

27th June, 2010

GOD'S MISSION FINDS A CHURCH

Week Four: Acts 8:26-40

If you ever get the chance opportunity to hear Professor Graeme Clarke and the history of the bionic ear then grab it! Graeme, a committed Christian tells the amazing story in his own humble way of his own life journey; what inspired him to commence research into the project and the 11 long years of difficulty before the first implant occurred. He finishes his presentation with a video of a little girl and the expressions of joy and delight on her face as she hears for the first time. Those of us blessed with good eyesight, hearing and speech could never even begin to imagine the difference that such technology can bring to a person's life.

These thoughts swirl through my mind as I read Acts 8. This chapter is, in its own way, an expression and a celebration of communication - hearing, understanding and responding to the call of God on our lives. Two individuals who in a normal lifetime would never have crossed paths with each other are brought together by

the Spirit of God in this remarkable story.

One individual is familiar with the voice of the Lord – having journeyed with Jesus as a disciple for over three years. He is in step with the Spirit and there is an immediate obedient response as the unseen word speaks into his heart. On the other hand no audible voice is heard and it's the written word that has made a home for itself in the second individual. This man a high government official has a thirst for God that has not been satiated in Jerusalem. Who are the scriptures talking about? Where can he find answers? The two individuals make a connection and the third word – the spoken word comes into play. The apostle explains Isaiah and points the official to Jesus. His response to the message is to embrace it joyfully as expressed in baptism.

Acts 8 gives us positive direction in mission. It reaffirms the part that we as followers of Jesus both individually and collectively are called to play. Living daily in step with His Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26), allowing His written Word to transform us (Colossians 3.16) provides the incentive and power to share the greatest story ever told.

Noel Morley

Welcome to Ringwood. We are an ordinary group of people motivated and inspired by an extraordinary God. We work with people as they are – not as we would like them to be and ... we celebrate our multigenerational community and recognize the wisdom that comes from every age group. We are in this together.

WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Worship Leading: Morley Group
Song Leading: Ken Morton
Preaching: Noel Morley

NIGHT Church - 6.00pm
CAFÉ NINEVEH - Leng Te
Visiting Artist

SPECIAL COMMUNION SERVICE

There will be a special Communion Service on **Monday, 5th July**. This is a service specifically designed for people who cannot make regular Sunday worship, and particularly those who may be frail aged, or find crowds difficult. The service goes for approximately 45 minutes and is followed by a light luncheon.



A Noodle Box Led Recovery....

End of financial year Noodle Box cascade — **First Sunday of Term 3—July 18th**
Bring your Noodle Box of loose coins.

Special Business Meeting Sunday July 18th : Forward notice

A special meeting is being called for Sunday July 18th following the 10am service. This will be an opportunity to consider the forward estimates and ramifications of the budget. More information will be provided next week.

Nominations are also called for the positions of **Secretary** and **Treasurer**. Nominations forms are available on request from the Church office. Nominees and nominators must be church members. Voting will be conducted over two weeks prior to the Special meeting. **Nominations will close TODAY.**

Prayer Meeting:

An informal time of prayer for the Church on Saturday mornings. This meeting will start next Saturday morning 12th June, 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.

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.

SHAKING THE WORLD: PRAYER ACTION

- Please be in prayer for those who will be grieving the loss of family members. Remember Jenny Bonsor and the family, on the death of Jenny's mum last week. Also Rosemary Davies on the death of Rosemary's dad, also last week. Pray too, for Stan Medved and his family, (past members, loved and remembered by many at Ringwood) as Stan returned to Sydney just recently to be with his mother and family on the death of his Dad.
- Continue to pray for Bert Hall and his family. At the time of printing Bert is still alive, but unconscious and slowly passing away. When I visited him this morning (John on Thursday) he is well cared for, peaceful but clearly getting toward the end. Bert has been a long term member at Ringwood and significant in his faithfulness, sense of calm order and sound wisdom. He has always been a 'walking man' relying on his feet and public transport. The vision in my mind this morning was simply of he and Gwen holding hands and walking together in the beautiful eternity of the Lord.
- Please give thanks for the safe arrival of a healthy baby girl, Taylor Sophie to Sam and Stacey Prince. A new great granddaughter for Gwenda Emerson.
- Pray for those who are currently wading through difficult transitions and life decisions. Pray specifically for those confronted with major decisions of transition.
- Give thanks for our ongoing relationship with the Chin-Burmese church. Pray for Pastor David and John as they work together on an upcoming wedding in the Burmese community.
- Uphold those who are significantly challenged by a lack of work at present. Pray for the protection of their sense of self-esteem, and confidence and for the Lord's providence.
- Pray for the Lord's protection over the church. For the health of our people and their families, for confidence in a changing world and for direction and provision.
- Pray for our government as there is significant reconfiguring in the change of Prime Minister. Pray for Julia Gillard as she steps into a new role and for parliamentarians of all parties as the nation continues to seek direction in its ethical, moral and spiritual foundations particularly in relation to justice, mercy and environmental stewardship.
- Give thanks for all the work that has gone into the 'Rocky's Plaice' Holiday program. Pray for the positive impact of the week on the lives of all participants.

Prayer at Ringwood Church of Christ

ELDERS Saturday Prayer - The elders pray each Saturday morning from 8-9am. If you need particularly focused prayer please contact John Sharpe or Noel Morley to arrange a suitable time. We take prayer seriously and always welcome any request for prayer after services - or during the week.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Will resume next term.

STATE YOUTH GAMES - 2010

A massive thank you to the entire team of SYG, leaders, cooks, parents, youth and support crew.

The whole event was awesome! I'm especially proud of our youth and leaders for winning the 2010 award for the church that best encompassed the spirit of the games. We also finished 3rd overall, our best finish so far.

There is still some property from SYG that needs to be picked up so please contact the office ASAP if you need to pick up your gear.

Again thanks to all of you for making SYG the best event possible and I can't wait until next year.

Brian

RINGWOOD WELCOME CENTRE

We're looking for a fresh group of volunteers for the Christian Welcome Center at Ringwood Library. This is an outreach ministry established by local churches that has been running for 15 years ... it is a remarkably long term ministry which seeks to provide a listening ear and support to people. The Welcome Center is open during the week.

Any interested people should contact John Sharpe

Offering Envelopes:

These have been changed to commence from July 1st, 2010 instead of October. For those who have been using them this year, could you dispose of your remaining envelopes from this year and commence using the new ones from July 4th.



For those people who have numbered envelopes and those who have requested dated envelopes, there is a new set which has been set aside for you in your mailbox.

For those who would like to use dated envelopes there is a small supply set aside for you to take, on the mailout table (on the Bedford road side of the foyer).

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS: RAHAB'S ROOM FUNDRAISER

Once again this year I have Entertainment Books to sell. They cost \$65.00 but if used regularly can save you hundreds. If you would like to see a book before buying that is no problem. I will have some at the church office. Thank you for everyone in the past who has purchased a book from me. It makes for a very easy fundraiser for Rahab's Room, the money made helping to pay for activities.

Please contact Nicole White 9870 3448 or you can buy one from the church office.



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.

Young Adults Retreat

Exams over, semester break nearly over, what better thing to do than have a BOYS WEEKEND or GIRLS WEEKEND away down at Philip Island????

July 16 – 18, time to hang out and have fun, good food, good studies, good times!! Shannon Cheal will be hosting the girls, and Glen Coleman will host the boys.

Cost for accom. and food is \$40. To RSVP (by July 9) and for more details see Glen or email gleneth72@hotmail.com or phone 0414 524536

YOUNG ADULTS
Short Film Festival 2010

Theme: 'The Journey'...

Conditions: Your film should be short (surprise surprise!) around 5 minutes max (shorter is ok too). Each film should feature some sort of street signage somewhere in the footage. Feel free to film on anything you have – video camera, digital camera or even your phone. Also feel free to invite your mates to put an entry in.

Prizes: Some fun ones, but if we get a good response this year, we will look at making it bigger and better for next year!!

Closing date: July 20th

Screening date: TBA

So get thinking creatively and start filming...if you have any questions please talk to Glen Coleman.

Special Guest July 4th... Paul Cameron the CEO of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania will be preaching at the 10am service on July 4th.

This current preaching series: 'God's Mission finds and Church' has been a great opportunity to hear a number of different voices expressing their commitment to God's mission and their unique perspective on the opportunities and challenges of vital, active and fruitful mission.

Who are Global Mission Partners and what do they do?

Global Mission Partners is part of Churches of Christ in Australia, connecting churches with each other and overseas partners in mission. Linking people, churches and resources across nations.

GMP is involved in cross cultural mission through

- Evangelism
- Church Planting
- Bible Training
- Discipleship Development
- Literacy and Education
- Community Development
- Building Construction
- Supporting Medical Work
- Caring for Children in Developing Countries

CHURCHES OF CHRIST OVERSEAS AID (The overseas arm of Global Mission Partners) IS HAVING THEIR MID YEAR APPEAL

There are a couple of ways you might like to donate. On the mailout table you will find **COCOA Gift Catalogues** which you might like to take and use for gift giving, or there are some **Mid year appeal brochures** which you might like to take to make an offering.

[COCOA Mid-Year Appeal](#)

With the End of the Financial Year fast approaching you might like to take this opportunity to donate to the COCOA Mid-Year Appeal. All donations \$2 or more are tax deductible.

Our online donation facility has recently been upgraded to securely accept credit card donations. You might like to check it out! Go to: <http://www.inpartnership.org.au/>

Work that COCOA Australia (John and Lan Dean) are doing in Vietnam.

Mr. Tri, A Village leader from Vietnam writes:

Recently there has been a drought, but it didn't affect those in Hamlet 1 in Dong Tam Village and Hamlets 5 and 6 in Dong Tien Village, Dong Phu District. Since COCOA had supported the minority villages in the area with the Clean Water Program villagers were able to utilise this water for their daily activities. In previous years a national programme to provide clean water was considered by the government to help the people, but they only dug wells instead of drilling and the program was unsuccessful. We are sincerely grateful to COCOA Australia and John and Lan Dean. When they visit we have pleasure because they bring many new changes to our village. There are many new and better houses than before so that the face of the village has changed.

Also, we no longer see people carrying containers of water from different areas nearby, with the quantity of water getting less and less each time they return. It took a lot of our precious time and labour to carry water in the past, but now our life is more comfortable and it is easier on our farms for growing things. Our life is much easier and poverty is reduced because now we have a stable resource of water with which we can increase the production of our crops, our gardens and trees. We also have the assurance of better hygiene in our daily living activities. Once again, we sincerely thank COCOA Australia and the Deans. We hope you have everlasting good health so that you can come and visit us more often and support us with more

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

Our role in assisting other churches in the region:

Please pray for Glen Coleman, Noel Morley and Geoff Spratt as they preach at Montrose church of Christ over the next three weeks while their minister is on holidays. Give thanks for the people here who are so willing and able to serve in the wider Kingdom.

Vision and Mission:

We are a church that sees mission in everything we do. We are more than the 10am or 6 pm Sunday services. Everyday of the week we are engaged at some level in proclaiming Christ through word and action.

Whether its though Play Groups, Time Out (mums group), Oasis Meals, Op-Shop, Kids Hope, CRE, Youth group, The Shed, Pastoral care and support, Chaplaincy at Eastwood Primary, Discipleship development.... Invitational grow groups network or simple face to face encounters we are actively fulfilling our calling.

Every member of the ministry team is engaged in outreach, discipling and evangelism in its many forms. The team are part of the mission of the church and called to be a resource to recruit, disciple and release emerging leaders and effective Christians into the world at all age levels..

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 - June/July

Wednesday	30th	Trent Lewis, Wendy Rowlings
Thursday	1st	Sandi Holland
Friday	2nd	Graeme Wigney, Chris Madakumbura, Rhian Lumsden
Saturday	3rd	Edwina Privitera

Next Week - 4th July, 2010

GOD'S MISSION FINDS A CHURCH - WEEK 5

ACTS 10:1-23

Speaker:	Paul Cameron
Worship/communion:	Wendy & Tony Twining
Song Leader:	Annora Hummerston
Bible Reading:	Arleen Caubo
Communion Helpers:	Cath Rowntree, Julia Fullerton, Marg Nettelbeck, Sue & Anthony Tregenza, Suzanne & Allan Swan
Band:	Libby Meng, Ben Graham-Nellor, Justin Smallwood, Neil Fraser, Mark Roper, Ian Hughes
Singers:	Ben Hummerston, Debbie Roper, Sandi Holland
Audio:	Mark Nettelbeck
Projection:	Marg Goddard
Morning Tea:	Gwen Thomas, Linda Rowe
Communion Preparation:	Coralie Hughes
Flowers:	
Welcome :	Jenny Waack, Dorothy Birch, Gill & Phil Wright
Creche:	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Offering Counters:	Arthur Martin, Arleen Caubo
NIGHT CHURCH:	BIG COUCH 'When Shadows Grow - Supporting the Depressed Leader: John Sharpe

Op Shop: Wednesday/Thursday
(Returns 7th July)

Oasis Meals: -
(In recess for holidays)

NOTICEBOARDS:

- 'Sacred Garden: A Christians response to caring for the earth'. July 28th, Aug 4th and 11th.

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

8.30am Communion/Study

10.00am Worship

4.00pm Rahab's Room

6.00pm Evening