

## Newsletter

9th May 2021

## Mother's Day

Dan Fennell will bring us the word this week.

### Some Prayers of the people

- Give thanks for all our Mothers who love and care for us. Remember those who are no longer with us but be thankful for the love and time we have had with them.
- Pray for those who are unwell, having tests and awaiting results that God's healing hand will be upon them. This can be a very stressful time when unwell.
- Please continue to pray for the countries of the world who are struggling with massive numbers of covid19 cases daily, in particular the desperate situation in India. Give thanks for our safe country.
- Give thanks for the successful completion of Samuel 1 by Dave and Lil Barnett and the team at Ernabella and the successful launch of the Pitjantjatjara hymn book. Pray for the continuing work of translation and the distribution of the Pitjantjatjara Bible in the APY lands.
- There are many who are coping with difficulties and really appreciate the support of the congregation with the "Tithe a tin Pray a packet" outreach, thank you.

### ➤ Prayer Chain

The church has a prayer chain for those who need prayer during an emergency or crisis, the Initial contact people are Julie Wylie (87623812) or Julie & Kevin Cooke (87620732, 0428620733). Please call the contact person and your prayer request will be forwarded on. We encourage you to share any answer to prayer that you feel you can to the prayer chain as encouragement to them.

## **Notices**

**Can you help with Crèche?** In recent years our church has had an influx of younger families. A creche was re-introduced as a way to bless those young mothers by giving them some time to enjoy being part of our service while knowing their children are being well cared for and safe. If you are able to help with the creche as part of our roster, can you please let Oriel know.

**Open Night:** Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm at the church

Speaker will be Dan Fennell.

Please bring a casserole or savoury plate to share, a sweet will be supplied.

**Tom Golding** will be speaking on Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> at 94 Woolwash lane Stewarts Range (Trevor Barnett's place)

BYO Bible and chair

9.30am Session 1 "Mt Sinai is our past".

10am morning tea

11am Session 2 "The New Covenant is our Present".

12.30pm Lunch BBQ lunch meat supplied please bring a salad or dessert

2pm Session 3 "Mount Zion is our Future".

3pm afternoon tea

**RSVP** May 10<sup>th</sup> to Trevor (0407390565) or Sue (0473201347)

## **Marriage Course**

We will be holding the Marriage Course in June.

The updated Marriage Course has new teaching content, creative short films, global stories, and expert insights –hosted by Nicky & Sila Lee.

### **7 episodes of the Marriage Course:**

- Strengthening Connection
- The Art of Communication
- Resolving Conflict
- The Power of Forgiveness
- The Impact of Family
- Good Sex
- Love in Action

We are looking to hold this over 7 Thursday evenings in Wesley Hall. Meal and refreshments included.

Attached is a link to a short video giving an introduction to this course:

<https://youtu.be/qba2wYpXgUs>

Contact Andrew 0417 811 773, Simone 0425 809 760 or Robbie 0455 663 556

**Name tags:** As our congregation is growing, please wear your name tags as this will help people get to know each other and also help with remembering names. Please let Lois or Teresa know if anyone requires a name tag.

If you have any notices or news,  
please share so we may celebrate with you or offer support in any way.

## Mid-Week Bible reading

### Psalm 98

#### A psalm.

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things;  
his right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.
- <sup>2</sup> The Lord has made his salvation known  
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
- <sup>3</sup> He has remembered his love  
and his faithfulness to Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.
- <sup>4</sup> Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,  
burst into jubilant song with music;
- <sup>5</sup> make music to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the sound of singing,
- <sup>6</sup> with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—  
shout for joy before the Lord, the King.
- <sup>7</sup> Let the sea resound, and everything in it,  
the world, and all who live in it.
- <sup>8</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands,  
let the mountains sing together for joy;
- <sup>9</sup> let them sing before the Lord,  
for he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world in righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

This Psalm makes the point that when God's judgement is made at the end of this age it will be a very good thing, a time for celebration, a time of joy and a time to sing a new song.

God's justice, while overwhelming and complete is not something to be feared, because God's judgment will be a time of restorative justice, a time when bad things are reversed, when God will be "making everything new" (Rev 21: 5) when "He will wipe every tear from their eyes and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Rev 21:4).

It will be a time when God "will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm —my great army that I sent among you."

God's justice is not something for a Christian to fear. On the contrary when all wrongs are made right, when God's righteousness is established across the whole world, when all tyrants are defeated and God's peace reigns then this is something that all God's people will welcome with joy.

The "new song" will be the response of this new creation and the whole of creation will sing it. The Psalmist tells us that God's people (Israel) will sing it first because: "He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel". He promised to save his people and He is faithful to that promise. Jesus, the cross, resurrection, and new life, are together God's answer to that promise. But it doesn't stop there. The exuberant joy resonates across the whole world because He comes to judge the whole earth.

Justice and righteousness will be universally experienced. He has "revealed his righteousness to the nations" and "He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity". And we should expect that God's justice will be perfect justice and far more fair and equitable and just than any human justice given in any human court. Again, this will be welcome, not only by all who live in the world, but by the whole earth itself:

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

<sup>8</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;

<sup>9</sup> let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

The Psalmist writes about the future as if it is already a reality and this work of God calls for a response - "Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvellous things".

That's the reality. Christ's work is finished, and we live each day in sure expectation of the coming of the King. We are part of that new song.

Andrew