

5th October, 2014

**JOURNEY IN OZ - MIND
LUKE 4:1-13**

I've had a few people ask me about the series I'm privileged to be doing in October called *Journeys in Oz*.

It's a series mixing Luke 4 and an iconic film, *The Wizard of Oz*. *The Wizard of Oz* is celebrating its 75th anniversary, and is one of the most beloved films of all time. It is also a film that explores some great themes around discipleship: **mind**, **heart**, **courage** and **home**. It is a secular parable in many ways.

This week we're looking at Jesus in the wilderness facing temptation to deviate from his path to the cross and resurrection. Our companion on this theme will be the Scarecrow, who we first meet in Oz as a character unable to move (literally and metaphorically) because he does

not have the strength of mind to make a decision.

Jesus in the wilderness has amazing strength of will. It is not all that he has, but his ability to see clearly the results of deviating from his journey to redeem us and to help us keeps him on that sacrificial path. It is a quality we may think we lack but, like the Scarecrow, it is one we can learn about on the way as well.

I hope you enjoy and learn from this series as we journey through our own Oz together.

CRAIG BROWN

Welcome to Ringwood. We are not a perfect church... But we do love the Lord and seek to take his life, call, ministry and hope seriously. We seek to THRIVE in his favour through an attentiveness to the Word, joining in community, seeking to recognize and exercise our gifts and connection with the wider neighborhood.

WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Worship Leading: Linda Mill
Song Leading: Ben Graham-Nellor
Speaker: Craig Brown

NIGHT CHURCH - 6.00pm

'Solid Ground 1'

Andrew Menzies, Principal
at Stirling College will be speaking

Over the next couple of weeks we welcome visitors to speak with us.

We will have the pleasure of sharing with Andrew Menzies who is the Principal at Stirling College, who will be speaking with us tonight, and we will be continuing on in the Series: Solid Ground and have the pleasure of Brian Macallan joining us over the following two Sunday nights. Brian is a lecturer at Tabor and a young dad.

Both Brian and Andrew have both spoken at Ringwood before, and if you haven't had the opportunity of catching up with them, get along to night church over the coming weeks.

Please Note: The office hours have changed

The office is open from **Monday to Thursday** 9am – 5pm.
Friday – Closed

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - SAMARITAN'S PURSE:

"Open up a whole new life ... through the power of a simple gift"

1. Find a shoe box, or you can purchase one for 50 cents from Pauline Lomman in the foyer, following each service from **September 28th**. Pauline will also have instructions on how "Operation Christmas Child" works.
2. Determine if a boy or girl will receive your gift, and what age that child would be.
3. Follow some simple guidelines, fill the box with a variety of simple gifts that will bring delight to a child.



Our shoe box drop off date will be Sunday, October 19th, 2014.

If you would rather make a donation, please take an envelope marked Operation Christmas Child and place this in the offering bowl.

SHAKING THE WORLD: PRAYER ACTION

An opportunity to intercede, press into the heart of God, seek miracles and celebrate God's provisions and kindness.

- ◆ Pray for Matthew Moore, and his family and they mourn the loss of Matthew's Dad. Please pray especially for Matthew's mum.
- ◆ Please be in prayer for all those folk travelling in this school holiday season. Pray for their refreshment and safe travel.
- ◆ Pray for the VCE year 12 students as the end of term 4 rolls around and the final sprint to the finish of the year begins. Pray also for their parents.
- ◆ Pray for the fruitfulness of term 4 as all of our groups begin to regather and launch. Pray specifically for the leadership teams gathered for Kids Min, Youth Group, Grow groups, study groups and the array of other focused areas of local mission and evangelism.
- ◆ Pray for peaceful outcomes in Hong Kong and the politically motivated unrest experienced there currently.
- ◆ Pray for chaplaincy in schools, for the SRI programs, and for the opportunities opening for chaplains in sporting clubs, especially football clubs
- ◆ A special prayer point for the Hughes' Dubai friends who have friends who are missionaries in the Middle East. Last Saturday, the town in which they are based was taken over by ISIL. They lined up all the Christian families & demanded that each child deny Christ. One by one each child refused & as they refused they were killed in full view of the other children & all the parents. All this & the call to prayer from these people is that the barbaric people will undergo a Saul to Paul experience.

The CAP MONEY COURSE – Monday Nights 13th, 20th, 27th October from 7pm to 9pm in Underground Station room.

The CAP Money Course is a revolutionary money management course that teaches people budgeting skills and a simple, cash-based system that really works. This course will help anyone to get more in control of their finances, so they can save, give and prevent debt. The CAP Money Course is a course devised by the award winning debt counselling charity, Christians Against Poverty.

Please contact Gail Pratley 0419 590718 Stuart Gay on 0424 781658 for more information or if you would like to participate. Or you could book online [via http://capaust.org/capmoneynew.php](http://capaust.org/capmoneynew.php)



THE COUNTDOWN CONTINUES!

Please keep your spring cleaning going and save those things that others can use for our Trash and Treasure, Op Shop or Re-Gifting stalls. Remember that we can pick up items early although would prefer that you brought them to the church on Friday 25th October. For larger items please contact Brian Tanfield (Ph: 9720 5145) to arrange pick up on Friday 25th. *(Sorry no lounges or electrical goods)*

Fete Focus...



Rosters

Rosters for different stalls are now on the noticeboard in the foyer. Please think of which areas you would like to be part of (so many choices!). We would love as many people as possible be involved, and it is a great way to support our church and wider community. It may just be for an hour or so but we cannot run the fete without a significant number of people helping out on the day. We will need people to help on stalls such as the cakes, plants and BBQ and also on Friday night, Saturday morning set up and Saturday afternoon pack up.

For any enquiries contact Merri Lewis email: mijk63@bigpond.com ph: 9893 1215 or one of the fete team. Please note that there are no more stalls available – we're fully booked.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT NEW CARPARKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR RINGWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Monday - Friday

Please note that there will be a permanent change to our private church car park. We are finding that there are increased incidences of people using our car park who are unauthorised. This has a flow on effect, causing the church challenges as we do not have enough parking for the people who attend the activities at the church that run through the weekdays.

Having considered our alternatives, we regrettably will be implementing a 4 hour parking restriction on both the Bedford Road and Pitt Street car parks during the hours of 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday through Friday. The car park will be managed by the Maroondah City Council, and if you are not displaying a current and valid parking permit on your dashboard you will be fined by the Council.

You will need to request an "Application to apply for a Car Parking Permit" from the church office if you use the carpark to commute to the city on a regular basis, (3 or more times a week). This will be free to regular church attenders.

*Please note this does not automatically assume a permit will be granted, as there are many factors which will need consideration. We will do our best to respond to each application as soon as we are able. **It will mean that your application will need to be handed into the church office by no later than the 10th October, 2014 so that we may give due consideration to all applications.***

If you volunteer at the church, which may extend your carparking requirements to in excess of 4 hours, you will be supplied with a volunteers' carparking permit (eg. for Oasis meals and/or Op Shop), and we will be requesting registration details, etc. If you have any questions about this please contact the church office.

If you are planning on only using the carpark from time to time for more than 4 hours at a time, you will need to obtain a temporary permit from the office (during church office hours 9-5) for each occurrence. These will only be valid for each single occasion, and cannot be used for more than the noted period of time on the permit. Please note for Seniors Outings, a temporary day permit will be supplied to drivers on arrival at the church.

Where a permit has been issued, this will only be done on the condition that Ringwood Church of Christ will be able to request that cars are not parked on the church property on the occasions where all parking will be required for funerals, special occasions.

Please contact the Church Office to receive your Application for Car Parking Permit, and/or if you have any questions about this process.

Open Doors Open Day - Come and help us celebrate our 30th birthday!

Open Doors Counselling - 30 years of counselling and support for crisis pregnancy and pregnancy loss. Open Doors Education - 30 years of proactive value based education for young people encouraging 'best health' life choices. An independent, ecumenical Christian community service organisation; not for profit; registered charity; www.opendoors.com.au.

You are invited to drop in for a cuppa, a slice of cake and a chat at our Centre, 5 Greenwood Ave Ringwood, on Saturday October 11 from 10.30 - 2pm. Meet our staff, volunteers and committee members, take a tour of our 'home' and learn more about what we do. RSVP essential for catering. Please phone 9870 7044 or email info@opendoors.com.au. We look forward to welcoming you!



Offering mum's of pre-schoolers' some :

Time Out to listen to speakers on a host of subjects, with

Time Out for a decadent morning tea (beautifully prepared so as to indulge yourself), with

Time Out to share with other mum's

Time Out to take part in some hands on activity, eg. craft, cooking, pampering, etc.

All this and

Time Out whilst your children are cared for by our WWC checked Carers.

Next Time Out Program: Tuesday, 7th October, 2014

BLOSSOM WOMENS MINISTRY

High Tea-Growing in Christ **SATURDAY, 11th October, 10.00 Chapel Hall**

Cross Culture Church, Cnr Swanston St & Lonsdale Street

The women of Cross Culture and friends are invited to join us for a High Tea celebrating "Growing in Christ"

We will be joined by a panel of Godly women who will be sharing their personal journey with Christ—how he has grown them through trials and times of praise. A special presentation from mission partner Wen Lee Kuan will also be featured!

iHUB for further details

Tickets: \$12/\$15

UPCOMING WORKING BEE

The next working bee will be held on Saturday **October 11th from 9am - 1pm**, here at the church. If you can spare 1 or 2 hours or more that would be great!!

We will be doing all the normal cleaning and lots of mulching this time, due to the fact that a wonderful person has been keeping the weeds sprayed, we have very few left. So our big garden job will be mulching.



Please plan on bringing what you need to do for the task you wish to do. If you have a trailer and/or a wheelbarrow, a spade and rake could you also bring those and any tools that you think you might use

We have invited our Chin Burmese friends so it would be great if there is more of us than them!!

Morning tea will be at 10.30am, if anyone would like to offer to cook something for it that would be helpful as well. Every bit helps towards making our church a better place to be

Please let me know what you can do and if you can come.

Date: October 11th, 2014
Times: 9-1pm or anywhere in between
Anne Morley
0418 565 931
9722-1190
ajmorley01@bigpond.com
or
anne@ringwoodchurch.org.au

RINGWOOD MEN'S SHED—7.30pm

Our AGM will be on Thursday October 16th and at that meeting the committee will be outlining the future plans RMS and for the Parkwood site. Anyone is welcome to attend. It will be held in the Underground Station Room.

HELP WANTED

'I have a young 9 year old boy who needs a bike. Has anyone got one in their backyard that they no longer need? If so could you contact Bronwyn on 0421 129 997. Thanks lovely Church!!'

A SIGNIFICANT TRANSITION FOR THE MINISTRY OF RAHAB'S ROOM

More than ten years ago, God powerfully called Nicole White to a ministry to people with mental health and addiction issues. This incredible ministry, "Rahab's Room", has operated since that time with Ringwood Church of Christ as its base and Nicole as the Ministry Co-ordinator. Since 2007, Nicole has been employed by the church for one day a week.

Nicole has been amazingly faithful in this calling – providing spiritual and pastoral care for many vulnerable people. Nicole co-ordinates the weekly service, prayer groups, social outings and is always there to provide care and support.

With the introduction of the new constitution, a new agreement (including Vic/Tas Churches of Christ Conference documentation regarding the professional practice, ongoing health and formation of ministers and ministry) has been created for everyone in a paid or voluntary position in the ministry team. After ongoing consultation and discussion with the elders over a number of months, Nicole has made the decision not to enter into the new employee agreement and to resign from her ministry position, effective from 28th September 2014.

Nicole has also decided to relocate the ministry of Rahab's Room away from Ringwood Church of Christ to an independent venue, removing it from under the authority and leadership of this church. A short transition will occur with Nicole leading Rahab's Room in a voluntary capacity until 19th October 2014, which is the last meeting date for Rahab's Room at Ringwood Church of Christ. After this move, Rahab's Room members will be encouraged by Nicole to continue attending Ringwood Church of Christ church services and Oasis Meals ministry.

As an eldership, we have recommended other courses of action with regards to the ongoing ministry of Rahab's Room and Nicole's leadership here at Ringwood, but agreement was not able to be reached.

This has been a difficult and sad time for all involved. As a church we continue to pray for all those who are part of Rahab's Room. We also pray for the White family as they continue to navigate through enormously challenging issues arising from Gary's illness. May we all be prayerful and support the White family as valued members of our church community at Ringwood.

Matthew Moore on behalf of the elders

WHAT DO WE SENSE THAT GOD HAS BEEN SAYING TO US?

At the church led by Larry Lea in Rockwall, Texas, numerical growth was from 13 people in 1980 to 11,000 people by 1988. When he was asked about such amazing growth, he said "I didn't start a church I started a prayer meeting".

It is always special when we gather for prayer as a Body. It was inspiring to see so many attend the prayer night on Tuesday 16/9/14. Thank you to those who attended and to those who indicated that they would be praying at home. Thank you to Noel for his sermon series "Love Out Loud", which provided the basis for our prayer as we sought God's voice on how we can be His "salt and light" in the communities in which we are already embedded.

We invested significant time praying with each other and seeking God's next steps for us as we desire to see more people in our networks understand more about the love of God.

Being inspired by Romans 9:12-21, as a group we wrote down a number of ways that we can be thriving as a church, reaching up together, reaching out together, sharing God with our families and communities. Here's our list:

Be prayerful about opportunities, Be inclusive, Be real, Be practical, Be humble, Be kind, Listen and actually hear, Smile, Be respectful.

Share a cuppa, Be welcoming, Be creative and inventive in our hospitality (Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:1,2).

Be a constant positive influence, Take time to care, Offer to pray, Introduce people to the Creator of love, Be prepared to leave our comfort zone, Be sacrificial, Seek to discover beauty in everyone, May we "...act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8) and may we Anticipate God speaking to us and speaking through us.

Let's continue to be prayerful about our role in sharing Jesus with those with whom we rub shoulders. As John Sharpe says, we are the nerve endings of the Kingdom, in touch with the people that God desires to see come into relationship with Him. We are The King's ambassadors with a royal commission - The Great Commission. Let's fly His flag and let's look forward to sharing more of God's stories of how those in the community have been impacted.

Dave Moody, on behalf of the elders and the ministry team

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12.30pm

In recess for the holidays. Next term the Minor Prophets will be continued, ably led by Marion Evans and Julia Fullerton.

Halls Gap Women's Retreat

Cheryl McCallum, principal of Tabor college, gifted bible teacher and inspirational leader is the keynote speaker. Set this time aside for renewal and refreshing.

Cost: Full Camp: \$180, Day Visitor: \$70

Contact: Janeen Norris 0431 546 286 or email amgleott@gmail.com .



Last year I went to the Halls Gap Women's Retreat for the first time. Christian women of all ages and experiences attended. I was blessed by the ministry of the speaker as well as the ministry of the committee, who are from Red Cliffs Church of Christ. I personally enjoyed meeting new friends and know that many others did too. For me it was a great space of hope and compassion. This year I look forward to catching up with 'old' friends, as we are again inspired, equipped and refreshed to continue in our call to be disciples of Christ. All this happens in a stunning setting, at the Norval Centre, surrounded by the Grampian ranges, but just a 800m walk from the village.

There are still places available at the 2014 Halls Gap Women's Retreat, October 10-12th and the RSVP date has been significantly extended. The committee would love to see a further 14 women be blessed in hearing Cheryl McCallum speak and enjoying the beautiful scenery and people on the retreat. Please consider attending yourself or encouraging other women to do so. Perhaps you or your church would even consider sponsoring someone to attend?

QUILT SHOW - EASTERN PALLIATIVE CARE

When: 10.00am - 4.30pm - Friday/Saturday 17th/18th October

Where: TLC Church, 265 Canterbury Road, Bayswater

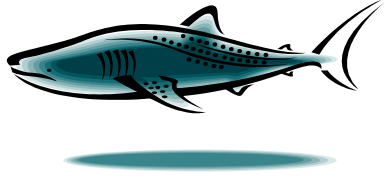
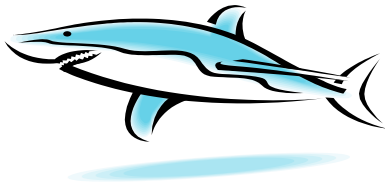
Entry: \$5.00

Guest Speaker: Margaret Rolfe - Australian quiltmaker and author. Hear Margaret speak on the history of quilting in Australia, from early convict times to the present.

Margaret will be speaking on **Friday, 17th October @ 7.00pm**. Tickets \$25 including champagne and refreshments. For Bookings phone EPC on 1300 130 813. The venue will be TLC Church, 265 Canterbury Rd., Bayswater.

**SOME DATES FOR YOUR
2014 DIARY:**

- 16th October** **AGM Ringwood Men's Shed**
- 17th & 18th October** **Quilt Show - Eastern Palliative Care**
- 11th October** **Church Working Bee**
- 25th October** **Church Fete**
- 8th November** **Trivia Night**



Worshipful, faithful and regular giving to God's work... consider

I authorise Ringwood Church of Christ, 13 Bedford Road, Ringwood 3134. to charge my credit card for \$ _____ being my offering for today.

Or

My regular offering amount of \$ _____ to be debited from my credit card each week/month. (Please circle the appropriate option)

Visa

Mastercard

Card No:

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Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Card Expiry Date: __ / __

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BSB: 083 343
Account No:
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