

Reformed Church of Bishopdale

90 Highsted Road, Bishopdale, PO Box 20-133, www.bishopdale.org.nz

4 July 2010



Ministers: Rev. Robert van Wichen
Email: bishopdale@orcon.net.nz

Rev. Andrew de Vries
Email: devries.adv@gmail.com

A warm welcome to you, especially to those visiting us. May you be encouraged in your faith as we worship the Lord together. Please join us for tea or coffee in the hall after the morning service. A crèche is available for children under 5.

10:00 am Rev. Robert van Wichen
"God's Righteousness" (Romans 3:21-31)

5:00 pm Rev. Andrew de Vries
"I hope you like surprises!" (Matthew 25:31-46)

Pastoral Notices

- Next Sunday evening, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. This is an opportunity for us to reflect on our relationship with God and with others. Do we love God most? Do we love others as God has loved us?
- Welcome to Nick and Jill Vosslamber who have moved from Auckland. Their address is 82 Breens Rd and their phone number is 359-1342.
- We give thanks to God and rejoice with William for passing his Ph.D. exam on Wednesday. Sadly though, William is leaving soon to take up a temporary lecturer position at AUT Auckland.
- School holidays have arrived! It is great to have a break from study and to have some free time.
- Congratulations to Hans Berends on reaching 60 on Thursday, 1 July. May God continue to bless you and your family.
- *Christianity Explored* finished this week. Lord willing, the next course will start in early May next year. Please prayerfully consider who you might invite along. Thank you to all who were involved and helped out this time.

Matters for prayer

- Those who are sick or frail.
- Safety for those travelling overseas at present. In addition to those already away, this week David and Jo Capill and her children left for Holland, Tim and Natalie Sterne for the USA and Lucretia Dijkstra for South America.
- Safe travel for those going away during the school holidays.
- For fresh opportunities to witness to others, whether by word or deed. In particular, please pray that the contacts made through Crafty Kids Club and the Thursday After School programme would bear fruit. Christchurch Reformed Church as they consider whether to call Dr Tim Rott as their minister.

Church Visitation and Presbytery: Our annual visit will take place this Friday (9 July) commencing at 7:30 pm. The visitors this year will be from the Reformed Church of Nelson. Since this is an open meeting all members are welcome to attend. If you have any questions or concerns you wish to raise with the church visitors please contact Fred Braam.

On Saturday, Presbytery meets here after the Men's Breakfast. You are welcome to come along as an observer.

Church leadership for 2011: We are calling for nominations for elders and deacons for 2011. Please hand your nominations to your elder by the 7 July Session meeting. Today is the last Sunday before the deadline for nominations. The elders retiring are Fred Braam, Richard Moot and Richard van Garderen. The

deacons retiring are Peter Mahoney, Peter Thompson and Graeme Zuidema.

What's on this week

Shared lunch this week will be hosted by Steve Sterne's district. Venue to be announced. Visitors are most welcome.

Pastor's Class will be held on Tuesday, 6 July at the Reformed Church of Christchurch at 10am.

Singing – we will be singing at St Winifred's rest home this Wednesday, 7th July, 10.30am. ALL WELCOME to join us as we witness to the residents there.

Combined Men's Breakfast #2...NEXT WEEK!!

Please keep NEXT Saturday 10 July free for a Men's breakfast at the Bishopdale Reformed Church, starting at 8am SHARP. Lord willing, our guest speaker will be Rev Daniel Wilson from the Nelson Reformed Church. Cost will be \$5, and proceeds will go towards a "Chicken Shed Project" in Papua New Guinea. Please RSVP to jacob.couprie@gmail.com. Many thanks!

Update from Heidi

Dear friends,

Tashi Delek from warm, sunny Lhasa! I know you all may feel a wee bit jealous about that right now! Many of you have heard about the difficult situation up here these days. We have been told that no students can continue studying Tibetan for a second year, even though they are taking new students. This has been a very confusing and frustrating time, but we trust that the Father can work His purposes in spite of difficult times and the enemy working against us!

So, as I'm writing this I have 30 days left in Lhasa! This is hard to comprehend right now, especially as I have two more weeks still left of class and all my teammates have left for their summer at home already. It's been 18 weeks straight of study and is definitely starting to drag!

After talking with my organisation and other people, I've decided that the best thing is to continue my Tibetan study. There was no place (they had already filled positions) for me to teach in Lhasa, so I plan to move to Chengdu (another city in China, that has a Tibetan population) and study Tibetan at a university there. There is a team from ELIC there which I can join and actually has one family who used to live up here! Also, there may be at least four of us likeminded students from here who will be able to study together in Chengdu. I hope to study there for one year and then come back up to Lhasa again to teach if there is a position available. Hopefully I will be able to go back to where I used to teach. This really is a difficult and sad time right now for me especially having no teammates around to talk with. Please remember me as I finish studying, pack up and move that He would give me strength for the task

and wisdom in using my time. Ask for opportunities to share with local friends as I say goodbye (hopefully for just a year!).

Good news! We have a new Tibetan Brother!! He is very excited to continue studying the Word right now so please remember him as he does this.

Thanks for your continual support and remembrance. We keep trusting that the Father is working here and He can use all things for our good and the furtherance of His kingdom! In His Grip, Heidi :-)

Heidi covets your prayers for the next few weeks as she tries to finish her studies well, says goodbye to friends and prepares to go to a new place. Please pray also that all her paperwork will be sorted out quickly. Next Sunday, **11 July**, we will have the opportunity to SKYPE Heidi after the morning service. Please use this opportunity to encourage Heidi but also share some of your news with her.

Office Bearer Training Course

Nominations for elders and deacons has come around again. Perhaps you are hoping to see your name on the nomination list. More likely, you are waiting with fear and trepidation for an elder to tap you on the shoulder and talk about your response to being nominated. Some of this fear stems from being ill-equipped to take on the wonderful privilege of serving in office. Next term, we will be running a course to help equip men to serve in the office of *elder or deacon*. We will meet for 8 weeks and consider a number of aspects to serving in office including: qualifications for office, the heart of the office bearer, what to expect in office, common pastoral issues, leading in prayer and bible reading, and what it means to watch your life and doctrine closely.

Who's invited: Men only (sorry ladies)

Start date: Thursday 29 July (weekly until 23 Sept)

Time: 7.30-8.30pm (coffee until 9.00pm)

Location: Reformed Church of Bishopdale

RSVP or questions: Andrew de Vries

Notices

Tear Fund – Today being the 1st Sunday of the month, we will have our usual collection for Tear Fund.

Prayer Calendars for July are available in the foyer.

Sunday School: Today is the last week of Sunday School before the holidays. We will have a break for a couple of weeks and start again on the 25th July.

Senior Youth Group: Hey guys! Just giving you a heads up about our upcoming Hanmer Retreat, 23-25 July 2010. Keep this weekend free. Registration forms are available from your SYG committee. Grab your copy NOW! It's a great chance to chill out and spend time with friends :) Any queries, see your SYG committee.

Emmanuel Christian School Fundraising Dinner:

We are taking reservations now. Please phone Desiree on 954 9650 or Georgette on 354 2900.

When: Saturday 7 August @ 90 Highsted Road @ 7pm

Price: \$30 each: Entree, Dinner & Dessert

As usual there will be an auction. If you have anything to donate, please contact us. Start thinking about your costumes for our Wild, Wild West theme... YEE HA!!!!

Looking forward to hearing from you.

South Island Women's Fellowship: All women are invited to this event on Saturday 11th September 2010 at the Reformed Church of Dovedale. Our theme for the day is "Growing Good Friendships". Please mark your calendars now.

Address Book Updates

Please correct your church directory. Simon Verkerk's address is 11 Fusilier Street, Hoon Hay. Phone 960-1549, Cell phone number is 021 1154789. Quinly Tang's email address should be qingtang@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer's Report

Giving for past six weeks:

Week 21	\$7,676.00	Week 24	\$3,864.40
Week 22	\$6,775.40	Week 25	\$11,216.40
Week 23	\$4,909.30	Week 26	\$6,308.60

Our weekly budget is \$6028.

Future Meetings

July 16 & 28 Fellowship Meetings
21 Elders & Deacons Meetings

The Week in Brief

Tue 6 10:00 am Pastor's Class at Cornwall St
Wed 7 10:30 am Singing at St Winifred's
7:00 pm Session Meeting
Sat 10 8:00 am Men's Breakfast, then Presbytery

Rosters

Crèche

4 July am Vivien Mahoney, Cindy Tyrell-Baxter, Carl Janssen, Lucinda Capill
pm Amanda Zuidema, Shirley Schinkelshoek, Lucie Vanderpyl, Mariska van der Colff
11 July am Hetty Klaassen, Yvonne Janssen, Rachael van Wichen, Jordan Hill
pm Paula Couprie, Michelle Posthuma, Aidan Schinkelshoek, Rachel Mahoney
18 July am Angela Macdonald, Arja Amersfoort, Ben Vannoort, Anneka van der Zee
pm Marguerite Braam, Heleen van den Brink, Suzy McCracken, Nathan Moot

NB: Please swap if you can't make it on your rostered session, adult with adult, senior youth with senior youth etc.

Shared Lunch

Steve Sterne (4 July), Leo Fietje (11 July), and Richard van Garderen (18 July).

Sunday School

This week: Nikita Huls & Annelise Vannoort

Next week: No Sunday School

Coffee

4 Jul K & J de Ruiter, L Dijkstra
11 Jul R & M Eisenhart, L & J Fietje
18 Jul A & J Geerlofs, C & L Giddy

Church Cleaning

10 July J & T Couprie, S & D Capill, M & J Cross
17 July M & R de Ruiter, B & L Dimbleby, K & J de Ruiter
24 July L & J Fietje, A & J Geerlofs, C & L Giddy