

Sunday, 16th March 2014

10.00 am

Worship Leader	J. Cole
Communion Leader	M. Waters
Children's Church	D. Homfray Prayer - R. Jackson
Singers	J. Cooke
Band	M. Cox, D. Shields, M. Cameron
Projector / Sound	M. Burrow, R. Jemmeson, N. Christian, R. Fox
Officer on Duty	C. Waters / B. Moritz
Welcome/Reception	K. Underwood
Helpers	R. Hawtin / J. Rosenberg
	C. Meade, N. Underwood, P. Duscher, volunteer,
	J. Wiffen, L. Arnold, I. Cross - reader, G. Beruldsen

Crèche	J. Kelly
Cuppa	P. Castleman, N. Cook, B. Summers
Communion Prep.	R. Hawtin
Flowers / Cleaning	M. Straub / J. Cole & W. Duke
Grounds	R. Barthelson & N. Underwood

6.00 pm

Worship Leader	J. Cole
Communion Leader	I. Fabich
Singers	R. Hawtin
Band	M. Gardner, A. Gray
Projector / Sound	C. Waters, R. Jemmeson, I. Fabich, E. Tonkin, J. Tonkin
Officer on Duty	C. Tonkin / B. Moritz
Reception	K. Underwood
Crèche	G. Muller
	J. Kelly

Turn about

A preacher who suffered extreme strained relations with his congregation was finally appointed chaplain at the state prison.

Elated to be rid of him so easily, the people came in great numbers to hear his farewell sermon. The preacher chose as his text John 14:3, "I go and prepare a place for you ... That where I am, there ye may be also."

Playing on Sunday

George's wife was worried about her husband playing golf on Sunday. She searched through her Bible for direction but could find nothing. Finally she went to her pastor. "Is it a sin for George to play golf on Sunday?"

To which the minister retorted, "It's not a sin, but the way he plays, it's a crime."



Mainstream

MILDURA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

Minister:
Andrew Tonkin

9th March, 2014

A very big welcome to everyone who in joining us for worship today, particularly for those who are enjoying a long weekend here in Mildura. Thank you for choosing to come along to the Mildura Church of Christ. I hope you feel right at home and very blessed for being here.

We are now six weeks into our sermon series on the Gospel of Mark, and today's message brings us to the well known story Jesus told, the Parable of the Sower.

There are many Bible stories that we have become very familiar with and the temptation is to skip over such stories, thinking that there is nothing new we can learn from them. But we need to remember that the Bible is not like any other book. The Bible is "alive and active" (Heb 4:12). These familiar stories that we have read and studied and heard preached from are able to speak to us afresh time and time and time again.

The Parable of the Sower is a story told by Jesus that continues to be a timeless one. Its message remains relevant to us through all stages of our life. It addresses changing attitudes, changing life stages, changing priorities and how those changes through life can alter the condition of the soil of our heart. A once healthy and fertile heart can slowly become congested with weeds. Circumstances can cause that once tender heart to become hardened. And in these times we need this familiar story from Jesus to speak afresh to us through the inspiration of God's Word

ANDREW TONKIN

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 9th March

10.00am

Andrew Tonkin
THE GOSPEL OF MARK
"The Sower"

Worship Leader
Communion Leader
Reading

Denis Ferrett
Craig Beasy
Mark 4: 1-20

6.00 pm

Andrew Tonkin
THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Worship Leader
Communion Leader

Joshua Cole
Robyn Hawtin

Next Week, Sunday, 16th March

10.00 am

Joshua Cole

&

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

6.00 pm

"Shine Your Light"

Mark 4: 1-9

Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: "Listen! A farmer went to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times. Then Jesus said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Loving God - Loving People

GODLY GENEROUS GENERATIONS GRACE GOSPEL

PRAYER WEEK This Week

Sunday	9th	9.30 am	Prayer
		7.30 pm	Ray on Radio 106.7FM
Monday	10th	10.00 am	B.I.G.
		11.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	11th	5.30 pm	Adventure Club
Friday	14th	7.30 pm	Youth Groups
Saturday	15th	8.30 am	Chaplaincy Breakfast
Sunday	16th	12 noon	New Comers' Lunch



Dates for your Diary

March	29	Prayer Retreat
April	5	Hall and Lane Sale
April	6	Hymn Singing
April	7, 9, 11	Children's Holiday Program
	18	Good Friday
	20	Easter Sunday

SHARE GROUP

"Re-Cycling"

Thursday, 20th March

Meet at the Re-Cycling Centre in Etiwanda Avenue at the old Sarnia building at 2 pm.

Please bring a plate of afternoon tea to share back at the church.

BLOKES INTO GOD

Monday March 10th -
Rehabilitating Pumps and Wetlands
Psyche Pumps and Wetland

Meet at Psyche Pumps

10 am - 2 pm, including bbq lunch-\$5

Gold coin donation to the Pumps.

A list is in the church Foyer, so please put your name down if you are coming.

CRAFT GROUP

Monday, March 10th at 11 am



Stamp It Up Card Making
with Sue Ferguson making
Easter Cards for the Library

CHAPLAINCY BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 15th at 8.30 am

Buffet Breakfast at the CheAli Restaurant at the Chaffey Motor Inn, 244 Deakin Avenue.

\$25 each

Guest Speaker is Glenn Arnott
"The Importance of Chaplains in Our Schools"

RSVP 10th March
to Robyn - 0433 033875

PEANUT PALS

Are you wondering who your Peanut Pal is this year? Have you had to ask someone to point her out and hope that who you are asking, isn't your Peanut Pal? We are having a 'Getting to Know You' Night for all the ladies in the church on Monday, 17th March. Please put your name on the list if you are coming.

INTRODUCING..

.Is a new segment in the newsletter. Each week in the Mainstream, we are hoping to introduce as many members to you as possible in order for us all to get to know one another better. Auralie will be asking everyone if she can take a photo of them and if you can provide a profile of yourself. Please assist by promptly writing up a short profile and handing it to her.

INTRODUCING...

Ian Cross

I have been working at Domino's for five years and work on the block when needed. I lived at Iraak until I was 17/18 years old before moving to Red Cliffs. I have now lived in, or around Mildura, since 1994.

I joined this church because they care about you. I like the service and the motto - Loving God, Loving People.



World's Greatest Shave

Saturday, March 15th

Emma Sturm is having her head shaved for leukaemia. You can sponsor her by clicking onto the sponsorship website worldsgreatestshave.com. Emma Sturm under the orange SPONSOR tab.

PRAYER RETREAT

Saturday, 29th March

9.30 am - 3.00 pm

Venue: Andrew & Kylie Tonkin's garden
7 Cyprus Ave, Merbein

*A day to come near to God
A day to quietly reflect on God's word
A time to listen to what God might say to you*

PRAYER CHAIN REVIEW

As a Prayer Committee, we are reviewing the Prayer Chain. If you are already on the Prayer Chain, will you please review your email address. If you wish to continue will you tick your name and check that your email address is correct. If you do not wish to continue, cross out your name and email address. For anyone who would like to become a part of this great ministry, would you add your name and email address to the list. If you would prefer the telephone, please add your name and telephone number. The lists are on the table in the foyer.

ENCOUNTER CAMP

Combined Church Youth

Groups' Camp

August 8th - 10th

Position Vacant for a Caterer
To provide 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches & 1
Dinner For 120 teenagers

See Josh Cole for details

HALL & LANE SALE

Saturday, 5th April

Start collecting those unwanted goods,
Clean out your cupboards and
the garage
But please, don't bring anything to the
church yet.
Collection day will be Thursday, 3rd April,

NEW COMERS' LUNCH

Sunday, March 16th

After the morning service

If you have been meeting with us regularly and would like to come and meet with the leaders and enjoy a fellowship meal, then you are invited to join us. Our Pastoral Care Deacon, Jeanie Kelly is waiting for your replies. Please return the slip of paper on the invitation to let us know if you are coming. Leaders are also encouraged to return their reply slips.

All welcome

Prayer Week

"Prayer is not an argument with God to persuade Him to move things our way, but an exercise by which we are enabled by His Spirit to move ourselves His way."

Leonard Ravenhill



Time to Pray

If you would like to pray with others the church is open

- Between 7 - 8 am Monday to Friday
- 1 pm Monday - Andrew present
- 1 pm Thursday - Diane present
- If you would prefer to spend time alone with God, the church is also open throughout the day Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

"Submit yourselves then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you."

James 4: 7-8a



Family News & Prayer



- * Dot, Heather, Rob and Gaye would like to pass on their most sincere thanks to everyone after the passing of Alwyn. We are humbled and sincerely appreciative of your cards, phone calls and words of comfort and condolence. We Praise God that He continues to uphold us with His incredible feeling of Peace and Thankfulness! Thank you also to those who provided the afternoon tea! May God bless each of you.
- * Welcome to Liam Wilson who has come to Mildura to reside permanently with his grand-mother Marianne. Please make him feel at home.
- * Be in prayer for Anne Eaton after her back surgery in Melbourne - for Bruce, and Matthew who has just had treatment in Adelaide, and for Tim who has been looking after himself at home.
- * Pray for Linda Burrow and family as Linda's mother, Marianne's grand-mother, has just been diagnosed with inoperable cancer. Pray that God will give Linda peace and strength to carry on her work in Bolivia as she is so far away from her mum in Melbourne.
- * Congratulations to Daniel Winderlich and Zoe Dixon who have announced their engagement.

HELPERS NEEDED

Children's Holiday Program
Monday, April 7th, Wednesday April 9th &
Friday, April 11th.

Put your name on the list if you are able
to assist with kitchen helping,
Working with children,
Setting up & packing up.
Come for the three days, one day or half
a day.
Your assistance would be great!



POSITIONS VACANT

For R. E. Classes
A helper in the lower
grades
And an emergency
teacher
Friday mornings 8.45 am to 9.15 am.
Commence at the
Ranfurly School
On Friday, 7th March
Training available.

YOUTH GROUPS

Friday Night 14th March

IGNITION - for years 5 - 8

Nerf War

Bring your nerf guns but leave your bullets home please.

7.30 - 10.30 late finish \$5

XLR8 - for years 9 -12

Multi-Colour Night

Come dressed brightly in multi-colours!

7.30 - 9.30 pm \$3

Mission Update

Metamorphosis - SIM - Ruth Perkins - Health training

I (am in) a routine of village visits again. We recommenced health and agriculture teaching this month. Teaching on 2 or 3 days each week however, is quite demanding in terms of preparation and also physical energy. Imagine a 100 km round trip, partly on bumpy, sandy bush tracks, sometimes twice a week. Add to that several hours of intense interaction with as many as 17 women, who have poor concentration, in a language not my own. I find it's quite emotionally draining on my introvert nature, and it's becoming more physically draining as I get older. Did you know I will celebrate 25 years in Niger this year?

Regardless of me now being in a routine of regular village visits it is still taking a while for the teaching program to get off the ground again. The women get out of routine and are busy doing other things - like a naming ceremony, or cooking for a wedding, or a trip to the market in another town - or they just forget to come, but gradually they are returning. Often it's a challenge to my creativity to know how to hold the women's attention and to help them understand and remember.

Sadly, there is only one remaining Christian woman here who comes (to services) faithfully and loves to hear the stories. Most of the men, including the chief, have fallen away under pressure from family members and others. It's a huge spiritual battle. Do pray! Life can be hard, but God is always good!

Pray for stamina as the hot season sets in - Creativity in teaching - Other potential staff