

How can anyone put his faith in Christ
if he's never even heard about Him?
How can he hear about Him if no one
tells?

Romans 10:14

November 2018

More than once
per week


A Lifestyle of Worship

Victorian
Adventists



Seventh-day
Adventist Church

Victoria

Like Us On
facebook 

Victorian Adventists

A publication of Victorian Adventist Communications

A note from the Editor's Office

IntraVic Staff

Editor:
Pastor Graeme Christian

Assistant Editor:
Sherrie Courtney
sherriecourtney@adventist.org.au
PO Box 215 Nunawading, 3131
Phone: 03 9264 7777

Website:
vic.adventist.org.au

Issue Schedule:

<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>IN CHURCHES</u>
	Feb 24
Big Camp Edition - March 25	
April 15	May 26
June 15	July 21
August 15	September 22
October 15	November 24

Want to receive your copy of
IntraVic by email? Register at
<http://vic.adventist.org.au>

Notices available at
<http://vic.adventist.org.au> under
the News & Notices tab

Cover Photo
depositphotos:DesignPicsInc



First In!

"I just rang to say g'day and see how're you going?"

"Going well. We're on our way to..." That was no surprise. Pastors are often on their way to their next appointment. "...there are two ready for baptism – and another two – and possibly another one – so that makes four or maybe five. But Castlemaine church doesn't have a baptismal font..."

I wished I could bottle the enthusiasm!

I had taken the time to pick up the phone, and call a couple of our pastoral team – to see how they're going and offer encouragement. What a blessing to talk with each one... and this conversation was as inspiring as the others.

It started with the Castlemaine church hosting Creation Ministries. These people had seen the advertisement and came along. Then, when Graham McNichol offered a seminar on Revelation, they came... Then there was a Secrets of Prophecy Seminar they were interested in... and then they started attending church – regularly.

It's a happy, friendly church and everyone enjoys that!

Really this is a story of God's leading as the good old Bible-based gospel message has been shared, but it took someone who was willing to share. Willing to put in the effort.

It's a great disciple-making story and we need to repeat it over and over again. There'll be variations on the exact method and that's OK.

So, please plan now to be involved in the Joining Christ in the Harvest training 25 to 28 January 2019 – the Australia Day long weekend. We'll feed you physically and spiritually and we'll provide accommodation for delegates from our country churches. Now's a good time to book. Go to Vic.Adventist.org.au and click on the registration link.

As I write this story, the problem remains. Castlemaine church doesn't have a font – yet. By the time you read it, that may well have changed. Bendigo church has been happy to accommodate and has hosted baptismal services in the past and that's been really appreciated.

Yet there's nothing like being baptised in your own church.

So how will Castlemaine church get their font? One of those who wants to be baptised is a builder. The plan is that he'll put the font in – then, together with his wife and maybe some others, he'll be first in!

Office Closure - please note the Conference Office will be closed from December 21 at 12.30 for the end of year break. It will reopen on January 2. We pray you will have a peaceful and safe holiday season, that you will be aware of God's blessings in your life, and renew and refresh your commitment to Him with the New Year.

In this issue...



04 The Attitude of Gratitude

Being grateful is in itself an act of worship, of giving praise to the Giver of all good gifts

06 Worship Him

Jacob's Well was witness to the personal testimonies of the patriarchs, and through the years it has 'seen' much...

08 Church News

This is a spot to share the good news of what God is doing with your church, to inspire others with stories of how you are serving your community or to praise Him as another person testifies of His love and guidance as they show their commitment through baptism. Please send your stories to SherrieCourtney@adventist.org.au so we can continue to share across Victoria, bringing our church community together as we thank God for what He is doing

12 Department News

14 Kids Pages

23 Notices



Joining Christ in the Harvest Training

When: January 25-28, 2019


Where: Nunawading Christian College

Cost: \$75 pp

Register: Vic.Adventist.org.au

Fully scheduled program running from 8.30 each morning until 6pm (4pm on Monday)

Lunch will be provided

A woman with long brown hair is shown from the chest up, looking upwards and to the right towards a bright sun. Her hands are clasped together over her heart. She is wearing a white tank top under a dark-colored top. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with warm, golden light from the sun.

Praising God, thanking
Him for what He has
done for us, for coming
down to our level and
getting involved with
us, lifts us above our
troubles and helps us
focus on Him...
It brings Him glory.

Written by Deanna Pitchford
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
COUNSELLING LECTURER AT AVONDALE COLLEGE

The Attitude of Gratitude

...an act of worship

One of the surprising paradoxes of life is that possessions do not make one happy. In fact, those focused on acquiring more 'stuff' tend to be less satisfied with their lives and display greater unhappiness than those who have far less.

Travelling through Africa, the smiling faces of the children remind one that you can have very little yet still be very happy. What then determines happiness?

The Harvard Medical School recently published a paper with the intriguing title: "Giving thanks can make you happier." When we acknowledge the good gifts we receive it connects us to something larger than ourselves – such as other people or God. Interestingly, the word gratitude has its origin in the Latin word gratia, which means grace, graciousness, or gratefulness, thereby linking it to the abundant provision God has made for us. In essence, it refers to being thankful for something received and acknowledging that all good gifts come from our Father's hand. But can something as simple as expressing thankfulness or gratitude make a difference to our level of happiness?

Psychological research has shown that experiencing and expressing gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Saying thank you, paying others the compliment of noticing and commending them on doing something worthwhile, writing a letter of gratitude to a mentor, making a point of never letting an opportunity pass to pay tribute to someone's good points, these are all ways of enhancing our own happiness. There is no doubt that gratitude helps people experience more positive emotions and pay closer attention to the good things that happen to them. Focusing on blessings received improves health outcomes, develops greater resilience, and builds strong relationships. But does gratitude do anything for the spiritual aspect of our lives?

Paul admonishes us to 'give thanks in everything' (Philippians 4:4) and

to 'rejoice in the Lord, always' [1 Thessalonians 5:18]. This is not always easy. In fact, to find good in the midst of bad and blessing in the midst of stress takes practice. It does not come naturally to most of us. Yet, giving thanks is the first step towards praise and worship and cultivating an attitude of gratitude is an important part of our spiritual development. What does the practice of offering thankfulness and praise to God do for us?

“Surrender our expectations...
Give up our desire fully understand...
Let go of our need to control... and
praise Him”

It has been my experience that when I focus on my problems rather than on the presence of God, I struggle to experience the sense of peace and joy that Jesus promised: 'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10). But when I choose to focus on praise and expressing gratitude to God for His abundant provision for my life, my attitude shifts and the Son breaks through the clouds of worry. I have found that nothing lifts my spirits more quickly than deliberately looking for God's blessings through the day and listing them to myself before I go to sleep. Falling asleep with God's goodness on my mind is a wonderful way to boost a sense of wellbeing.

In the book of Hebrews we are challenged to offer a 'sacrifice of praise' (Hebrews 13:15). Offering a sacrifice means giving something up, so what might we have to 'give up' when we offer a sacrifice of praise and worship? I would like to suggest that this sacrifice involves letting go of three things. Firstly, we surrender our

expectations of a pain-free, hassle-free life. Jesus did not promise us an easy life but rather one where we are encouraged to take up our cross and follow Him. But we are not left to carry this cross on our own – He has promised to be with us always. Secondly, we give up our desire to understand everything, instantly. It is natural to want to understand why things happen to us but sometimes this is just not possible. When we offer praise to God despite our circumstances we acknowledge that God is good and that He can bring good out of bad and that He knows the end from the beginning. Thirdly, when we offer a sacrifice of praise, we let go of our need to be in control. Sometimes we work so hard to manipulate things according to our own understanding of what would be good for us that we tend to take the reins out of God's hands. But to surrender ourselves, our circumstances, our wishes and our wants, to our loving Heavenly Father is exactly what it means to offer up a sacrifice of praise. And, strange as it may seem, it is through this pathway of sacrifice that we find the path to happiness.

Thanking God for His blessings and His provisions brings us into His presence and there we find that praise and gratitude naturally wells up within us as we are touched by His love and moved by His goodness and His grace. Having an attitude of gratitude not only benefits our health and makes us happier but it is also the fertile ground in which our relationship with God can grow and flourish. May thanks and gratitude to God, as well as praise and worship, ever be in our hearts and on our lips.

Deanna Pitchford



Worship Him

The Witness of a Well

Author Justin Bone
PASTOR, NORTHPOINT CHURCH

The well of Shechem – throughout biblical history, this location saw many major events. It was witness to the patriarchs at worship, and stood as testimony to the locals of their God. Sometimes it stood testimony to their personal failures. Christ visited it and it was there we see one of the Bible's greatest stories of personal testimony and worship...

SHECHEM

Do you know the town of Shechem? Maybe not. It isn't as well-known as Jerusalem. It isn't as famous as Damascus or as populated as Rome.

Since some trader first made his way across this rugged land there has been a town at this spot. Supposedly founded by a Canaanite warlord, it soon became a stop along the trade paths and out of that trade a town grew. In various dialects it was known as Sychem or Sikima, but the name we read about in our Bibles today is Shechem. The town dates back at least 4000 years and is mentioned in the Elba tablets and early Egyptian writings. It's old! And it witnessed so much... the personal testimonies of many of our Bible 'Greats' played out there...

ABRAM

We first see it in the Bible when Abram, believing in the Lord and following the calling of his God, made his way to this new land that had been promised him. The first place he enters is Shechem, with its great tree of Moreh. It was at Shechem that the Lord appeared to him saying, "To your offspring I will give this land."

At Shechem, Abram built an altar to the Lord (Genesis 12:6-7). This act of worship is a bold declaration of faith. The land is fully occupied by Canaanites but Abraham believes God's promise and moves forward in faith that God will give what He has promised.

JACOB

We know this place remains sacred to the Patriarchs. The next time we encounter it, Jacob has just reconciled with Esau. Jacob is now the bearer of

the covenant that was originally given to his grandfather. And he has just wrestled with God. He makes his way to Shechem and buys a parcel of land.

On that parcel of land he sets up an altar of his own to God. Biblical scholars also suggest this is where he builds a well to support his household while there.

I love the picture this gives us. A grandson remembering his grandfather and the promise of God and coming to that same place to build his own altar. He calls this place El Elohe Israel - Mighty is the God of Israel (Genesis 33:18-20). He can see the promise of God slowly being fulfilled.

We know the great tree of Moreh is still there at this point, because that's where Jacob will shortly bury all the family idols (Genesis 35:4). And it's this same parcel of land that will one day hold Joseph's bones (Joshua 24:32).

MOSES AND JOSHUA

We get more of an idea of where Shechem is from the Bible when Moses instructs Joshua in Deuteronomy 11. He tells Joshua that once they have entered the Holy Land, he is to proclaim blessings on Mount Gerezim, and curses on Mount Ebalthe. These mountains are across the Jordan in the west near the great trees of Moreh. (Deuteronomy 11:29-30)

We also see it is still an important spiritual place for God. It is in the same place Abram worshipped God that the Israelites are to be given a choice. And that's what happens in Joshua 24. All the tribes of Israel are assembled at Shechem and Joshua stands before them uttering those words we know so well, "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve".

WITNESS TO GOOD AND BAD

There have always been choices at Shechem. Not all of the choices however, were good.

Shechem was where the ruler of that town took Dinah against her will, and Jacob's sons put every man to the sword.

It was at Shechem that Abimelech spurred the people on to revolt until they proclaimed him their king (Judges

9). He reigned for three years and was driven from the city, so in anger he destroyed much of the town and sowed the land with salt.

It was rebuilt in the 10th century BC.

Shechem is where Rehoboam was king when Jeroboam revolted, leading to the split of the Hebrew tribes into Judah and Israel.

Again and again humans broke their promises at Shechem, broke their agreements with God and with each other. This place where Joshua said choose now, where Jacob bought land and built a well, and where Abraham first worshipped the Lord in Israel, was also a place of war and rebellion.

The town was attacked and rebuilt, destroyed and built up, and over the years its name evolved and changed. But there remained a town in this dry, dangerous place, and although the trade remained other cities grew and became more important, there always remained people in this place.

That is because there was one thing Jacob had built that ensured it would always be a place to stop and visit. This dusty old town, so often destroyed, knocked down, built back up, renamed again and again, still held a source of water.

A WELL.

THE well.

This same well, hundreds of years later, becomes significant again because it sees the footprint of the Saviour as He makes His way from Jerusalem to Galilee.

Now, Jesus comes to a small town in Samaria near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son (John 4:5), under the shadow of Mount Gerezim where the Samaritans worship. The town's name is a little different, it's called Sychar now, which means drunkenness. This town is no longer great, no longer holds kings. Instead it holds drunks.

There's one approaching now in the heat of the day, a woman coming to the well, and the simple words Jesus will speak will shake her to the core.

"Everyone who drinks from the well will grow thirsty again, but whoever drinks

the water I give them will never thirst."

I can't help thinking of Jesus standing in that place, near that well that Jacob built so long ago, the sun beating down, but the weight of the history of the place beating down even harder.

Because God remembers Abraham, remembers Jacob, remembers Joshua, and now, in the person of Jesus, God stands with His people under the shadow of Gerezim and brings a call to worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth. Jesus comes to redeem this drunken town where Abraham built an altar so long ago.

The woman will accept that call, because here stands One, though a stranger, who could tell her everything she ever did (John 4:29), and she will bring that town to Jesus, and many will become believers.

Maybe you remember the first time you turned to the Father. The first time you built an altar in your heart and worshipped Him.

How far have you come since then? Perhaps you have been through spiritual struggles, valiant battles. Perhaps the city of your heart has strayed from that first moment of worship, that first love.

Just as He came to Sychar with redemption, Jesus can redeem your war torn heart. He remembers that first love, He remembers that worship you gave. Just as the woman was made new and through her personal testimony brought those she knew to Jesus, we can do the same thing.

He wants to come and offer that living water again - to clean us and restore us to that worship, to that first love. He knows everything you've ever done yet the offer of living water still stands.

Let's drink deeply and then share it around...

Justin Bone



Community Wheels Program The Oasis SDA Church

A collaboration between the local church and ADRA saw 24 cars receive a free oil change and wash.

The Oasis wanted to support those in the community who were unable to look after their cars. They recognized a need they had expertise to meet, so thought 'Let's give it a go!' The plan was to provide a free oil change, replacement filter, vacuum and car wash for pensioners, health care card holders and single parents. Local businesses jumped on board, providing various materials needed and volunteers from Lilydale, Ringwood and Glen Huntly joined us to provide the labour and support staff.

On Sunday, August 26, guests dropped off their car and then sat down to a morning tea and chat with local members while their car was being worked on. On completion they received a report of any further work that should be looked at and a reminder of their next oil change.

The purpose of the program was to connect with the community in a practical and helpful way. One guest said it was a "great service to the community" and another even asked if they could volunteer next time. There were many who were very thankful for the program and, as one guest said "My car was in need and this perfectly speaks to me in my love language -Thank you!"

Fraser Catton



Church News An Answer to Prayer Bairnsdale Church

On the 23rd of September, two years from its inspiration, church members and community celebrated the commencement of work on site for residential rehabilitation, the Hope Restart Centre (HRC).

Peter Down, a retired builder, along with members of the HRC board and Bairnsdale church people joined together in prayers of thanks to God for His leading in this project, led by Pastor Andrew Wilson and the Rev. Brenda Burney, Rector of Bairnsdale's St. John's Anglican Church.



Peter told how he had a God-given burden for drug and alcohol addicted people, wanting to build a rehab centre. After a comment from one of our church members, he came to us at the Bairnsdale church property. Andrew showed him an area that might suit. As Peter looked out from a small rise, a place he had never been before, he realised that he had seen this very view in a dream. He believes this was confirmation of God's direction in the matter.

There was much to do after that and

the local paper reported that God had opened many doors to allow the development to reach this exciting stage.

From our perspective, the project is also an answer to our prayers.

Since Bairnsdale church was blessed over twelve years ago by the acquisition of the property, we've sought God's guidance for the use of the part of the property not occupied by the church buildings, cafeteria, pastor's house, ADRA op shop, Gems 'n Jams op shop, the orchard and the mahogany plantation.

Did God want a school or a retirement village? Similar ideas were proposed; none came to fruition. Now it seems leasing to Hope Restart is the answer to how to further serve our community.

The first stage of the project is likely to be completed next year.

So we were happy that memorable Sunday afternoon, to befriend the HRC people and serve them an afternoon tea, a feature of which was a large, beautifully decorated commemorative cake made by local couple Gwen and Gordon Holloway and cut by Andrew Wilson and Peter Down.

Please pray with us for HRC and the people it will serve.

Judy Walker

A \$5 Challenge Macedon Ranges

Our small Adventurer and Pathfinders Club took up a \$5 challenge and ten children raised \$1183 for a special project in the Solomon Islands.

Lawrence Staub, from South Pacific Allied Health (SPA) company was presented with the money on Saturday afternoon, September 22, 2018.

Each child was given \$5 by the club leaders, and challenged to invest the money. They rose to the occasion with a wide range of activities. Well done young people and thanks from SPAH on behalf of the Solomon Islanders. The monies will be used to pay for the



medication for 200 people suffering whole body tinea, many are children who refuse to go to school because of the bullying on the condition.

Well done kids, you make us proud! What absolute champions.

Sharon Tolhurst

Dinners With...

It was a long and exhausting day. The spiritual food served was full of nutrients. Everyone worked hard to achieve a great program and all went smoothly. The speaker was fantastic; the number of the participants beyond everyone's expectations. And then something happened. Late in the day, the invitation went out - everyone is invited to dinner! Maybe the disciples didn't fully understand why Jesus decided to keep the five thousand behind and feed them. We are told Jesus "had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd." They needed spiritual food but the physical food was important too. How do you imagine them... quietly eating in small sedate groups, or enthusiastically talking, discussing what Jesus had said, making new friends and consolidating the old ones over a miraculous meal?

What a great opportunity a plate of food can offer! What a privilege to be invited by Jesus to a dinner! Dinner with Jesus...

WHAT IF WE COULD DO SOMETHING SIMILAR TODAY...?

Your church may already be doing many things that reach out to your community. Pathfinders, Recipe Clubs, Adventurers, CHIP and Depression and Anxiety Recovery programs (DARP). You may have contacts as you meet and greet at the footpath on Sabbath morning, or from the holiday Kids Club you run. With a bit of creativity, it is not hard to come up with more... invite non church friends to your small group, get involved in community projects as a church group, host a concert or a Christmas program, hire a bus to take people to Road to Bethlehem...

OR HOST A DINNERS WITH...

You may remember a few years back the Conference invited Geoff Youlden and Gary Kent to Victoria, and some of our churches hosted a Dinner with Geoff, or a Dinner with Gary, inviting Beyond and It is Written contacts to come meet the presenter they have seen on TV and listen to a presentation over dinner. Guests were then invited to attend further evangelistic programs and they were more likely to accept, as they had been building a relationship of sorts with the presenter while watching their programs, and had been watching the programs in the first place because they were searching for something.

But "Dinners With..." this time could be a little different. It could simply

involve inviting people to hear an engaging speaker over a meal. The concept is a great way of getting to know people in your community and deepening your relationships with those you are already reaching. How would your church go, hosting a dinner with Incredible Journey presenter, Gary Kent? Or something on Creation or Archaeology. Hope Channel's Wayne Boehm may be interested in getting involved, or some of It is Written's presenters like Eric Flickinger. Or perhaps your church could see itself hosting more local Aussie evangelists like David Asscherick or the Aussie Preacher, Lloyd Grolimund. Another great idea for people interested in health (which is just about everyone) is Dinner with a Doctor! Maybe your youth group has ideas.

Casey Church has just hosted a Dinner with Doctor Neil Nedley event at Fountain Gate Hotel in the South-Eastern suburbs. Dr Nedley has been helping people who suffer with depression and anxiety for many years now and is the founder of the DARP.

"This dinner was not a stand-alone event," says Pr Michael Mohanu, Casey's pastor. "As well as consolidating existing community friendships and starting new ones, it was a springboard for future events we will be running. We invited guests to participate in a DARP, CHIP or one of the other community programs we have been running for some time now. This is part of our commitment to the Great Commission, endeavouring to reach our community in new and creative ways."

And while Dr Nedley was in Melbourne last weekend, Gateway Church took advantage of his presence, with two community lectures held at Monash University. Attendees were invited to attend community talks over the next three weekends, where church members will meet and mingle with the attendees, and from there invite them to join a Care Group, where they can socialise, support each other and study God's word together.

The possibilities are endless, and as you can see collaboration between churches is possible, so give it some thought - could your church do it? Who would you like to see as your guest presenter or what theme would you like to explore? Talk it over with your pastor or contact the Harvest Victoria team and see where this could go. We can help with collaboration and may even be able to help with some of the funding. Give us a call at the office, 03 9264 7715, or visit us at vic.adventist.org.au/harvest-victoria for more details.

Harvest Team



Dr Neil Nedley



A Dinner With in 2015



ADRA

A U S T R A L I A

Adventist Development and Relief Agency

Game On

Have you heard about our Collection Cup challenge? Take home an ADRA cup – you can get it from your local church treasurer or contact RebeccaAuriant@adventist.org.au Return it to your treasurer for counting/receipting by end of February 2019 to be in the running to receive these prizes, thanks to sponsorship received.

- The highest individual collector will receive \$250 sponsorship towards an ADRA Connections Trip
- The highest church group collector will be able to 'Grant a Wish' to an ADRA project of their choice to the value of \$250.
- Both will also be featured in IntraVic.



October Appeal

THANK YOU FOR DOING THE ADRA APPEAL 2018!!

Through your support and generosity you have helped address urgent needs in Australia and overseas. But let's not stop because October is over!

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1/ 200 Australians are homeless every night and 1/ 10 rely on food support.

Help ADRA provide emergency food packs, safe shelter and counselling to Australians in need. [Source: Homelessness Australia]

- 34.6% of Papua New Guineans lack access to basic education with 4/10 people are unemployed.

Help ADRA enable children to return to school and adults to gain basic literacy skills for improved quality of life. [Source: National Research Institute]



- 1/3 Australian women over the age of 15 report experiencing physical or sexual violence.

Help women be safe and rebuild their and their children's lives through ADRA's Women Refuges. Source: White Ribbon Australia]

- 1/10 children in Timor Leste die because of diarrhoea, with 90% of people in the communities in which ADRA works not having direct access to clean water.



Help ADRA prevent illness and death by providing access to clean water and improved hygiene. Source: White Ribbon Australia]

- 1/3 girls in Vanuatu say they have been sexually abused as children, with the teenage pregnancy rate being 6% to 8%. The teenage pregnancy rate in Australia is 1.6%.

Help ADRA prevent unwanted pregnancies, support young mothers and ensure that babies receive appropriate care. [Source: Vanuatu Women's Centre, 2011]

- 80% of Syrian refugee children do not attend school in Lebanon.

Help ADRA to ensure vulnerable children reclaim their childhood by attending school and better integrating in their local community. [UNHCR, 2014]

While we collect in October for the ADRA Appeal, the funds support local and overseas projects to operate all year round and you can continue supporting all year round too through volunteering your time, and being the hands and feet of Jesus.



"...YOU'VE DONE FOR ME"

MATT 25:40



Conference A

As you're no doubt aware, our Prime Minister Scott Morrison has made a public apology to Australian survivors and victims of child sexual assault.

The Presidents of the South Pacific Division and the Australian Union Conference, Pastors Glenn Townend and Jorge Munoz have also made a public apology and the leaders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Victoria extend that apology to our members and others here in Victoria.

We apologise for the hurt people have felt by abuse that has happened here in Victoria, in our churches and institutions alike.

We add our support to the statement made in the Record by the Presidents of both SPD and AUC that we all must work together to ensure that there is zero tolerance for any emotional, physical or sexual abuse.

Glenn Townend



Seventh-day Adventist Church *Australia*

Yesterday, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison delivered the National Apology to Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse at Parliament House in Canberra. The National Apology emerged from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. According to the National Council of Churches, "The Commission is a tribute to the victims and survivors, their families and supporters. Their courage has helped create a culture of accountability and of trust in children's voices that help all of us take responsibility for keeping children safe and well."

Sadly, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has not been immune to cases of child sexual abuse. We acknowledge that children and young people have been abused, betrayed and/or ignored within our Church communities. We are deeply sorry for the harm suffered by those who have been physically, sexually or psychologically abused by church members, elders, departmental leaders, employees or volunteers in the Adventist Church.

We acknowledge our corporate failure to provide a safe environment for children, and for initiating, allowing or covering-up any form of abuse or neglect of a child or young person. It saddens us deeply that these children and young people may now have a distorted view of God and His Church.

We are also sorry for failing to protect young people from secondary abuse through our failure to listen to their story or by protecting or inadequately dealing with those who committed the abuse.

As a Church we must all work together to ensure zero tolerance for any form of physical, emotional or sexual abuse. We commit to taking all steps necessary to prevent abuse happening in any of our churches, schools, institutions, social environments or in our homes. We will continue to develop appropriate guidelines and policies that help to provide safe places for children, and to educate and train church leaders and members to demonstrate openness, honesty and integrity.

GLENN TOWNEND
SPD PRESIDENT

JORGE MUNOZ
AUC PRESIDENT



Seasons VicYouth

It's interesting how seasons work: winter is cold and feels long, at least for me as I'm originally from Queensland; Spring is nice and chirpy as the warmth starts to set in; Summer is filled with fun; and Autumn is just bliss, not too hot not too cold, just right.

Seasons... they're all different and they each bring different experiences.

I've experienced a unique season here in Melbourne. But, as I'm sure you are aware, I'm not talking about the weather (although we do experience all four seasons in one day here!!) I'm talking about a season of ministry. Sadly that season of ministry is coming

to an end. I have accepted a call to become Youth Director for the Greater Sydney Conference and will begin in January 2019.

It's probably surprising to some that we are moving on so quickly. My wife and I will have been in the Victorian Conference for two years at the end of this year, but I do believe God puts people in certain places for certain seasons. We have learned a great deal here while working in the Conference and it has been a good training ground for a call to a more challenging role. Please keep us in your prayers as we make the transition to further God's work in another field.

Victoria's Youth Ministry is in great hands under the directorship of Phil Hyland and we have an excellent bunch

of young people in this Conference. I look forward to seeing how the Youth of Victoria continue to carry the Gospel of Jesus to the world as we look forward to His second coming. Thanks so much for the opportunity to minister in this region, and I wish you all God's blessings!

Simon Gigliotti



JESUS IS OUR LIFESAVER ADVENTURER CAMPOREE

10-14 October 2018
AT CAMPASPE DOWNS

ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!



Simon Hutton, who flew all the way from Brisbane with his wife Courtney, was an engaging speaker, addressing the theme for the weekend - 'Jesus is our Lifesaver'.

He shared Bible stories showing how Jesus is our lifesaver no matter what situation we find ourselves in. These were interspersed by many stories about Simon himself, and it seems he has managed to get himself in some sticky situations!

We also had great music with lots of fun action songs led by a group of youth from Geelong.

On Sabbath afternoon we completed not one, but two awards! We had fun making crowns, faced lots of challenges (with Freddo Frogs as prizes!) and built paper airplanes and kites which actually flew!

Sunday was an activity day where we were able to achieve another award – archery. Everyone had lots of fun going down the giant flying fox, scaling the rock climbing wall, jumping into mid-air on the Leap of Faith and navigating the low ropes course.

It wasn't just the kids who had fun either, the adults were spoilt too! Friday night was 'Ladies Lounge' where all the husbands had to put the kids to bed while the girls got to eat delicious snacks and indulge in fancy drinks. The men had their turn on Saturday night with 'Men's Den.' The adults were also able to get a lot of ideas, talking together and at each meeting a leader was interviewed, sharing how their club was going.

In wrapping up the weekend, at our last worship time together, Simon reminded the Adventurers and everyone present, that Jesus is not only our Lifesaver; the best news is that He is our Life Saviour!

What an amazing, fun and God filled weekend.

*Julie Catton
Children's Ministries Director*

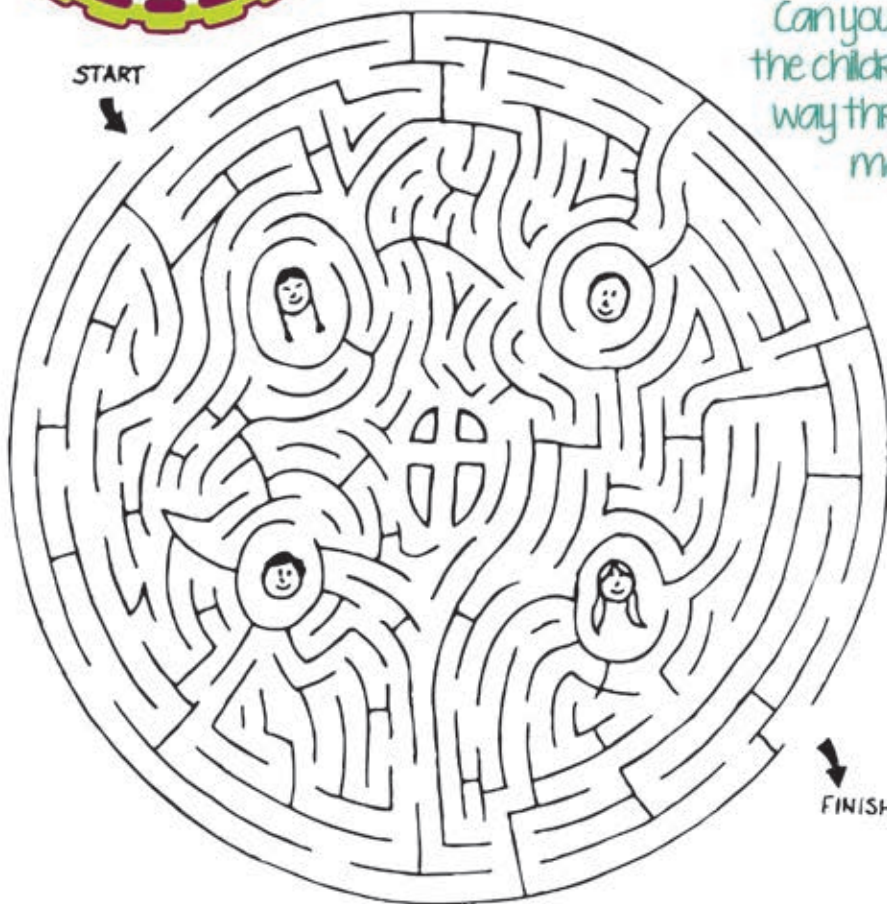




JUST 4
KIDS

GO TELL THE WORLD

SHARE THE WORD MAZE



Can you reach all
the children on your
way through the
maze?

Take from Amazing Mazes for Kids by Steve and Becky Miller

TRY THIS ACTIVITY AT HOME WITH YOUR FAMILY WITH DOMINOES OR SOMETHING SIMILAR.

Get some dominoes (the more the better). On the back of one domino draw a picture of yourself. On another domino, draw a picture of a kid who has never heard about Jesus. Put them at opposite sides of your table. It seems hard sometimes for you to tell everyone about Jesus. But what if you could talk to just one other person. And they could tell another person about Jesus. (Put dominoes in a line between your picture and the picture of the kid who doesn't know about Jesus.) If you can tell just one person it can set off a chain reaction so that lots of people can find out about Jesus. If you knock your person (domino) into the next person (domino) (that's you telling them about Jesus not knocking them over!!) they will all fall until the last person gets to hear about Jesus. (continued next page - follow the arrows...)

WHO IS JESUS?

As a family, try doing this for family worship each day.

WEEK ONE

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon	John 1:1-5	The Word
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue	Isaiah 61:1-3	God's Anointed One
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed	John 1:9-13	The True Light
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu	Isaiah 9:6-7	Mighty God
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri	John 1:29-31	The Lamb of God

WEEK TWO

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon	Matthew 3:16-17	God's Beloved Son
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue	John 4:25-26	Messiah
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed	Isaiah 7:14	God with Us
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu	John 4:41-42	Savior of the World
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri	Matthew 12:1-8	Lord of the Sabbath

WEEK THREE

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon	John 6:35	Bread of Life
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue	Luke 22:25-27	One Who Serves
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed	John 8:12	Light of the World
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu	Isaiah 42:1-4	God's Chosen Servant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri	John 10:7-11	The Good Shepherd

WEEK FOUR

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mon	John 11:25-27	The Resurrection and the Life
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tue	Matthew 16:13-17	The Christ
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wed	John 14:1-6	The Way, The Truth, and The Life
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thu	Zechariah 9:9	Zion's King
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fri	John 15:1-5	The True Vine

...How many people have you reached because you told just one person about Jesus?! Sometimes it might seem like because you're a kid, you aren't responsible to share Jesus with others or it's too hard or frightening. But just think of how many people could hear about Jesus and that He loves them if you told just one person! Why don't you see if your family can set themselves a challenge this week where each of you share Jesus with one new person. At the end of the week share with each other who you told, how it felt and how the other person reacted. What an effective disciple of Jesus you can be!



THUMB - nearest to you, so begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you.
POINTING FINGER - Pray for those who teach, instruct, and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

MIDDLE FINGER - this is your tallest finger, which reminds us of our leaders. They need God's guidance.
RING FINGER - Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will tell you. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, and in trouble or in pain.
PINKY FINGER - the smallest finger of all, which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you."

This finger reminds us to pray for ourselves, but put others first.



Julie Catton
 Director of Children's Ministries
 03 9264 7777

FIVE FINGER PRAYER



30th Anniversary

This year Gilson College reached a milestone, on Saturday 20th October the College celebrated 30 years of providing Christian Education to the community. Gilson College began with fifty students in 1988 and has grown to more than 1200 students spanning over two campuses. The growth is a testament to the team of principals who began with a vision 30 years ago – Lyndon Chapman, Ron Hiscox, Peter Baskin, Chris Cowled and now Mark Vodell. Each of the past principals were present at this special occasion as well as past students and staff.

The anniversary celebration was a day filled with stories and memories from past students and principals, musical items, creative expressions, drama presentations and a special uplifting message from the guest speaker, Dr. Daryl Murdoch, National Education Director. Attendees were able to walk through years of photos and memorabilia from when the College began to the present.

Current College Principal, Mark Vodell shared his sentiments on the day "To hear the past principals speak gave many a person a sense of God's leading in our history. Then to see and hear our students and ex-students share their talents was certainly an inspiring time for the present. I remain hopeful about our future and our capacity to have a positive impact on the lives of tomorrow's students and their families if we acknowledge our Lord and let him direct our paths."

Congratulations to Gilson College on this auspicious occasion.



Maths Olympiad

The Maths Olympiad event was designed by teachers so that our Year Six students across Victoria could meet together annually for an academic purpose. This would also help our students see God's great and creative expressions in Mathematics as they study problems and use math to find solutions. Our recent annual event was held on WED 19 SEPT, our third Maths Olympiad for our system.



At group level, it involves five students working with their peers whom they may have not yet met from each Adventist school: Edinburgh College, Gilson College, Henderson College (who flew in for the event), Heritage College and Nunawading Christian College. Each 'mixed' group, we had ten groups this year, completed various mathematical tasks for each section of the day and to receive points based on accuracy with some time frames in place.

The tasks would include: Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. Aligned to the Australian Curriculum, teachers also understood that this 'develops the numeracy capabilities that all students need in their personal,



work and civic life, and provides the fundamentals on which mathematical specialties and professional applications of mathematics are built', [Australiancurriculum.edu.au, 2016].

"A great day and successful in building community across all Adventist VIC schools. It brought together teamwork and thinking and expanded on Maths skills and understandings."

Gina Al-Ali, Y6 Teacher, Gilson College Mernda Campus

At the completion of the day, an award ceremony enabled the whole group to reflect on the activities and to compare the scores. We all acknowledged the winning teams that earned either the Bronze, Silver or Gold medallions. An additional bonus amount, up to 50 points was awarded to teams that demonstrated 'working teamily' and reflecting responsibility, resilience and respect. There were various certificates and gift bags for all participants also.



"I feel this has squared my brain!"

coaster!

Team 6 received 855 points for third place **BRONZE**: Congratulations Charlotte - Edinburgh; Shane - Gilson; Pita - Gilson; Harrison - Heritage;

- Cherie Kilburn, Numeracy Coordinator.



ncc2.vic.edu.au

Our heartfelt thanks go to Cherie Kilburn, Maths Coordinator at Gilson College, Taylors Hill for leading the event at school her school this year, along with Adventist Schools Victoria in supplying the medallions and certificates.



It's like a roller

" We took Maths out of the box and gave it a welcoming shake to bring it to life. I don't think the Year Six students really knew what they were in for.

Maths = writing stuff down + getting to answers.

But while working in teams, students negotiated strategies and teased out solutions. They challenged each other to think and conjecture. They praised each other when answers felt satisfying.

They scribbled, counted, paused, reordered all in hasty flight towards the word "Correct!" which was then quickly echoed by the word "Yes!" with a fist pump. The

Maths Olympiad was a creative day to bounce all that students knew about Maths high into the air. "

Jane Smith, Y6 Teacher, Edinburgh College



Why Should I Participate in Evangelism Training?

Harvest Victoria

That's a great question but the real underlying question is, Why Evangelism? The answer to this question answers the first. So, here are 10 reasons why...

1. **Jesus commands it:** "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19,20 (NLT)
2. **Evangelism connects sinners with Jesus who desires to save all from sin.** This is the message of 2 Corinthians 5:19, 20: "For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And He gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making His appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" (NLT)
3. **Evangelism changes the lives of God's followers.** Evangelism doesn't just positively affect those being evangelised but also those who are doing evangelism. I would go even so far as to say that at the end of the day the ones doing the work of evangelism are ones who are the most blessed.
4. **Evangelism is necessary because most people live in darkness.** As Jesus Himself said, "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." John 12:46 (NIV)
5. **Evangelism is the reason for the existence of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.** Here's how the official mission statement of the Seventh-day Adventist Church puts it: "The mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to communicate to all peoples the everlasting gospel of God's love..."
6. **If we believe that we should follow the Early Christian Church model, then evangelism is certainly going to be a priority.** The Book of Acts is all about evangelism. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the followers of Christ, at the risk and peril of their lives, went about proclaiming Jesus Christ throughout the known world.
7. **Evangelism must take place before Jesus returns** and brings to an end this world of pain and suffering. Jesus in His sermon about end-time events makes that very clear: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14 (KJV)
8. **Evangelism prevents a church from becoming stale and riddled with difficulties.** When a church loses its reason for existing, evangelism, it eventually becomes dull and dead. A church full of problems is probably a church that is not involved in evangelism.
9. **Evangelism is on God's heart.** It's been on his heart ever since the Fall of Man and was powerfully revealed at the Cross. That's why Peter said, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as

some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

10. **Why Evangelism? Because we can't help ourselves.** Jesus in our hearts drives us to be involved in evangelism just as John and Peter expressed in Acts 4:20: "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." (NKJV) In other words, we have to – we can't help ourselves.

So why train? To be more effective at doing what we must do. That is why you should participate in our upcoming evangelism training.

I look forward to seeing you in January.

*Yves Monnier
It Is Written*



Vic.Adventist.org.au to register to attend

AdventCare

Care without Compromise



AdventCare Yarra Ranges

The third and final stage of the redevelopment of AdventCare Yarra Ranges is well underway and four more rooms will soon be handed over, with only six rooms left to upgrade. In addition, there will be a new hairdressing salon, café with views to the river, increased storage areas, and a new Activities Office. Residents and their families will be able to relax looking over the river enjoying a cool drink in the coming summer months

Facility from the North

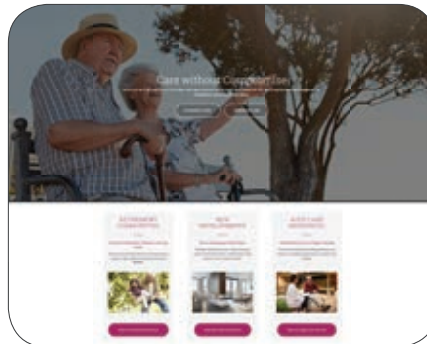


New Website

Please have a look at our brand new website at www.adventcare.org.au

Information can be found here about our aged care homes and retirement units in Nunawading, Warburton and Bendigo.

You can now register an enquiry online at any time of the day about our services and facilities and we will respond promptly to your query. If you are interested in working with us, you can apply online for any advertised positions or send us your resume and expression of interest at any other time. We look forward to hearing from you and trust that you will enjoy this new and interesting website.



New Central Units Update!

The first eight Central units are progressing well, with the frames up, windows in and the roof about to be fitted.

The residents will be moving into their new home in February 2019. Since the last report things have moved quickly and the units will soon be secured against the weather and ready for the wall cladding.



Respite Services

Respite care for our aged care facilities at Nunawading and Warburton is designed to give the carers a break from caring for a loved one at home who has a range of health and care needs.

This is an opportunity to have your family member spend time with us whilst you take a break and recharge. You can be confident that they will be well cared for and we will keep in touch with you during this time and visitors are welcome during their stay!

Each person is entitled to have up to nine weeks respite a year and this can be a short period or several weeks depending on your circumstances and bed availability. You will need to make a referral to the Aged Care Assessment Service in your area who will provide an assessment of their care needs that will entitle them to access our respite services. You can do this through the Government Portal MyAgedCare at <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/register-to-be-assessed>.

We encourage you to seek respite with us so that we can care for your family members and you can have a break or go on holiday. Each time we would welcome them to our home and they would be able to enjoy a wide range of activities and worship in our homes.

Consistency - how great would it be if every church in Australia had the same signage ... what a unified message that would be.

Creation Grid layout - with the 1/7th column representing the Sabbath.

Signage

PYLONS

Pylon signs are free-standing signs erected independent of any building or structure. Since they are typically mounted higher in the air than standard signs, pylons offer excellent visibility from a distance.

One of the many advantages of pylon signs is their ability to stand out to passing traffic. These signs are typically illuminated, either internally (recommended) or externally.



HORIZONTAL SIGNS

Many areas will not be suitable for the pylon signage and, in such cases, a horizontal sign might be a better option. If your sign is a new sign, please follow the proportions below. If you have an existing sign that is not feasible to change then follow these guidelines, making sure all elements are kept to the correct proportions. If you have questions, please contact the SPD Communication Department.



No longer using the horizontal logo Adventist Church in...

Seventh-day Adventist Church South Pacific



Keeping in mind signs need to be seen and interpreted in the space of time it takes to drive past, the KIS principle is essential...

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Church times, by lines, Bible verses... they have good intentions but defeat the purpose.

A House of Brands?

Victorian Adventist Communications

Did you know that earlier this decade, here in Australia, the Seventh-day Adventist Church had more locations than KFC? There is no question which is wider known – even though we were in this country 80 or so years before KFC was and in the 1990's the fast food chain overhauled its branding to what we now see today.

A HOUSE OF BRANDS

Why is it that we seem incognito? Is it possible that people do not know who we are because we have not presented ourselves corporately? Everyone is on their own turf, doing their own thing... creating their own brand and image.

If you google Seventh-day Adventist Logos, it would certainly seem we have become a House of Brands. It is not surprising really. As an organisation, it was thirteen years before there was any formal structure and we value not conforming, thinking for ourselves and forging ahead. Further, given it was not until the 1990's that the General Conference released the first Global Identity package, there is no wonder there are so many different Seventh-day Adventist related logos.

It is also not surprising so many people do not know who we are and have no visual identity to associate with us.



DOES IT MATTER?

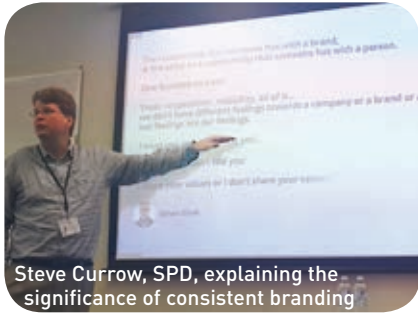
Our primary mission as a church, is to go and tell the world the Good News.
So is branding and recognition all that

important? Isn't simply spreading the Gospel sufficient – it doesn't matter if the people we reach know about us or not?

Say you are on a road trip. Which motel are you going to pull into? The one with a faded half hidden and hard to read sign, or the one with a bold sign out front, simply stating they are part of a chain you recognise? Maybe even a chain you have stayed at before. Which one will you be more likely to trust?

Is recognition important?

Twenty years after the first Identity package from the GC, James Standish, at the South Pacific Division, began looking into where we were at as a Church in our region. He found that as a corporate entity, our branding was



inconsistent and, particularly here in Australia, we were incognito. With so many different signs (and this is a world wide issue) our church was a symphony of incoherence, with little to indicate that all our entities and ministries were part of the same music!

Using the road trip analogy again, you really enjoyed the motel where you stayed that first night. It was clean, had good amenities and there were a few extras that just made your stay better. Subsequent nights you looked for one from that same chain, because you now trust its standards.

But each motel within the chain had created its own unique sign indicating it was part of the bigger group and you continued driving past, oblivious to its identity. Some nights you got lucky – something caught your attention and as you slowed down, saw it was a part of the chain. Other nights you missed out on much needed rest as you proceeded to the next town. Or perhaps early on, you stopped looking, no longer trusting that motel chain's standards. There might be one or two good ones in the chain, but you figured it wasn't worth your effort.

If a person has a meaningful experience with us as a church, an experience that built some trust, that trust will be transferred to subsequent encounters and experiences with us... if they can identify who we are. And if they can trust us enough to have a relationship with us, we become part of how God will reach out to them.

We have all experienced how God will use difficult times and circumstances to draw us closer to Him. It is well known that people will turn to church during difficult times. If we are incognito, how can the person who was for example, a part of our school community as a child, turn to us for help as an adult? They need to be able to easily identify the

'motel chain' they trust.

YES IT DOES MATTER!

Branding is the story you tell, perhaps while saying nothing at all. It is who people believe you are, based on their experiences with you and, in part, the image you portray. It allows transference of trust between the different components under the same brand.

But it is about far more than just recognising who we are. **A consistent brand enables all the different components of our Church to work together for the greater good – for the mission Christ gave us.**

The benefits are internal as well, as a consistent brand empowers us individually as we subconsciously recognise we are a part of something so global.

BECOMING A BRANDED HOUSE

We want to become known for our message of Hope and Truth through our Sola Scriptura stand. To that end, the World Church recognised that a consistent approach to branding was needed. Taking the work done by the SPD, the General Conference developed it further before passing back to the Divisions to make the final adjustments needed for their regions, before rolling it out to Unions, Conferences and local Churches.

The SPD has recently launched our Division-specific guidelines. For more information you can go to Vic.Adventist.org.au [search Church Identity] or email SherrieCourtney@adventist.org.au for help.

Is your church considering new signage or developing its branding for stationary and social media? There is a time for not conforming, for taking a stand, but there is also a time where conforming will actually be for the greater good. It is our prayer that churches will get excited about this new Identity package, letting go of their small patches of creative turf for the greater good of working together to build an identity people will recognise and trust, that will become synonymous with sola scriptura and holistic hope; that each of us will work together to become a Branded House, rather than a House of Brands.

IntraVic

About Our Logo

1 THE COLOUR

Chosen to represent enthusiasm, vibrancy and boldness. It is a warm visible colour and suggests presence and awareness in a post post modern world

2 TOWARD HEAVEN

The lines at the top of the design suggest a continued upward momentum symbolising the resurrection and ascension to heaven at Christ's second coming, the ultimate focus of our faith

3 PERFECT SQUARE

The Biblical metaphor of the perfect square represents God's Most Holy Place and His design for heaven



4 THE FLAME

This flame shape is formed by three lines encircling an implied sphere. These lines represent the Three Angels of Revelation 14 circling the globe and our commission to take the Gospel to the entire world. The overall shape forms a flame symbolic of the Holy Spirit

5 THE CROSS

The symbol of the cross, representing the gospel of salvation, is positioned in the centre of the design to emphasise Christ's sacrifice, which is the central theme of our faith. It is also significant that the Bible representing the law and the flame representing the Spirit come together at the cross.

6 THE OPEN BIBLE

The Bible forms the base of the design and represents the Biblical foundation of our beliefs. It is portrayed in a fully opened position suggesting a full acceptance of God's word.

We "Lost" Them...

Literature Evangelists

It was hard to walk away from our inspirational LE Summit untouched. I just wanted to distribute even more literature and purposed in my heart to give away all the Signs that would fit in my handbag and the copy of Desire of Ages gifted to each attendee.

After an intense day, engaging strangers at the airport was difficult, so I did the best thing I could, leaving a *Signs* on my seat as I left, and another on the plane. My husband, who'd never really tried this sort of thing, asked for a magazine at the next airport. He advised me later he "lost it" as we left. We "lost" another copy at the laptop docking station and in several other places on the way to Melbourne. We prayed over each one that the right hands may find it.

I was still waiting for the Lord to impress me about a recipient for the *Desire of Ages*.

On our way to the bus pick-up, the right bus stopped directly in front of us. The driver told us to continue walking to pick-up point but then changed his mind and let us board.

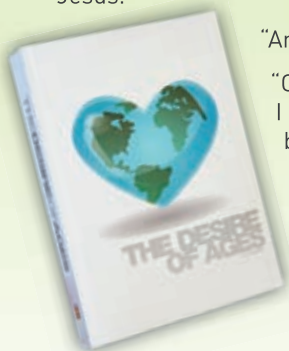
As we sat down, He explained he shouldn't have stopped where he did but the lady he was transporting (daughter in childbirth - complications) urgently needed to catch her plane and he'd stopped at the closest possible point. He was equally gracious to all the other passengers and we were soon on first name basis!

"Troy" I said, "I've been praying that God shows me the right person to give this book to and I believe it is you. It is one of the most beautiful books on the life of Jesus."

"Are you sure?"

"Of course I'm sure. I trust it will be a blessing to you and your family."

"I promise I will read it," he replied, holding the book to his chest.



Please pray for these front line warriors... and be inspired to share Christ as bravely as they do... consider inviting an LE team to your church neighbourhood

New Company Status

Administration

Congratulations to the formerly known Narre Warren Seventh-day Adventist congregation, on becoming the Berwick Seventh-day Adventist Company.

Beginning with just 17 attendees (including two non Adventists) under



the umbrella of the Conference and overseen by Pr Craig Gillis, attendance now approaches 30.

The group has engaged regularly in prayer meetings, prayer walks, Sabbath School, and music ministry. Various members have undergone Conference training events to assist with serving their communities. Their mission statement is to Know God, Share His Love with Others, and Serve their Community.

Vic.Adventist.org.au

Communications Department

IF you are ever needing information about something to do with our Conference, and not sure how to get it, give our new look website a go. For information about events, to register at an event, to find departmental resources or just contact details... It is all here.

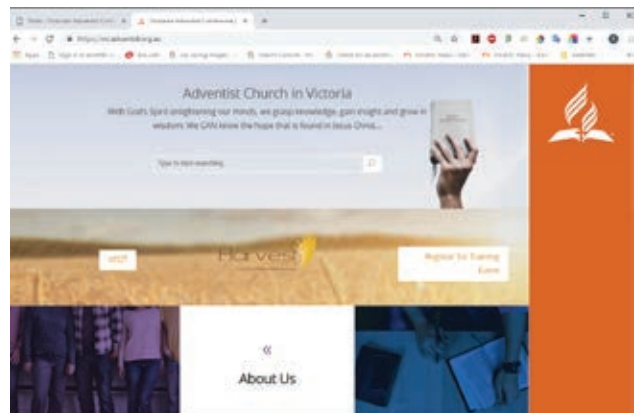
You can access our videos of events, music and other material from here also. Just remember

Vic.Adventist.org.au

Additionally we are always looking for ways to make the service better, so

Contact Us if you cant find something or have a suggestion.

And while you are online, follow our Facebook page - Victorian Adventists...



PAVILIONS

BLACKBURN LAKE

THE NATURAL HABITAT FOR A HEALTHY RETIREMENT

Set amongst lush woodland just a moment's walk from Blackburn Lake Sanctuary and only half an hour from Melbourne's CBD, Pavilions presents a truly unique retirement living experience. Designed as a celebration of health, wellness and the great outdoors, Pavilions is the perfect place to achieve a balanced lifestyle.

Discover what makes Pavilions so special at our morning tea and information sessions held every Tuesday 10am-11am in the display suite.

Now selling. Call 1800 728 454 or visit pavilionsblackburnlake.com.au

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Pavilions Blackburn Lake, 133 Central Road Nunawading.

Church Plant Conference

South Pacific Division

ABC News published some interesting facts online, on August 27 this year.

In cities and towns across Australia, churches are closing and being sold off. People too, are turning away from the pulpit - the 'no religion' category was the most common religious status in the 2016 Census for the first time. New congregations, however, are still forming - just not in churches. They are popping up in garages, living

rooms, coffee shops. Being planted by church planting pastors who are not preoccupied with property. There is a need. And while a formal church may be daunting for some, a small church plant may be just the answer. And plants do grow... Is this something your church could be involved in? Consider checking it out...



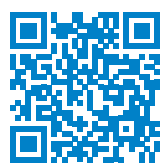
South Pacific Division
Church Planting Conference
February 10-13, 2019

to register



For more details contact Jan | janbolst@adventist.org.au | 02 9847 3306 or
Wayne Krause | waynekrause@adventist.org.au | 0414 435 314

ONLINE REGISTRATION
<https://events.adventist.org.au/ew/app/registration/index.html?e=3048>



Notices

Vic.Adventist.org.au and click on the News and Notices tab for Conference news, notices of upcoming events and other advertisements, the latest Viccon and Church employment notices



ROAD to BETHLEHEM

Dec 10 - 13
Edinburgh College, Lilydale

Road to Bethlehem exists to share the story of God sending His son into the world to save His people from their sin (Matt 1:21). What an opportunity we have to bring to life this amazing display of God's love. We invite you to ask God who you can invite to Road to Bethlehem this year. Please help us share the gift of Jesus this Christmas.

We need all hands on deck: whether you can spend the day or just a few hours please plan to come.

GIFT BAG PACKING: Dec 8, 3pm
SET UP DAY: Dec 9, 8am lunch provided
Pack up day: Dec 13, 10pm & Dec 16, 9am lunch provided
GIVE FINANCIALLY: It costs \$7 per person to run this event, that is \$60,000. We rely heavily on donations. Please consider supporting.

Acc Name - Road to Bethlehem
BSB - 013- 017
Acc No - 1974-39585
or through the eGiving website.

PRAY: that God will use Road to Bethlehem to draw more people into His Kingdom, remind those who already know Him of His great love and be a light to His wider community

Join an Adventist focused travel group to North Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef in March 2019. Fly to Brisbane where you will join your fellow travellers for a cruise with included port tours (Cairns and Airlie Beach) as well as group activities on board the Pacific Aria.

Singles are welcomed - no single supplement if you are willing to share.



Lawson
DISCOVERY

www.LawsonDiscovery.com
tours@lawsondiscovery.com

Tel: (07) 3272 2167

EXPERIENCE GOD PRAYER SUMMIT

8-10 MARCH 2019

WITH JERRY & JANET PAGE

EVER FELT LIKE
YOUR PRAYERS
BOUNCE OFF
THE CEILING?

WOULD YOU
LIKE YOUR
PRAYER LIFE TO
BE DEEPER
AND MORE
MEANINGFUL?

JANET PAGE ONCE FELT THAT WAY.

And God met her there and everything changed.

Now Janet and her husband Jerry together share their passion for pursuing a Spirit-filled life, and how God has been teaching and changing them.

They have a story that every Christian and every Adventist need to hear.

Their focus on practical prayer experience and the power of God's word can help us find a closer experience with Jesus.

JERRY IS THE PASTORS PASTOR, OR MINISTERIAL SECRETARY, AT THE WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH. JANET IS AN ASSOCIATE MINISTERIAL SECRETARY OVERSEEING SHEPHERDESS INTERNATIONAL, A MINISTRY FOR PASTORS FAMILIES, AS WELL AS PRAYER MINISTRIES.



Brought to you by Victorian Conference Ministerial Association and GROW Conference as part of Harvest Victoria.

The Editor reserves the right to edit and include or exclude all articles submitted. Those not included or heavily edited due to lack of space may be posted on Facebook and the Conference news website. The Editor also reserves the right to restrict advertising – generally commercial advertising is not accepted and accommodation notices must be accompanied by a reference from the local Pastor. If accepted, notices will appear on Facebook and the Conference website. Neither the Editor nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of the services advertised and posting of them does not indicate endorsement. Photographs of minors must be accompanied by parental/guardian permission to use the photos in print and on the web. Bible verses are from various versions which may include NIV, NKJV and Clear Word.