

## "A CHURCH FOR ALL"

### CHELSEA NEWSLETTER

19 January 2014



**Have you ever experienced a 'dry spell' - a time when your faith felt dull and circumstances in your life seemed uncertain?**

It may seem strange, but often God uses these 'dry spells' to prepare us to be even more fruitful in the days ahead.

I was reminded of this recently when I was pruning my climbing rose in the garden. This rose belonged to my mum and I love to tenderly remove the old 'dead' flowers and branches to encourage new growth.

When the beautiful light pink flowers bloom, I take them and place them at the cemetery.

God does this to us—He lovingly and gingerly removes old branches from our life so we can sprout new growth. God does this not to punish us but to help us grow because He loves us and wants us to do well.

If I weeded or pruned in the garden every day then it would take a much shorter time than if I said: 'Well, the weeds and pruning aren't too bad, I'll get to them later.' This often means I have to spend an entire afternoon in the garden instead of 10 minutes.

It is the same with my time with God in prayer as I seek forgiveness for my sins and strength and guidance to continue in my journey.

We all have seasons when our walk with God isn't as fresh as it has been. But we can keep a dry spell from becoming a drought with regular prayer, reading God's Inspired Word and maintaining meaningful relationships with other Christians.

It is often during the dry spells we're most tempted to stop praying, reading the Bible and interacting with other Christians. That is when a garden needs water more than ever—that is when we need to receive

## The Pastor Is In.

I am available to chat about any issues. Please call me on **0423 375 714** for a suitable time to catch up. **Judi**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### RETURNING COMMUNITY MEALS

Breakfast Wednesday 29th Jan Brunch Thursday 30th Jan

**YOUNG MUMS SUPPORT GROUP Friday 7th Feb 9.30-11.30**

Great time to support any young mums feeling isolated or in need of some friends. Guest speakers will be planned to assist with life skills.

**FAMILY FUN NIGHTS. Saturday 8th February 4-6pm**

These are aimed at any combination of family. Our first night will be exploring our surrounding environment, looking at skeletons of animals and making some great crafts.

### VICTOR'S TALK.

Before Chris, Sara and Charlie left Victor recorded a talk and this is available to listen to at: <http://www.salvos.org.au/radio> It will be heard around Australia and South East Asia this coming week. Chris said it is awesome, funny and deep. We may listen to this as a church next Sunday.

### GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE YOURSELF IN TOUGH TIMES.

1. The Gift of Time—take a walk listen to music, relax with a cuppa
2. The Gift of Empathy—don't dwell on your challenges, move ahead
3. The Gift of Friendship—develop a caring community to encourage and support you through life's transitions
4. The Gift of Perspective—talk with someone you trust—a church leader, counsellor or mature friend
5. The Gift of Salvation—make sure your faith and trust are on the only trustworthy person—Jesus Christ who died for our sake
6. The Gift of Hope—study the topic of hope. Read about Jesus'

# Chelsea Church of Christ Services

## **CHURCH SERVICES 10 am Sunday**

19 January 2014

Speaker: Steve Jackson

Reading: John 1:29-42

26 January 2014

Speaker: Judi

Reading: Matt 4: 12-23

Theme: Jesus said 'Follow Me'



This service will also include special 'back to school; prayers for the children and opportunities for adult members to take on commitment of praying for children during the 2014 year.

2 February 2014

Speaker: Bill Nagy

Reading: Matt 5:1-12

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES 10 am Sunday**

**Children's Sunday  
School will be in  
recess from 29th December  
and will resume  
2nd February 2014**

Activity sheets for children can be provided if they

## REGULAR WHAT'S ON

Pastoral Care and Support : available from  
Minister Judi. Call church or Mobile



Tuesday: Kankama facilities Men's Shed 9-12noon

Wednesday: Community Breakfast 8-10 am,  
Men's Shed 9am-12  
Women's Group 2nd Wed of month

Thursday: Men's shed 9-12  
AA Meeting in Chapel 11am  
Community Lunch 11am-1.00pm

Friday: 1st and 3rd Friday each month stating 7th Feb  
Young Mums Support Group 9.30-11.30am.

Connecting Skills Australia @ the Men's Shed 9-12

Saturday: 2nd Saturday of each month in the hall from  
4-6pm Family Fun afternoons.

Sunday: Worship & Kid's Sunday School 10 am each week  
Discussions group 12 noon, Last Sunday each month

Church & Men's Shed 3-5 Blantyre Ave Chelsea

Office: 03 9773 0301

Minister: Judi Turnham 0423 375 714

Shed Ministry: Keith Holt

Breakfast & Brunch Ministry :

Visiting Ministry: Val Arnold, Keith Holt, Syd & Lesley Jackson  
See phone list for contact details

Website: [www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au](http://www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au)