

The Contact

Red Cliffs Church of Christ



WELCOME

We're so pleased you have joined us here at Red Cliffs Church of Christ.

It's great to have you worship with us, we pray you'll be blessed and encouraged as we seek to respond to God together.

Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee in the hall after our service, we'd love the chance to get to know you better.

LOVE IN ACTION

Throughout 2018 we have adopted the theme 'love in action' to focus our thoughts, our prayers, and our engagement with the wider community.

Whilst perhaps not mentioned explicitly in the service, you can trust that this theme is guiding our plans, and stirring our hearts as we journey together.

Have you seen love in action through our members? Do you see opportunities for our fellowship to demonstrate God's love in action – either way, we encourage you to discuss your observations, and to personally respond to the prompting of God's Spirit.

TITHES & OFFERINGS

For those who find it most effective to arrange giving via online transfers, the details are;

Red Cliffs Church of Christ

BSB: 633 000 Account: 159 189 497

You may like to include your surname, or to remain anonymous simply enter "offering".

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Thanks to Rick and Leonie Wright for guiding us through our annual Leaders Retreat and in worship here at Red Cliffs.

Rick & Leonie are the Senior Pastors of Kardinia Church – and Rick is a Board member of Churches of Christ in Victoria/Tasmania (CCVT).

It's been a pleasure to have such experienced leaders contribute to our journey here at Red Cliffs.

We pray blessings on their ministries for 2018, as we commit to apply the lessons learnt together.



Have you checked our facebook page lately?



Red Cliffs Church of Christ
53 Guava Street (PO Box 54), Red Cliffs VIC 3496
www.redcliffschurchofchrist.org.au

Minister
Naomi Thorne
☎ 0488 720 962

Chairperson
Dale Stewart
☎ 0428 490 007

Secretary
Liz Milne
☎ 5024 7046

Elders
Liz Milne
Graham Lohmeyer
Collin Phelps

☎ 5024 7046
☎ 0437 603 824
☎ 5024 3177

To place notices in the 'Contact' email contact@churchofchrist.redcliffs.net or phone ☎ 0408 249 932

PRAYER MATTERS

Your prayers for our fellowship, Community, and the things that concern God are greatly valued.

Keep up the praying ...

PRAYER FOCUS

Each week we encourage your prayers for a particular 'prayer focus', and we remember and pray for them in our Sunday Service.

In March the subject(s) of our prayer focus are;

4 March Love Our City

11 March Fiona Briers/Bright Solutions (Living Link)

18 March Urban Neighbours of Hope

25 March Missionary Aviation Fellowship

SUNDAY PRAYER TIMES

All are invited to join together for prayer in the Church from 9.30 to 9.45am (before our service) each Sunday.

This is an excellent time to prepare yourself for the service ahead, and you still get time to welcome visitors & friends.

HOURLY OF PRAYER

Our church's Hour of Prayer is scheduled each month to allow us to join with God's plan for our community and nation.

This month our hour of Prayer has been scheduled for 5-6pm on **Saturday 3 March** at our Church and everyone is encouraged to attend. Because it forms part of the 40 Day Prayer Relay, folk from other churches will also be welcomed.

40 DAY PRAYER RELAY

Following on from the National Day of Prayer and Fasting (10 Feb) from **14 February** to **25 March 2018**

all Sunraysia churches are encouraged to participate in the National relay, praying particularly for our nation.

The 40 Day Prayer Relay is a powerful way to pray for our nation and a simple way to participate in one continuous prayer chain. It enables us to unite while retaining the freedom of our diverse prayer and worship expressions.

To help you pray a range of resources, including 'daily inspirations', can be found online at www.40daysofprayer.org.au and pamphlets about the relay are available from the table at Church.



PRAYER
changes things

PRAYER RETREAT

On **Saturday 24 March** everyone in our church is encouraged to join together for our annual Prayer Retreat.

You may recall that last year around twenty people spent a wonderful day at the Tonkin's in Merbein.

It's anticipated that the event will run from 10am to 3.30pm. So add the date to your calendar and look out for further details.

What a wonderful way to launch into Holy Week and Easter.

COMBINED WORSHIP & PRAYER

From 7-9pm on **Friday 2 March** all are welcome to join a combined worship and prayer event to commence 24 hours of non-stop prayer at Living Waters Christian Community, (118 Orange Ave, Mildura).

The event will continue through to 7pm Saturday evening. For more info check the table at the church.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDOP)

Each year at the start of March each of the Churches in Red Cliffs get together for the WDOP.

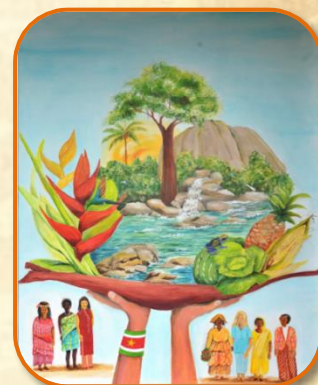
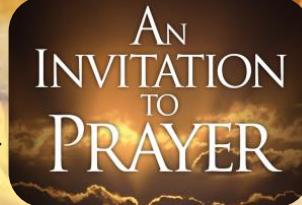
This year the host Church is Diggerland (Red Cliffs Christian Fellowship) and the event starts at 7pm on **Friday 2 March**. The speaker for the Service will be our own Naomi Thorne.

The theme this year is "All God's Creation Is Very Good", with resources for the service are developed by the people of Suriname. The event artwork is called 'The Divine Gift' and features flora and fauna native to Suriname (*have you worked out where Suriname is yet?*).

... FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please include Ann & Robert, Dot and Val M in your prayer who each have health challenges.

Pray for Tanika and her commencement in the Propel program, for Adventure Club and our Small Groups as they commence, and for our Red Cliffs community.



MISSIONS

LIVING LINK MORNING TEA

On the second Sunday of each month we encourage donations to our Living Link missionary (Fiona Briers currently serving at Bright Solutions in Vietnam).

March's Living Link Morning Tea will be organised by Rachel T and Sue and will follow the service on *Sunday 11 March*.

OCC – JOIN THE TEAM

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is inviting the involvement of people in Sunraysia to promote this fantastic project.



Rachel Broad has been appointed as the Area Coordinator for OCC and is planning a meeting in April for anyone interested in joining the OCC volunteer team.

There are many roles that can be filled, including Church & Community Relations; Schools & Youth Relations; Network Team Member; and Prayer Team Coordinator.

If you're interested in this fantastic program, why not contact Rachel on ☎ 0448 373 131 to find out more.

STUDENTS SEEKING SUPPORT

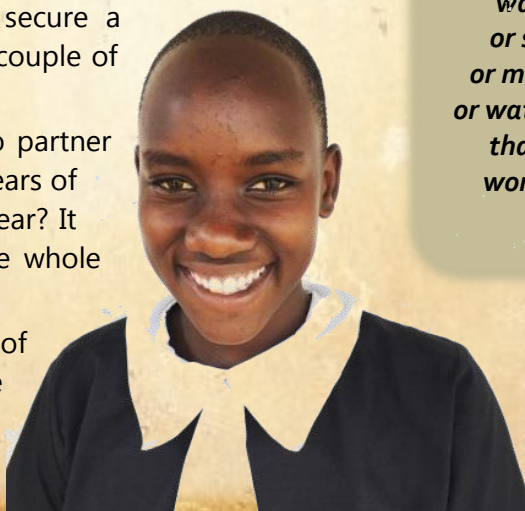
Anett (pictured below) is a very bright and determined young lady, who shows a lot of initiative. In 2017 Anett was the School Captain at Masinde Primary School reflecting her natural leadership abilities.

Anett wants to become a Cardiologist – a great dream that will require her to continue with her education.

Education in Kenya is not free – and Anett's family cannot support her to go to school. Fortunately, Victorious Ministries has been able to secure a place for her at a boarding school just a couple of hours from her home.

Would you or someone you know like to partner with Anett to see her complete the four years of Secondary School? How about just one year? It will cost \$1060 to see Anett through the whole school year, and to keep her dream alive.

For more info about Anett or a number of other students seeking support, please chat with Tanika on ☎ 0411 801 191 or Naomi on ☎ 0488 720 962.



EQUIP//2018 - KENYA MISSION TRIP

Each year since 2013 Tanika has been visiting Kenya – first for 6 months and once or twice a year ever since.



From *28 June to 15 July*

2018 Tanika will be again be leading a team to visit Kenya supported by Victorious Ministries.

This trip will have a focus on distribution of Days for Girls kits and Health Education activities, along with a visit to long-time partner, Masinde Primary School (*whose graduates are still seeking support to attend Secondary School- see below*).

If you're interested, or know of anyone who might like to go, encourage them to get in touch with Tanika, or visit the facebook page. Applications for inclusion in this team (*only 7 places on the team*) are due by 16 March 2018.

EQUIP//2018 - KENYA TRIP INFO

An afternoon information session to better understand the plans for the 2018 Kenya Mission Trip is planned for *Sunday 4 March* from 2.30pm at the Mildura Church of Christ.

The session will include reflections from the 2017 Tour team members, along with info about the 2018 Equip//TOUR.

Be there to learn more about this trip, or just to encourage an hear from the 2017 team.

Everyone is welcome so feel free to bring a friend or two!

*"In our lifetime,
wouldn't it be sad
if we spent more time
washing dishes
or swatting flies
or mowing the yard
or watching television
than praying for
world missions?"*

Dave Davidson

EASTER 2018

SUNRISE SERVICE

For many years the Churches of Red Cliffs celebrate Easter Sunday together.

This year it's our turn to prepare and lead the Sunrise Service, so be ready to join in.

It's a great opportunity to share the most significant time on the Church calendar in fellowship with other local believers.

Stay tuned for more details closer to the event, including how you can participate.



COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Love Our City's (LOC) free community Easter Egg Hunt will be on again this *Easter Saturday 31 March*.

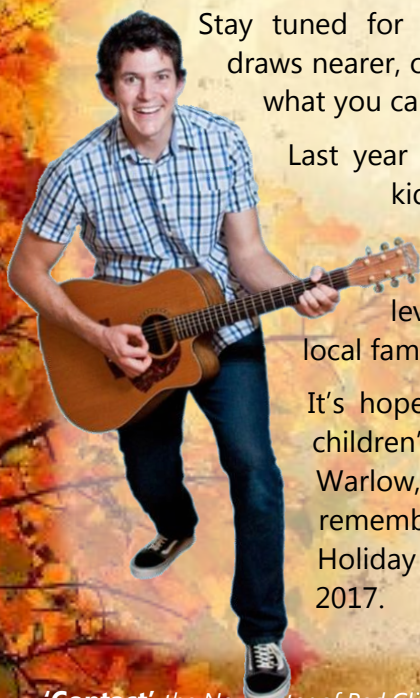
There'll be details advertised soon, and families can sign their kids up for the event online. Meanwhile the Churches are working together to ensure that all is in readiness.

Our Church's role is to look after the Registration tent which will require a number of volunteers. If that's not your thing maybe you'd like to sell drinks or take on another role.

Stay tuned for more info as the date draws nearer, or talk to Dale to find out what you can do.

Last year there were hundreds of kids who enjoyed the event, which is developing a great level of appreciation from local families.

It's hoped that this year's guest children's entertainer will be Dan Warlow, whom you may remember from our Big FISH Holiday Program in January 2017.



By this we know
LOVE,
that He laid down
His life for us.

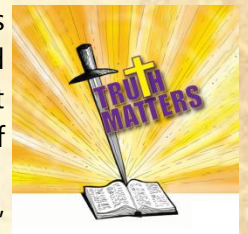
-1 John 3:16



WIMMERA EASTER CONVENTION

The Wimmera Easter Convention is held each year in and around Warracknabeal. The convention consists of Junior, Teen and Young Adults camps as well as sessions/talks from prominent Christian Leaders. The objectives of the convention are to unite the people of God, provide deepening of spiritual life, effective Christian Witness and to win others for The Lord.

Each year the convention provides a means to catch up with old friends and meet new friends whilst being enriched by The Word of God.



This year's theme is 'Truth matters' and guest speakers are Andrew Reid and Toby McIntosh. For more info about what this Convention is like, speak to Collin and Colleen who've been several times.



BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION

Easter Convention 30 March - 2 April

After marking their 100th Summer Convention Belgrave Heights Convention are celebrating their 100th year throughout 2018.

Join us at our largest event for a time of learning and fellowship for all ages. Each day includes main sessions, seminars, programs for children, youth and young adults.

You can stay on site in catered accommodation, or camp/caravan, or visit each day. Book early to ensure a place.

Speakers for 2018 are Steve Brady from the UK, Jamie Hudson Taylor IV and Peter Adam. This is a no registration fee event funded by offerings. A cafe, kiosk and bookshop are also onsite.

CHILDREN

For further info on children's ministry (birth to Year 6) activities call **Angela** on ☎ 0448 176 413.

ADVENTURE CLUB

Adventure Club (AC) is our after school program for primary school aged children.



In March the kids are learning about the story and meaning of Easter, but the term is somewhat disrupted. There will be NO Adventure Club on **Wednesdays 14 and 21 March** due to building works (roof replacement).

If you know someone who would like to attend why not grab some AC info cards from Church and pass them on. The registration process is simple (but necessary) and the leaders are happy to help people connect into the group.

If you're interested in joining the team, why not ask how you can assist. As always, we love to have your prayers for the kids, their families, and the leaders.

KID'S CHURCH

Our Kid's Church program runs every alternate week with a roster of volunteer leaders.

After starting worship with our families, there'll be a cue for the kids to have their own special time together. will and

During March Kids Church will be on;

Date	Leader	Helper
4 March	Janeen	Sophia
18 March	Chris	Tamrin ... then
8 April	Bernice	Paige



THE YOUTH CONVERSATION

Tanika is keen to have some discussions with the youth about plans for 2018, so ... if you're in Secondary College make sure you're around to chat with Tanika after Church (nominally 11.30am) on **Sunday 4 March** in the Meeting Room.

CHURCH SAFE WORKSHOP

The Victorian Reportable Conduct Scheme came into effect for Churches on 1 January 2018 adding to the Child Safety obligations legislated in 2017 for child related work in Victoria.



Our church has invited CCVT's Safe Places Coordinator to conduct a Safe Church Awareness Workshop in Red Cliffs on **Saturday 16 June** from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Child safety is everyone's responsibility and we need to aware of our legal responsibilities.

While we are hosting the workshop, others are welcome to attend. Registrations are already open, and anyone can register online through the CCVT website. This early warning notice is to make sure you're able to be there!

YOUTH

For info on youth (Year 7+) activities call **Tanika** on ☎ 0411 801 191.

PROPEL CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT

Lively discussion at the February Board meeting centred around an application for Red Cliffs Church of Christ to host a Propel Trainee.

Propel is a 12 month CCVT leadership development program, planted in the local church & intended to help emerging leaders develop healthy practices and articulate God's call on their life.

The application was endorsed by the Board, who also decided to invite the support of congregation members to match the \$2500 grant given by CCVT to support Propel Candidates. A separate flyer encouraging your support is available from today your attention ot it is wholeheartedly encouraged.

Tanika will work with our children and young people while also studying some subjects with ACOM.

We look forward to sharing Tanika's journey over the coming 12 months here at Red Cliffs.

Our church is strongly committed to being a "safe place" for children and vulnerable people.

Any person wishing to engage in child-related work must satisfy the requirements for a Working With Children Check in Victoria.

Our Church Board has designated Dale Stewart as our Safety Contact Person, anyone with questions or concerns about child safety at our Church should speak with Dale, or our Minister, Naomi.

Any person who believes a child is *in immediate danger* should contact the Police or the Child Protection Crisis Line on ☎ 13 12 78.

LEADERSHIP NEWS

To discuss Church leadership matters chat to **Liz** on ☎ 5024 7046 or **Naomi** ☎ 0488 720 962.

ELDERS MEETING

The Church Elders will be meeting again this month – your prayers for both the elders and other Board members are always appreciated.

CHURCH BOARD

The March Board meeting will be held **Thursday 8 March** from 7.30pm. Those writing reports are asked to send a copy to all Board members by Tuesday evening for pre-reading.

CHAPEL & HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT

For two weeks commencing **13 March** work is scheduled to replace the roof of both the Chapel and the Hall.

This follows the damage resulting from the hailstorm in November 2016 and will require some patience, but the property team are making every effort to minimise disruption.

CHAPEL CHANGES

The initial focus of work to reorient the Chapel will be improved lighting and construction of a modular platform. Other matters raised in the congregational discussion have been noted, and will be considered after these initial priorities.



MINISTER'S DIARY

Apart from 'normal' activities, Naomi will be a joint-host on the Community Radio's program from 8-10pm on the first Sunday of each month in 2018. Her next session will be **Sunday 4 March** – you can tune in at 106.7 Hot FM, or online.

Naomi will be attending Hillsong's Colour Conference from **15-18 March** in Sydney, and not at Red Cliffs on Sunday.

Naomi will next be preaching at Red Cliffs on **Sunday 24 March**. Incidentally, Naomi was recently elected as Chair of the Sunraysia Minister's Fellowship (SMF) for 2018.

SMALL GROUPS

For further info about our small groups network chat to **Rachel** on ☎ 0448 373 131.

Several of our small groups have kicked off in February (*Connect, Retreat, Monday Knights*), while some are still finding their feet. There's no doubt that being part of one of these groups will help you connect with others, and supports your personal faith journey. If you're not sure which group might be for you, or need help to join one - please talk to Rachel, our Small Group coordinator.

CONNECT

Connect meets on alternate Tuesdays in the Church meeting room from 12-2pm.



The group is open to ladies of all ages to encourage faith for daily life through topical and bible-based discussion. The group has kicked off the year with a six session series.

During March *Connect* will be meeting on **Tuesday 6th** and **Tuesday 20th**. Any ladies who might be interested are invited to chat with Sue.

RETREAT

Retreat meets each Wednesday in various ladies' homes or at the Church from 10am through to 11.30am. Throughout the year each meeting includes a word theme.

The ladies enjoy fellowship and prayer and raise funds for designated projects through an offering collected in the last week of each month.

If you'd like more information about *Retreat* speak with Gwen. New members are most welcome. Please note the change of venue for 28 February.

The locations (and words) for the month ahead are;

Date	Host / Location	Word
28 February	@ the Church	Help
7 March	Lyn	Restore
14 March	Pam	Affliction
21 March	Gail	Burn
28 March	Coral	Shine

MONDAY KNIGHTS BIBLE STUDY

This Bible Study is open to all and meets in member's homes on alternate Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.



If you're interested in coming along then chat with Liz. The next meeting will be at the Lohmeyer's on **Monday 5 March**.

Stay tuned for details of other small groups on their way!

COMMUNITY

For further info on our Community Care work
chat to **Bruce** on ☎ 0408 249 932.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Our Church is regularly rostered on to assist with Meals on Wheels delivery in Red Cliffs. This is a great service to be part of and takes a small portion of our time deliver a real difference.



deliver a difference

Our next turn is at the end of March so we need volunteers; one for **Friday 23 March**, and two for each day from **Monday 26 March** through to **Thursday 29 March** (no delivery on Good Friday).

If you could possibly help on one or two of the days during our rostered week it would be greatly appreciated.

To get involved just speak to Liz or Bruce.

WORSHIP SERVICES @ JACARANDA

Each Monday at 2pm the churches of Red Cliffs are rostered to lead a time of worship at Jacaranda Village.

Services for March are to be led by;

26 February Red Cliffs Church of Christ

5 March Catholic Church

12 March No Service (Public Holiday)

19 March Uniting Church

26 March The Salvation Army

If you'd like to assist with these services, please chat with Elaine.

RED CLIFFS COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Do you know of a family who might like to come and enjoy a community playgroup in a casual and friendly environment for mums, dads, grandparents carers kids and bubs?

The playgroup meets in our hall from 10am – 12noon every Tuesday and Thursday and welcomes all children aged 0-5 years.

Bring a piece of fruit to share and enjoy a safe and secure environment with enclosed indoor and outdoor play areas. A great place to come together to play and build friendships.



Red Cliffs Community
Playgroup

COMMUNITY KITCHEN DISCUSSION

Following the discussion at our Church meeting in January (and elsewhere) about a community kitchen, a soup kitchen, hosting a meal for backpackers, etc - an open conversation about the various ideas as a ministry of our Church is planned for after the service on **Sunday 25 March**. For more info, or to float ideas, please speak to Bruce.

RED CLIFFS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Are you interested in learning about and helping promote Red Cliffs and District's history and heritage?

The Red Cliffs and District Historical Society meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the old Red Cliffs Court House (24-28 Jamieson Avenue).

You're invited to share a story or item at the next meeting on **Tuesday 27 February** from 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome, supper will follow the meeting. For further info contact Helen on ☎ 5024 1229.

RED CLIFFS SOCIAL WALKING GROUP

Are you a keen walker? This walking group is for people from all walks of life to meet up and socialize while getting a bit of exercise and having a laugh. The group meets weekday mornings in Red Cliffs to go for a walk (at your own pace) and then head for a lovely coffee - all are welcome to join.

For more info contact Deb on ☎ 0466 428 379 or Joy on ☎ 0417 609 134.

MOVIE FUNDRAISER

Need to get out?

Enjoy a good movie?

The recently released Marvel Superhero Movie 'Black Panther' was recently released so invite your friends to escape reality for a couple of hours while also improving the reality for disadvantaged students in Kenya.



On **Thursday 1 March** join the group at Deakin Cinemas for the 7.00pm screening of 'Black Panther'. The special ticket price of \$25ea includes the movie and encouragement from education advocate Tanika Thorne, who is a regular visitor to Kenya.

If you can't make the movie but would like to contribute toward the education costs of Kenyan students, donations can be deposited with; *Victorious Ministries* BSB: 063-520 Acct: 1085-9811

For more info about the event talk to Tanika on ☎ 0411 801 911.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

OK Men – breakfast is on the way! Meet at 8am on *Saturday 3 March* at Bruce's (75 Jacaranda St) with \$5 to cover brekky – don't worry, Naomi's cooking.

Feel free to invite any other men for a casual brekky which will include a brief chat about what's up next for our church's men – bring your ideas!

LADIES SOCIAL NIGHT

The next ladies social night will be coffee and cake at Craig & Hayley's new shed (whatever it's called) located on Jacaranda Street – across the lane from *Bits and Pieces*.

Bring your taste buds and laughing gear, meet at 7pm on *Tuesday 6 March*. Cost will be \$10each. For more info chat with Naomi.



A LAVISH PRELUDE

... and in case that's not enough Coffee & Cake ... the Lavished Team have organised a Coffee and Cake Fundraiser for *Saturday 14 April* at Red Cliffs Church of Christ.

The night will feature guests Levi McGrath & drummer Andy Horneman, a message from Terry Litchfield, and a mission update from Tanika Thorne. Block the date in your diary and stay tuned for details.

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING

Around 16 people attended a meeting during February, with the opportunity to reflect on our gifts and passions as they relate to leading various aspects of our corporate worship.

A number of ideas were discussed, some which may improve our existing practices, and some which will require new ways of operating.

You may notice people at Church at 9am to practice some music, you're encouraged to join in Prayer at 9.30am, and once a month a Worship Workshop will be held as we seek to do all we can to help others draw near to God in an Inspiring Worship Service.

If you'd like to know more but missed the meeting, chat with Naomi, Liz or Jillian. The next Worship Workshop will be held on *Wednesday 7 March* from 7.30pm.

Above all else ...

*'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the author and perfecter of our faith'*

HEBREWS 12:2

SAVE THE DATE

This year's Lavished Conference will be held on *22 & 23 June 2018* at Mildura Church of Christ. Special guest is Leila Halawe. More details to come.

Lavished

Rosters for March 2018					
	25 February	4 March	11 March	18 March	25 March
Reception	Ian	Julia	Di	Angela S	Chris
Worship Leader	Tanika	Naomi	Elaine	Julia	Angela S
Song Leaders	Rachel & Jillian	Jillian & Tanika	Tanika & Janeen	Janeen & Elaine	Paige & Rachel T
Communion	Colleen	Helen P	Dale	Naomi	Sue
Speaker	R & L Wright	Bruce	Dale	Bruce	Naomi
Helpers	Bernice & Rachel B	Di & Chris	Alan & Colleen	Collin & Sue	Angela H & Helen P
Tech	Dale & Matthew	Anthony & Matthew	Bruce & Dale	Ian & Matthew	Dale & Matthew
Flowers	Sue	Lyn	Helen P	Ian	Elaine
Communion Preparation	Sue	Rachel B	Helen P	Chris	Colleen
Cleaning	Collin & Liz	Helen P & Gail	Chris & Ian	Denis & Sue	Craig Family
Grounds	Collin	Bruce	Bruce	Bruce	Graham