

Blackwood Church of Christ

The Weekly Messenger

8th March 2009

Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with God

The Web We Weave

Our fearless leader, Mark, has been developing websites for the church. No more just a notice board on the Internet but maybe something more fun, engaging, interesting and full of those weird technical names IT people use when they want to confuse you. Two websites Mark wants you to take a look at in order to get the idea of what is being done are www.shapingidentity.wordpress.com and of course www.mhicc.wordpress.com. Our world is moving fast and yet slow, and in order for us to slow it down enough for good things to be done we have to speed up, catch up to the technology to do so. Now that's weird. Speed up to go slow. Have a look - enjoy.

Chocky Eggs and Bilbies - low cal of course

Goolwa Oval Thursday 9th - Monday 13th of April. Come enjoy a relaxed Easter break with friends. Bring everything you need for camping (tent, food, etc). There is an expected camping cost of about \$50. Contact Greg Ratcliff for further details. There will be a Saturday evening meal, so please let Elisa Haynes know if you wish to attend this meal. This is always good value, so give it a go. Can't do the whole trip? Then maybe just arrange to spend Saturday with the gang -- it really is a hoot.

Let's Bump off Those Oleanders

This annual trip to the Flinders Ranges (Parachilna Gorge) is to undertake the systematic removal of Oleander bushes from our threatened native environment. There are two trips. Monday 27th April to Friday 8th of May and a second trip in September. Not only do some good in our world but enjoy the wonderful comradie and good food, all in some of the most amazing surroundings on Earth. Contact Greg Ratcliff, Charlie Shears, Murray Marker or Treveor Brettig if you want a trip of a lifetime.

Is it a Bird? Is it a Plane? No, it's ...wait for it

Unbeatable New Zealand Travel by the Flight Centre. There will be a NZ travel info night here at the church on Wednesday 25th March at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Refreshments provided. Please, don't come dressed as your favourite Lord of the Rings character unless you think it might enhance your evening. NZ is a wonderful place, you know you want to go.

A Celebration and Fond Farewell

On the 4th March at Park Rose Village, Maurie Keatch passed away peacefully. A celebration of his life as a long serving husband, father and minister was held on the 10th at Maylands Church of Christ. Maurie ministered in SA, Vic and NT. As our thoughts and prayers are with his family, may we also remember with fondness and joy a life of sharing.

A Ray of Light on the Hill

Thankyou for continuing to support the Beacon project with food and items. We are bringing giving and helping to our own front door and now looking after those struggling in our neighbourhoods. Neighbour looking after neighbour, just how society was designed to work.

News From Edda

In Gaza more than 1300 Palestinians were killed in the 23 day war, of which 410 were children and 104 women. The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees of the Middle East Council of Churches is using its health clinics to receive emergency cases as hospitals are overwhelmed by the casualties. Already 23 000 litres of milk and 230 000 high protein biscuits for children and mothers. Milk powder, 100 000 litres water and 9 000 blankets has been distributed. The delivery of these items is being coordinated by the United Nations. The COCOA International emergency aid partner "Action for Churches Together" has launched an appeal for Gaza.

Today's Reading Brought to You By:

The letter 'F'
and Ecc 3: 1-5 (re-run)
Mark 8: 31-38

May Day, May Day

Get to this event and enjoy the simple power of people. Convention 2009 will be held Monday 11th May to Saturday 16th May. Mark this year's convention in your diaries now. These get together are always informative, proactive, and dare I say it, fun.

Who Did Sing That Song?

Return 2009 season of *The Power of His Love*, a dramatic resurrection musical (I kid you not). This remarkable show runs from 28th/29th March and 4th/5th of April - 3pm/8pm at the Adelaide Congress Hall, 277 Pirie Street. Adults \$17, concession \$15 and children (14 and under) \$10. Group discounts available. On site parking. For bookings call 0431 937 851

Don't Bin it, Sell it at our Giant Garage Sale.

With the tentative date for early October in mind it is now time to squirrel away all those unwanted, but still good things, for the giant church garage sale.

Save up your stuff my dear people. A sale is coming so we want to make it a good one.

The Work of a Humble Can, Can Make a Difference

In 2000 Ken Collins decided to sponsor two young children in Zimbabwe, at the Khayelihle Children's Village near Baulawayo. These children were homeless due to their abandonment through economic hardships and HIV/AIDS. Since that early decision Ken has raised \$47 000 from collecting cans to support KCV. So far he has collected around 700 000 cans or, laid end to end, 50km of other people's throw aways. Ken's collecting of cans has contributed to the building of Australia House 2 at KCV, for which they are truly grateful. Ken simply hopes that his example inspires others to do such a simple thing and make a difference in God's world.

From the Wise Old One

These are actual typos from ecclesiastic notice sheets:

1. The sermon this morning is 'Jesus Walks on Water'. Tonight's sermon: 'Searching for Jesus'.
2. The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to conflict
3. For those who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Blokes' Breakfast

1st Saturday of the month at 7:30am

Sunday Roast

1st Sunday of the month after the Church service

Coffee 'n' Chat

1st Tuesday of the month from 10:30am at Cafe Primo

Women in Prayer

1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm

Sewing Group

3rd Tuesday of the month from 9am

Friendship Centre

Every Wednesday during school term from 1pm

Bookworms

Last Friday of the month from 1:30pm

The Secret Life of Bees -- I Wonder

This wonderful film will be screened at Wallis Mitcham Cinema on the 25th of March at 7:00pm as a Vietnam Fundraiser. See a movie, have some fun with popcorn, fruchocs and choc tops while supporting a mighty good cause. Please get tickets from Judy or Graham Thomas. Get them quick as well so this can be a big boost to the work these wonderful people are helping to achieve in this country.

Where Are All the People?

Where is all the people news? From time to time significant people news would also be good to have in our Messenger, but in doing so it is hoped that the news from each other isn't dependent on being in print. The best people news comes from the people themselves, where you can hear their voice, see their eyes, sadness or smiles. If you haven't seen someone in a while maybe pay them a visit, give them a call, let them know, 'Yes, someone cares'. See someone not as happy as usual? Then maybe drop round for a visit one day with a couple of chocolate muffins. It does wonders, and the muffins are good too. So, Where Are All the People? Standing right next to you.

New Faces Bring a Smile. And a Cuppa of Course

Welcome to visitors to the church, thank you for dropping in and sharing in the words of Jesus and the life of our church family. After the service please stay and have a chat with the people here, they are friendly, encouraging and very good listeners. Who knows, you just might make a new friend.

See a new face in the crowd? Why not buy them a cuppa and share a moment together?