

Building Faith at Home

Most nights when my family sits around the table eating tea, we talk about our days.

My 14-year-old son, Micah, generally shares about what sport he played during lunchtime, and groans with despair if he's had a double lesson of maths (*'it was the worst day EVER Dad!!'*). My 12 year old daughter, Immy, might talk about her winning streak playing Uno with friends at lunchtime, and how she didn't like the lunch her Mum made for her. Given a choice, she would eat Sushi 3 meals a day.

Eating tea together each night is an important part of our family rhythm. No TV playing in the background, no rushing to get to the next thing, no technology at the table. It's just the 4 of us: talking and listening to each other.

It's been a conscious decision for a long time now, mindful of the importance of making time to talk and just be together, and of our responsibility as parents to be the chief 'disciplers' of our kids. That just means that we try and model how to be a follower of Jesus, with all the ups and downs that are a part of that journey. We try and show them how to talk with God, how to be honest with Him, how to think through what we believe and why, and how to try and trust God in all situations.

It can be tough. The questions that Micah asks sometimes leave me stumbling for an answer, and I'll often say something like *'that's a great question....I'm not sure I have an easy answer mate.'* So we'll keep talking through it and, in the process, I trust that he realizes that following Jesus isn't about having all the answers, rather it's about knowing what questions to ask, and where to go with them. Sometimes there are no adequate answers, and the best we can do is to live with the tension of not having a clear, easy answer.

As a family we're always on the lookout for simple resources that can help us make the most of those mealtimes. I thought I'd share one such resource with you.

It's called **ChatMatters**. It's a placemat that you can download for free, and it's built around 10 important questions that are designed to help families engage in life-forming conversations. There are two versions available—for families and adults—and they're available in multiple languages as well.

This resource has been developed by Here2Stay, a collaborative initiative by the Bible Society, Compassion, Focus on the Family Australia, Scripture Union and Willow Creek Australia. Download your copy today from here2stay.org and while you're there, discover other helpful strategies and resources for your family. You can also follow the conversation on Facebook.

If you use **ChatMatters**, I'd love to hear how you go with it. Send me an email and let me know. ablenkinsop@churchesofchrist-sa.org.au

Adrian Blenkinsop
 Next Gen Leadership Coach



**Celebrating 40 years
1979 - 2019**



On Sunday 10th February

**Happy Valley Church of Christ
will be Celebrating 40 years of Ministry and Service.**

**Mark Riessen will be the speaker as we re-imagine, dream and envision
the possibilities for Christ's church into the future.**

**You are invited to share with us in worship at 9.30am
followed by a time of sharing over lunch.**

Page 13: A selection

Gordon Stirling's contribution to Churches of Christ in the 20th and early 21st centuries remains strikingly contemporary.

Here, for the first time, a taster of Gordon Stirling's "Page 13" articles (published on 13th page of the National Churches of Christ journal, "the Australian

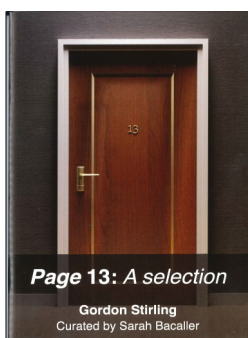
Christian") are made newly and readily available for Churches of Christ communities and beyond long after their initial publication in 1979-1987. G R Stirling's insights remain apt for our time and context.

This collection represents a selection from almost 200 Page 13 articles.

Copies of this booklet are available from Churches of Christ State Office for \$5.50 (plus \$3 postage)

Please contact the State Office for your copy.

8443 7573 or reception@churchesofchrist-sa.org.au



For Prayer and Reflection

...love beyond anything we can grasp or comprehend

love without limit and without end

love that is unearned and unearnable

love that has within it the ever-present possibility of forgiveness, healing, of new beginnings

love that is for all, yet leans especially towards the despised, the broken, the forgotten

love that holds each one of us, even when – especially when – we can no longer hold anything

love that broke its own silence, that uttered its own Word,

that came among us full of grace and truth...

[from a Christmas card]

Lenten App 'Just Earth' - Environmental Action Group

Thursday, 14 February 2019, 7.30pm at Effective Living Centre, 26 King William Road, Wayville.

International Launch of 'Just Earth' Lenten App by UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer, with guest speaker Dr Ingo Weber on the topic 'Health impacts of climate change, especially on children'.

Western Communities Church of Christ and CareWorks

Position Vacant –

Community Hub Coordinator

Western Communities Church of Christ is a small Church with a big vision to foster new connections with people in its local community.

The Church has facilities in Flinders Park which include a hall, meeting room and kitchen.

The vision is in partnership with CareWorks to develop a suite of programs which form a Community Hub – the main aim being to make connections with, and form authentic relationships with the local community.

The church is seeking an energetic, creative and organised person to take the main role in establishing this new venture.

About the position of Community Hub Coordinator:

Part-time 4 hours per week on a one year contract. You will be the driving force in the establishment of the community hub

- Working with a small committee
- Establishing new programs with the help of volunteers
- Building networks within the community
- Managing and marketing the programs

The successful person will:

- Be a relational leader
- Adept at building relationships with and serving the local community
- Be skilled at liaising with other community groups
- Be able to manage and work well with volunteers
- Be experienced in running community programs
- Be able to work independently and take initiative
- Possess an innovative 'can do' attitude
- Be an energetic, self-starter
- Have the support of their local church leader who can provide a reference

Please lodge your Expression of Interest by emailing positionsvacant@cwsa.org.au by 10 February 2019 or for more information contact Geoff Payne at CareWorks on 8234 5802

Ordination Service

We are excited to invite everyone to an ordination service for Churches of Christ ministers. Join with us in affirming the call to ministry for some new ministers serving in Churches of Christ settings. The following people will be ordained as Churches of Christ ministers:

Nate Vawser minister, Brooklyn Park Church of Christ

John Stayte minister, Naracoorte Church of Christ

Tanya Nokes minister, Blair Athol Church of Christ

Steve Mills Spiritual Care Coordinator, Chaplaincy Services SA SALHN

Stephen Albrecht minister, Cummins Uniting Church

Jèan Smith minister, SouthPoint Church of Christ

Location: Aldgate Church of Christ

Date: Friday, February 8th 2019

Time: 7:30pm

Slovenia Leads the World



Once a year on the first Friday in March over 170 countries participate in the same service. This ecumenical service focuses on a chosen country and is written by a group of women from that country. The focus for 2019 is on the tiny Balkan country of Slovenia.

The city service of World Day of Prayer in 2019 will be held in the beautiful **St. Peter's Cathedral at 10am on Friday 1st March**. There are fifteen city churches in Adelaide. Uniting together by attending a service shows that "Church" doesn't mean a building but a community of followers of Christ. South Aussies could take the opportunity of coming inside the Cathedral, so often praised from the outside during sporting events. St. Peter's will celebrate 150 years of worship in 2019 so please join us for a worldwide prayer event.

If you have any questions, contact your WDP representative, Julie Walladge, on 0422 279 083.

2019 Calendar Planning – Year at a Glance



Throughout the year there are specific opportunities to stand together with our global partners; to build Christian communities, stand with Australia's first peoples and help fight poverty. Remembering them in their time of need and living generously has a real impact on both our partners and on us.

The following outline is to assist with your planning for 2019. A variety of resources will be available in the weeks leading up to each of these events.

19 April – Good Friday Walk for Hope

Easter is a time of hope, recalling both the cost and the incredible joy of having a relationship with Jesus Christ. Our desire is for everyone around the world to hear the hope of the gospel and connect with supportive faith communities. This Good Friday, walk to church, and raise money to help give people hope through access to Christian ministries. Your fundraising will help plant new churches, train pastors to support local communities and send evangelists to share Jesus' message of hope to more people. It can also be a significant time of reflection for those who participate.

September – Safe Water September

Safe Water September is the challenge to drink nothing but water for the entire month of September to raise funds for safe water projects.

Participants experience the lack of choice that many partners face, and also the celebration and joy of clean water coming to rural communities in Zimbabwe.

October – Great Gifts

The Great Gifts Catalogue includes gift selections for each of the Indigenous Ministries, Relief and Development and Church Partnership projects. These are available all year with a special focus for Christmas giving. Your church can continue making a real impact and changing people's lives for the better through giving Great Gifts.

25 December – Christmas Day COCOA Offering

Bring joy, hope and real change to people in some of the poorest communities around the world through your Churches of Christ Overseas Aid Christmas gift.

Thank you for your support of Global Mission Partners, enabling our partners to support their local communities around the world.

For further information on any of these events or for a personalised focus for your church contact Val Zerna, GMP Partnership Coordinator SA/NT, on val@gmp.org.au or 8352 3466.

Worship Leaders Needed in SA Prisons

There is an opportunity for a suitably gifted persons to join the team of workers who lead worship services in the states prisons. The positions are all voluntary and bring with them the benefits of fulfilling the request of Jesus that we "visit people in prison."

There are a number of positions open in the metropolitan area and both men and women are welcome to apply. The services are all tailored to the prison and the prisoners and you will receive help with your introduction to the prison and your service preparations.

Worship leaders will need the skills of public speaking and be willing to use the designated reading for the day.

Those interested should email or call Rev Ian Schneider, Principal Chaplain for more details. Ph 8343 0469 Email ian.schneider2@sa.gov.au

Call to Pray....

You are invited to join with people across our churches in praying for one another. This month we pray together for:

Tumby Bay, Ungarra, United Church Royal Park

Morialta Charitable Trust Fund has been supporting disadvantaged Children, Young People and their families in South Australia through its annual program of Distributions for 40 years.

To enable the Fund to continue this support through Community Organisations in South Australia Morialta Charitable Trust Fund seeks donations from the public.

Donations of \$2- and above are Tax Deductible and can be forwarded to the Morialta Charitable Trust Fund at PO Box 92, Crafers SA 5152.