

Focus on Today's News

4 Days down, 361 to go...

As we look back over 2008 there have been good times, bad times and really 'ugly' times. For each of us as individuals there have been happy memories and special times with family, friends and pets. There has also been economic reversals, sickness, strain, loss and grief. For us as individuals and for us corporately as a church family there have been many ups and downs.

We rejoice in the baptism of several young people, the small but significant growth in our Korean church and young people rising up into leadership positions. The blessing of the mission trip to China, the Mount Druitt, Footsteps and our significant Christmas mission. We've laughed at social nights (Queen's Birthday, church play, seniors trivia and Christmas gatherings).

We have also wept together in the face of sadness and loss. We've farewelled church members and staff members (Fatima and Jeff). Life moves forward in a cycle of change and challenge.

What will 2009 hold for us? Good times, sad times, challenging times, I can guarantee it. We could wish for a life with out ups and downs a journey with no storms. The truth is that no storm is wishful thinking, the best place to be is to be "fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviours love. He is the way through, not the way out."

Jesus can be depended upon in times of Challenge and change because as Hebrews 13:8 says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." The same friend in '09 as he was in '08.

God bless you all in 2009, Richard.

| Today | Next Sunday |
|--|---|
| 9:30am Combined Service SoulCare Praise and Communion Tina Phillips Tools for '09 | 9:30am Combined Service SoulCare Praise and Communion Richard Oakes The Reading Tool |
| 10:30am Morning Tea | 10:30am Morning Tea |
| 12:30pm Korean Community | 12:30pm Korean Community |
| 7:00pm Connect @ 7 Tina Phillips New Year | 7:00pm Connect @ 7 Richard Oakes TBA |

MOWING ROSTER

14th February 2009

Stephen Cathcart

Prayer Hotline

9487 3918

Hanna Dijkstra

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

4 January 2009

217 Bobbin Head Rd

North Turramurra

Minister: Stephen Cathcart

Phone: 0419 450 487

Email: stephen@northturramurrachurch.org.au

Web: www.northturramurrachurch.org.au

Spiritual Tools

We all need practical tools to help us through life. Spiritual tools will help us to unlock the spiritual toolbox so that we will have a foundation for the New Year. Many times we find ourselves out of our depth or impacted by a sudden crisis or difficulty. We need tools to assist us to grow through these times. On Sunday mornings at 9:30am during January we will take time to unpack the toolbox.

During January we will try to understand:

4th Jan - 'The Toolbox'

11th Jan - 'Reading Tool'

18th Jan - 'Silence and Journal Tools'

25th Jan - 'Fasting Tool'

Special White House Meeting

On Sunday 18th and 25th January at 11am in the hall the elders and management team invite you to hear and determine a strategy for the white house property. Over the past 18 months the elders have pursued a development strategy for the land at 215 Bobbin Head Road. This has included a white house team and their recommendations as well as the management team report on the possibility of renovation.

Over the past 20 years our inaction on the white house has been a decision for further deterioration. We are now faced with a decision.

DIRECTLY

If you would like to give your *offering* by direct debit please use the following bank details and arrange with your bank to begin the process of being a planned deliberate giver to God.

BSB 032188 A/C 132924

Prayer and Praise

- Praise God that He walks with us into a new year.
- Praise God for His unending love and faithfulness to us this past year.
- Pray for the Elders and the future vision for the White House.
- Pray for all who travel at this holiday time (including the Oakes and Cathcart family).
- Pray for Nathan and Tina, Kaiden and Micah as they prepare for their 6 months short term mission in China.
- Pray for safety for the whole team going to China for two weeks in February and for God's direction.
- Pray for Pastor John and Mi and the Korean church.

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: Hans and Olga STAUDINGER

TUESDAY: Geoff and Joyce STEWART

WEDNESDAY: Lois SWAN

THURSDAY: Alice SWEET

FRIDAY: John and Marcia SWINDEN



1 Peter 1:3 (NLT)

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation.

Fasting weekend

On the weekend of the 7th and 8th Feb the ministry team invite you to share in a fast. We aim to fast a meal, meals, TV, sport or shopping to focus on the Lord and to pray for our church community, mission and the team in China. During January we will have the time to hear more about fasting and how we can grow spiritually stronger through this time.

“Any fool can count the seeds in an apple. Only God can count the apples in one seed.”
Robert H. Schuller



NB Richard and Janet are in Melbourne this weekend for a family Wedding. They will be back tomorrow. Thankyou to Tina, who will be preaching at both morning and evening services.



CAR NEEDED!

Loida Dart is wondering if any one has a car that she could borrow for a couple of weeks in January when her car has to go in for repairs.

Please contact her on 0411 584 701

ACOM

On Thursday 22nd Jan we will have Jason Potter, a representative from ACOM, talking with us about possible studying options for 2009. If you are interested in pursuing study on either part-time, fulltime or casual basis make the time to come.

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Each month the management team meet to discuss management and maintenance issues around the church property. The management team have achieved a number of tasks. These have included:

- emergency evacuation procedure (see the laminated maps at the back of the chapel)
- fire extinguisher services (this costs about \$165 every 6 months and also needs correspondence with Council)
- cleaning of the carpet in the chapel
- fixing of leaks in the chapel, foyer and manse
- electrical work at the driveway of the property, front lights of the chapel
- fixing of the white sliding doors on the stage
- placing of 'crèche' letters on the hall crèche door

Then there are a number of other matters that are presently 'on hold' due to financial constraints. These include:

- renovation of the white house (\$130 000)
- church roof cleaning (\$4500)
- refurbishment of the church pews (\$13 000)
- sound tiles for the hall ceiling for lowering 'noise' at morning tea and other functions (\$7000)
- de-coning of the bunya pine (\$2000)
- replacing of manse guttering (\$2000)
- levelling and paving of the church car park on Bobbin Head Rd side (\$18000)

Please encourage the management team as they strive to serve us – Peter C, Morris N, Martin S, David S, Stephen C