

WELCOME TO

EPPING

SDA CHURCH
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9/7/2020

Epping Church!

Our next live stream will be this Sabbath at 11am, see below for the links.



Another car full of food and supplies greatfully received by ADRA Blacktown. Once again you Epping church members helped to restock their shelves which were nearly empty. Thankyou!

- Rochelle Baxter

SATURDAY PROGRAMS

What	When	Link
Adult Sabbath School	10am Saturday Morning	https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/481995096? pwd=NjlVS2xkVU9DZmtVSzlJQU9iaW8zdz09 Meeting ID: 481 995 096 Password: 675908
Church Service	11am Saturday	https://www.facebook.com/eppingsda
Afternoon Tea catchup	4pm Saturday Arvo	Open invitation for those that would like to have a chat and cuppa. https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/395777033? pwd=K2VvajVGdm9ON3dKbVloMII3QyszQT09 Meeting ID: 395 777 033 Password: 395893

9/7/2020

Last Sabbath

The sermon last week was taken by Pastor Nigel on 'The Prodigal Son' in Luke 15:11-24

What CAUSED the Prodigal son to great shame and loss

- 1- Prodigal Son did not consider his father, but only himself, not one thought of God whatsoever
- 2- Only cared of his flesh, not of his future,
leaving home, blew his fortune on wild living, thinking it would solve all his problems.

But most importantly WHAT the Prodigal Son DID about it

Faced the facts, stopped pretending to be happy, he came to his senses, he didn't make excuses or put off making the decision. He went home

His father ran and embraced him, no matter how he looked, and prepared him with a big party.

Our Father awaits with open arms, willing to forgive just as they are.

Time for personal reflection, will you face the facts or will you fool yourself



PHYSICAL CHURCH UPDATE!!

Dear Church Family,

This year has been a year like no other. I think if we could send it back and ask for a refund, many of us would. Currently, COVID-19 restrictions are easing in some places and getting tighter in others. I know many of you are wondering when we will be able to go back to church, so I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know what's likely to happen.

The Church Board has discussed reopening the church at great length. There is no one perfect solution or way of doing it, so this is what we have settled upon... We will continue with the current live-streaming regime until the government relaxes the restrictions to one person per two square meters. When this happens however, even with one person per two square meters, our church is still not large enough to hold us all. Therefore, we will split the church into two groups and take it week about coming to church. On the other weeks you can watch the live-stream (which will continue) from home as you are currently doing. Of course, there will be safety protocols we will all need to abide by at church to keep everyone safe and healthy. The group lists and safety protocols will be shared with you closer to the re-opening date.

Thank you for your patience and faithfulness. I look forward to seeing you all soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to request my number for a chat.

God bless and keep smiling!

Pr. Nigel

ADRA BLACKTOWN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

ADRA Blacktown is still in need of food to help those who have fallen on hard times.
If you feel moved by the Spirit to contribute, if you are able please continue to drop donations off to the Blacktown ADRA office.



**** Positive Note ****

Another car full of food and supplies greatly received by ADRA Blacktown.

Once again you Epping church members helped to restock their shelves which were nearly empty. Thankyou!

- Rochelle Baxter



EPPING LIBRARY

Dear Epping Church members,

I hope your week is going well. Since you are such an important part of the Epping Church family, we wanted to tell you about our upcoming project.

As you may know, our church has many growing kids and school age children where they love to learn, read and play. Their language, thinking and emotional skills are rapidly developing at this age.

We would like to start a Church Library for our Kindy and Primary kids - Christian books in particular. If you would like to contribute to this project, we'd really appreciate your support and would be happy to accept Christian books and DVDs that your children may have outgrown to add to our library.

So start looking for those books and DVDs....you can drop them off to Epping Church on Sunday, July 19, 2020 between 10am - 12pm.

Many thanks in advance for your donations.

Rainy Lee

EPPING YOUTH

Join us, every Friday night 7pm

EPPING YOUTH

ZOOM DETAILS

Meeting ID: 384 694 480
Password: 350006

@epping.youth

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for Penny who is experiencing health challenges
- Please pray for Arthur's friend, Winnie who is ill
- Please continue to pray for those who are feeling ill or facing challenging in their lives
- Please pray for our Year 12 kids doing the HSC this year
- Please Pray for Epping church as we continue to run live streaming church services.
- Heal those who are sick and protect those who are not.
- Give our leaders extra wisdom as they navigate this pandemic and economic uncertainty.
- Strengthen Your global Church. Reveal to us how we can partner together to reach the needs of those around us.
- Calm our fears. Fill us with Your hope, joy, and peace as we continue to trust in You.
- Use this pandemic to pave the way for spiritual renewal. We want Your glory, power, and healing to be on display.
- Pray for the safety of our frontline medical people
- Pray for the safety of our teachers and students
- Pray for the safety of all the sick, elderly and vulnerable members
- Pray for family and friends who have lost jobs
- Pray that God will open our eyes to people's needs, showing us how we can help.

Pastor Nigel's

Thought of the Week

The Twins

During my reading recently I came across an interesting comment which said, “The attributes which God prizes most are charity and purity” 5T 85. As I pondered this statement, several things stuck out to me...

The first thing I wanted to do was switch out the word charity with the word love – which is often done. But I quickly realized that this translation would be inadequate. Charity is either greater than or a specific kind of love. Charity is a loving, benevolent, empathetic feeling towards the needy and downcast, which results in an outpouring of generous action to relieve their helplessness and suffering. Like faith, charity is a word of action.

The second thing I realized is that purity blesses me, while charity blesses others. With purity and charity my heart is ready to fellowship with God as He teaches me day by day. With purity and charity, I am ready to be used by God to share His good news of salvation to the world.

This quote also reminded me of a passage in the well known and much loved 23rd Psalm which says, “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.” Goodness would be purity, and mercy would be charity. I once heard of a man who named his two guard dogs Goodness and Mercy. A tongue-in-cheek take on the verse to be sure, and yet very accurate. A heart filled with goodness and mercy will help to protect us from rebellious attitudes and selfish behaviour. Goodness and mercy, or charity and purity, are the two footmen who ride on our carriage, there to assist us, but also to lead us in paths of righteousness.

My prayer today is that we may humble ourselves and make goodness & mercy, charity & purity, our constant companions...

“Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?... He that has clean hands and a pure heart”
Psalm 24:3-4.

MEMORY VERSES

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

"FOR **EVERYTHING** THERE IS A **SEASON**,
AND A **TIME** FOR EVERY **MATTER**
UNDER **HEAVEN**..."

Week 54

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under Heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Week 53

People will make weapons to fight against you, but their weapons will not defeat you. Some people will say things against you, but anyone who speaks against you will be proved wrong. The Lord says, That is what my servants get! They get the good things that come for me, their Lord.

Isaiah 54:17

Week 52

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness

Lamentations 3:22-23

To see the rest of the memory verses see the link below :)

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ybw_EEbSMJRdPe_piLePW7sw1zLjO6Ki-ECvr7JEYLk/edit?usp=sharing

ZOOM LINKS

4PM WEEKDAY PRAYER GROUP CHANGED TO 1PM

With restrictions lifting a little and some of us traveling back into work, our **4pm prayer group** will now be at **1pm each week day**....zoom details remain unchanged.

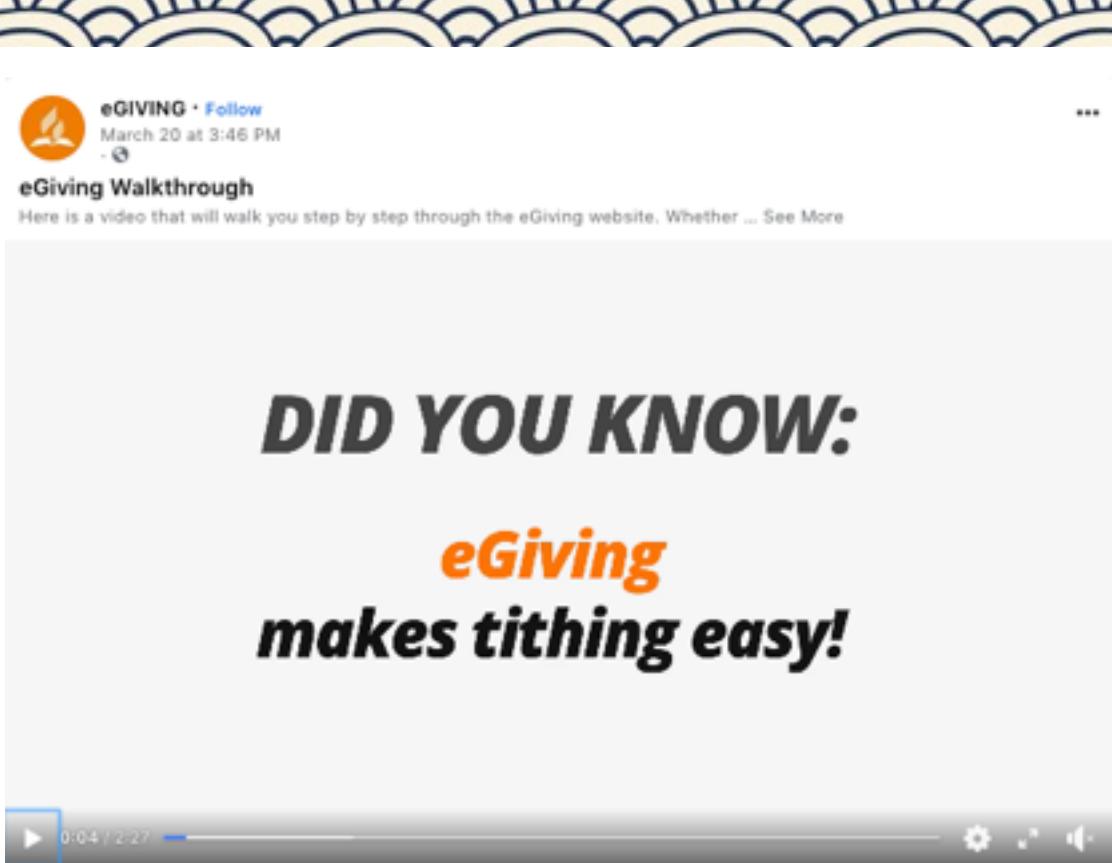
Weekly programs

What	When	Link
8am Prayer Group	8am Mon - Friday	https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/384619955? pwd=SXp5V2RHSDJhQW85eXJnSWpBNUhsQT09
1pm Prayer Group	1pm Mon - Friday	https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/887853048? pwd=NmQ4WUp6cVBRK21BQXFEOCtXbytzZz09
Youth Hangouts	7pm Friday Nights	Meeting ID: 384 694 480 Password: 350006

Saturday Programs

What	When	Link
Sabbath School	10am Saturday Morning	https://acts-technology.zoom.us/j/481995096? pwd=NjIVS2xkVU9DZmtVSzIJQU9iaW8zdz09 Meeting ID: 481 995 096 Password: 675908
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eGivings walkthrough



eGiving Walkthrough

Here is a video that will walk you step by step through the eGiving website. Whether you are in Australia or in New Zealand you can still be faithful and return your tithes and give your offerings and thanksgivings.

Video Link here

<https://www.facebook.com/eGIVINGSDA/videos/635678597222482>

eGiving Link here

<https://egiving.org.au/?fbclid=IwAR1mkQR6PcpSqTCw-4UF0tw2ABnyf7TtStP7sG5agVmQBeivkp5m2nfiU7I>

eGivings walkthrough

eGiving Step by Step Guide.

Use the eGiving App to securely return tithes and offerings.

Did you know that you can return tithe, give offerings and make charitable contributions where ever you are?



1

Search "eGiving" in the Apple App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android).

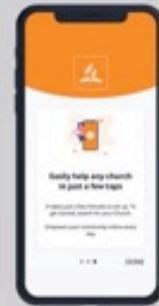
Once downloaded, open the eGiving app.



2

2

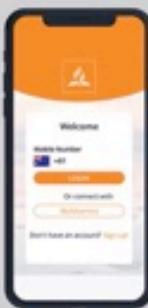
Tap "NEXT" to move through the introductory slides, reading the information as you go, then tap "DONE".



3

Sign-up Instructions

1. At the welcome screen, tap the flag and select your country. Then enter your mobile number and tap "LOGIN".
2. You'll be sent a code via SMS (text message). Enter the code and tap "VERIFY".
3. Then enter your email address and tap "CONFIRM" and enter your name details. Tap "OK" to dismiss the message on your screen.
4. You'll be sent an email with another verification code. Open your email, note the code and type it into the app and tap "VERIFY".
5. Next, choose your preferred security method and tap "OK".



HELPFUL INFORMATION

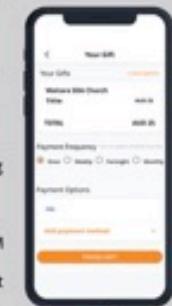
eGiving uses your location to help find your local church. A window will pop up asking you to choose your preferred privacy settings.

Simply select the option you are most comfortable with. If you can't find your local church, tap the search bar at the top of the screen, enter the name of your church, and tap the search button.

4

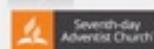
Returning Tithes & Offerings

1. To return tithe, press the orange RETURN button, then tap the line underneath "Amount & Payment Options". Enter your amount, tap outside the box, and tap "CONFIRM GIFT".
2. To also give offerings, tap "more options" at the top right hand side of your screen. Swipe down the list until you find the offering of your choice and select it. As before, enter your amount and press "CONFIRM GIFT".
3. Select your payment frequency.
4. Under payment options, add a payment method.
5. Fill out your details then tap "ADD CARD". Tap outside of the box to dismiss the message, then select the card.
6. Review the transaction details and when you are ready, tap "FINISH GIFT".
7. Next, a confirmation screen will confirm that your contributions has been completed.



HAVE YOU TRIED USING THE EGIVING WEBSITE?

This website is linked to your local church bank account and deposits tithe and offerings to that account within 48 hours.



South Pacific

Australia: www.egiving.org.au
New Zealand: www.egiving.org.nz

HELPFUL TIP!

Check your email inbox. The receipt should be available shortly after giving. It's useful to download and save the receipt for your own records.