

WEEKLY DIARY

SUNDAY 15th August 2010

Texts: 2 Samuel 6:1-17 ; Acts 15:5-22

- 9.00am Worship Service – MERREDIN
Preacher: Rev David de Kock
- 11.00am Worship Service – BRUCE ROCK
Preacher: Rev David de Kock
- 1.00pm Ride for Life (Saltbush Farm)
- 2.30pm Moorditj Mia Service

MONDAY 16th August 2010

- 10.00am Ladies KYB Study (Christian Bookshop)

TUESDAY 17th August 2010

- 9.00am Merredin Ministers' Association

WEDNESDAY 18th August 2010

- 10.00am Churches Fraternal (UCA)
- 4.00pm Vietnam Vets Remembrance Service
- 6.00pm Congregation Prayer Meeting (Church)
- 7.00pm Men's Fellowship (Church)
- 7.30pm Ladies KYB Study (Beth Smith's Home)

THURSDAY 19th August 2010

- 9.30am MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) - Church of Christ
- 5.30pm Elders Meeting

FRIDAY 20th August 2010

- 3.30pm Muckaround Youth Group (Church)

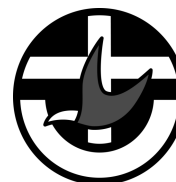
SATURDAY 21st August 2010

- 7.30am Men's Breakfast
- 10.00am Ride for Life (Saltbush Farm)

SUNDAY 22nd August 2010

- 9.00am Worship Service — MERREDIN
Preacher: Rev David de Kock
- 11.00am Worship Service — MUKINBUDIN
Preacher: Rev David de Kock
- 3.00pm Ride for Life (Saltbush Farm)
- 6.30pm Worship Service—SOUTHERN CROSS

Eastern Wheatbelt
Uniting Church
Bruce Rock + Merredin + Mukinbudin + Southern Cross



15th August 2010



God's
Presence
With us

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www.facebook.com/EasternWheatbeltParish
VESTRY HOURS: 8.30am—12noon (Mon-Wed)

Worship Services Today

9.00am—Merredin

Musician – Anne Scarfe/Sal Marais - Projection – Kevin Tengvall

Welcome & Call to Worship

Introduction to Worship—Val Tengvall

SiS 481—Celebrate

SiS 140—Come bless the Lord

SiS 361—In the presence of Your people

SiS 309—King of Kings

Prayers of Praise & Confession

Children’s Story - Who do you trust?

HYMN – SoF 829—I stand amazed in the Presence

Offering (Lisa & Jamie Arthur)

Prayers of Thanksgiving

SERMON – David de Kock (God's Presence with us)

Readers: Tobias Vudzijena & Fanie Coetzee

Texts: 2 Samuel 6:1-17 ; Acts 15:5-22

Prayer of Response

HYMN – SoF 526—The Church’s one foundation

Prayers of Intercession

HYMN – AHB 488—O for a closer walk with God

Benediction (followed by **Threefold Amen**)

11.00am—Bruce Rock

Welcome & Call to Worship

Prayers of Praise & Confession

Children’s Story—Who do you trust?

HYMN – SoF 829—I stand amazed in the Presence

SERMON – David de Kock (God's Presence with us)

HYMN – SoF 526—The Church’s one foundation

OFFERING

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Prayers of Intercession

HYMN – AHB 488—O for a closer walk with God

Benediction

Scripture Readings

| Day | Psalms | Old Testament | New Testament | Gospel |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Sun Aug 15 | am: 118 pm: 145 | Judg 16:15-31 | 2 Cor 13:1-11 | Mark 5:25-34 |
| Mon Aug 16 | am: 106:1-18 pm: 106:19-48 | Judg 17:1-13 | Acts 7:44-8:1a | John 5:19-29 |
| Tue Aug 17 | am: 121 - 123 pm: 124—126 | Judg 18:1-15 | Acts 8:1-13 | John 5:30-47 |
| Wed Aug 18 | am: 119:145-176 pm: 128—130 | Judg 18:16-31 | Acts 8:14-25 | John 6:1-15 |
| Thur Aug 19 | am: 131 - 133 pm: 134, 135 | Job 1:1-22 | Acts 8:26-40 | John 6:16-27 |
| Fri Aug 20 | am: 140, 142 pm: 141, 143 | Job 2:1-13 | Acts 9:1-9 | John 6:27-40 |
| Sat Aug 21 | am: 137, 144 pm: 104 | Job 3:1-26 | Acts 9:10-19a | John 6:41-51 |
| Sun Aug 22 | am: 146, 147 pm: 111— 113 | Job 4:1-6, 12-21 | Rev 4:1-11 | Mark 6:1-6a |

Serving @ Services

| TODAY | MERREDIN | BRUCE ROCK | SNAC |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Elder | Bob French | Heather Hutton | NO SERVICE |
| Worship Leader | Val Tengvall | | |
| Musician | Anne Scarfe Sal Marais | Margie de Kock | |
| Readers | Tobias Vudzijena Fanie Coetzee | May Hayes-Thompson | |
| Sunday School | Lisa Arthur | | |

| NEXT WEEK | MERREDIN | MUKINBUDIN | SOUTH’ CROSS |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Elder | Steve Higgins | Gordon Jones | |
| Worship Leader | Debbie Tengvall | | |
| Musician | Bob French | Margie de Kock | |
| Readers | Kevin Tengvall Anne Sutherland | Gordon & Joy Jones | |
| Sunday School | Sal Marais | | |

What's Up?



Relevant Churches Seminar

Rev Dr Chris Walker

Sat Aug 28

Morning—Who are we as UCA Congregations

Afternoon—What is God calling us to be and do

Sun Aug 29—God's faithfulness

(A celebration for George & Val Tengvall's 60th wedding anniversary)



Your Pastor's Pen

Rev David de Kock

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Email: daviddecock@bigpond.com

We are gearing up for
Operation Christmas Child

Collect your shoe box from
Anne Sutherland



Merredin Congregation Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday August 29th, after the Morning Service.

Parish Council Meeting on August 28th (Relevant Churches)

Coming Up

The Ride for Life Program—Closing awards ceremony and Bonfire on August 22nd

YouthCare Meeting—August 24th (Note date change)

Men's Walk to Emmaus—September 2-5

Ladies Guild—Fellowship Day on September 7th

Ladies Walk to Emmaus—September 9-12

UCWA Annual Synod—September 17-19

We are continuing this morning to look at aspects of "God with us". As I prepare and pray through this concept it is becoming increasingly apparent to me that we cannot even begin to function as Christ Followers until we begin to realise that God is actually with us. We are not alone. In our journey through life; in every day, with every thought, God's is there. He does not necessarily intrude but He is there nonetheless. Why? I believe that it is because He loves us so much (For God so loved the world that He sent His Son ...) and He has an acute desire for companionship with us.

His Presence with us gives meaning to us and all of creation, it gives us purpose and direction, it determines our destiny. If God is not with us, then nothing has purpose, everything is just an accidental event. If God is not with us then the fact that the universe exists is a freak of nature, life is irrelevant and nothing actually matters.

The Bible makes it clear that God is not just out there somewhere—having made everything, and now just waiting to see what happens. No! He is intimately involved in His creation and especially with those made in His image—that, by the way, is you and me. There are those who don't believe in God—for them everything is just an accident. There are those who do believe in God but think that He is just a creator God who, having made everything is not too interested in it anymore—for them, He is just the "guy upstairs", the grand architect; He is significant but not actually interested in us. And then there are the believers—and what makes us different is our awareness of God's Presence. We know that He is with us, we know that this makes us different, and we know that we have direction and purpose in Him.

To recap—we began with the account of Paul and Silas in the Philipian jail. We saw that the jailer was converted, not because they had been able to escape but because, they hadn't escaped when the earthquake opened the doors. They were content to stay because God was with them in the jail and the jailers conversion came because He realised that God was with them. Last week we heard about Moses' argument with God. Moses was not prepared to move on with God's people unless the Lord went with them. Despite the sin of the people in worshipping the golden calf, Moses held God to His word of promise to Abraham. "God with us" changes other people's hearts and our confidence in "God being with us" changes God's heart.

Today we are going to be looking at God's desire to be with us. He gave the Israelites the Ark and the Tabernacle while he was with them in their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. Once in the Promised Land, the Ark languored at Abinidab's house through the era of the Judges. When David became king he wanted to move it to Jerusalem—it wasn't as simple as he thought but it taught him a lot about God's Presence. Later in the Book of Acts, the abode of the Ark in David's Jerusalem becomes the sign of God's desire to be with all people—Jew and Gentile. God does not want to inhabit just the "holy" places—He wants to make every place holy with His Presence.

I mentioned last week that Dr Chris Walker—National Consultant for Theology and Discipleship in the Uniting Church will be here to share with us over the weekend of August 27/28. The details of this are now to be found on the "What's Up" page of this newsletter. He will also preach on the Sunday which is to be a special service of celebration to mark George & Val Tengvall's 60th wedding anniversary.

If you are looking to step up your walk with Jesus, you might be interested in attending the next Walk to Emmaus weekends. The Men's Walk takes place at Katanning over the first weekend of September and the Ladies Walk takes place the following weekend. The weekend runs from Thursday evening to Sunday afternoon and is basically a series of talks and events which combine to create an incredible introduction into what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. The cost is \$205 for the weekend. Both Steve and I will be on the leadership team for the Men's weekend and Sal is on the team for the Ladies weekend. Speak to any of us for further details.

Blessings
David

Prayer Time



This week we are praying for the following families in our congregations

- Brad & Nicki Horne, Teaghan, Kaylee & Courtney
- Barry & Audrey Hunter

Family News

- News from Brianna Fisher (Gordon & Joy Jones' granddaughter) is not good. Her kidneys are severely underdeveloped (to age six, she is 14 years old) and she will need to be on dialysis every night.
- David & Margie's daughter Tegan (and Quinten, her husband) should have their visa next week. They arrive in October for Tegan to undertake the Midwifery Bridging Course at King Edward Hospital..

Birthdays

August 21st—Cameron Davey

If you have any news that you would like to share with your church family, then call David 9041 1117, or email daviddecock@bigpond.com for inclusion in this space.

PRAYER NEEDS

- The rain situation is still desperate, continue to pray urgently that the Lord will send rain.
- Pray for the Election on Saturday. God asks us to pray for the government and the government we get is the one we pray for.
- Pray for Val Hooper, recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- Pray for Kobus Marias' mother—the cancer has spread further. Pray for Kobus, his father, brother & sister.
- Pray for those suffering flu symptoms
- Pray for the Merredin Ride for Life program.
- Pray that the Lord would send a new spiritual awareness and hunger for righteousness amongst His people.
- Give thanks for the good things in your life—God has blessed you.
- For the week commencing Sunday: Rowthorpe congregations, prison chaplains, Uniting Church Archives & Uniting Church Centre