

26th March 2023



Chelsea Community
Church of Christ and
Careworks Inc.

3-5 Blantyre Ave
Chelsea. 3196.

“OUR ANCHOR OF HOPE—GOD”

What is a Disciple?

The simplest definition of a disciple is a “learner” or “follower.” Socrates had disciples, John the Baptist had disciples and Gandhi had disciples. But to be a disciple of Jesus Christ is unique; it involves much more than following a human leader. Jesus’ followers were invited into a special relationship with amazing privileges and opportunities.

In the time of the disciples, if you were called a follower of Christ, people would expect to see your life busy about relationships and reformation. This identify was clear in Christ’s day. It is like today when you say: “Oh, he is a truck driver” or “She is a doctor.” It spoke volumes about who they were and explained why they lived, thought and acted as they did.

Discipleship requires a basic shift of orientation as we align ourselves with God’s will through humbly letting go of our own agendas. To deny ourselves in the context of cross-bearing means that the world will reject us for walking outside of its path, but we are ready to do so, because God has called us to walk in a different way.

Cheap Grace is grace without discipleship, without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.

Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a person will gladly go and sell all that they have.

It is costly because it costs a person their life and it is grace because it gives the person the only true life.

Do you doubt that God has called you to be His disciple?

Do you judge yourself harshly by thinking you are just not good enough?

Why not join Ps Judi and others in exploring the original 12 disciples, witness their weaknesses and challenges, characters and behaviours. And from this your eyes will be opened to why God has called you.

Security cameras to be installed. Following a couple of incidents the church has purchased cameras to increase everyone's safety. These will be installed in April and will be monitored.

Quotes being obtained to upgrade our Overhead projectors. Kevin is obtaining quotes to guide us in upgrading and improving our projectors. As you may have noticed, the front one continues to jump, making it hard to look at. We are hopeful Judi can obtain a suitable grant to pay for the costs.

Churches of Christ Vic/Tas—Annual Conference. Ps Judi, Kay, Diane and Janet will be attending the conference to be held at Berwick Church of Christ. This is a great opportunity to meet a variety of Churches of Christ members, enjoy upbeat worship songs and listen to a number of excellent speakers. If you are interested in attending, please speak to Ps Judi.

Please continue to drop in some non-perishable pantry items. Funds are slowly dwindling and Ps Judi is awaiting the results of a couple of grants applied for. Please pray for success as we would not want to close down the Pantry service.

Front garden will be spruced up. Thanks to voluntary help from "The Green Brigade" weeds will be removed from the front and pruning undertaken where needed. This group can assist us on a regular basis.

Good Friday Service. Ps Judi is considering whether to hold a Good Friday service in our church at 10am Friday or to join with a few of the other churches in the area, once again at Beeson Reserve, for the regular "Stations of the Cross" service. **Please let Ps Judi know what would be most beneficial for you.**

What song or Scripture passage is one of your favourites? Please let Ps Judi know so we can include the information in our newsletter.

Bible Study for all. A study of the Original 12 apostles.

Ps Judi is offering these studies to everyone and is willing to run an hour session, the 1st Sunday of the month, after church. It is planned to commence in May after Easter. Please seriously consider this series as we all get to know the characters and behaviours of the 12 Men that were chosen by Jesus.



Prayer Points: Please pray for those who are living with mental health issues and their families/ friends trying to support them.

Lent Sermons coming up.
March 26th—Community
April 2nd—Palm Sunday—"where are you headed?"
7th April Good Friday service
9th April—the Empty Tomb

Mondays: Pastoral care/prayer support by appointment with Pastor Judi

Wednesdays: Food Pantry 7am to 11.30am;

Big Breakfast 7am to 10am and

Orange Sky Laundry 7am to 8.30am.

Fridays: Prayer meeting 9.30-10:30am

Women's Bible Study 10:30-11:45am.

Sundays: Worship service 10am followed by a cuppa and a chat.