

14 May 2023



Chelsea Community
Church of Christ and
Careworks Inc.

3-5 Blantyre Ave
Chelsea. 3196.

“ OUR ANCHOR OF HOPE—GOD”

A World without Grace

A woman on a bus was reading Scott Peck’s “The Road Less Travelled” book. The man sitting next to her asked: “What are you reading?” She said: “a book a friend of mine gave me.” He said: “what is it about?” She replied: “I’m not sure but there are chapters on Discipline, Love, Grace.” He stopped her and asked: “What is grace?” She answered: “I don’t know. I haven’t got to grace yet.”

We only have to see or hear the news of the continuing strife in the world to realise that it is devoid of grace. Like those who live in the city and who no longer notice the polluted air, we breathe in the atmosphere of ungrace unawares.

Even in some churches today, like fine wine poured into a jug of water, Jesus’ wondrous message of grace gets diluted in the vessel of the church. “For the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Many Christians continue to spend enormous energy debating and decreeing truth. Every church has its particular version. But we should not be in the business of trying to “out-grace” its rivals.

Grace is Christianity’s best gift to the world, a spiritual nova in our midst exerting a force stronger than vengeance, stronger than racism, stronger than hate.

We need to seek to see everyone through the eyes of God, to notice the grace around us. We learn grace by being graced. Grace comes free of charge to people who do not deserve it. Healing, forgiveness and goodness all comes solely from the grace of God. As you mature in your faith in Jesus, you will find grace overtakes you and replaces pride, anger, irritability and judgement.

GRACE.

G = Gift of Salvation.

R = Repentance.

A = Almighty.

C = Commitment.

E = Eternal life.

Volunteer's dinner: 9 of us attended this dinner put on by Kingston Council to recognise and thank volunteers. It was a great night and lovely meal. Rotary provided healthy, left-over food for us which was given to those who came to our Food Pantry on Wednesday.



Pastor Judi is keen to take on board the opportunity for a number of volunteers to work at the monthly **Rotary Farmer's Market**. Our roles would be to assist with directing parking and taking entry fees. If we do, our church would receive 50% of the gate takings.

Inter-church Pentecost Service: We have been invited to share with other churches in celebrating the season of Pentecost. The service will be held at St. Chad's Anglican Church at 2.30pm on Sunday 28th May.



Please note our Special Pentecost Service will be held in our chapel at 10am.



God answers prayers: As Judi mentioned last Sunday, after a number of days of dedicated prayer, Lillian, niece of Michael and Lai Fong, was found safe and well after 5 days lost in the forests around Bright.

Sunday 21st May 2023. We will be welcoming Mitch from Global Mission Partners will share what this Mission is all about. This Mission Group is part of Churches of Christ Vic/Tas. We look forward to his presentation.

Women's Bible Study Topic for June. Our topic will be all about the third member of the Holy Trinity—the Holy Spirit. Who is He and how to recognise His voice.

Some Positive meetings: Pastor Judi met with Tim Richardson, Local Member of Parliament and Georgina Oxley, our local Council Member. Both Tim and Georgina commented positively on the work that we do and are guiding us on capital works (when the Men's Shed leave) and partnering with other faith-based organisations in regard to accessing food resources.

Pantry Items:



Please continue to bring along at least one pantry item (within date) each Sunday to ensure our cupboards are not bare.

Prayer Points: Please pray for all families who may be estranged at this time, considering today is Mother's Day. Pray for all those who find this day particularly hard for a myriad of reasons.

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:

Women's Bible Study 10:30–11:45am.

Sundays: Worship service

10am followed by a cuppa and a chat.

