

A COMMUNITY CHURCH WITH A *BIG* HEART

Vol. 19 Issue Jan1

I would like to introduce you to our first and exciting new Newsletter issue; with a new and fresh design to coincide with some new and exciting ideas in the pipeline for 2019. As always, feedback and new ideas are welcomed as we assist and encourage each other and our extended community 'through faith and by faith' (Eph 2:7-8) for 2019.

A word from our Student Minister

Baptism, a public declaration of our faith and trust in Christ openly expressed with a water baptism. But are we truly baptised by water or is there another way to receive Christ? Does it make us true believers? As a new Christian all these questions and more I ask each and every day as I learn and grow spiritually; the answers I receive seem to be the same each time.

So what does baptism mean to me?

Being raised in the Church from birth I had developed a belief that God was real, that Christ died and was resurrected; tradition. There was no other explanation for the unexplainable events that occurred throughout my life. I was baptised in 2004 but it left a negative effect on what followed. Then, after all the changes I had been through it was time to re-commit myself to Christ and was baptised a second time.

I have experienced both types of Baptisms; by water and by the Holy Spirit , but it was only after the second Baptism that I discovered the difference between believing from a life in the Church and understanding what it means to be a believer. Being baptised by the Holy Spirit changes your relationship with Christ with a new understanding and a resurrection of new life. A cleansing of the soul of all sins, a fresh start; the beginning of a new life in Christ.

John Says, 'As for me, I baptise you with water, but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Luke 3:15-17



A word from our board



A word from the Board: On Sunday 13th January, the Board will be meeting to discuss the National Re-dress scheme in relation to our church. Meeting will be at 12pm after our coffee gathering, members please be on time.

Church Members: Information (summary) will be delivered to the members of the Church the following week (20th Jan) so that you will have plenty of time to look it before a decision is made at the General Meeting for the church to opt-in or opt-out of the National Redress Scheme. All Church members are invited to attend the General meeting which will commence as soon as possible after the service on Sunday 3rd February 2019.

Margaret (chairperson) will be available after any church service to answer any questions, however we believe that your questions will be answered at the general meeting in February.



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Student Min. Fiona - 0467 043 441
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The Pastor Is In:

Pastor Judi provides pastoral care to all who attend the church and overall site throughout the week. She is able to meet on or off site, depending on your preferences. Best contact 0423 375 714.

Fiona is also available at times to offer support on Mondays and Tuesdays. Best contact 0467 043 441.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.
Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for —

**GOD IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO.**

JOSHUA 1:9



Student Ministry

The year 2018 has been an incredibly challenging time with a heavy study load which had taken me away from my duties here at Chelsea Community Church of Christ. With the approaching new study semester and a much lighter one I look forward to getting to know you all and utilise the skills I have and will learn in pastoral care.

Sharing one's spiritual journey in providing guidance and insight is an incredibly personal one and I would like to thank you all in advance for allowing me to be apart of your journey and also having you beside me in mine as the Holy Spirit guides each of us through Grace, Love, Hope and Compassion.

Study:

An exciting year ahead with six new lessons to explore and I would like to encourage discussion from the congregation to assist in my learning outside the classroom. Having the opportunity to learn outside the classroom is most fundamental in my understanding of how Christianity works in the world of trauma, sadness, joy, happiness and also through mental health. Please feel free to open or join in discussion and discussion groups which will be held throughout the year. Topics on offer this year are:

Semester One (25 February to 4 June):

- Wednesday - Introduction to Pastoral and Spiritual Care
- Friday - Parables and their Interpretations: influences on Christian Theology
- Intensive - Children and Families Ministry: Core Issues and Contextualities For Excellence in Practice.

Semester Two (29 July to 1 November):

- Wednesday - Narrative in the Hebrew Bible
- Intensive 1 - Pastoral Responses to Mental Health
- Intensive 2 - Dietrich Bonhoeffer: On Ego, Power and Freedom in Ministry and Mission



The spiritual well-being and care of our extended church family is an integral part of making sure our community is treated with respect and love. However, we cannot do what we do in the community if we did not have the support of the local Community:: individuals, school groups and local businesses and Pay-It-Forward.

The following services are offered as part of our Careworks Program:

YOUR PANTRY

Wednesdays 7.00 to 12noon

Your Pantry will be serving once again the local community with basic items to get them through a rough patch. With many walks of life using the service we often hear wonderful stories about people's journey's. Stories such as the difficulties some experience in looking for work and finding limited opportunities. This is a sad scenario for a lot of people.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Wednesdays 7.00—10am

For the last few weeks the breakfast has maintained an incredible service still offering a basic breakfast menu over the holidays. With one week to go before the Breakfast team is back on deck, breakfast will be service Wednesday morning with Bacon and Eggs, Cereal, toast and tea, coffee and juice.

ORANGE SKY LAUNDRY

Wednesdays 7.00-9am

Orange Sky Laundry continue to offer this amazing service which is still be being used by our struggling friends. The service is not only used by those who don't have a place to call home but also by those who don't have a washing machine or lose power due to power outages or cuts.

If at anytime you need to talk about any situation you may be experiencing, the Church has an excellent and well qualified ministry team available who have developed good relationships with local and surrounding organisations. Feel free to approach anyone available on Wednesday either in the breakfast, Pantry or Laundry to let our ministry team know and one of our team members can sit with you.

JOIN US FOR **WORSHIP** SUNDAYS

CHURCH SERVICES 10 am Sunday

Sermon Series for the Month of: JANUARY

13 January

Speaker: Judi

Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-7 - **Baptism of Jesus** Val
Luke 3:15-17 & 21-22 Terry

20 January

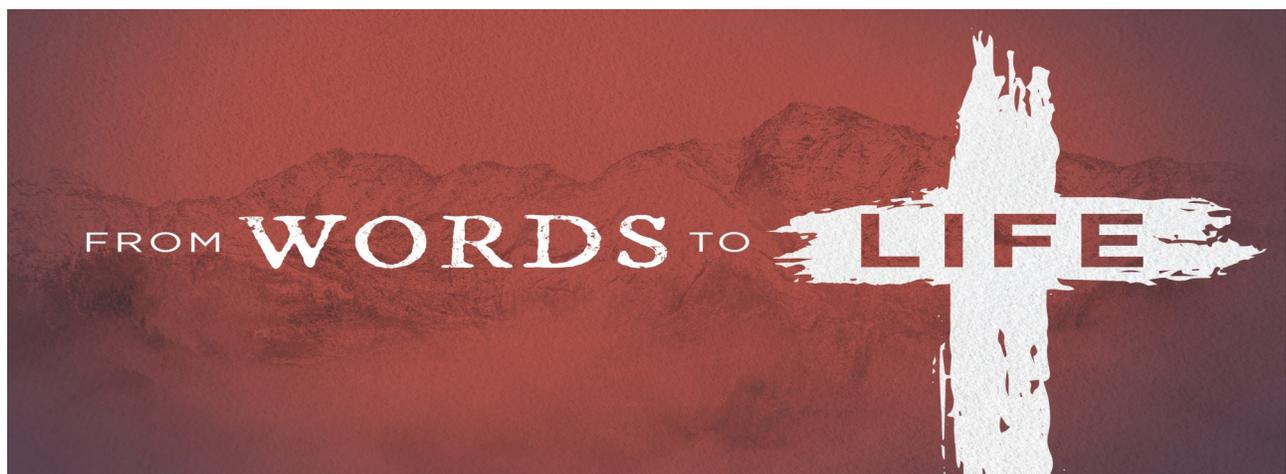
Speaker: Fiona

Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-5 - **Epiphany 2** Noel
John 2:1-11 Leah

27 January

Speaker: Colin

Scripture: Psalm 19 - **Epiphany 3** Di
Luke 4:14-21 Marg



Latest News

Suggestions for a Sermon Series: Our Ministers welcome your input into planning a series for our sermons - such as: where to find Hope in the bible; exploring Revelation; Organic Outreach or; how the bible fits into our normal everyday lives. The ministry team look forward to a blessed year as we all learn together what the Bible has on offer for 2019.

Holiday Clean up: while the tenants on holiday, we have an opportunity to tidy up the church site inside and out. Noel and Judi have a list so if anyone is feeling particularly energetic please let them know. Things like gardening, helping in removing some rubbish or even organising lunch.

A Big Thank You: to those who stayed for Beryl's farewell. Beryl is now headed off for a Country Change and we wish her all the very best in a new and exciting journey ahead. We would like to encourage all to keep in touch and we will also plan a day trip to visit Beryl in beautiful Korumburra.

Community Lunch: Our next Sunday Lunch will be 27th January - those wishing to attend please see Leah and let her know if you are able to assist in providing a plate for catering.

CHAPEL LOUNGE (just outside the Chapel)

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Thursday 1pm - 2.15pm

Ladies are invited to our small **Bible study group** where we share God's word with laughter, tears and compassion. Bibles are provided. We do ask that you arrive on time as late comers can be disruptive to the session.

PRAYER MEETING

Thursday 2.30pm - 3pm

All welcome to our weekly **Prayer meeting** where we thank God for His wonderful blessings and pray for guidance and support. Individuals are also prayed for.

"If you can?" said Jesus.
"Everything is possible
for one who believes."
Mark 9:23

