

Focus on Today's News

The role of the church is to:

- Live the abundant life in Christ
- Love our neighbours as Christ has loved us
- Learn about Christ

Each week I take some time to learn more about Christ. I was astonished to find a connection between wholeness and gratitude. Jesus provides insight into this when he has dinner with Simon the Pharisee who becomes incensed that an immoral woman turns up uninvited. Not only that, she touches Him. Not only that, she pours out perfume on his feet!

Jesus indicates that where there is more forgiveness there is more love. He was talking about the miracle of gratitude. Gratitude expands our capacity to love and to experience love.

Gratitude is a sense of thankfulness and appreciation towards others. Growing in gratitude is a relational art. We only have to look at the cross. It is as we look at the cross we realize that we deserve nothing yet we observe that Christ has done everything for us. We are eternally grateful.

To grow in gratitude:

- Find something in your history for which to thank God.
- Look to see the beauty around you – don't let pessimism create a pervasive sense of despair
- Sacrifice for and serve someone more needy than you
- Speak out words of gratitude to others.
- Give thanks to those who have been so generous towards the China mission trip. Thank you to those who have:
 - given baby clothes, toys and children's medicines
 - helped with the wish list
 - helped to raise \$212 through the bacon and egg roll brunch and \$330 with the Chinese luncheon
 - donated meat – North Turramurra Butcher
 - donated cakes and pastries – Cake Cuisine
 - financially donated from the Youth group

22 June 2008

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Combined Service

On Sunday 29th June all our morning services will be meeting at **10:15am** for combined worship. The theme is 'What on earth am I here for?' Steve Wyatt and band will be leading the music.

GRIEFCARE

Working through grief is time consuming and energy sapping. To help each of us understand and to move through this time we are offering this course.

*Tuesdays 7:30-9:30pm
At the Church*

Enthusiastic Elders

Now is the time to begin praying for the role of elders in our church community. Please pray and seek the Lord for those who may serve as elders for a two-year period 2008-2010. There is a nomination form in the foyer. Please have the

The Future

The elders are still keen to recruit a person to oversee the music at both the SoulCare and Connect services on Sundays. At present this is a volunteer position but into the future could become a paid position.

For further information please speak to Ivan Joyce.

Peter Bae is a chorister at St Andrews Cathedral in the city. They are touring the UK and Italy this coming July. You can hear these beautiful voices in Wahroonga **next Saturday 28th June**. For more information or if you wish to purchase a ticket please contact Cheree on 0409 302

Prayer and Praise

- Praise God that as a church we have the resources to impact our world locally, nationally and globally.
- Pray for those who are grieving within our church family at this time. Pray for the Finnie family, the McMahon's, Bunny and Birch families.
- Pray for the *GriefCare* course and for those to work through their grief and hurt.
- Pray for Greg, Louise, Tina, David, Stephen and Daniel as they prepare for the mission trip to China.
- Pray for the combined service on 29th June at 10:15am
- Pray for Pastor John and Mi and the Korean community.

POSITION VACANT

Administration Assistant, Assistant and Chaplain

Applications are invited for the role of Administration Assistant at the Churches of Christ Rhodes office. The position will work with other senior staff in shaping future directions for our family of Churches. There is also, a position for 2 days per week as an office assistant. Finally, applications are invited for chaplain at Kempsey Correctional Service. *For information please contact Sandra Noel on 8719 2600.*

**As we speak out and grow in gratitude we will grow
in wholeness and be able to continue to:**

Live, Learn, Love

1 Samuel 16:7b

The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.

Entertainment Books are available

Containing vouchers for dining, accommodation, theatres, sports and 25% to 50% off at cafes and restaurants. Valid until 2009.

The cost is \$65 and the proceeds go to missions. If you want to purchase an entertainment book with over \$15000 worth of savings. See Victoria Littlemore or jaschas@hotmail.com

Help Needed

A minimum of two people are needed from the Praise and Communion service to help out with Morning Tea for the 6th and 13th of July. *For more details please see Lorraine Hensby*

If you wish to make alterations to your service in the roster in the Praise and Communion service please ring Rea

It's in the envelope

There are a number of ways that help us to be planned strategic givers to the Lord. There are two common ways to give:

1. Envelopes - these are available in the foyer. They are dated so that you can give each week in a systematic planned way. Please take a packet of envelopes
2. If you would like to give your offering by direct debit please use the following and see your bank to begin the process of being a planned deliberate giver to God. BSB 032188 A/C 132924

HILLSONG TICKETS

If anyone would like to purchase a ticket or tickets to the Hillsong Conference Cheree has some discounted tickets. Please see or ring Cheree on 0409 302 277

Prayer for Teens and Twenties

Our teens and young adults really need our prayers. If you are a parent or someone concerned about this age group and are interested in joining a weeknight prayer time for them please contact Chris Joyce 91445121.

Church Ski Weekend

When: Nights of 27, 28, 29 & 30 August

Where: Old Adaminaby (www.eucumbeneunits.com)
½ hour Mt Selwyn, 1 ½ hours Perisher/Thredbo

Cost: \$85 a bed for the whole 4 nights

For details contact Scott on 9487 3883.

Limited places are still available!

Youth Formal Dinner

On Friday June 27th we are holding a youth formal dinner to raise money for the mission trip to China in July. We will be serving a 3-course meal to approx 40 - 50 young people.

Time: 6 - 8:30pm

Venue: North Turrumurra Church

We give thanks that the local North Turrumurra Butcher, Exclusive Meats and Cake Cuisine have donated the food for the evening.

Uniting as one Church in Prayer

When: Sunday mornings 11:15am – 12pm

Where: At the front of the chapel

Why: To lift our voices to God in prayer, as one church for our church family and the upcoming mission trip to China