



The Contact

The monthly newsletter of the
Red Cliffs Church of Christ

Welcome!

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

We love to have you worship with us, & 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.

Throughout 2018 we've been exploring the theme 'Love in Action' together. We invite you to join us in the journey as we learn what it means to love Jesus, and to share His love with others.



BAPTISMAL SERVICE

It's going to be so exciting to see *Di Walters* baptised on **Sunday 9 December** during the worship service.

Many of you will have known Di for some time and we encourage everyone to be present to celebrate with her as she takes another step in her faith journey.

On That Very First Christmas

Sunday 23rd Dec

All welcome!

Further details on the back page.



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

Secretary

Liz Milne

5024 7046

SPIRITUAL LIFE

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 pray for them in our Service. During **December 2018** our prayer focii will include;

- Victorious Ministries
- Jacaranda Village
- Operation Christmas Child
- Christmas Bowl Appeal, and
- Global Mission Partners (GMP).

SUNDAY PRAYER TIMES

You are always welcome 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.

PRAYER & WORSHIP JAM

Our regular monthly times of prayer and worship will recommence in 2019. Dates and times will be announced early in the New Year.

COMBINED CHURCHES PRAYER HOUR

Thanks to those who have represented our Church at the monthly combined prayer services each month throughout 2018.

The shared evenings (*generally on the 3rd Monday of each month*) have been a great opportunity to meet and pray with fellow believers across a range of Sunraysia churches.

The next meeting won't be until early 2019, but don't let that stop you from praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ who serve in various other fellowships around Red Cliffs and Mildura.

PASTOR'S PRAYER PARTNERS

Thanks for your prayers for our students undertaking exams and final assessments over the last month.

Naomi provides regular prayer points through the Pastor's Prayer Partner program. If you're interested in joining the program chat with Liz.

"First, I tell you to pray for all people, asking God for what they need and being thankful to him."

Timothy 2:1 (NCV)

LIVING LINK MORNING TEA

Our monthly Living Link Morning Tea in December will be shared following the baptismal service on **Sunday 9 December**.

Elaine & Sue are rostered to coordinate this month. Funds raised through your donations on the (usually) 2nd Sunday of each month support our Living Link Missionary, Fiona Briers, working with Bright Solutions in Vietnam.



REMEMBRANCE DAY ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Many thanks to all involved in so wonderfully commemorating the 100th Armistice Anniversary with the combined churches remembrance service at Barclay Square. The feedback has been consistently very positive.



FAMILIES, CHILDREN & YOUTH

KID'S CHURCH

Our final Kid's Church program for 2018 will run on **Sunday 2 December** with Sue & Tamrin offering leadership, and on **Sunday 16 December** with Rachael & Paige.

Thanks to all who have volunteered and assisted with leadership throughout the year.



ADVENTURE CLUB

AC finished off their year at the end of November with a great 'in-house' celebration.



There'll be more opportunities to see these young people and meet their families when they participate in our "very first Christmas" presentation on **Sunday 23 December**, and then join us for the holiday program, Big FISH, on **22-24 January 2019**.

As we often do we ask that you remember these young people and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks. The AC leadership team are working hard to build connections throughout the year with both kids and parents/carers, and on plans for 2019. Thank you so much for continuing to uphold the team in your prayers.

PROPEL

It's been a great delight for our Church to have Tanika on board leading the planning of our **Children's** and Youth programs throughout 2018, as a participant in the Propel Leadership Development Program. Alongside the program Tanika is still busy here at Red Cliffs finishing 2018 strongly, and preparing for 2019.

If you're able to help support Tanika feel free to grab an envelope (pick the value) and drop it in the offering bowl on any given week. Alternately, you could use the following account details to make a direct transfer ...

Red Cliffs Church of Christ Children's Ministry Account

BSB	633-000
Account #	159 189 547
Reference:	Propel

At this stage we do not have a Propel participant for 2019 ... but the opportunity is still open for interested emerging leaders. Chat to Naomi or Tanika if you would like more info.

RED YOUTH

Tanika is happy to share the details of what our young people are up to ... for further information or event details, chat with Tanika, or call her on ☎ 0411 801 191.

OPERATIONS

BOARD MEETING

The December Board meeting will be held **Thursday 13 December** from 7.30pm. Those involved please remember to share your reports two days ahead of the meeting for all Board members to pre-read.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Following the adoption of our new *Governance Framework* in October the Board would like you to consider nominating suitable candidates for the following five Elder roles:

- **Community Elder** - oversees church outreach, missions and community engagement.
- **Discipleship Elder** - oversees Life Groups, other small groups and short courses within the life of the church
- **Family Ministries Elder** - oversees children and youth programs, men and women's ministries.
- **Operations Elder** - oversees church finances, administration, property and communications
- **Spiritual Life Elder** - oversees the worship, pastoral care and prayer ministries of the church.

Nomination forms should be returned to Naomi or Graham by **Sunday 16 December**.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

December is a busy period with many community events on. As always we invite you to be a part of the Community Christmas Carols events in both Mildura and Red Cliffs. For more details, including how you can help, please check the next page.

SERMON RECORDINGS

If you miss a Sunday and would like to hear the sermon, please let Naomi know so she can organise to email an audio recording to you.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR WORSHIP

We're greatly anticipating a special Christmas presentation being planned for both 10am and 7pm on **Sunday 23 December**. While the basic information is on the back page of this newsletter, we are confident that there's a role on the day for everyone as we seek to share the Good News with our entire community.

Perhaps you will be involved with the presentation, perhaps you can help with the BBQ or activities in the evening, perhaps you can invite some friends or family along ... whatever the case we encourage you to be involved, to participate rather than observe. It's a lot more fun that way! For more info about how you can be involved please speak with Naomi ASAP.

It will also be the last service of the year at our Church as there will be no separate service on Christmas Day, and we will be meeting in people's homes on **Sunday 30 December**. On that subject, Naomi is also looking for a few people to be hosts, and open their homes for House Church meetings. Support for meeting leadership will be provided.

DISCIPLESHIP

LIFE GROUPS

A number of life groups are continuing to meet during both day and evening timeslots across Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

If you're not yet part of a Life Group, we encourage you to get on board – there's always room for more, and you'll be made most welcome.

For everyone who is in a Life Group, it may well take us a little while to find our groove but thanks again for embracing the opportunity to share some of your journey with others by 'doing life together'. The Term 4 2018 *Loving Church* study based on 1 Corinthians 10-16 is a great place to start. If you'd like a copy of the study guide, or for any more info about Life Groups, feel free to get in touch with Rachel B on ☎ 0448 373 131 – she's always happy to hear of any interest in Life Groups.



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. If you'd like more information about *Retreat* speak with Gwen. New members are most welcome. (Don't forget your offering for the last week of the month.)

Retreat details for till the year end are;

- **Wed 28 November** Host: Val Word: Age
- **Wed 5 December** Host: Church (Coral) Word: Love

CONNECT

Connect meets on alternate Tuesdays in the Church meeting room from 12-2pm. Any ladies who might be interested are invited to chat with Sue to organise your resources or for more info.



COMMUNITY

JACARANDA VILLAGE

Our Church is next rostered on to lead the service on **Monday 26 November** from 2pm.



In addition to this, our Church is rostered on to lead the Christmas Program on **Monday 10 December** – while all the churches are involved it's out turn to do the planning. All are welcome to attend, but support for this particular program is particularly requested. If you're able to assist with either of these services, please chat with Elaine ASAP.

'PEACEWALK' THANKS

The Red Cliffs & District Historical Society have written in appreciation ... *"Sincere thanks to Red Cliffs Church of Christ for supporting the Peacewalk Project and helping to make our Armistice Centenary commemoration a success. It was a lovely day and your willing support was much appreciated."*



KENYA GO THE DISTANCE

The KGTD team are presently on their walk from the Port of Geelong to Portland, and are appreciative of your support and promotion of their cause. The "Big Walk" supports students in Kenya who would not otherwise be able to receive a secondary education. For more info checkout [@kenyagothedistance](#) on facebook or just type "KenyaGoTheDistance" into your web browser.

RED CLIFFS COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup are holding a Christmas party on **Thursday 13 December** from 10am-12noon.



If anyone would like to come along for the first time the Christmas Party is a great opportunity to see what playgroup is all about. Contact Melinda ☎ 0427 264 063 for more information and to add your child's name to the list. Santa will make an appearance. *The playgroup meets in our hall from 10am – 12noon every Tuesday and Thursday and welcomes all children aged 0-5 years.*

ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

Henderson College is again running the ever popular event which is appropriate for families of all ages on **12 and 13 December** between 6.30pm and 8.10pm.

Event entry is free, but bookings are essential and can be made by calling ☎ 5024 5192 or visiting ...

www.henderson.vic.edu.au/roadtobethlehem/bookings/

RED CLIFFS COMMUNITY CAROLS

Will be held **Friday 14 December** at Barclay Square from 8.15pm to 10pm. BYO chairs, candles will be sold by the Guides, and an offering will be collected for Red Cliffs Secondary College Chaplaincy.

MILDURA COMMUNITY CAROLS

Apart from the details below, there are a number of roles on the evening that people can choose from by signing up online. You could volunteer by signing up at milduracarols.com.au/volunteer but we know that we need to supply six people to sell candles along with volunteers for the information tent (*the more volunteers we have the shorter the shifts will be*). Speak to Dale if you are able to volunteer. Alternately, a volunteers information night will be held on **Thursday 6 December** at RiverEdge Church from 6:30pm - 7:30pm.



Mildura Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 9, Nowingi Place
Food and drinks available from 6.30pm
Entertainment from 7:30pm | Main Program 8pm - 10pm

On That Very First Christmas



Red Cliffs
Church of Christ

Sunday 23rd
December

All welcome!

Join us on Sunday 23rd of December for a Christmas Story Celebration!

There will be fun activities for the kids such as a jumping castle, face painting and games **from 5:00pm**, with a BBQ **from 6pm**.

There is no cost for the BBQ or activities, but donations are welcome.

Soft Drinks will be available for \$2, and ice creams for \$1.50

The performance: "On That Very First Christmas" will begin at 7pm. Close approx 8pm.

Book your free tickets online
www.ontthatveryfirstchristmas.eventbrite.com.au

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