

MAY 2019



# The Contact

The monthly newsletter of the  
Red Cliffs Church of Christ

## WELCOME

We are delighted to have you join us here at Red Cliffs Church of Christ. May you be blessed and encouraged as we worship Jesus together.

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

## CHANGE TO WORSHIP TIMES

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month ONLY

Commencing on Sunday May 5, our evening services for the first Sunday of each month will commence at 6pm.

Our guest speaker for May will be Natasha Short  
(see page 2 for more info about Natasha).

This month we invite you to arrive early, and enjoy a sausage sizzle from 5.30pm ahead of the service.

On every other Sunday our service times remain 10am. Everyone is most welcome, with a friendly and relaxed cuppa always available after each service.

## NEW THINGS HAPPENING

As we move forward from Easter, we've committed to thinking about 'mission' during the month of May. Previously we've said May will provide an excellent opportunity for us to consider how we can be *"a movement of the people of God gathering in and around the central figure of Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, living out his way in our neighbourhoods, and inviting others to do the same"*. (courtesy CCVT's mission statement).

To focus our thoughts, we're talking a lot about 'community'. This theme is reflected in our decision to be a part of our local market on the first Sunday of each month. Consequently, on the first Sunday there are three activities in the morning as well as the evening service.

- (i) Some of our members will be at the Market, meeting local people while selling handmade items from Bright Solutions, popcorn and fairy floss,
- (ii) Adventure Club will continue throughout the school term on Sunday mornings from 10am to 11.15am at the Church, even if it's Market Day.
- (iii) Church members are invited to come together for a time of prayer led by one of our Elders from 10.30-11am at the Church.

RED CLIFFS

# arise

Lavished Women's Conference

3RD & 4TH MAY 2019

**Red Cliffs Church of Christ**

53 Guava Street (PO Box 54)

Red Cliffs, VIC 3496

[www.redcliffschurchofchrist.org.au](http://www.redcliffschurchofchrist.org.au)

**Minister**

Naomi Thorne

0488 720 962

**Secretary**

Liz Milne

0427 291 411

**... WORKING TOGETHER FOR GOD'S GLORY**

The lavished team are so looking forward to you to joining them at 'Lavished' on **3-4 May 2019**. We believe you'll be thoroughly blessed as you join in the unified, heartfelt worship of our faithful God, & experience the warm fellowship of friends, familiar & new.

1 John 3:1 says "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" Let's celebrate this wonderful truth together!

**Natasha Short** – Keynote Speaker

Natasha Short is a descendant of the Jaru people of the East Kimberley. Natasha grew up in a Christian home, met Christ at a young age, and continues to see God's hand in all circumstances of her life.



Recently Natasha launched into her business *Kimberley Birds*, and now operates full time in this space.

Natasha is married with two teenage children and lives in Kununurra, W.A. Her husband, Jamie, works as a school chaplain at a local school, heads up street chaplains, teaches at their local church and is heavily involved in youth programs. Natasha combines her Christian beliefs with her business to influence social change locally and nationally.

As well as being our keynote speaker, Natasha will be presenting an elective on Saturday afternoon titled, "How I'm Authentic in my Leadership as a Christian Indigenous Australian".

Other elective speakers and topics are listed below. Elective sessions are held on Saturday and you'll have an opportunity to choose two preferred electives.

**Libbie McBain** - *Connecting in Relationships*

This elective will help us learn how to link vision and hearts, the importance of being intentional and purposeful for GOD.

If you love people but struggle how to build on relationships, then this is for you.



**Tanika Thorne + Team** - *Real Talk*

*"Please hear me, Girl: The world has enough women who know how to do their hair. It needs women who know how to do hard and holy things."* - Ann Voskamp.

**Angela Stewart** - *Raising Boys*

I acknowledge mothering can be fulfilling and wonderful, but it can also be bewildering, complex and often lonely. I find so much joy in the power of women coming together to nurture and encourage one another, and I look forward to sharing with you in this elective.



**Diane Morrall** - *A Conversation on Prayer*

Prayer can be a difficult concept to grasp especially when we are talking to an invisible God. Let's have a chat about what prayer is, what it means to us and how we can embrace prayer as a vital aspect of our everyday much better than we have?

**... PURSUING PASSIONATE SPIRITUALITY**

**PRAYER – OUR PRIORITY**

**SUNDAY PRAYER TIMES**

You're always welcome to join us for prayer in the Church 9.30-9.45am (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.

**CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & COMMUNION**

**Every Wednesday** our Church is open from 12-1pm for prayer and communion with Pastor Naomi. All are welcome to join her to pray for our fellowship, our community, and for the salvation and healing of our friends and family.

**WORSHIP JAM & PRAYER MEETING**

The first Wednesday of each month is when our worship team meets, with the first half hour committed to prayer. We encourage our whole church to gather at this open prayer meeting from 7.00pm to 7.30pm on **Wednesday 1 May**.

**COMBINED CHURCHES MONTHLY PRAYER**

After a short break ... Sunraysia's Christian Churches are once again meeting together for prayer in the third week of each month at various churches. The Prayer meetings will recommence in May and be hosted for by our Church on **Monday 20 May** from 7pm – 8pm with supper afterward.

**PASTOR'S PRAYER PARTNERS**

Our annual Pastor's Prayer Partners Dinner is scheduled to commence **at 6pm** on **Wednesday 8 May**. The dinner is open to current Prayer Partners or anyone interested in learning more about this crucial aspect of our Church life. If you are planning on attending, please RSVP to Liz by 6 May.

This year's guest speaker will be Trevor Lawrence, former Pastor of the Gracehouse Church.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**LEADERSHIP WEEKEND**

Last month's Leadership Weekend with Pastors Rick & Leonie Wright (Kardinia Church) went very well, with several of our leaders finding it both encouraging and empowering.

It was also great to have leaders from Red Cliffs and Mildura come together to train over the weekend. Thanks to all who participated – we've already invited Rick & Leonie to continue the journey with us in 2020.

**CCVT SUMMIT - ACCELERATE**

This month several of our leaders will be attending the 2019 Churches of Christ Vic/Tas (CCVT) Summit, to be held at Kardinia Church in Geelong from **Thursday 16 to Saturday 18 May**. Please pray for the group which includes each of our Elders plus a couple of extras. For more info contact Liz or Naomi.

**GLS PLUS WITH CRAIG GROESCHEL**

GLS Plus 2019 is a one-day Leadership Conference with Craig Groeschel, for anyone wanting to grow their leadership capacity.



The conference will be held in Melbourne on **Monday 22 July** in Melbourne with some of our leaders attending. For more details or to register visit: <https://gls.org.au/gls-plus-2019/>.

**GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT (GLS)**

Have you made plans to be available to attend the Global Leadership Summit – it's on **Friday 8 & Saturday 9 November** in Mildura, hosted jointly by Red Cliffs & Mildura Churches of Christ.





... FOR FAMILIES

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**ADVENTURE CLUB**

Adventure Club kicks off for Term II on **Sunday 28 April** for all primary school aged kids.

To register, or to find more info, please visit ...



[www.redcliffschurchofchrist.org.au/adventure-club](http://www.redcliffschurchofchrist.org.au/adventure-club)

Please keep praying for our young people and their families, and for those who will be leading the program.

**FISH BITES ... A LITTLE BIT OF FUN IN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

A very successful mini school holiday program was trialled on Wednesday 17 April, providing an opportunity to reconnect with families who have been involved in both Adventure Club and the Big FISH (Fun in School Holidays) programs.

Thanks to all who helped on the day, and to all who pray for our young people. Keep up your prayers for the Adventure Club team.



Remember when we read stories from a book?

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**RED YOUTH**

The RED Youth Life Group are meeting on alternate Thursday evenings and are continuing with the Youth Alpha series. For more info or to talk about what's planned see Tanika or call her on ☎ 0411 801 191.



**MEN'S MINISTRY**

**JIM'S DINNER**

Interested in hearing from an icon in business? Jim Penman will be at Cardross Hall on Saturday 13 July at a men's dinner.



Lock in the date and look out for more details. For \$15 you'll be well fed, hear a few songs from Will Fangaloka, and hear from Jim. Why not invite a friend?

**TEN PIN BOWLING**

Any guys interested in some Ten Pin Bowling. We've been invited to join the Diggerland lads in late May (possibly Friday 30<sup>th</sup>) at the lanes in Mildura.

Let Bruce know if you're keen to join in - text ☎ 0408 249 932 or via email.



... DEVELOPING DISCIPLESHIP

**LIFE GROUPS**

Life Groups are where our Church members share life together – they're the best way to get to know others, yourself, and God better.

Our Church has several Life Groups meeting at different days and times of the week. Why not find the one that suits you best?



To find out more chat with Rachel, who can be contacted on ☎ 0448 373 131, or join a Life Group with a friend.

**RETREAT**

Retreat meets each Wednesday at the Church from 10am through to 11.30am. Throughout the year each meeting includes a word theme.

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

Date	Host	Word
1 May	Gwen	Constant
8 May	Coral	Companion
15 May	Pam	Limit
22 May	Lyn	Flood
29 May	Gail	Advance

Editor's note:

Are these words really random? Last month Lyn had 'shine'; watch out for next month Lyn, you could have hail or drought (a bit of rain would be good)!

**CONNECT**

Connect meets on alternate Tuesdays in the Church meeting room from 1pm. The group is open to ladies of all ages to encourage faith for daily life through topical and bible-based discussion.



Connect will be meeting for studies at the Church on **Tuesday 14 & Tuesday 28 May** and at various venues from 12noon on alternate weeks. Any ladies who might be interested are invited to chat with Sue.

**NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT (NCD)**

During April the Board met with Adam Johnston from NCD to discuss our latest survey results. Adam was very impressed with progress since our last survey. While there's always plenty of room for improvement, the results are encouraging & the Board is keen to share the results in more detail with the whole Church.

So, if you're keen to know more about what it all means for our Church, come along at 7.30pm on **Thursday 9 May** to reflect on the survey responses and our next steps together.

This chart represents our survey outcomes expressed in the 8 essentials of church life.



... CONNECTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

**WORSHIP @ JACARANDA**

Each Monday the churches of Red Cliffs lead a time of worship at Jacaranda Village. Our Church's next rostered turn is **Monday 27 May** and the start time is 10.30am in The Manor.



If you're able to assist with this service, or at any other time, please chat with Elaine, who does a fabulous and faithful job of leading these services when our Church is rostered.

**RED CLIFFS COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP**

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



**HELP US HELP OTHERS**

We're pleased that other groups are making use of our facilities. To allow them undisturbed use, please avoid the following times in April if you're planning to do work at the Church (e.g. lawn mowing/cleaning).

- Tuesday and Thursday mornings (10am-12pm)
- Thursday afternoons (1.00 – 3.30pm)

Your assistance is greatly appreciated. On the flip side, if you know of anyone seeking a venue for an event, we would be open to requests for hire.

**May @ Red Cliffs Church of Christ**  
(not including Life Groups)

<b>Wed 1 May</b>	7.00pm	Prayer Meeting & Worship Jam
<b>Thu 2 May</b>	10am & 1.30pm	Playgroups
<b>Fri 3 May</b>	6.30pm	Lavished Women's Conference <i>Opens</i>
<b>Sat 4 May</b>	8.30am	Lavished Women's Conference
<b>Sun 5 May</b>	8am – 1pm	Red Cliffs Country Market
	10am	Adventure Club
	10.30am	Prayer & Communion
	5.30pm	BBQ Tea
	6.00pm	Worship Celebration
<b>Tue 7 May</b>	10am & 1.30pm	Playgroups
<b>Wed 8 May</b>	12-1pm	Prayer & Communion
	6.00pm	Pastor's Prayer Partners Dinner
<b>Thu 9 May</b>	10.00am	Community Playgroup
	7.30pm	NCD Survey Review
<b>Sun 12 May</b>	9.30am	Prayer
	10.00am	Worship Service
<b>Tue 14 May</b>	10am & 1.30pm	Playgroups
<b>Wed 15 May</b>	12-1pm	Prayer & Communion
<b>Thu 16 May</b>	10.00am	Community Playgroup
<b>16 - 18 May</b>		CCVT Summit, Geelong
<b>Sat 18 May</b>	8am-6pm	Federal Election
<b>Sun 19 May</b>	9.30am	Prayer
	10.00am	Worship Service
<b>Mon 20 May</b>	7-8pm	Combined Churches Prayer Meeting
<b>Tue 21 May</b>	10am & 1.30pm	Playgroups
<b>Wed 22 May</b>	12-1pm	Prayer & Communion
<b>Thu 23 May</b>	10.00am	Community Playgroup
<b>Sun 26 May</b>	9.30am	Prayer
	10.00am	Worship Service
<b>Mon 27 May</b>	10.30am	Worship @ Jacaranda Village
<b>27 May – 3 Jun</b>		National Reconciliation Week
<b>Tue 28 May</b>	10am & 1.30pm	Playgroups
<b>Wed 29 May</b>	12-1pm	Prayer & Communion
<b>Thu 30 May</b>	10.00am	Community Playgroup

... MADE FOR A MISSION

**MAY'S SPECIAL COMMUNITY MISSION OFFERING**

While our messages will carry a 'community' theme throughout this month, on Sunday 26 May we will take up a special offering to support our mission activities at the local market.

Please prayerfully consider how the Lord is leading to give toward this activity. Thankful for His provision to date, and confident about His leading, we are also aware of the expenses involved.

**LIVING LINK MORNING TEA**

Following the service on **Sunday 12 May** we'll be sharing in our Living Link Morning Tea.



All donations are sent to our missionary Fiona Briers at Bright solutions, Vietnam.

**THE SALVATION ARMY - LADIES PAMPER NIGHT**

Ladies are invited to join the Sunraysia Salvos on **Wednesday 1 May** from 7pm at Mildura (Cnr. Fourteenth & Etiwanda) for a Pamper night fundraiser.

\$5 entry plus a gold coin donation for each station – on offer will be manicures, pedicures, massage and a range of party plan options, or buy an 'up-cycled' gift for someone special.

**HALL'S CREEK WOMEN'S CAMP**

Naomi & Liz will be attending the annual Kimberley Women's Gathering on the first weekend in June (a public holiday weekend in WA), with significant travel time either side of the weekend.

Please pray for them both as they serve and encourage our sisters from remote communities across the Kimberley region.

**HOPE CHEST**

Your gifts for the Hope Chest are always appreciated, and used to discretely bring hope and blessing to those in our community. To direct your gifts to the hope Chest just write 'Hope Chest' on the envelope and slip it into the offering bag any Sunday.

**RECORDED SERMONS**

If there's a message you'd like to hear again, please remember that our sermons are recorded and can be emailed to you (or provided somehow) so you can listen again. If you'd like a copy of the message just let your Life Group leader or Naomi know.

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK (NRW)**

NRW is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, & to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year; **27 May to 3 June**. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2019 27 MAY - 3 JUNE **GROUNDING IN TRUTH** WALK TOGETHER WITH COURAGE

**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**

There's no need to enter any identifying names but it is helpful if it was described as "offering".