

18th July, 2010

KEEPING THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING

1 Corinthians 3:1-23

There are lots of things about scuba diving that I love. Everything from the smell of neoprene in the morning to the feeling of weightlessness as you hover in the water column, and the persistent pinging sound of cleaning shrimp at work.

I just love a good cleaning station. It might be in a rock overhang, on a rock ledge, or even in an old tyre. Cleaning shrimp perform their tireless service to everyone who turns up. I've seen massive fish, small fish, fish that are natural predators and fish that would happily otherwise consume shrimp turning up to placidly have a little therapeutic grooming as the shrimp snip away algae and a range of opportunistic parasites that would otherwise eventually end their host's life. And yes they will even tenderly work over a divers glove or facemask. It's a friendly place of unexpected grace.

A reef is a complex community at work and except for the obvious need for periodic nourishment, all of these forms of ocean life somehow contribute to each other

co-operatively, to
express a
whole

universe of wonder.

That's why I love the cleaning station. It represents an expression of unity for the purpose of health.

The natural world, despite its need to feed, does reflect the deepest spiritual character of God and that is the character of unity through mutuality.

The trinity, as hard as it is to understand, is the relational hope of God, and every healthy system in the universe I suspect reflects at least something of this divine miracle and delight.

At the very least you would expect a community of faith to reflect this, but as Paul considers the emerging ethos and story of the small, young and alone community of Christ in Corinth, he notices the flaw of humanity pressing into the fabric of spiritual community and distorting all of the hope that is within Christ. Selfishness, power, pride, arrogance and favouritism all begin to manifest themselves as sign of a deep spiritual disorder.

If a cleaning station out on a reef began to run on similar tracks then the fundamental foundation of health would be gone. When a church loses grace, mercy, forgiveness, hope and humility then it actually ceases to be a body of Christ.

John Sharpe

Welcome to Ringwood. A church committed to growing a healthy community through attention to the purposes of God and service to the wider world. Dedicated to growing disciples through encouraging gifts, equipping and sending.

WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Worship Leading: Greg Carroll
Song Leading: Virginia Broadbent
Preaching: John Sharpe

NIGHT Church - 6.00pm
'Transitions'
Linda will be preaching.

A Noodle Box Led Recovery TODAY

End of financial year Noodle Box cascade —
Bring your Noodle Box of loose coins.
If you don't yet have your Noodle Box, or you want another one,
please collect one from the table near the pigeon holes.



SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING TODAY

A special meeting is being held following the 10am service **today**. This will be an opportunity to consider the forward estimates and ramifications of the budget.

The results of the Ballot for the election of the Secretary and Treasurer will also be announced.

Grow Group Leaders Training - TODAY **Sunday July 18th - After church - 12.00-2.00pm** **Topic: Resources**

This event is for all Grow Group Leaders, co-leaders or those commencing a new group in the near future. The focus is on resources and we will be sharing with each other resources we have found really helpful over a soup and roll lunch. We will then be learning how to use an online page through our church's online database to access resources and to network with each other. This will be a very practical training event where we can learn from each other and discover some new tools.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Current Financial Position

June 2010

Income	\$50,929.40
Expenses	\$54,838.69

Please note: We are only paying interest on our mortgage.

SHAKING THE WORLD: PRAYER ACTION

- Pray for Amy Nettelbeck and Ash Newnham as they prepare to head back to Thailand and the ongoing work with UNOH at Rom Gow.
- Pray for other families and individuals in the church who are considering mission exposure trips or long term mission to a variety of settings over the next couple of years.
- Continue to pray for those in the church who are actively involved in mission organization. Particularly for the Willets, the Allred's, the Breen's and the Sonsies (Trish and John).
- Pray for Tim and Yvonne Allred as they look forward to the birth of their first child in the next few weeks. Pray for good health and wellbeing and a safe delivery.
- Pray for the Young Adults who have been away on camp over the weekend. Pray for the ongoing support, nurture and network development of this hard-working cohort of people. Continue to pray for Glen Coleman in his area of Ministry development.
- Uphold those who are currently in seasons of transition. Pray for those actively weighing up new areas of work or those considering changes in their career orientation and God's purpose.
- Pray for the ongoing seeds of faith sown through the holiday program and other key mission events in the life of the church.
- Pray for our forward sense of momentum in leadership and decisions over property, etc as we continue to press into God's call and ongoing purpose for this unique spiritual community.
- Pray for Judith Sonsie and her family on the sudden passing of Judith's only sibling Tony.
- Continue to uphold Margaret Hall as she adjusts to a new life after caring for her dad for so long. Pray for new interests and a delight in the opportunities in front of her.
- Pray for others who are still experiencing significant grief in the loss of loved ones. Pray particularly for Bev Moten.
- Continue to pray for God's provision for the ongoing leadership and development of our 'Little Stars' playgroup community. Give thanks for an emerging leadership base that will take us to the end of the year and pray pre-emptively for 2011. This is a very strong area of community contact with strong links into several areas of the life of the church. It is a significant part of our mission strategy.

NEW ROSTERS

New rosters are now available for collection in the pigeonholes. Please collect yours today.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY -
See Breaking Waves Training Institute Item

Farewell and special Morning Tea for Michael and Wendy Kavanagh:
Sunday, July 25th at 10.00am.

We will take the opportunity to acknowledge and give thanks for the significant contribution that Michael and Wendy have made to Ringwood over their time here, particularly for Wendy's leadership of 'Little Stars' playgroup and to bless them as they move to Ballarat.

Please bring a plate of morning tea to share.

SUNDAY ROAST

The next Sunday Roast will be on **Sunday, 25th July**, immediately following the morning service. This is for any of our **seniors** or **singles** who may live alone and rarely cook a roast dinner for themselves. Only \$10.00 for a two course roast.



Please put your name on the Response Sheet on the Noticeboard.

RINGWOOD KIDS LEADERS COFFEE AND DESSERT NIGHT



When: Thursday 29th July
Time: 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Where: The Underground Station Room

This training night is for any leaders involved in Children's Ministry programs at Ringwood.

RSVP to the office by Tuesday 27th July for catering purposes.

Nursing Home Volunteers Training

'The Master's Call'

If you are, or want to be, a volunteer in a Nursing Home and want to make a difference in the lives of those living there, then sign up for a training day run by Maroon-dah City Church.

When: **Saturday July 31st, 10.00 am – 3.00pm.**
Cost: \$20.00 which includes morning tea and lunch.
Where: MCC, 320-340 Wonga Rd, Warranwood

If you would like more info about the speakers and topics being covered or a registration form, please see Libby Murray.

Baptism and New Membership Sunday: August 1st

We have set aside the first Sunday of August to celebrate Baptism and the prayerful celebration of those who are being welcomed into membership.

If you have made a decision of faith or seeking a conversation about membership please contact any of the Elders, ministry team of the office.

DIARY DATE:

TRIVIA NIGHT

It's on again ... Trivia Night 2010 – August 21st.

Time to book the date in the diary, and think about who you might invite.



Thank You

Thank you ...

To all that prayed for me, visited me, sent cards and supported me in my recent hospitalization I thank you so much. It really does help through these times. I am now feeling hugely better and hope to see you all more often in the future.

With love and appreciation ... Anne Darbyshire

Thank you ...

Jenny and Doug Bonsor wanted to pass on their sincere thanks for your love and prayers, care and concern, cards, and flowers on the recent death of Jenny's mum, Dorothy Maxwell.

YOUTH NEWS

Thursday Night at 7.00pm

Youth Band - The band is open to all youth wanting to express their gifts of music. The plan is to meet every week during school term.

YOUNG ADULTS: Choose Your Own Adventure Series

Ver 2.0

The first 4 Tuesday nights in August we will be holding the CYOA series. Themes will be finalized soon, so watch this space. This will be our last major study event for the year so lock these 4 weeks away now and plan to be there. Sign up sheets will appear in the foyer towards the second half of July.



**BREAKING WAVES
TRAINING INSTITUTE:
An Education Ministry of
Ringwood Church of Christ**

WEDNESDAY BIBLE

STUDY - Theme

this Term:

Philippians - A New Attitude for Life

This Bible study is open to anyone who is available on Wednesday afternoon. It is an interactive study designed for a variety of levels of exposure to scripture from the seeker to long term believer. It is an inductive learning environment focusing on the questions that emerge from our reading.

An overview of the history, culture, socio-political back ground and other pertinent information is given to extend the full grasp of the Bible in context. Typically participants discover a greater depth in their Biblical reading and a heightened level of personal application.

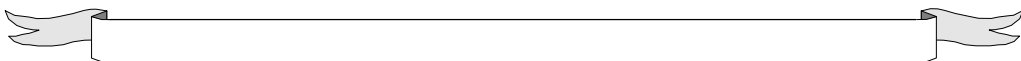
Philippians: Philippi is the first place in Europe where the gospel was preached. The first convert, Lydia, as exhibited by her conduct in offering her house and hospitality to Paul and his entourage, was a generous and kind woman, and her actions set the tone of generosity for this church. In this text you will find a rich spirituality of generosity, perseverance and joy in the face of adversity and persecution.

DADS AND SONS: GROWING HEALTHY SEXUALITY
2 nights: Monday August 9th and Monday August 16th:
7.30pm- 9pm

A short course designed for teenage boys and their dads. We realize that some boys do not have male role models at home for various reasons and they are welcome to attend.

This course will provide insight and helpful pathways for the development of a healthy expression of sexuality in a world dominated by sexualized images and often unhelpful expressions of relationship formation. This 2 night seminar will provide processes for good healthy practice into the young adult years.

Cost: \$5 students \$20 for others to cover photocopying and supper.
Sign up via the office: office@ringwoodchurch.org.au or on the sign up



Well there's good news and then there's a challenge!

As Wendy and Michael Kavanagh prepare to move to Ballarat we are actively seeking to secure the ongoing work of the 'Little Stars' play group ministry. This has become a vital and fruitful part of our community ministry focus under Wendy's inspirational direction.

We are hoping that we might discover in God's gifted people resources of the church one, two, or three people who might form an active coordinating presence. Currently there are 3 sessions over the week - each session runs for 2 hours (with obviously more time needed for setting up the activities, etc). Talk to either of us ASAP and pray!

John Sharpe and Linda Mill

Embrace Conference for Women -

Take some time out to embrace all that God has created you to be and to do ... A time of inspiration, learning and affirmation for all women to come and share, to be encouraged, renewed and equipped to serve God and others better! Helen Meyer and Nicole Connor are keynote speakers, and there is a wonderful range of workshops available. "Embrace" Women's Conference, One Community Church of Christ Blackburn, 27th and 28th of August 2010. See the Church mailout table for registration forms, or check out www.missionandministry.com.au/

Prayer Meeting:

An informal time of prayer for the Church on Saturday mornings, between 7.00am – 9.00am in the Chapel. Please come and go as you are able. For more information, please be in touch with John Sonsie.
Phone 8802-0636.

Congratulations to Stephen Devenish and Ruth Davis on their recent engagement. Please pray for them as they consider their lives together and discern the purposes of God.

**“Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can.
o all the people you can. As long as ever you can.”**

John Wesley

To order copies of the **sermon on CD**, please find an order form in the attendance register. Leave in the register and these will be processed and available, usually within one week. If you would like to offer a donation to this ministry, please place this in the offering bowl.



Birthday Greetings - July

Tuesday	20th	Chloe Sinnatt, Ern Darbyshire, Libby Murray
Wednesday	21st	Sam Punithan
Thursday	22nd	Georgia Wilkins, John Bilsborrow
Friday	23rd	Sinead Lumsden
Sunday	25th	Robert Cutler, Nicholas Graham-Prowse

Next Week - 25th July, 2010

KEEPING THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING - WEEK 3 1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-33

Speaker:	John Sharpe
Worship/communion:	Libby Murray
Song Leader:	Penny Galbraith
Bible Reading:	Joel Smith
Communion Helpers:	Geoff Clarke, Janice & Guy Smallwood, Doc Wallace, Barbara Harrison, Belinda Carter, Maureen Spencer
Band:	Dave Wilkins, Dan Graham-Prowse, Justin Smallwood, Andrew Whitby, Craig Broadbent, Sue Green, Ian Hughes
Singers:	Julie Waterhouse, Kathy Alsop, Jon Fraser
Audio:	Stewart Drummond
Projection:	Julie Drummond
Morning Tea:	Fran & Graeme Collings
Communion Preparation:	Rhonda Aspinall
Flowers:	Gwenda Emerson
Welcome :	Kath & Patrick Vittle, Val & Peter Mickleson
Creche:	Bonsor, Humphris
Offering Counters:	Stewart Drummond, Russell Cheal
NIGHT CHURCH:	CAFÉ NINEVEH
	Speaker: Amalie Walker Leader:

**Op Shop: Wednesday/Thursday
(10.00am - 3.00pm)**

**Oasis Meals: - Thursday
(12 midday)**

NOTICEBOARDS:

- 'Sacred Garden: A Christians response to caring for the earth'. July 28th, Aug 4th and 11th.
- Netball players needed for a daytime comp: see general noticeboard
- Help required for catering at Swanston St. Church of Christ - see general board.

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8.30am Communion/Study

10.00am Worship

4.00pm Rahab's Room

6.00pm Evening