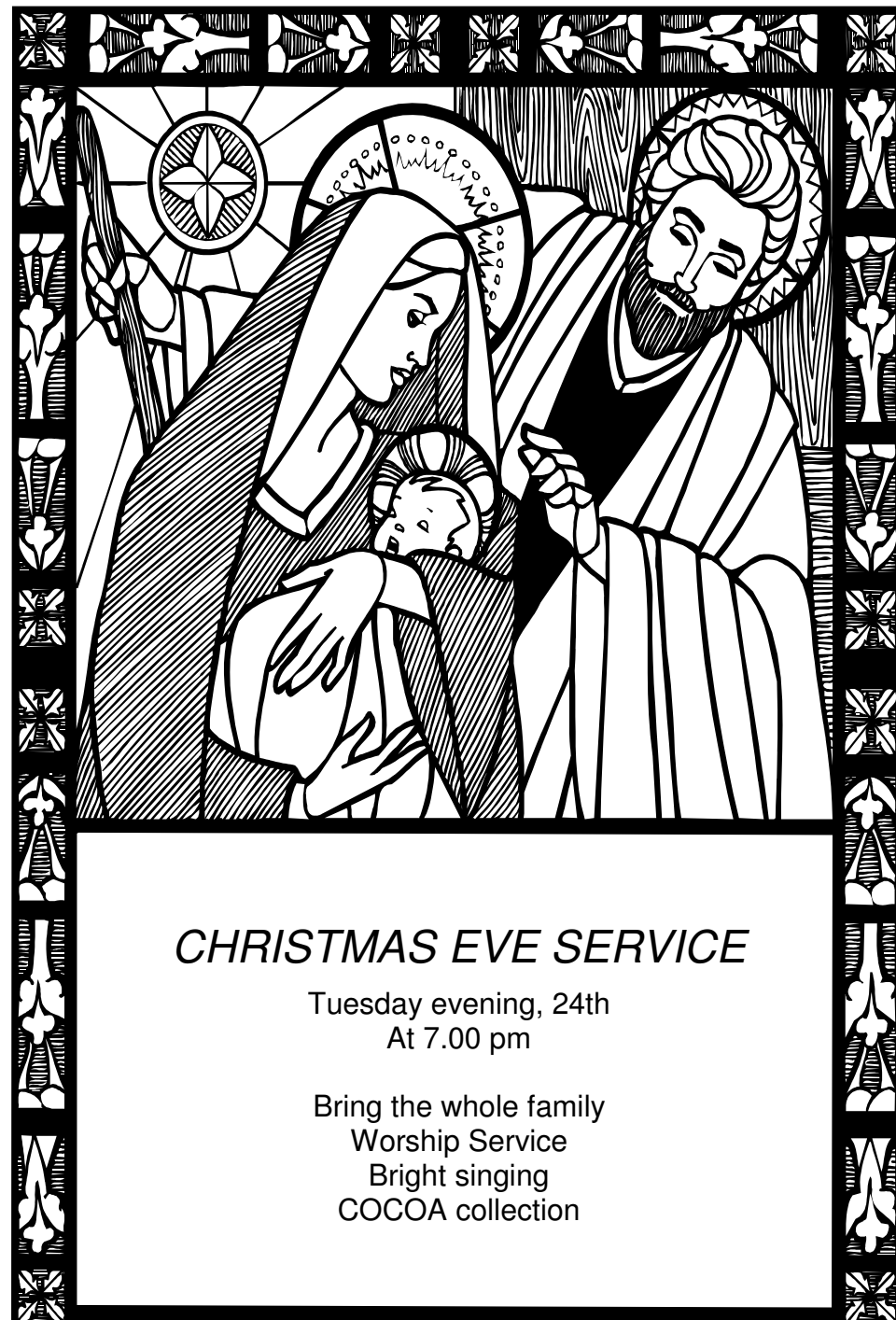
The storm beat on at the windows, the water splashed on the floor,
And a wet, yoke-weary bullock pushed in through the open door.
'How do I know what is greatest, how do I know what is least?
That is my Father's business,' Said Eddi, Wilfrid's priest.

'But - three are gathered together - Listen to me and attend.
I bring good news, my brethren!' Said Eddi of Manhood End.
And he told the ox of a manger and a stall in Bethlehem,
And he spoke to the ass of a Rider, that rode to Bethlehem.

They steamed and dripped in the chancel, they listened and never
stirred,
While, just as though they were bishops, Eddi preached them the
Word.

'Til the gale blew off on the marshes and the windows showed the
day,
And the ox and the ass together, wheeled and clattered away.

And when the Saxons mocked him, said Eddi of Manhood End,
'I dare not shut His Chapel on such as care to attend!'





Family News & Prayer



- * May is looking for a job. House-keeping, house-sitting, waitress, administrative work & computer, will teach basic computer skills. Please contact May on 5024 8845. Would consider packing work. If anyone knows of any work, please ring above number. Your help would be appreciated.
- * “Thank you for your cards, thoughts and prayers during our recent loss. Your support has been very much appreciated by our immediate and extended family. Peter and Jeanie Kelly”
- * Congratulations to Jean and Paul Booyesen who celebrate their 20th Wedding Anniversary on Wednesday, 18th December.
- * **Do you have Mail to collect? Please check the pigeon holes today.**
- * Please Note: If you have been hard at work mowing the church lawns, please do not put the clippings in the big bins. They are for re-cyclables only.



Free Christmas Day Lunch
12 - 2 pm



Christmas Day lunch is on again this year, and open to all who might be on their own for Christmas. Names can be placed on the sheet provided in the foyer. Please Take a ticket for each person you have written on the list.

There is also a sheet for anyone to place their name on, to help out or provide items for the lunch. Any financial assistance toward the cost of the meal would also be greatly appreciated.

RSVP: 19th December



The Dominic Chorale
Presents
MESSIAH
By
George F. Handel
Sunday, December 15th
at
St. Margaret's Anglican Church
At 3.00 pm
In memory of Rob Ford

COCOA **Churches of Christ Overseas Aid**

...provides development aid, including education and medical services, emergency relief and care for vulnerable children, assisting people to move from dependence to independence. By giving, we share with others our abundance and God's love and compassion.
Offerings for COCOA will be received at our Worship Service Christmas Eve. Offering envelopes will be in your Mainstream next week.

febc - Work Party *Christ to the World by Radio*

FEBC is putting together a work party to carry out vital maintenance and renovation on a rather run-down building in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The three-storey building is owned by a Christian couple who wish to use it for the glory of God. But it needs a lot of tender loving care to restore it to become serviceable for ministry.

It is planned that FEBC will take a work party of 10 practical persons including carpenter, plumber, electrician, tiler, plasterer, painter, handy person, cook & English tutor to work with some of the local people to assist in the work.

The scheduled dates will be from 26 April to 10 May, 2014. The cost is approx. \$3000 which includes airfares, visas, accommodation and meals. Gifts towards material costs would be most welcome.

Expressions of interest should be made to the FEBC office by 10 January. Email: office@febc.org.au or Phone; 1300 720 017