

# Epping Church Newsletter

NO. 270

10TH JULY  
2014



## WELCOME

Welcome to Epping Church's Newsletter!

Keep reading the newsletter for more updates on events and also many upcoming events!

This newsletter will include some of Epping Church member's experience in the Solomon Islands for the World Changers Youth Congress 2014 from the 26 June to 6 July 2014.

If there is any information or images you would like to share in future editions, please email it to Alvin or Stephanie at the addresses below:

[ajing@eppingsda.org.au](mailto:ajing@eppingsda.org.au)  
[stephcye@yahoo.com](mailto:stephcye@yahoo.com)

This newsletter can also be downloaded on our website:  
<http://www.eppingsda.org.au>

This Sabbath at Epping

# 12th July

**The speaker this week:** Dr Sven Ostring  
**Elder in charge:** Arthur Wong  
**Offering:** World Mission Budget

# 5th July

Last week Pastor Daniel shared the message with us. Below is a summary of his sermon for those who missed out!

## Elijah, John, and Today

How many Elijah's are there in the Bible? There are 4 that are actually mentioned, although we really only know of Elijah the prophet. In actual fact there are additional "Elijah's" that we need to be aware of, as a result of the last two verses in the Scriptures. **Malachi 4: 5-6** *Behold, I am sending you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the sons, and the heart of the sons to the fathers, that I not come and strike the earth with utter destruction.*

What does it mean for us today?

**THE 1st ELIJAH** : Elijah the prophet lived during the reign of Ahab, king of Israel. He was used by God to turn the hearts of Israel back to God again after they had apostatized and worshipped Baal. (**1 Kings 18:37**).

**THE 2nd ELIJAH** : Fast-forward approximately 800 years to Jesus' time. After Jesus was transfigured on the "Mount of Transfiguration" the disciples asked Jesus, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" We read Jesus response in **Matt 17:11-13** *"Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things. But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist."*

According to Jesus, Elijah had already come!... But they did not recognise him. John the Baptist was sent ahead of Jesus to prepare the way, or **"Make straight the way of the Lord"** (**John 1:23**)

As promised in **Malachi 4**, John the Baptist fulfilled the role of the 2nd "Elijah," directing people back to the commandments; calling people to repentance & baptizing; and pointing people to Christ, **"The Lamb of God... who takes away the sin of the world"** (**John 1:29**)

**THE 3rd ELIJAH** : Who then is the 3rd Elijah? **Malachi 4** talks about the sending of **"Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord"** This is clearly the final judgment, in other words the end of the world or the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus. If that is so, then it is of utmost importance for us to understand what is the last day Elijah Message! If it was important to accept and follow the message of John the Baptist 2000 years ago in order to understand accept and follow Jesus, then it is vitally important for us to understand the content of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Elijah message in order to be prepared for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ!

The Elijah Message of the Last Days is God's Final Call to the earth to prepare for Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. It is found in **Revelation 14:6-12**, the **"Three Angel's Messages."** One way of summarizing the messages is:

1. Return to and worship the Creator God
2. God's Word is our Foundation and reveals the Everlasting Gospel
3. Thanks to Jesus, Judgment is good news
4. Beware! Babylon is full of Erroneous Teachings
5. This is Serious! It is a last call to get on God's side

## 6. God's End-time Faithful People live a Victorious Life in Jesus

The prophet Elijah rebuilt the altar of the Lord and called for a true worship of the God of heaven. John the Baptist pointed to Jesus, "*The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*" and so today, Elijah's message again points to Jesus and the Everlasting Gospel.

In Elijah's day, Israel had a religion of permissiveness, having disregarded God's commandments. In John The Baptist's day the Jews had a form of legalism... thinking that by keeping all the rules they would be saved. Both methods are wrong – salvation without God is the underlying factor... Salvation by myself, my own way, or in other words salvation by works.

What should we do then? Our role is coming to Jesus every day. Asking Him to change our heart, and being willing to turn toward the Lord.

For 3 ½ years there was a drought in a Baal dominated Israel, but revival came with Elijah's message. For 3 ½ years Christ ministered to a works oriented legalistic Israel. This was preceded by John who had the "Elijah message." After the spread of the early Christian church true Christians were persecuted for a period of 3 ½ prophetic years (or 1260 literal years during the dark ages.) The true gospel was trampled to the ground but the message of revival and restoration came in the form of the 3 Angel's Messages of *Rev 14*. The worldwide message of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Elijah (preached by the SDA movement), is set in a judgment theme (as depicted in *Malachi 4*), returning to the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and restoring the everlasting gospel. It is a love message from Jesus to humanity because He loves us so much.

We are all called to share the "Elijah Message." The question comes to each one of us as it did to Elijah, "*What are you doing here Elijah?*" *1 Kings 19:9*

**How much does Jesus mean to YOU? Be ASSURED... you mean everything to Jesus.**

Before Jesus returns, a soul-searching message can be found for all of us in the very last verse of the Old Testament in *Malachi 4:6* "*He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers.*"

God can change our hearts, only He can help us turn, to save ourselves and our families.

May we all say "YES" to the transforming power that Jesus offers... to heed the call of the Elijah Message... to share the Message with others... and be part of a family that is READY to meet the Lord.

## PATHFINDERS

Just a reminder of 2 important things.

1. Camporee fees are now due. Sharon has kindly paid for us up front from the church's funds so we all get the early bird discount. The amount dues is \$170/person for the camp fees and \$100/person for food. The church's Westpac Bank account details:

Epping SDA Church  
BSB: 032:081  
Account no. 351967

Alternatively if you want to write a cheque please make it out to: Epping SDA Church.

2. I'm wanting to finish off the spreadsheet for the SPD - Club application - this weekend. I need your medicare numbers, position on the card and expiry date. Also a indication of when you have received your last tetanus booster is required.

# CHIP PROGRAM

The CHIP program is still continuing. For those who are involved and need more information, talk to Pastor Daniel.



# YOUTH

## Youth Meeting- Song of solomons series

**Tomorrow's youth meeting will be cancelled** due to low numbers for school holidays so it will be happening again in 2 weeks!! **Friday night 25th July 7:30pm at church!** :) It's a fantastic program so make sure you are there to learn lots. The next topic is Intimacy

Remember youth is every 2nd Friday! 2nd and 4th Friday of the month! Don't miss out! Please see Cassandra for more details.

## Youth Picnic

Just for a social event, we are going to have a youth picnic the afternoon of the **2nd August**. For those who are interested, talk to Mande.



# SOLOMON ISLANDS TRIP- WORLD CHANGERS YOUTH CONGRESS

## **Thank you for the short summary of the trip Greg Long:**

The Epping Worship team had an unforgettable week at the World Changers Youth Congress in Honiara, Solomon Islands from 29 June to 6 July 2014. Around 3000 high school and tertiary students from the Solomons and Vanuatu attended and camped close to the Maranatha Hall. A number of us arrived early and attended practices with the amazing worship choir that Kim Teobasi had assembled. The people of the Solomons are fantastic singers and we were really excited to be on stage with them. Most mornings started with a 7am worship followed by a morning worship workshop, afternoon practices and evening worship service that ended around 9:30pm. But just listening to the 3000 students worship was an experience. The highlight of the week was to see nearly 100 students give their lives to Christ and get baptised on Sabbath in the local river. We made so many new friends and had so many amazing experiences.



## ADRA Blacktown Food Drive

There will be a plastic container placed at the top of the stairs at church labelled "ADRA Blacktown Food Drive".

A few weeks ago, Eddy mentioned that most people have little knowledge and skill in cooking with fresh vegetables so please provide canned and packaged foods. Once a month the food will be collected.

Any small items for children like toys and DVD's would also be helpful if you would like to share. There isn't any space for large or heavy items.

Thank you everyone for your contributions and support.

## It is Written Oceania- Friday 11 July 7:30pm

We are delighted to inform you of a Special LIVE STREAMING event by Dr Ben Carson. He has written many books including "Gifted Hands" and "Think Big."

He will be speaking on the topic of:

**Overcoming Adversity through Perseverance.**

**Friday 11 July 2014, 730pm – LIVE STREAMING EVENT AT : [www.itiswrittenoceania.tv](http://www.itiswrittenoceania.tv)**

Dr Ben Carson is a renowned brain surgeon who overcame obstacles to change the course of medicine forever. Young Ben Carson didn't have much of a chance. Growing up in a broken home amongst poverty and prejudice, his grades suffered and his temper flared. His mother, though under educated herself, pushed her sons to read and to believe in themselves. Ben went on to become one of the world's leading neurosurgeons and conducted the first successful separation of Siamese twins joined at the back of the head.

While he is here, It Is Written Oceania will be filming a new program with Dr Carson. You can also watch our previous interviews the It Is Written Oceania website from Friday onwards.

Please share this with your family and friends.

If you would like to support It Is Written Oceania to enable us to continue creating more quality TV programs, please consider donating via our website or by calling 02 9847 2280.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 1. Bible cell groups

Bible Study cell groups have commenced for this term. Please see Rod if you would like to join one of the groups

### 2. Dedication

Olivia will be dedicated on the 19th July during the church service!

### 3. Children's Holiday Musical Course

Ursula Caporali, an Adventist who attends Guildford SDA Church and an extraordinary musician, is organising a children's holiday musical (ages 6-12). See attached. This will be held at Concord SDA Church hall.

Children that love to play an instrument, sing, dance or act are most welcome. Rehearsals and the final public performance will be held in Concord Church. It is an opportunity for that church to interact with the community. There is a lot packed into the week-long program.

"The NSW Tuscan Association" in collaboration with Composer M. Ursula Caporali, Emotive Arts Dance Company & Actor Coach Annibale Migliucci is honored to present

## 'The Dream of the Rainforest' Opera

Does your child love to sing, play an instrument, act or dance? This is the perfect opportunity to work towards a Kids Opera performance during the school holidays!

**Contact Phone**  
Ursula 0106519222  
Silvia 01937405267

**Contact E-mail**  
toscainnsw@gmail.com  
ursulacaporali@hotmail.com  
Request details using in usual

**Date & Time**  
30 June - 4 July 2014  
Daily 9:30am - 4:30pm

**Extra Rehearsal**  
2 July 2014 @ 12pm

**Performance**  
6 July 2014 @ 7pm

**Location**  
SDA Concord Church  
Hill, Cav Patterson &  
Flavell Streets Concord  
NSW 2138 Australia

**Cost**  
\$500.00 (incl insurance)

**For Children**  
ages 6-12

**Music, Theatre & Dance for Kids**  
Winter School Holiday Course

A Call to all the Young Artists to stage this new work in just one week!

Regione Toscana

Associazione Toscana NSW Inc.

### 4. Generous Church – Stewardship Resourcing

3pm Sabbath 2 August 2014

GSC Seminar Room, Epping

The most famous Bible verse begins: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..." Paul picks up this same theme when he tells the Roman Christians: "He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things." Generosity is central to the very nature of God.

How does your church reflect God's incredibly generous nature? Think of all that God has given us—time, food, talents, money, relationships, salvation, just to name a few. **Are we as generous as God has been to us?** Are we generous with our time, hospitality, money, talents and friendship? Is your church willing to sacrificially commission and release some of its members to plant new Adventist churches in unreached areas of Greater Sydney? There are some Key Performance Indicators that show that there is a significant amount of space for us to grow in the area of being generous.

The Stewardship Department is facilitating a Sabbath afternoon seminar focusing on how your church can become a generous church that reflects God's generosity in all areas of church life:

**Date:** Sabbath 2 August 2014

**Time:** 3:00pm-5:30pm

**Venue:** GSC Seminar Room, 4 Cambridge Street, Epping NSW 2121

**Facilitators:**

- Sven Östring, Director of Stewardship;
- Eva Ing, Chief Financial Officer;
- GSC Stewardship Advisory.

Come for a time of inspiration, interactive panel discussion and stewardship resourcing. Hear the vision of the Conference for discipleship, mission and church planting. This seminar will be of interest to pastors, elders, treasurers, stewardship directors and anyone interested in seeing the generosity of God reflected in our church in Greater Sydney. Forward this email and the attached poster for this seminar to anyone in your church who is interested. For more information, contact Sven Östring by phone 02 9868 6522 or by email

[SvenOstring@adventist.org.au](mailto:SvenOstring@adventist.org.au).

To register to receive key resources at the seminar, contact Lynda Gomes by phone 02 9868 6522 or by email

[LyndaGomes@adventist.org.au](mailto:LyndaGomes@adventist.org.au)

## 5. It is Written (IIWO) Dinner 12th August @ 6:15pm

The IIWO (It is Written) "Dinner with Gary" at Epping Club will be on Tuesday (not Wednesday) the 12th August at 6:15pm. Please plan to attend for this occasion and aim to bring a friend.

## 6. Pre-Constituency Meetings- 23rd-24th August, 2014

This is a meeting for delegates and church members to interact with administration before the session meeting and to ask more in depth questions

**Topics discussed** – · review major events of the past quadrennium

· cast a vision for the next quadrennium

· general q&a with conference administration

**Sunday, 15 June** – Parramatta church 77-81 hammers road, northmead 7:30pm - 9:00pm

**Wednesday, 18 June** – Hoxton park church 335 hoxton park road, hoxton park 7:30pm - 9:00pm

**Sunday, 22 June** – Wahroonga church 183 fox valley road, wahroonga 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Brought to you by greater sydney conference office for queries contact Pr Adrian Raethel

9868 - 6522 or [adrianraethel@adventist.org.au](mailto:adrianraethel@adventist.org.au)

# ADVENTIST EMPLOYMENT

[Physiotherapist](#) | Adventist Aged Care greater Sydney Conference, Wahroonga | Exp 10 Jul

[Accountant \(12 month full-time Maternity Leave Position\)](#) | Seventh-day Adventist Aged Care (Victoria) Ltd trading as AdventCare, Nunawading, Victoria | Exp 11 Jul

[Recreation Activities Officer](#) | Adventist Aged Care Sydney Conference, Wahroonga | Exp 13 Jul

[Deputy Principal](#) | Seventh-day Adventist Schools (NNSW) Ltd, Kempsey | Exp 18 Jul

[Physiotherapist Coordinator](#) | Vitality Works, Perth | Exp 18 Jul

[National Operations Manager](#) | Vitality Works, Perth CBD | Exp 18 Jul

[Sales assistant](#) | Greater Sydney Conference, Wahroonga, Sydney | Exp 21 Jul

[Deputy Vice Chancellor](#) | Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea | Exp 21 Jul

[Support Services Director](#) | Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea | Exp 24 Jul

[Systematic Theology Lecturer](#) | Pacific Adventist University, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea | Exp 24 Jul

[Assistant Accountant](#) | Adventist Senior Living, Cooranbong, NSW | Exp 25 Jul

[Corporate Chaplain](#) | North NSW Conference, Sanitarium Head Office - Berkeley Vale, NSW | Exp 30 Jul

[Principal](#) | Seventh-day Adventist Schools (NNSW) Ltd, Erina, NSW | Exp 31 Jul

[Bible Worker](#) | South New Zealand Conference, Garden City Fellowship- Christchurch | Exp 31 Jul

[Development Manager](#) | Adventist Senior Living, Cooranbong, NSW | Exp 15 Aug

[Sales and Site Manager](#) | Adventist Senior Living, Wyee Point, NSW | Exp 15 Aug

[Doctor - Atofi Adventist Hospital](#) | Seventh-day Adventist Church (Pacific) Ltd, Malaita, Solomon Islands | Exp 17 Aug

[Relationships Manager, Public & Supporter Relations](#) | ADRA Australia, Wahroonga, NSW | Exp 17 Aug

[Ministries Administration Assistant](#) | Adventist Media Network, Wahroonga, NSW | Exp 22 Aug

[Head of Primary, Teacher](#) | Seventh-day Adventist Schools (NNSW) Ltd, Tweed Valley Adventist College, Murwillumbah, NSW | Exp 29 Aug

[Aircraft Engineer](#) | Adventist Aviation Services PNG, Goroka, EHP, Papua New Guinea | Exp 30 Aug

[Registered Nurse](#) | Avondale Senior Living, Cooranbong, NSW | Exp 31 Aug

[Lecturer/Senior Lecturer - Old Testament](#) | Avondale College of Higher Education, Lake Macquarie, NSW | Exp 31 Aug

## Special Prayer Requests

- Please pray for the success of the CHIP series, for everyone involved and that we are able to help members of the community live a better life
- Please remember Dean Ashcroft and his family in your prayers
- Please pray for those who are unwell and facing challenges with their health
- Please pray for the Lin family as they mourn the passing of Harold and need our prayers for comfort and peace
- Please pray for Maree's father Tom as he is facing major health concerns
- Please pray for the Manahan family as they mourn the passing of Ron's brother
- Please pray for those travelling through the school holiday period

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Taken by: Greg Long

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

*"The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."  
-Psalm 24:1*