

Focus on Today's News

What's so amazing about Grace?

About a decade ago a whole raft of books about grace became popular to Christian circles. For example *What's so Amazing about Grace* by Yancey and *In the Grip of Grace* by Lucado.

In many ways these books acknowledge that the church has not always been a grace-filled community, but what does this mean?

The bible talks about grace in at least three ways:

1. God's free gift of love (e.g. Eph 2:8,9 'you are saved by grace')
2. God's supernatural power (e.g. 2 Cor 12:8 My 'grace is sufficient for you')
3. To show kindness, mercy and forgiveness to others (e.g. the parable of the merciful servant & Matt 18, forgive your brother seventy seven times)

To go on showing love, mercy, kindness and forgiveness to those who hurt us and those who are wayward is exactly what Jesus did (Father forgive them for they know not what they do) and it is exactly what Jesus wants us to do. He wants NTCofC to be known as "a hospital for sinners not a museum for stuffed saints" as Spurgeon said.

Some will say grace is unfair and grace is dangerous, we cant keep on showing mercy to those who flagrantly disobey God. It is true we tend to oscillate between all grace and all truth, and we need a balance. But so often in church we could do with more love, to live as Jesus would have us. All are welcome to attend NTCofC and all deserve a warm welcome (James 2). Often we need to show more grace to those who annoy or hurt us, those who are hurting or wayward.

If we've really experienced the mercy and grace of God we will want to share it abundantly with everyone 'inside' and 'outside' the church. Then "they will know you are my disciples by your love."

God bless, Richard.

12 October 2008

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Today

Next Sunday

9:30am *SoulCare*
Tina Phillips
Self-control

9:30am *Praise and Communion*
Richard Oakes
Confidence in Christ

10:30am Morning Tea

12:30pm *Korean Community*

7:00pm *Connect @ 7*
Ebony, Louise and Lachlan
How do we cope with obstacles?

9:30am *SoulCare*
Stephen Cathcart
Fear and Trembling

9:30am *Praise and Communion*
Richard Oakes
Striving to win

10:30am Morning Tea

12:30pm *Korean Community*

7:00pm *Connect @ 7*
Jeff Deuble
TBA

Live, Learn, Love

MINISTRY TEAM

Stephen Cathcart	Senior Minister	0419 460 487
Richard Oakes	Associate Minister	0434 104 555
John ParkKorean	Korean Minister	0425 833 510
Loida Dart	Chaplain	9440 3723
Tina Phillips	Youth Minister	0413 990 449
Louise Joyce	Office Administrator	9988 4688

Prayer Hotline

9487 3918

Hanna Dijkstra

All requests are kept confidential and treated with the greatest respect.

Church Bulletin Information and Service Presentations

Deadline for all office requests are due by **Thursday 2:00pm**.

Please contact the office on 9988 4688 or email Louise at office@northturramurrachurch.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 9am—5pm

Web site: www.northturramurrachurch.org.au



How to cope with Christmas

Grief is a normal emotional response associated with any form of loss. Most of us will experience close personal grief during our lifetime, but how do we cope with Christmas? This seminar on **Wednesday 3rd Dec 7:30pm** at the chapel is to help us form a strategy to move through the festive season honestly and healthily.

All are invited to our Annual Memorial Service

**10th December 7:30—8:30pm
in the chapel**

Through this we provide:

- An opportunity to support those who grieve at Christmas
- A safe place to remember our loved ones who have passed away in recent years
- A caring outreach to our community



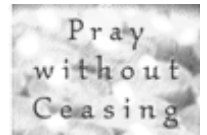
Christianity Explained

Christianity Explained is conducted by Loida over 6 weeks. Here's an opportunity to learn about the basics of the Christian faith. This is an ideal course for those seeking to understand faith & for those who want to learn. This series has already proved highly beneficial to many in our church family.

If you would like to be part of Christianity Explained please see Loida



Prayer and Praise



- Praise God for the *Service of Remembering* last Sunday, for Tara's life and for the opportunity to share God's love with so many of her friends and family.
- Praise God for the success of "Footsteps" with up to 100 children attending each day and some committing their lives to Christ.
- Praise God for the new faces at church last Sunday morning (even when Octoberfest was rained out).
- Pray for the children's ministry and the Youth leaders.
- Pray for the Connect@7 production team. Pray that they will have sensitivity to the Lord in planning and equipping us to *connect* with God and others.
- Pray for our missionaries: the Jagelman's, the Stewart's and Danielle Allen. Pray that God will give them strength and courage to continue the work that God has called them to.
- Pray for our churches Elders and the ministers.
- Pray for Pastor John and Mi and the Korean community as they prepare to reach out to the local community

One way that we can encourage one another is through prayer. We want to pray for encouragement, protection, family relationships and God's blessing on these families this week...

This week please pray for:

MONDAY: Ross, Wendy, Ebony and Jordan FINNIE

TUESDAY: Wal and Jenny GAMBELL

WEDNESDAY: Tim, Louise, Harry, Ellery and Sophie GLEESON

THURSDAY: John and Cheree GOURLEY and Peter and Jo BAE

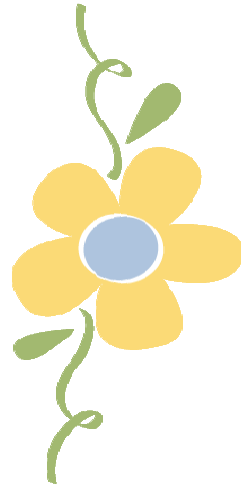
FRIDAY: Harold and Jill HAYWARD

Mark 13:31

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

GRIEFCARE

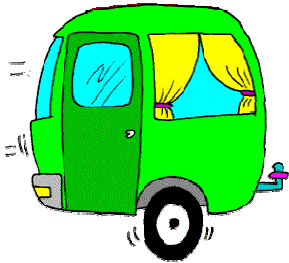
Working through grief is time consuming and energy sapping. To help each of us understand and to move through this time we are offering a 5 week course.



Wednesdays 7:30-9pm
Beginning 22nd October to 19th November
At the Church

To Register your interest in attending, please call Stephen Cathcart on 0419460487 or email him at stephen@northturramurrachurch.org.au

WANTED Caravan to borrow or rent!!



Friends are visiting from Perth, end of October to early November and would like to borrow or rent a caravan. It will be parked outside their grandparents home and used as an extension of the home to sleep in. If you have a van sitting idle and wouldn't mind it being put to use please let Fatima know or contact her on 9988 4390.

Sycamore

Our young adults group is meeting on **Wednesday 7:30—9pm** at the church. This week we are going to discuss “how do I live a selfless life?” so come along.

Check out our fabulous new website:
www.climbsycamore.com



Sermon notes...

Weekly e-newsletter

If you would like to receive a weekly e-newsletter on Fridays about the coming weekend and other church activities and events please email: stephen@northturramurrachurch.org.au