

EPPING SDA CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER NO. 85

11 JULY 2008

WELCOME

Welcome to our weekly Church Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. I am standing in for our resident Reporter/Editor Alvin whilst he is away.

THIS SABBATH @EPPING

The speaker this week is Barry Grice, an elder from Kellyville Church. The Elder in-charge is Henry Tung and the offering is for our Education Budget.

LAST SABBATH @EPPING ABSTRACT OF EVA'S SERMON

The Hebrews experience of being oppressed by Pharaoh, being spared the troubles of the 10 plagues, having Moses finally lead them out of Egypt was a triumphant victory. In spite of all these divine interventions, as soon as they encountered difficulties they were quick to blame Moses and God for their troubles. They longed for their former life as slaves, instead of the possibility of freedom. We are in a circumstance identical to the Exodus. What's our response to where God is leading us? Are we taking the same attitude as the Hebrews by doubting God's leading? We need to be excited about leaving this earthly life and beginning a heavenly one. We need to WANT to go to heaven if we are to GET there.

UPDATE FROM RON AND AILEEN

We have some very good news to share. Aileen's doctor, Dr Terry Chang, rang this afternoon and gladly informed us that there appears to be no more traces of cancer cells left. GOD has indeed heard our united prayers and all glory are due His most holy name.

We'd be glad if you could share this good news to all of our church members. Please thank everybody for us for all the help you have all

UPDATE FROM CARLENE

You will be as pleased and grateful to God as I am, to hear the result of Sue's visit to her oncologist today. He showed her and Ken the scans done last week along with the original scans, and the secondaries in her lungs and liver have shrunk to a fraction of their previous size. She has appointments now until October, which she sees as evidence that Dr Marks expects her to live at least that long when at first she was measuring her prospects of life as a few weeks. She came in to see me afterward singing, 'My God is an awesome God.'

Praise God for His loving kindness to us all.

UPDATE FROM GLORIA

Please can you pass on to our church family our deepest gratitude for the books provided for the prisoners.

The books finally arrived 2 Sundays ago and some have now been processed through into the prison library. The men are so happy to have new books to read. We will pray that the books find reception in their hearts and that the message of Jesus will shine through. At the same time, I was able to get a complete set of the evangelistic series that was run here over a three week period recently. These have been given to one of the leading prisoners and he is enthusiastic about sharing their message with the others. This man is interesting - he claims to have been born again several years ago and claims to be an SDA but he is struggling with it all. But despite that, he witnesses for Jesus to everyone and he is a wonderful man to have around. He has a powerful father who puts a lot of pressure on him to run the family night-club (when he is out of prison) so the conflict is great. In this culture one does not cross or disobey your father or refuse to follow his wishes.

If they want to, I will encourage them, to write letters of thanks. Getting those letters out of prison shouldn't be hard since I'll have them write them on the computers and I take the computers in and out with me on each class day. I'll have a chat with the sensors and see what the process should be.

God bless you all and thank you from the bottom of our hearts! Love from Gloria & Dale

LUNA'S 70TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

REPORTED BY CARLENE

Twenty two ladies joined Luna on Monday July 7 at La Botte Italian Restaurant, Carlingford, to celebrate her 70th birthday. There were a few ladies from Luna's Flower Club and Cancer Support Group, but most were present or past members of Epping Church and regulars at Sew and Tell functions.

We all had a wonderful time, Luna most of all. The food was good and the company even better. It is always a great opportunity to catch up on what everyone is doing and to relax and to enjoy the fellowship of Christian women who are strong in their faith and friendship. Somehow the 'decade' birthday doesn't seem quite as aging when you celebrate with close friends.

Luna received some lovely gifts - some just for fun and others useful and beautiful. Sue provided the birthday cake and Luna extinguished the candles in one go. We hope her 'wish' comes true, and that she enjoys her actual birthday on the 15th, with as much joy and delight as we had over dinner.



UPDATE FROM FRANCES IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA.

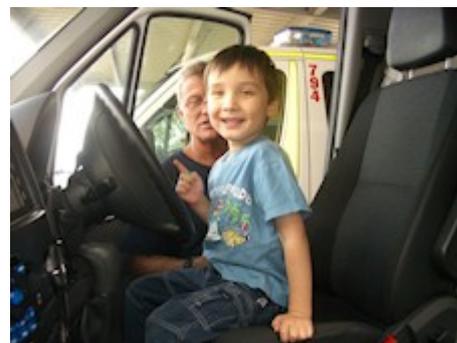
I can't believe that June is drawing to a close. We are pretty close to having a regular routine. Ethan started pre-school here (it is summer so he goes 2 days a week) but in Sept when the term starts he is 4 and he will have to go to preK which is a mandatory 5 days a week! So far the 2 days have gone fairly well. The teachers say he kept to himself on the first day but interacted more on the second day. Next week is 4th of July so the whole week is off and then they go back. It is good to have a break as the kids are sick again. Poor things the cough had not even settled from the last bout and they have fevers again. I am still coughing from that last nasty virus and also had a sty as well!! Can't believe my bad luck.

The apartment where we live have about 230 units, with a gym and 2 pools. There is a common room with a pool table and TV. So we spend some time there just to get out of the apartment. Ethan tells everyone that our house is very big but we just have a small room to live in. He thinks he owns most of the place and wants to know why people are using the pool table when we go down. In fact today he asked my (very loudly) why these 2 guys playing pool were without their shirts. They very kindly answered that they had been swimming but a very legitimate question. He has also noticed that some people are "very fat, mummy" and to "look she is smoking....she will lose her legs". Thankfully the heavy person did not hear and the smoker I apologised to but she was philosophical and said that she was indeed smoking. She did not hear that her legs were going to be amputated though. I don't even know where he learnt about that.

Madeleine is talking all the time now and has started to mimic Ethan and count. However she starts at 3 as I usually say 1 and 2 for her. It is pretty funny. She is much more wilful than Ethan and will test you out about all the rules in the house. Especially about the powerpoints. They are both obsessed with the computer and we have designated Uncle Matthew's computer for their use. Ethan wants to do "research" all the time.

Ken is well and enjoying the lab. He is still getting into the routine of the labs and their techniques so not doing any major work yet. It is nice as he often finishes early. We only have 1 car and so drop him off and pick him up everyday. When we get to Ken's building the kids have taken to calling out Ken! if he does not come out of the foyer straight away. It is the only time they call him Ken. Just cracks me up.

So that is all the news so far.





PRAYER LIST

Sue Wood	Please remember Sue, Ken and the family in your prayers as she continues to improve.
Aileen Manahan	Please remember Aileen and the family in your prayers as she continues to recover from her surgery.
Ivan Baxter	Please continue to pray for Ivan as he has ongoing therapy
Carlene Bagnall	Carlene is recovering well from recent surgery, let's continue to pray for her during her rehabilitation.
Fleur Duke	Please continue to pray for Fleur 's ongoing recovery.
Victims and families of Cyclone Nargis in	
Families affected by the Earthquake in South Western China	
Members travelling	Safety during their travels



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July 19 after lunch	Board meeting
July 19 evening	Sports Night! If you can stand-up then you should attend!
July 20 @ 3pm	Working Bee, time to dig out those tools you bought but have never used and put them to good use.
July 25—Friday @ 7:30pm	Prayer meeting @ church. We have experienced some amazing answers to prayer, let's continue growing our prayer life.
August 9	Communion Service
August 31—Sunday 10:30-?	Church picnic with old-fashioned games! An event not to be missed!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to

give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:11-13

GUESS WHO?



Clue: I was a junior state squash champion.

Email your answer to:

Arthur@aandz.com.au for fame and riches.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

