



# the beacon

ELIZABETH CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025



a beacon of hope

## THIS WEEK

### Monday

12<sup>th</sup> May

### Tuesday

13<sup>th</sup> May

Prayer Time 9.30-10.30am  
in the Parents Room.

### Wednesday

14<sup>th</sup> May

MumCo 9.30 -11.30am  
KYB 12.30pm

### Thursday

15<sup>th</sup> May

ONE50 Dance 3.45pm

### Friday

16<sup>th</sup> May

Youth Group 7.00-9.00pm

### Saturday

17<sup>th</sup> May

Bhutanese Church  
8.30am - 12 noon  
Grace Community Church  
Music Practise 12noon-  
2.30pm

### Sunday

18<sup>th</sup> May

9am Worship Service

10.45am Worship Service

2pm Grace Community  
Church Service

## On-Line Giving

### Account Name

Elizabeth Church of Christ

### BSB Number

105 121

### Account Number

441343540

## The Tilt-A-Whirl of Doubt

*But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.*

James 1:6

I am not a person who likes carnival rides. There is nothing thrilling about being completely out of control. I remember a ride called the Tilt-A-Whirl. You sit in a circular contraption, that will hold about 4 people. They lower a bar across your lap and then it starts moving. It starts slow and the whole ride (about 10 contraptions) is going around in a big circular motion. But then your personal apparatus starts to turn in circles also. To add to the joy the whole platform starts tilting while everything is spinning. This thing is crazy, why would anyone enjoy it? Foolishly I did this once. Yes, I confess it was to impress a girl I was dating at the time. How would I rate my experience? It was right up there with my feelings about beetroot. Matter of fact I think a person in hell will be riding one of these machines and fed beetroot for eternity. Yes, I hated it.

While on the ride, I felt as though I had no control over anything. It was horrible. I kept trying to eye the operator in hopes he would stop the ride, but he was laughing at my sheer terror. If I could have got my hands on that carnival worker, I would have let him feel a bit of whirl for sure. To add to my misery, I felt worse when I got off. I was so nauseated, yet the ground was moving under my feet and I couldn't stand still long enough to puke. I even felt like I was going to cry (which I think was from anger more than anything else.) I still regret that choice in my life, and I didn't even stay with the girl I was trying to impress. Needless to say, I am not one that I will ever be willing to give it a whirl again.

When it comes to everyday life, doubt can make us feel like we have stepped onto a Tilt-A-Whirl. Doubt is one of those reactions that can bring utter chaos to our lives. Doubt can make us feel out of control and just wanting to get off the ride of life. Doubt can leave us unsettled, insecure and simply miserable. Have you ever dealt with doubt? Maybe you are walking through a place of skepticism right now. It is not a good feeling. It can also feel a lot like when I stepped off the carnival ride. You may feel physically sick, emotionally unstable and even questioning the very ground you are standing on. This is a real part of our

faith journey. We all have to deal with the foolishly enticing ride called doubt. I don't know why we get on it, but we do.

Today we will continue looking at our Risen Good Shepherd. It is remarkable watching him care for the sheep as they have traveled through the ravaged place of the first Easter.

Three weeks ago, (Easter Sunday) we touched on Jesus meeting Mary in her despair. Last week Hamanda talked about Jesus walking with the two men through their anxiety (which was an amazing sermon by the way). This week we will experience the Good Shepherd's care through Thomas' doubt. I have no doubt I will see you Sunday. ☺

Bless ya,

Pastor Brent

HAPPY  
*Mother's Day*

PRAYING FOR ALL WOMEN TODAY AS WE  
CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY.

FOR THE WOMEN WHO ARE TIRED AND WEARY.  
FOR THE WOMEN WHO ARE OVERJOYED.  
FOR THE WOMEN WHO LONG TO BE A MUM AND  
THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A CHILD.  
FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A MOTHER.

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL.




Bring your Alabaster Boxes on  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May

Bring along your spare  
change to help offset the  
Building Loan




The May Bible Reading plan is available at the Information Desk and on the church website.

OFFICE: 38 Ashfield Rd Elizabeth SA 5112

PHONE: (08) 8255 2467

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday 9am - 2:30pm

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES: 9am, 10:45am & 2pm

SMALL GROUPS: 5pm

WEBSITE: [www.elizabethcoc.org](http://www.elizabethcoc.org)

EMAIL: [office@elizabethcoc.org](mailto:office@elizabethcoc.org)

FACEBOOK: Elizabeth COC

**A special welcome to all our visitors. May you be blessed by the time you have spent with us at the Elizabeth Church of Christ.**

### PRAISE & PRAYER NEWS

#### PRAISE GOD FOR:

- Hamanda's message last Sunday encouraging us not to be overwhelmed by today's troubles or to be afraid of tomorrow because "Christ is closer than your fears, stronger than your doubts, and more faithful than your heart can imagine".
- Brent has recovered from his recent illness.
- That we as a Church family can pray for and support each other during our spiritual growth and in times of need.

#### PRAY FOR:

- Planning, preparation and eager participants for the proposed East Timor mission trip to take place in October 2025.
- Bev Nicolai who has been unwell, that she will soon return to full health.
- Kathryn Soar after her successful operation which went well. Pray for further healing as it will be a slow recovery.
- The farmers who are still battling drought conditions. Please pray for rain.
- The planning for the Winter Shelter and that more Churches and volunteers come forward to help.
- Those in our congregation, families or neighbours who are suffering from ill health or depression.
- Those who have been affected by natural disasters, earthquakes, floods etc.
- Our leaders and government as they lead our nation

*1 Peter 5: 7 "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."*



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May – MumCo  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday Lunch @ Café Hope  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Talk N Do  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Bring your Alabaster Boxes  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Youth Fundraising Lunch



**About Men** are meeting for a BBQ lunch out the backyard of the Pastor's Offices on **Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>**. Cost is \$15 for a hardy BBQ lunch RSVP to Garry, Malcolm, Dennis, Rod or Kevin by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May.



A huge sorry to Joel. Apparently being an Elder is aging him prematurely. Jo has let us know he is not turning 40 this year, but next year!



Diary of a Church Mouse...

Ferdinand

While I was scrolling through the facebook the other day I came upon this and thought I would share it with you as this Sunday is Mother's Day. A bitter sweet day in the life of any person who has ever had a mum, wanted to be a mum, been a mum or may one day be one. This is for all of the women in our lives.

To The Christian Woman

*Be a Mary Magdalene* – Never forget where Jesus brought you from. Your testimony has power. Stay close to Him, and let your life reflect the grace you've received.

*Be An Esther* – Stand up for truth, even when it's scary. God placed you where you are for such a time as this. Your courage could change everything – be brave, He'll give you the strength.

*Be a Ruth* - Remain faithful even when the path is uncertain. Loyalty and love can speak louder than words. Trust God's hand even when you can't see the full picture – He's working behind the scenes.

*Be a Mary* – Stay humble and say yes to God's call, even when it doesn't make sense. You don't have all to have all the answers – just a heart that's willing and surrendered.

Thank you to all the women our lives.

**YOUNG ADULTS**  
**DISCOVER YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS**  
Guest Speaker: **PETER STEICKE**  
When: **31/5-1/6 4:30-7:30**  
**DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED**  
Register Now



#### Open Door Christian Bookshop Inc

Where we stock a large range of Bibles, Books, Gifts, Greeting Cards and more! - for your personal and gift-giving needs.

Notice of AGM: 1.30pm, Sun 10 August 2025, at Sts Peter & Paul Catholic Church Hall (cnr Porter & Cowan St, Gawler). All welcome! To apply for Membership (to vote or hold office) membership forms and further details (including cut-off dates) are available from the Secretary (email [srschultz@bigpond.com](mailto:srschultz@bigpond.com)) or from the Bookshop at Gawler Arcade, 126 Murray St, Gawler.

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