

Focus on Today's News

Footprints in the Sand

Millions of people around the world have found comfort in the poem 'Footprints.' That is because the words assure us that God will never leave us and in fact carry us through the tough times. There is another way to look at the poem, there should only be one set of footprints, because we are trying to step into the footprints of Jesus.

The old Hymn 'O Jesus I have Promised' includes the line "O let me see your footmarks and in them plant my own." this really means whatever Jesus has done we also will do, either physically or spiritually. For example:

- *Physically* serve others as He did,
- *Spiritually* die to self as He was crucified.

Jesus does say "if anyone would be my disciples let him deny himself, take up his cross and daily follow me" Mark 8:34.

One practical and helpful way to follow Jesus and deny ourselves is through fasting. Fasting is something Jesus did and encourages us to do.

In 2009 let us discover more about this spiritual discipline and see how we can apply it to our lives.

—Richard

Today	Next Sunday
9:30am Combined Service SoulCare Praise and Communion Richard Oakes Fasting Tool	9:30am SoulCare (K.I.C.) Stephen Cathcart Back to School
10:30am Morning Tea	9:30am Praise and Communion Richard Oakes Favourite Psalms
12:30pm Korean Community	10:30am Morning Tea
7:00pm Connect @ 7 (HALL) Stephen Cathcart Fasting	12:30pm Korean Community
	7:00pm Connect @ 7 Stephen Cathcart TBA

MOWING ROSTER

14th February 2009

Stephen Cathcart

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

Prayer Hotline

9487 3918

Hanna Dijkstal

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 **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

25 January 2009

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Prayer and Praise

White House Development 11am

The elders and management team have been considering 'what to do with the white house' for over 2 years. This task began in 2007 when the elders asked a team to investigate the use of the white house. Their report invited response and submissions from the congregation. This report was released to the church in September 2007. After further investigation it was discovered that if the white house was to be knocked down Council would not allow rebuilding under their bushfire prone legislation. This forced our hand to consider renovation.

In 2008 the elders asked a team to consider the costing of renovating the white house. The recommendation of the report was that to restore the house to a suitable standard would cost \$130 000. The reasons for renovating the white house were that:

1. It was the cheaper of the present options
2. Something needs to be done, as our inaction is a decision for further deterioration. There has been no maintenance of the white house for 20 years
3. Present white house is not fit for habitation
4. Movement of church office to new building has freed the front rooms of the white house
5. If we knock down the white house we cannot rebuild and we would have to consider purchasing a home in the area

In November the elders began the task to restore the white house. At the point we desire the congregations input as we have a unique opportunity with Nathan and Tina pursuing a short-term mission in China for 6 months and members of the management team having some spare moments.

If you are interested in finding out more please come to the hall at 11am to speak with Peter and Graeme.

- Praise God for his wonderful kindness
- Pray for the leaders of groups and ministries to be refreshed during January
- Pray for Phillips family as they pack and plan their time in China. They are leaving next Saturday.
- Pray for the smooth visa applications for the team going to China
- Pray for the China team (Sophie Clarke, Danielle Mathers, Louise Joyce, Jo Mohr and Nicholas Campbell) that God will prepare their hearts for their short-term mission and keep them safe.
- Pray for the Oakes family as they go on holidays until 16th February
- 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: Richard, Kristin, Bethany Campbell & Angus WALKER

TUESDAY: Geraldine WARDLAW

WEDNESDAY: Ron and Margaret WATT

THURSDAY: Joe WILSON

FRIDAY: Lin WILSON

James 1:12

Blessed is the man who preserves under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

China mission trip

The team for China departs next weekend. The Jagelmans have asked if it is possible for the following items to be taken to China. If you would like to purchase any item(s), to bless the work the Jagelman family do in China, please give it to Stephen by Wednesday so that the team have time to pack them.

The items are:

- Children's panadol
- Combantrum for children
- A hand held mixer
- Tropical strength insect repellent
- Hand sanitizer
- Brown rice—yes they will be taking rice to China!
- Fruit chutney—2 jars (Aristocrat or Fountain brand)
- Twinings English breakfast tea—a big box
- Vanilla essence—5 big bottles
- Caramel Tim tams and caramello koalas
- Natural fruit gummy lollies
- Weet bix—also a couple of Hi fiber boxes as well.
- Stickers (children's) and balloons—a number of packet, to take to the villages that they visit. Make sure that they don't have any writing on them!
- Bags of individually wrapped lolly pops

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

Ministry Team matters

The Ministry Team wants to inform us that there are specific days for ministry:

- Richard:* Monday to Wednesday – church office
Thursday – Alexander Campbell House (Churches of Christ Retirement Village) at Forestville
Friday – a day off, except when Friday Friendship Group is on
- Louise:* Wednesday and Friday in the church office 9am—5pm
- Loida:* One day of work a week, different day each week!
- Stephen:* Monday—Friday at the church office—Thursday as day off

“Not a sigh is breathed, not a pain felt, not a grief pierces the soul, but the throb vibrates to the Father’s heart.”

—Ellen G. White—

A Fast weekend

Fasting is intentionally giving something up to spend that time focusing on God. Many times in Scripture, the bible characters fast to pray and deepen their relationship with God:

- David – 2 Samuel 12:15-17
- Paul – Acts 9
- Anna – Luke 2:37 - worshipped night and day, fasting and praying
- Church fasted and worshipped for decision making – Acts 13:2, 14:23
- Jesus practiced fasting (Matthew 4:1-11)

On the weekend of the 7th or 8th Feb the ministry team invite you to share in a fast. This will be the first of 3 fasts in 2009. In abstaining we discover an alternative source of strength. One reason for practicing spiritual disciplines is to eliminate the things that keep us from experiencing the fullness of life in God. Through this practice of fasting God can break our bondage to satisfying ourselves.