

Epping SDA Church Newsletter

No: 144: 27th August, 2010

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- Pathfinder Investiture

This week's special service will be taken by our Pathfinders, and is the **Pathfinder Investiture**. **Congratulations** to all Pathfinders on their fantastic achievements over the past year, and congratulations also to **Henry** and the Pathfinder leadership for their dedication, hard work and nurturing. The elder in charge this week is **Arthur**. This week's offering is **Funds for the Needy Persons**.

Last Sabbath @ Epping

Last week's service was taken by **Maree Worker** and was entitled

"So You are called.."

Maree began by giving us a fascinating insight into Jewish Education at the time of Christ. Jesus was the ultimate teacher, preacher and Rabbi.

John 3:2 – (Nicodemus) came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

Here, Nicodemus acknowledges Jesus as a preacher and a rabbi. Nicodemus was a rabbi himself (and a member of the Jewish Ruling Council) and had his own disciples. It was therefore quite significant that he acknowledged Jesus as such in the above verse.

Education was essential for Jewish children just as it is for our children today. Most Jewish children knew the books of Genesis, Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy by memory by 10 years of age. This period of learning was termed Bet Sefer.

From 10-14 years of age, Jewish children learned the rest of the Hebrew scriptures. They also learned the art of questioning. This involved answering a question with a question that was not only relevant, but which should also demonstrate a profound understanding of the original question. This period of learning was termed Bet Talmud

Jesus questioned the leaders in the synagogue as a 12 year old.

From the age of 14 years the best of the students sought to become rabbis. They actively sought out the best rabbis to be their mentors. This stage of learning is termed Bet Midrash which means house of learning. The students followed their mentors and learned to be a true disciple.

Matthew 4:18-22

Jesus is still calling for disciples for us to come and follow him. So what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus? Here are some answers:

Mark 2:14 - must walk the same road as Jesus

John 15:8 - must be a fruit bearer - fruit of the spirit is LOVE (Galatians 5:22)

John 8:31 - should study and obey God's word

John 13:35 - should love one another

So you are called..



The Alternate Epping Church Band also performed:



Epping Cell Groups – Revelation Series

Our Cell Groups for Term 3 are continuing

This Revelation Series will span several terms as there are 24 DVDs. The suggestion is for 1 DVD with booklet /week but each Cell group can run at it's own pace.

Term 3 commenced on Friday July 30 to Sept 10.

Dates: Friday evenings, 7:30pm

Week 5: Aug 27

Week 6: Sept 3

Week 7: Sept 10

Venues:

1) Yee's

2) Tung's

3) Go's

4) Youth Group (meet fortnightly as per Josh timetable)

As a people of prophecy it would good to study the book of Revelation and understand it well. Please support and pray for the series. Please see Rod for further details if required.

Operation Christmas Child 2010

Thanks to Jen Woods, Epping Church are involved in Operation Christmas Child this year.



What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a unique project of Samaritan's Purse that brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes.

It provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple but hands-on project that has the power to transform children's lives.

In 2009, our teams in Australia and New Zealand delivered over 300,000 gift-filled shoe boxes to South East Asia and the South Pacific. Globally, Samaritan's Purse distributed an estimated 7.6 million shoe boxes to children in 105 countries.

As each shoe box gift is delivered, it is treasured by the child that receives it, and is a lasting reminder that he or she is precious to God.

How do you do it?

STEP 1 **FIND A SHOE BOX**



Find an empty medium-sized shoe box, approximately 15 x 27 x 11cm.
Wrap the lid and box separately in colourful wrapping paper.

STEP 2 **BOY OR GIRL?**



Determine if a boy or girl will receive your gift. Select the age of the child who will receive your box. Mark the label downloaded from our website and stick it on your box lid.

STEP 3 **FILL WITH GIFTS**



Fill the box with a variety of simple gifts that will bring delight to a child.

IMPORTANT

Put your donation in the envelope or donate online at www.samaritanspurse.org.au.
Close lid and secure with a strong rubber band.
Your donation of \$9 or more covers our project costs of organising and delivering the boxes.

More information here - <http://samaritanspurse.gotdns.org/>

The Pathfinders are supporting this project as well and the boxes need to be in by mid-October.

Please see Jen for more details.

Pathfinder News

Pathfinder Investiture this Sabbath

From Henry:

Pathfinders remember to be in full dress uniform.

ADRA Appeal is being held this Sabbath afternoon.

If you can help please stay back. If you can't wear your dress uniform, please wear your field uniform. Parents if you can help supervise, that would be great.

EXPEDITION (24-26 Septemebr) forms are due. Make sure you hand them directly to Uncle Henry with your payment. You will not want to miss this one; it's in the Megalong valley - Six foot track.

Backpacks and tents. Only a few small backpacks are available. Those who need a backpack please see Uncle Henry for a sample of a backpack now available. If you need a tent, please buy one.

CAMPOREE forms are due.

Australian Union Conference Camporee, Jan 4-9, 2011.

The place is: Toowoomba, Queensland and it is at 700m elevation.

The fee structure is:

Early bird \$170 (pay before 1 Sep 2010)

Regular fee \$190

Late fee \$220 (pay after 1 Dec 2010)

Practice backpack is on 11 September.

We will be hiking from Springwood to Blaxland. This is about 12.5 kms. We will do about 5 kms on Sat and the rest on Sunday. This is overnight and you must bring at least 2.5 lit water. More is better.

Other dates for backpacks are 30 Oct and 13 Nov. Details later.

Most probably one will be in Blue Mountains and the other will be Ten Mile Hollow.

Overland Trek – December 16-21

The Pathfinders and other interested members are planning to do the Overland Trek from Cradle Mountain to Lake St. Clair in Tasmania. Those of us who did this in 2006 found it a truly memorable experience.

If you are interested, please see or contact Henry.

Church Budget - 2010

The Church Board met last week and would like to thank the Finance Committee (Sharon, Stephen and Eva), who not only presented the Financial Report for the church, but also made a series of recommendations that the Board has accepted. Their review of Epping's financial health reveals that on average, the Church has operating costs of \$600 per week. I would like to urge you to keep this in mind with your freewill offerings, especially during the Sabbaths when the offering is deemed "Local".

On the Sabbaths when the offering is not designated as "Local" you may still give to the Local Church Budget via the envelopes located on the church pews. Just mark these envelopes for "Local Budget".

I had a few questions regarding the church budget after the above report was published in last week's newsletter.

Just to clarify, Epping Church does not have weekly costs of \$600 per week, on a week to week basis. As a result of capital purchases (e.g. the piano) and recent repairs (e.g. hot water and electrical circuits) we need to raise approximately \$600 per week to balance the budget for the remainder of 2010. As there are only 11 Local Budget offerings for the remainder of the year, I'm sure you all can do the maths .

I would therefore encourage everyone to use the envelopes on the church pews to help the local church budget during "non allocated weeks". Thank you all for supporting Epping.

ADRA Appeal

ADRA Appeal commenced this Sabbath. Please see Rod for details. The Pathfinders will be going out appealing this Sabbath afternoon as well.

Vegetarian Cooking Classes

Thanks to Victor, Rod and the Personal Ministries team for putting this together. It was a great success last year.

FREE Vegetarian Cooking Classes

Are you new to vegetarian cooking?
Do you want to learn some new healthy recipes?
Join us for our series of multicultural vegetarian cooking classes.

- Class 1 – October 23
- Class 2 – October 30
- Class 3 – November 6
- Class 4 – November 13



Freewill donations will go towards the Epping Mission Project -
to support the ICC Happy Valley Elementary School Building Project,
ICC Orphanage, Philippines.

Location: Epping SDA Church Hall, 2 George St, Epping

Time: All classes start at 2:30pm

For Bookings and Enquiries: Phone 0425 766 216



We're a friendly organisation and a part of Playgroups NSW.

We have 3 groups a week; on **Monday**, **Thursday** and **Friday**, from **10am** till midday.

We play games, tell stories, have parties, do craft, sing songs, with children aged 0 to 5 years.

Come along, **make new friends** and let your **children have fun**.

For **more information** please contact our coordinator Emma Butler 0433 501 962

We'd love you to join us! ☺

Prayer Requests:

Manahan Family	<i>Please keep Ron and his family in your prayers as Ron serves in Sinai</i>
Sue Wood	<i>Both Ken and Sue appreciate the care and support that you continue to show toward them. Please continue to remember them in your prayers</i>
Bob and Nerelle McIntyre	<i>Please remember Bob, Nerelle and Colleen in your prayers.</i>
Penny	<i>Please remember Penny in your prayers as she recovers from surgery</i>
Ivan Baxter	<i>Please keep Ivan in your prayers as he battles illness</i>
Rochelle Baxter	<i>Please prayer for Rochelle as she recovers from a recent hospital visit.</i>

Dates to Keep in your Diary:

August 28	<i>Pathfinder Investiture</i>
August 28	<i>ADRA Appeal</i>
September 12	<i>Backpack Camp – Blue Mountains</i>
Sep 24-26	<i>Pathfinder Expedition</i>

Photo of the Week

Thanks to Michael Ing for this week's photo:



Thought for the Week:

"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you."

Isaiah 26:3