

Epping SDA Church Newsletter

No: 121 12th November 2009

Welcome to our weekly Church Newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition with articles, news and photos.

If there is any **information** you would like to share or a **photo** you would like us to view, please email it to the address below.

ajing@eppingsda.org.au.

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

This Sabbath @ Epping

This week's service at Epping will be taken by our very own **Pastor Michael Worker** with **Alvin** the Elder in Charge. The offering will be for the **Local Church Budget**.

Don't miss the Special Item by the Kindy Class this week.

Last Sabbath @ Epping

Last week's service was a Communion Service take by **Pastor Chris Manthey**.

The sermon was entitled "Love is a Doing Word", and Pastor Chris highlighted a number of bible texts which portrayed this.

This included John 13:3-5 and 13:13-15

³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

¹³"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Christ has set the example, and what better role model is there for us to follow?



Church Events

1. **Happy 60th Birthday Belle.**

This weekend's big event is Belle's 60th Birthday. You will find elsewhere in this newsletter the formal invitation. This is just to remind you all that the event is this Saturday evening so celebrate this milestone in Belle's life, and help Epping's Mission Project as well.

Don't bring a present, but please support the Mission Project. Please bring a plate of food, and if you're not sure what, please ask Belle.

2. **Baptism – next Sabbath November 21**

Congratulations to all the Baptismal Candidates who will be baptised next week at Epping. We look forward to this wonderful event where you publically declare the dedication of your lives to Christ.

Congratulations to Ashleigh, Brianna, Leighton, Stephen, Ellie and Angelica

3. **Membership Transfer**

Second reading: Pastor Chris & Leteysha Manthey from Caringbah to Epping Church.

*Seriously, we have to vote on this? A **big formal welcome** to Pastor Chris and Leteysha (in anticipation).*

4. **Christmas Service – December 12**

Don't forget to invite your friends and your family

5. **Alternate Band Practice – this Sabbath after lunch**

6. **Youth Service – November 28. Don't miss this event!**

Pathfinder News

Please see Henry for the Pathfinder Program for the rest of the year.



Inspire 2010 Growing in Discipleship – 25-28 March 2010

From Pastor Michael Worker:

“Worshipping, Growing in God’s Word, Serving, Connecting and Sharing our faith. These are the five reasons we exist as a conference and the five reasons that you are on this planet. The process of growing in these five areas is what we call discipleship. I am excited to announce that in 2010 our conference is going to be putting a huge effort into resourcing you and your congregation for discipleship and it all starts with Inspire 2010.”

Inspire 2010 brings together three keynote speakers and a range of workshop presenters who God has especially gifted for communicating in the area of discipleship. The focus is both on your personal spiritual growth and on how that works together as a church to then impact Sydney. We will also be launching some exciting discipleship initiatives in our conference along with some great resources.

I am would love to see you at Inspire 2010. Together we’ll connect in community, grow spiritually, worship God and be equipped to serve and share in inspiring ways. Please highlight this weekend on your calendar and make it a priority for your life”

Check out the program and more details on the Inspire website:

<http://www.inspire2010.gscadventist.org.au/home/>

Philippine's Project Update

Thanks to Belle for the following update:

Thanks to everyone for continuing to support our Philippine's Orphanage Project. To date we have raised over **\$41,261.00** well done!

However our goal is **\$50,000** and I encourage everyone at Epping to see the project through to completion.

Donations can now be made **online** on the ICC secured website which automatically issues receipts.

<https://iccaustralia.worldsecuresystems.com/support/support.html>

Some new images from Belle:





Postcard from Fiji – Dale and Gloria Stuart

Good Morning and a happy weekend to you.

Well, what can we say other than life is fun as usual at this end. We are keeping an eye on the political situation and as well informed as we can. With the Oz and NZ consular heads kicked out of Fiji and all expat academics as well, things are a bit rocky but so far we are safe and well. We have a contingency plan should all expats be ordered out of the country. I believe that the University of the South Pacific (which has over 10,000 students) begins their final exams this week so with the expat teaching staff expelled, it could have some major impact on the students' ability to finish this year's study. Poor "kids"....and they had nothing to do with the situation! Oh well, we'll see what happens.

Our lives have been far from static. Since I came back from Oz in September, we have been negotiating to purchase 8 acres of land in the small town of Ayr, about 1 hour south of Townsville. There have been a lot of ups and downs but we think that it might have actually gone through as of late last night. I expect that we'll know for sure on Monday. The bank has been dreadful to work with and delayed the purchase a number of times. Once we told the sellers that we were not going to buy it because of missing deadlines for finance, but they generously offered us more time...they have been very patient. So we now own some bare dirt again. Some horses will be put on the land to keep the grass down until we decide what to do with the place - and have money to do something with it. So that is development 1.

Development 2 was an almost total surprise/shock - I got a job, a PAID job! It is so hard to get work permits here that I honestly didn't expect any employer to want to go through the hassles, but I was wrong. I start work Monday for the local branch of Xerox. The official title of the job is Operations Manager/Senior Accounts but will include a lot of Personal Assistant work for the managing director plus evaluating current procedures

then planning, preparing and instituting company policies and procedures with a large focus on documentation. It sounds like a very challenging role and it will keep me busy and provide us with local cash for groceries and stuff. Then all of Dale's wage can be put into the land purchase or improvements. I got the job by answering an ad in the local paper. Anyway, we'll see how it goes.

My last uni assignment for this semester has been sent off. I am enrolling for another course which I hope to complete during the summer (year end) break. It is one that I need for my degree but can't take through the university because their requirements have proved to be too inflexible for a student not in Australia. Hopefully this other course will be better.

Dale is well although work is not going as well as he hoped. Because the system was not really maintained for 2 years after the last expat IT Manager left, things fell down and now Dale is having to deal with server failures and all sorts of other stuff that make his job very stressful. He is working through each issue as it arrives but isn't able to be more than a fire extinguisher at the moment. Hopefully soon things will stop breaking down and he can move on to more proactive work. Unfortunately the breaking down process is happening in many of the missions as well so it isn't just here in Fiji he has issues to deal with. His most troublesome missions are Tonga and Samoa.

Dale has been running nearly every day since his back healed and that has been good. He's lost some weight and we are working on him losing some more. He runs for about 50 mins early in the morning and then we go for a 40 min walk as well so he's really getting in the miles. We've been walking since I got back from Oz in September and I've managed to lose 4 kgs and am working on losing the 5th one J. I've got several more kilos to lose as well.

The canoe we have been building is nearing completion. We are working on installing the seats and thwart. We've put on one coat of marine varnish and the canoe looks great - despite our mistakes. We have made lots of mistakes since this is our first try at boat building. We're already looking forward to starting the second canoe as soon as this one is finished. Perhaps on Sunday we'll also start making the paddles - no good having a canoe without paddles!

We've been working on the yard every morning after our walk and the yard is finally starting to look more like what I want. We're digging flower gardens and I found a nice plant place to buy flowering bushes and shrubs. I have also taking a lot of cuttings from existing plants in the yard and am hoping that they will grow. I want to make a colourful hedge of these along the back fence. We also have built and filled our vege garden. Now all I need to do is to get some seeds and plant the thing. I was too lazy this week so perhaps next week.

Lisa is going ok although she is sick at the moment. I think her cold/flu has turned into pneumonia but she doesn't think so. She's still at her new job and enjoying the busy environment. She has just started on her own after three weeks of training by the previous girl.

Jake is growing like a weed and we miss him a lot. Lisa has enrolled in a coaching course so that she can legally/certifiably teach riding lessons through Equine Australia.

And the last development in our house is that we are coming to the USA/NZ next year in October. It is past time for our 7 yearly visit J. We won't be there long but we are bringing Lisa and Jake with us (Brett doesn't want to come and wouldn't enjoy our type of holiday anyway). So we are giving EARLY warning - very early. The tickets are booked and paid for so the arrival and departure dates are set in concrete but exactly where we'll go on this trip is still up in the air.

And that is all from us....and it is more than enough! Time to head back to bed and pretend that today hasn't started yet. God bless and as I said at the beginning of this epistle, have a great weekend.

Love,

Gloria & Dale

Credit Card Donation Form

Epping Mission Project



Note: This donation is to support the ICC Happy Valley Elementary School building project, ICC Orphanage, Philippines.

Fax this form to	Fax No (03) 8660 2967		
Postal Address	International Children's Care Shop 7 Riviera Plaza BAIRNSDALE VIC 38757A		
Credit Card Details			
Card Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Bankcard
Name on Card		Expiry Date	
Credit Card No		Amount	\$
Signature		Date	
Telephone No		Mobile	
Address you would like the receipt sent to	Street		
	Suburb		
	State		Post Code

THANK YOU !!!

Happy Birthday Belle!

A reminder to please RSVP to Belle if you are planning to come, which of course you should. Help celebrate this milestone in Belle's life, and help Epping's Mission Project as well.

Dear Friends and Family,

Please come and help celebrate my 60th Birthday.

Belle

14 November 2009
6:30 pm
Epping SDA Church
2 George Street
EPPING NSW

RSVP

Home: (02) 9671-2755
Mobile: 0413 453 055
Email: belletung@gmail.com



No presents necessary ...



*I am dedicating this event to help build a school for the Orphanage in the Philippines.
You may give a Tax Deductible Donation to*

International Children's Care
Shop 7 Riviera Plaza
BAIRNSDALE VIC 3875
Telephone: (03) 5152-5774



<https://iccaustralia.worldsecursystems.com/support/support.html>

Free Piano

Epping Church had 1 piano in good condition surplus to need. We are happy to find this piano a new home; all you need to do is pick it up. We have already found a new home for one piano. If you would like to provide a new home for the remaining piano, please see me.

Prayer Requests:

Ron Manahan	<i>Congratulations Ron J on completing the HSC</i>
Harold Lin	<i>Please remember Harold in your prayers</i>
Bob and Nerelle McIntyre	<i>Please remember Bob, Nerelle and Colleen in your prayers.</i>
Sue Wood	<i>Please remember Sue, Ken and their family in your prayers.</i>
Ivan Baxter	<i>Please remember Ivan in your prayers.</i>

Dates to Keep in your Diary:

<i>November 14</i>	<i>Belle's 60th Birthday party</i>
<i>November 21</i>	<i>Baptism 2009. Please see Pastor Manthey if you are interested</i>
<i>November 28</i>	<i>Youth Service</i>
<i>December 5</i>	<i>Communion Service</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Christmas Program</i>

Photo of the Week



Thanks to Xavier Jamonet for this week's photo.

Thought for the Week:

“For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.”

Colossians 1:9