

ELIZABETH CHURCH OF CHRIST

the beacon

ELIZABETH CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Sunday 14th December 2025

a beacon of
hope

THIS WEEK

Monday

15th December

School Holidays Begin

Tuesday

16th December

Prayer Time 9.30-10.30am in
the Parents Room.
Talk'n'Do 9.30am

Wednesday

17th December

Thursday

18th December

Friday

19th December

Saturday

20th December

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

Sunday

21st December

9am Worship Service
10.45am Worship Service
2pm Grace Community
Church Service

Thursday

25th December

9.30am Worship Service

On-Line Giving

Account Name

Elizabeth Church of Christ

BSB Number

105 121

Account Number

441343540

When God Speaks

From the very beginning, God has been speaking – not just words, but a story, a promise, and a Person. In the earliest chapters of Genesis, God speaks a promise that points straight to Jesus: *“the seed of the woman will crush the serpent’s head”* (Genesis 3:15). Even before sin was punished, salvation was spoken. The first Christmas message was already declared in the garden.

Throughout the Old Testament, God continues speaking – through covenants, prophets, kings and ordinary people. Each moment adds a new detail, pointing forward, giving signs of the Saviour that is coming. Isaiah spoke of a virgin. Micah spoke of Bethlehem. David spoke of a forever King. God wasn’t silent; He was preparing hearts to recognise his Son.

And then at the right moment, God speaks not just broadly, but personally. He speaks to Mary. This is one of the most intimate moments in all of Scripture. The God who spoke creation into existence now speaks the Saviour into the womb of a young woman. He doesn’t simply announce it to crowds; He speaks directly to a person. He lets Mary feel, think, question, and process. He doesn’t just give her information – He invites her into His plan.

Mary’s story shows us that God is not only powerful but personal. He doesn’t just point humanity to Jesus. He draws individuals close to Him. He speaks gently, clearly, and graciously. Mary didn’t understand everything, but she listened. She asked, *“How will this be?”* And God answered. That’s the beauty of God’s voice – it welcomes honest questions and forms faith through conversation.

From Mary onward, the New Testament continues God’s message. Jesus speaks, the apostles speak, all pointing back to the same truth; Jesus is the Son of God, the Saviour of the world.

And God is still speaking today. Through His Word. Through His Spirit. Through His church. Through moments of worship, conviction, comfort and grace. He keeps speaking Jesus into our lives – reminding us that hope has a name, salvation has a face, and God has not stopped drawing us to His Son.

This Christmas, may we listen again. May we be like Mary – open, curious, willing. And may the Holy

Spirit prepare our hearts to hear God speak into our lives in a fresh and personal way.

See you Sunday.

Hamanda Waqaiaragata

Associate Pastor, Young Adults

CELEBRATE December Services

7th December - 10am - Family Service

14th December - 9am & 10.45am Services

21st December - 9am & 10.45am Services

25th December - 9.30am Christmas Day Service

28th December - 10am Service

New Year's Eve Prayer Vigil

Join us this New Year's Eve to pray, praising God for 2025 and asking for His leading, guidance and blessing for 2026 - for ourselves, our church family and our community.

You can pray wherever you are.

30-Minute time slots are available
from Midday December 31, 2025 to
Midday January 1st, 2026.

A list of times available is on the information desk.

Everyone is invited and welcome to pray!



New Offering Envelopes

are available at the information desk
for those still giving in person.

Helper Thanks and Roster Availability

Thank you to everyone who helps out on Sundays to make our services run smoothly. Your help is very much appreciated.

Roster Availability sheets will be handed out this week. Please take the time to fill out your availability for February and March and return your sheet to the ROSTER drawer on the information desk or drop it into the Church Office.

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

EMAIL: 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:

- A joyous start to the Christmas season with the Combined family service, with the Youth leading, the Kid's Min performing a song and Bible verse, the Year 12 students receiving a bible and blessing plus a time of fellowship afterwards enjoying a sausage sizzle.
- Praise God also for Mark's message reminding us how God spoke more often (9 times) to different people around Christ's birth, but there is no reason why He can't speak to us today as well, if we are willing to listen.
- That the Elizabeth South Christmas party, held here at the ECOC on Monday 1st was quite a success. Thank you to all who donated gifts and goods and for the volunteers who helped to set up, help out, serve and clear up afterwards.

PRAY FOR:

- The Rutland family as they spend time with family and friends. Pray for Brent as he recovers from a chest infection.
- Val Stafford who has been very unwell lately with Influenza A and then Pneumonia.
- Malcolm and Kathy Farrow as they prepare for the funeral of Malcolm's sister Joan.
- All the upcoming Christmas events, that they will be a blessing and an outpouring of God's love to those who attend and also for those who volunteer their time and resources to make it happen.
- All those who have been affected by depression or mental illness.
- Those who are facing persecution because of their faith, that God will grant them strength and peace.
- Members who are struggling with colds, viruses or recovering from recent surgery.

Ps.85:8 "I will listen to what the Lord says; He promises peace to His people, His faithful servants – but let them not turn to folly"



Sunday 14th December – 9am & 10.45am Services

+ Kids Ministry Christmas Party

Tuesday 16th December – Talk N Do

Sunday 21st December – 9am & 10.45am Services

Thursday 25th December – 9.30am Service

Sunday 28th December – 10am Service



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

Christmas Closures

As we head towards the holiday season many ministries within the church are taking a break. We pray the leaders and helpers of these ministries find refreshing and renewal over the holiday period.

Boomerang Centre

Closed Monday 15 December 2025

Reopens Tuesday 27 January 2026

Café Hope

Closed Monday 22 December 2025

Reopens Tuesday 13 January 2026

Church Office Closure

Closed Wednesday 25 December 2025

Reopens Monday 6 January 2026

Limited attendance in the office until 12th January 2026 as Chantel will be on leave from December 22 2025 to January 9 2026,



Christmas Day **LUNCH**

**We believe no one should
be alone on Christmas Day.
Instead come along and
enjoy a free Christmas lunch
at Cafe Hope**



Call 8255 2467 to book or for more information
38 Ashfield Road, Elizabeth



Diary of a Church Mouse...



Last week before the service something happened that many people wouldn't have known about – the internet went out. One of our routers finally died so we were unable to get a good signal on wi-fi. Many would say that doesn't really matter as you don't need the internet to go to church. Technically not if you go to church in person but if you were planning to watch it at home then there was a problem. As we had no internet, Michael who was producing, tried all he could to get some type of internet signal for the livestreaming computer. He tried hot-spotting many different phones but to no avail – we were not able to livestream the family service (it is up on YouTube now if you haven't had the chance to see it yet).

It made me think how much we rely on the internet now for many different things. How often do we want to know the answer to something so we quickly grab our phone and find the answer on google? Do we rely too much on the internet? They say that those born after the 1990's do not know how to live without the internet. Is this true with our bibles too? Do we know how to find the answers we need in the bible without the help of the internet? Something to ponder!

