

Focus on Today's News

Mount Druitt report

Pam and I have a growing sense of anticipation and excitement about what God is going to do at Mt Druitt. In part this is due to the fact that even the preparation stage has been more protracted and difficult than what I imagined and partly because God's provision and blessing has been evident throughout it all.

Programmatically, we are not under way but the groundwork this year has included:

- God continuing to prepare Pam and I through the events of this year: rehab support, fostering, Dave's health challenges etc.
- Networking and relationship building, especially through Pam's involvements at TAFE, Holy Family, Neco and Murra Mittiga (aboriginal centre)
- Visitation and follow up of contacts made during the Week of Mission
- Partnerships with other churches and Christian mission organisations (e.g. UNOH)
- Involvement with the staff and families at the Day Care Centre

Please continue to pray for this work. You can pray for:

- Kayleen, who has been using the Ministry centre for emergency accommodation. She recommitted her life to God last Sunday
- Gods leading for us to partner with the right people
- Planning as at this stage it looks like we won't be starting with a Core Group, and will have to grow this from the ground up.
- Julia and Danny, who may link into a Bible study after Christmas, and bring some friends
- Appointment of the right person as Chaplain and Family Worker at the Child Care Centre
- Pam and I. I have had a prayer retreat and done prayer walking around the area, seeking to gain insight and revelation about God's agenda.

14 December 2008

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North Turramurra

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Today

- 9:30am SoulCare**
Stephen Cathcart
Why Christmas?
- 9:30am Praise and Communion**
Richard Oakes
Gifts 4 U
- 10:30am Morning Tea**
- 12:30pm Korean Community**
- 5:00pm Family Activities**
- 7:30pm Connect @ 7**
Stephen Cathcart
CAROLS on the Lawn

Next Sunday

- 9:30am SoulCare**
Debbie Henderson
Christmas with Attitude
- 9:30am Praise and Communion**
Richard Oakes
Passport for Egypt
- 10:30am Morning Tea**
- 12:30pm Korean Community**
- 7:00pm Connect @ 7**
Tina Phillips
Slowing Down at Christmas

MOWING ROSTER

27th December
Matt Cowdery

Prayer Hotline

9487 3918
Hanna Dijkstal
All requests are kept
confidential and treated
with the greatest respect.

MINISTRY TEAM

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

Church Bulletin Information and Service Presentations

Deadline for all office requests are due by **Friday 9am**.

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

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- That the Combined Churches free Christmas Lunch at the Child Care Centre will go well. This is a community event for needy or lonely people on Christmas Day. If anyone would like to help on the day at either:
10:00 - 11:30am - Set up and preparation
12:00 - 1:30pm - Serving food
1:30 - 2:30pm - Pack away

If you could help please contact me 0402 010 207

I would like to thank North Turramurra church for the fantastic partnership and ongoing support you have been providing.

Blessings, Jeff and Pam

Parliament Prayer

There is a movement in Federal Parliament at the moment to amend Standing Orders for the House of Representatives and the Senate to remove the requirement for the reading of the Opening Prayer and the Lords Prayer at the start of each day of sitting.

Many people have indicated that this is a most disturbing prospect and one that will meet with strong opposition from most Australians. For this reason it is important that as many people as possible have the opportunity to express an opinion on the issue.

The Petition Form to sign is inserted in this Focus. If you agree with maintaining the Prayers in the Parliament try to get as many signatures as possible from your family and friends and place them in the box marked Petition that will be provided this week and the next. There is room for 7 signatures on every sheet.

Pieter Dijkstal will see to it that all signed Petitions are being sent to Russel Broadband, the MP who initiated this action for an urgent petition and who will arrange for the presentation in the Federal Parliament.

We trust God in that this Petition will have the desired results, not only in The Federal Parliament but also in the State Parliaments.

Prayer and Praise

- Praise God for the wonderful work of the volunteers in our church throughout the year
- Pray for the *carols on the lawn* tonight and for Rowena as she leads the music and singers
- Pray for the Christmas Eve and Day services that they will connect people to faith in Christ
- Pray for safety for the team going to China in 2009 and for Gods direction
- Pray for the ministry team as they prepare messages and lead at the Christmas services
- Pray for scripture teaching in 2009
- Pray for Pastor John and Mi and the Korean community as they prepare to reach out to the local community

Live, Learn, Love

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: Paul and Wendy PLUMMER

TUESDAY: Beryl PRATT

WEDNESDAY: Isabelle PRAX

THURSDAY: Mark PRITCHARD

FRIDAY: Mark REX

John 3:16 (NLT)

“For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”

Safety First



We thank Nicholas Campbell for stocking our first aid kit in the kitchen & upstairs. If you need first aid & use anything please report it to Nicholas so we can keep a log of what's used & needs replacing. If you have a church event outside there is a portable kit that can be used. You need to sign this out from Louise (Office Admin) & return it to her.

Rental Accommodation Wanted

2-3 bedroom apartment/ town house wanted, anywhere from Hornsby to Ryde area. Responsible and clean, non-smokers (no pets).

Please call Jo 0428 962 983 or Renelle 0422968229.

OVERSEAS STUDENT

Is anyone interested in housing a Korean young man, 27, studying in Australia? He is able to pay room and board, and will be here for about one year. He is wanting to better his English and to attend church. He is a cousin of a student the Darts had for a year, and comes with a good recommendation. Call Loida if you have any interest or questions.

China 2009

Today the team for China has to be finalised to begin the of visa application process. There is a meeting at 11:15am to discuss travel arrangements and necessary requirements for the trip. You are welcomed to attend to be more knowledgeable about the mission trip.

CHRISTmas means?

Sunday 14th December

From 5pm

Animal farm

Jumping castle

BBQ

Korean food

7:30pm

Carols

(with Rowena Tall!)

An Opportunity...

Each year we have the opportunity to teach Scripture at our local school. Next year we are seeking a person to teach for 6 months whilst Tina is in China. The details:

- class - Year 5 (aged 10 and 11 years)
- time - Wed 10:15am to 11:15am
- preparation time - 1 hour per week
- duration from 11th Feb to 5th August 2009

If you are interested please talk to Stephen or Tina

Growing through Life's challenges

Challenges come to us throughout our life. The bible tells us to rejoice at all times but how do we do that when difficulties come? Join us as we look at God's Word for answers and ways to not just cope, but grow.

The annual Sydney Women's Weekend Convention of CWCI (Christian Woman's Communicating International) will be held from Friday 6th—Sunday 8th March 2009.

For information and pamphlets available in the foyer.