

LOOK

Newsletter, October 2010



holytrinitydoncaster

Friends, we are so glad to be here at Holy Trinity and I'm also glad to be able to write to you for the first time in *Look!* The first thing that Heather and I want to say is a huge 'Thankyou!' for wonderful generosity in the past five months in personally welcoming and supporting us in these early stages of ministry here. We also want to thank you for the great work you did on the vicarage on our behalf. We are enjoying living there and gradually making it home. As most of you know, it has been a significant change for us both; a change which has been complicated by Heather's mother's illness, ongoing medical issues with our first grandson Sean, and the joy of a second grandson being born recently (who has been named 'Jack'). In this time we have felt greatly loved and greatly supported in prayer and for this we are very grateful to God and through him for you.

I must admit that for the first month or so I felt as though the mass of names and activities which constitute Holy Trinity had overwhelmed me and I wondered where the surface was. As you all know, Paul Barker had an amazing capacity for work. However, he had gradually added activities over the years and a newcomer does not have that privilege. They simply have to handle what is already there. This was complicated by Wayne leaving so soon after I arrived.

However, I now feel as though I have found the surface of the water and am gradually learning how to swim in it. With that in mind, perhaps it might be helpful for me to tell you how I'm thinking about this first year or so. My goals are to spend the first three or four months just getting to know what happens at HTD and who is who. The second three or four months will be spent working out where we should be headed longterm and what we need to do to get there. The third three or four months will be spent talking to you about what I've worked out and getting your feedback at every level of our congregational life. This means that by the middle of next year we should have some longterm plans and can begin implementing them.

In my very first sermon as your pastor and teacher, I reflected on 1 Thessalonians 1. There Paul expresses his thankfulness to God by mentioning the Thessalonians in his prayers, by **remembering** their faith, hope, and love and by **knowing** or **recognising** the way they **received** the gospel in a way that demonstrated that they were God's elect. In my time here I have seen similar evidence of your love for God, for his word in Scripture, for his proclaimed word, the gospel, and for the incarnate Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a great joy to minister among you!

Andrew Reid



YOUTH CAMP 2010

On the last weekend in August our annual HTD Youth Camp took place down at Phillip Island's Koala Park Resort. We had a good mix of people there with church and non-church background. The theme of the weekend was Life Upside Down.

Our talks were given by Andrew Reid and they were based on stories from John where people meet Jesus and their life is turned upside down - that is radically changed. We were encouraged to either meet Jesus for the first time or to take stock of whether our lives as followers of Jesus were really all that different than if we didn't trust in Him. We also had a number of fun activities including the Upside Down Olympics, making upside down movies, spending time playing Wii and PS3, playing tennis, soccer and basketball, as well as chatting round the bonfire and eating great food from our upside down menu! Please continue to pray that this camp will have been a great time of bonding for the youth and that we will continue to grow as a community and in our knowledge and love of Jesus. Pray also that we would see more people come to know Jesus through the Youth Ministry here at HTD.

Chris Bowditch



2011 Holy Trinity Doncaster Summer Bible Expositions

with Andrew Reid



The Day the Lion Roars

Amos: A Prophet for Today

8 pm every Wednesday evening in January

Also 6pm Sermons from 29 December to 30 January



Farewell from the Schullers

We are full of thanks to God, especially for the ways in which people have loved us and encouraged us.

Holy Trinity is blessed with a wonderful staff team. The camaraderie of the staff is a genuine treasure. I have been welcomed in all congregations and have enjoyed getting to know people, both English and Mandarin.

Great memories include our children's baptisms, all the various children's ministries, junior CEBS and girls' group Wednesday nights, getting to preach through so many books of the Bible to an attentive and thoughtful congregation, many weddings and funerals to proclaim the gospel and care for people, being in great bible study groups, exhausting but exhilarating Sundays, church camps, and seeing people come to faith and others grow.

Here we are blessed by the faithfulness of previous generations - what will we contribute for the next generation? I have accumulated and read many great books - serious study has been a critical part of my own growth and fuelled my ministry to the parish.

Please pray for us. Many of you will know friends or wider family living or moving to the Casey growth corridor - please mention Berwick Anglican Church to them!

When we came to this church it was at a cost somewhere else, and as we go to Berwick it is for a cost here but a reward (we hope) there. In every sacrifice there are new joys to be found.

Will you join with us in gladly giving up everything for His sake, and trust Him not only to provide but to overflow blessing?

I can only add my testimony that every risk I have taken, Jesus has proven himself more than worthy of it, and so I take my family painfully away from here and take this risk, with real confidence - not in myself, but in the Lord Jesus Christ - that his resurrection will be evident even now. Amen.



'I hide God's word in my heart that I might not sin against You'. Psalm 119:11.



I went to Hebron High School in the wild and beautiful Nilgiri Hills of South India. The school made it possible for missionary and business children to be educated according to the British curriculum.

We had to memorise slabs of Biblical text for a couple of years while I was in grades 4-6 and my sister in 2-4. I remember being told that these were important Bible passages and the benefits of learning them would last all our lives. My parents confirmed their approval from 119:11. Drat! The practice was discontinued after those two years. Not sure why...not in the British curriculum?

I forgot all about this as I advanced to secondary school, emigrated to Australia, went to uni, became a teacher, got married and had kids.

Somewhere in my thirties, maybe forties, I wondered why some Bible texts read in church sounded so familiar! Why, I could almost repeat them off by heart! (with some translation differences) They seemed part of me, like $6 \times 7 = 42$, or Hamlet's soliloquy or the Periodic Table or the National Anthem or my Mum's favourite sayings!

Gradually, I've found that each passage we learned was well chosen for content and memorability. They have benefited me when I've been puzzled or doubting. They've helped me help others in informal discussions (when no Bible is present). Mostly they've given me cause to understand the Christian faith in greater depth through 'mulling', as the Holy Spirit has brought words, phrases or flows of argument to mind. My reaction is always a surprise! Joy, renewed confidence, passion and obedience well up!

We are currently learning Philippians 2:3-11 in Sunday School. Join us! If you're a parent, encourage your kids, make it fun, play games! Last time (Acts 17: 22-31) one family kept learning the verses when they travelled to and fro from church. Another family read the passage once a day, then tested each other, adding a verse when the previous one was learned.

Ruth Newmarch
Children's Minister

FAMILY MATTERS

Saturday 13th November

Anger & Discipline Seminar

(with dinner afterwards- bring a plate to share)

Sunday 5th December

Sunday School picnic for children and parents (BYO)



WORD SUNDAY

1:30pm Bilingual Service

WORD Sunday began several years ago as a youth group within the Mandarin Congregation, comprising mostly of primary and high school students who were second generation Chinese.

Over the years, we have seen the demographics change. So five years ago we started our first congregation worship in the sports hall with some twenty people. We were known as WORD Sunday, standing for our four pillars: Worship, Outreach, Relationship and Discipleship.

Our aim was to help second generation Australian born Chinese and overseas students coming to further their studies. For a long time, the people on the stage outnumbered those sitting in the rest of the congregation, and growth was slow, but thanks to God, we never lost hope that His word would reach many students.

Today we have around sixty people attending our congregation every Sunday at 1:30pm. In these few years, God has not only blessed our congregation by bringing more people to join our service, He has also blessed us with a new generation from within, with six babies born to four young families in the last year and a half. We have cell groups operating in both English and Chinese throughout the week, with groups able to cater for all our members.

For WORD Sunday, our outlook is a positive one, with numbers continuing to grow, and more and more members stepping up to serve God with us. With God's spirit among us, we trust that we will continue to be a thriving body of Christ together. If you would like to attend any of our activities:

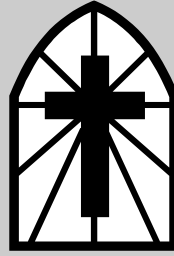
Sunday Service: 1:30pm

Cell Groups:

Friday 7pm (Chinese and English speaking youths)

Tuesday 7pm (Mandarin – Young adults)

Wednesday 7pm (English – Young adults)



B A P T I S T S M S



THE 6PM COMMUNITY AT HTD

6PM SERVICE

Our desire is to be a community centred on God, seeking to grow in our love for Him as we study His word in the Bible and respond through prayer and great music. We aim to be a congregation that holds-on to the ancient, unchanging truth of the gospel, while being free to express our love for Jesus in contemporary and creative ways.

The 6pm service is attended by people of all ages and stages from one month-old babies, to elderly saints and everyone in between. We value being a congregation that welcomes visitors, newcomers and people who wouldn't call themselves Christians.

For more info about the 6pm Service please contact 6pm Pastor
Jono Smith: jono@jonosmith.com, 0402 848184

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Gathering weekly for fellowship and accountability, study and prayer, good times and tears—Community Groups are a great way to connect with people from the 6pm service. Each week we study the passage that was preached on the Sunday night before; discussing the issues and hopefully gaining greater understanding.

Community Groups meet on multiple nights, in multiple homes from Monday-Thursday.

To sign-up for a Group, or to organise a visit, please contact Community Groups Director
Matt Ooi: mattooi12@hotmail.com, 0413 467049

INTRODUCING GOD

In addition to Community Groups we regularly run a mid-week course for people wanting to find out more about Jesus and the Christian faith called "Introducing God".

The Course is designed for a range of people, from those who have no church/faith background, to people of other religions, to those who would like to re-establish the basics of their Christian faith.

For more info on the Introducing God Course please contact Evangelism Director
Matt Scheffer: matt_scheffer@hotmail.com, 0411 121064

IMPACT

As a congregation, we strongly support HTD's Impact Social Justice Ministry. Impact is a loving, merciful and grace-filled ministry that seeks to serve people in need in our local community and beyond.

For more information about Impact, please contact Impact Director
Georgie Sutton: impact.htd@gmail.com, 0431 964475

KEY DATES 2010

November

14 Thanksgiving Sunday
16 AGM
21 Commitment Sunday
26-28 Men's Weekend Away

December

19 All Age Service
Chinese Carol Service
1.30pm
Carol Service 6pm

See the HTD web site for up to date information on upcoming events.

WEEKLY SERVICE TIMES

Wednesdays at 2pm
Sundays
8am & 10am
1.30pm Mandarin
1.30pm Bilingual
6pm

圣三一堂国语堂

每周日节目安排

(一)

国语崇拜

每周日下午1:30, 同时设有幼儿及儿童主日学, 有专门老师负责。崇拜后有茶点, 慕道班及各级成人主日学。

负责人: 阮建生, 莫汉平牧师

联系电话: 98484724

(二)

青少年中英文双语崇拜

每周日下午1.30.

负责人: 黄磊, 嘉欣传道

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