

the beacon

ELIZABETH CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Sunday 25th December 2016



IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY!
The Moment of Proclamation!
A King fit for humanity

On behalf of the Elizabeth Church of Christ we offer

Christmas greetings to you all on this very special day on the Christian calendar! Thank you for celebrating the birth of our Saviour here with us and helping us be a 'beacon of hope' to our local and global community. Thank you also to those who worshipped with us last night on **Christmas Eve**.

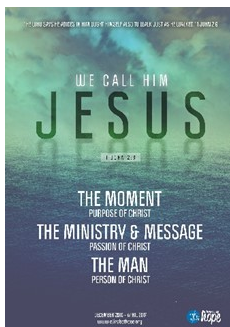
Ben Rowe will continue our current series 'We call Him Jesus' on this Christmas morning speaking from Luke 2:8-20 when the angel proclaimed 'good news' to the shepherds in the fields.

Brent Rutland writes these important words in the study notes;

'The announcement of the Messiah's birth did much more than just declare his coming. This proclamation created a new paradigm that illustrated the heart of the father. He would not send a Messiah that would leave out any group despite their social status. He would not have a king to rule only one nation, no, he would establish a kingdom that would welcome all. His reign would be for anyone willing to come follow him, no matter their place in humanity. God offered this understanding from the very moment of his Son's birth. He sent messengers to shepherds, he gave them the chance to proclaim the coming of the messiah. We want to discover how God intends to use us, and bless us no matter how we are seen by the world around us.'

You will find this week's full study notes on the *Pastor's Page* of our church website (www.elizabethcoc.org) and paper copies on the Welcome Desk in the foyer.

The series will continue next week on the first day of the new year, however the series moves from *The Moment* to the **Ministry of Jesus**. On January 1 Ben Rowe will speak on the **Ministry of Hope**, and then through



January we will explore together **Christ's Ministry of Discipleship, Compassion, Salvation and Honour**.

The Study Notes will continue to be available, and from January 8th a special Bible Study will commence at 6.00pm at the church for people to dig deeper with others.

KIDS ROCK is a School Holiday program for young people from Year 1 to 6. There will be crafts, games, music, Bible



Stories and more on January 23rd – 25th. On the Monday and Tuesday the program is from 9am -12 midday with free morning tea for the children. Parents can enjoy coffee and cakes for purchase from Café Hope. On Wednesday there is no morning session but in the evening of 25th January from 6.30pm a carnival will run fun for all the family. Please spread the word about **KIDS ROCK** to your family and friends. We also plan to letter box leaflets to promote this event, ask the Church Office for some if you would like to help.

This is the final edition of the Beacon for 2016, a big thank you again to **Dianne Tidswell** who continues to faithfully serve in the production of our weekly church newsletter. Watch out for the Beacon late in January 2017.

EVENING SERVICE CHANGES

There are some **changes planned** next year, when special **Discipleship Pathway** studies will be made available for our church family to join. See the leaflet in your church envelope. Unfortunately last week's leaflet omitted an important elective, **The Way to Human Freedom**. You can find a copy of the corrected version on the Welcome Desk and also on the Pastor's Page on our website.

We are also exploring the idea of a **Children's Musical** in 2017, with rehearsals possibly planned *during the Discipleship studies*. We are also looking at including a short time of praise and communion. More information will be available into the New Year.

He's the Reason for the Season

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

26th December

TUESDAY

27th December

WEDNESDAY

28th December

Worship Practice 7.30pm

THURSDAY

29th December

FRIDAY

30th December

SUNDAY

1st January 2017

9am Worship Service

10.30am Worship Service

2pm Grace Community Church Service

6pm Worship Service



OFFICE Cnr Short & Ashfield Rds Elizabeth SA 5112 PHONE: (08) 8255 2467

OFFICE HOURS Mon - Thurs 9am - 5pm Friday 9am - 2.30pm SERVICE TIMES 9am, 10.30am, 2pm & 6pm

WEBSITE www.elizabethcoc.org EMAIL office@elizabethcoc.org FACEBOOK - Elizabeth COC

PRAYER AND PEOPLE NEWS

- There will be no **Pastoral Care** meeting until **Monday, February 6th** at 2.30pm in Meeting Room 1. Any Pastoral Care visitation/needs should be directed to Graham Crocker or Bev Fisher until **Brent Rutland** commences as Pastoral Care Minister 8/1/17. Urgent needs (or to make use of the Prayer Chain) should be directed to one of the Ministry Team through the Office.
- Great to have **Andrew Crocker** worshipping with us again while on holidays from Melbourne during the Christmas break.
- We rejoice with **Allen and Maureen Robinson** on the good news that Allen has been given the "all clear" with regard to his health situation.
- The recent **Financial Report** shared by Lindsay last Sunday morning was very encouraging and thank you to those who contribute faithfully each week.
- A great celebration held last Saturday as the Grace Community Church gathered with over 400 people present to witness the marriage of **William Mude & Suzan Donga**. A few people from our congregation were also present and involved in the proceedings as well as attending the Reception. Lots of singing and dancing and rejoicing!
- Did anyone spot a write up in last week's Sunday Mail featuring **Glenn Roberts**? If you missed it, check out the Notice Board in the Café where there is a lovely photo of Glenn and his mother, who has also had a kidney transplant.
- **Chantel Birkin** celebrated her 40th Birthday recently and enjoyed this special time with family and friends. Also a "surprise visitor" from Melbourne...her sister, Tania Rose.
- We are appreciative of Chris Fazakerley, who on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team, sends Christmas greetings to all those in our Church Family who are isolated or shut in. A lovely response was recently had from **Phyl Anderson** who continues to receive weekly newsletters and prayer list, phone calls and visits from the Team.
- **Recent visitors** included Andrew, Alan, Elianne, Nelly and children, Nigel & Mila Lugg and Bronwyn & Graeme Rogerson – 2 weeks in a row!
- Please pray for Rowan & Mel Potter & families as Mel's Mum recovers from recent surgery for a brain tumour, praying for healing & peace.
- Sena & Jessica Weerasinghe's daughter, Priyasha, has been in hospital recently. She is back home now but keep praying for God's healing & strength for all the family.
- Operation Christmas Child - During 2016 SA/NT collected, processed and sent 22,777 shoe boxes overseas. For many of the children this will be the first gift they ever receive!

COMING EVENTS

- 31st December – 24 Hour Prayer Vigil
- 8th-22nd Jan – 'We call Him Jesus' study 6.00pm at church building
- 23rd-25th Jan – KIDS ROCK School Holiday outreach
- 29th January – Praise & Worship Night – 6.00pm
- 5th February – Discipleship Pathways launch!

NEW YEAR PRAYER VIGIL

12 noon 31ST DECEMBER – 12 noon 1ST JANUARY

As one year ends and another begins,
join us in praying for our church,
our community, our country and our world,
however God leads you.

Choose your best time to pray
and write your name on
the sheet at the welcome desk

"2017 CHURCH DIRECTORY"

Early in the New Year the Church Office will be compiling the "2017 Church Directory". If your details have changed in any way since the publishing of the 2016 Church Directory, you are new to the Church Family here at Elizabeth Church of Christ and would like your details included, you wish to remove your details from future publications or withhold certain information, please fill in the form that has been placed in your church Pigeon Hole (or obtain one from the Info. Desk in the foyer or Church Office) and return it to the "Office" tray on the Information Desk or the Church Office by 19/02/2016.

Please Note: The "Church Directory" is only distributed to regular Church attenders as a means of keeping in touch with each other and as a way of praying for and caring for one another.

If your details have not changed in the past year you **DO NOT NEED** to fill in the form.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

Women's Convention
17th- 18th March 2017
International speaker - Jewel Evans
Westminster School
Pamphlets on Welcome desk or
See Margaret Mount

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR!

Everyone is encouraged to take a Bible Reading outline which guides you to read the whole Bible in a year, starting January 1. There is also a leaflet outlining some key Bible passages which can help you in times of need. See the Welcome Desk for copies.

