

**East Launceston
Worship Centre**
21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston

**George Town
Worship Centre**
3 Anne St
George Town

**Trevallyn
Worship Centre**
34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn

**Riverside
Worship Centre**
399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

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Riverlinks
Anglican Parish
Newsletter is
published
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Opinions
expressed in this
publication do
not necessarily
reflect those of
the clergy or the
Anglican
Church.

Please
forward any
photos or
articles to the
Parish office
by 20th of
each month
for inclusion in
the newsletter

Service Times For November 2009 Worship Centres

East Launceston		
1 st	10:00 am	Communion
8 th	10:00 am	Communion
15 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer
22 nd	10:00 am	Communion
29 th	No Service	

George Town, Hillwood, Low Head & Pipers River		
1 st	9:00 am	Hillwood Communion
	9:00 am	Pipers River Morning Prayer
	10:30 am	George Town Communion
8 th	9:00 am	Low Head Communion
	10:30 am	George Town Together @ 10.30
15 th	9:00 am	Pipers River Communion
	10:30 am	George Town Communion
22 nd	9:00 am	Low Head Communion
	9:00 am	George Town Communion
29 th	10:00 am	Riverlinks Together Combined Parish service

Trevallyn & Riverside		
	Riverside	Trevallyn
1 st	9:00 am Communion	11:00am Communion
8 th	9:00 am Morning Prayer	11:00am Kid's Church
15 th	9:00 am Communion	11:00 am Communion
22 nd	9:00 am Communion	11:00am Kid's Church
29 th	No service	No service
Each Wednesday there is a Healing Service at St Oswald's based on Holy Communion at 10:00am		

Peace Haven	
8 th	10:30 am Morning Prayer
15 th	10:30 am Holy Communion
22 nd	10:30 am Morning Prayer

MOBILE PHONES:

East Launceston 0438 378 233
Trevallyn/Riverside 0409 799 419
George Town 0439 821 038

RIVERLINKS WEBSITE:

www.riverlinks.net.au



Anglican Church

November 2009

Newsletter



Story time at St Aidan's Teddy Bear's Picnic

“Living the heartbeat of God”

Linking ministering communities in East Launceston, George Town, Hillwood, Low Head, Pipers River, Riverside and Trevallyn

FROM THE ENABLER



Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

**Matthew
24:42-44**

Which of these three situations I've encountered in the last week can you identify with?

His elderly parents are suffering with poor health. They and their adult children are Christians. They are all finding that this suffering is sharpening their focus on the infinitely better future God has promised them.

Her depression has just hit her very hard. She is a Christian. She is deeply comforted by God's promise of a New Creation in God's immediate presence.

He has a chronic illness. He is a Christian. When his illness flares up he imagines the new disease-free body that God has promised him.

What do all three situations have in common? The 'trial of life' (as I call it) has brought their Christian hope into sharp focus; and their vision of the future profoundly encourages and sustains them in the present. That's because it's big enough to. It goes way beyond any earthly change or improvement that we might hope for or imagine.

Some years ago J. B. Phillips wrote a book to counter our small vision of God. He called the book, 'Your God is Too Small.' If I had the opportunity, I would like to write a book for Christians along the lines of 'Your Vision is Too Small.' This is because I am often struck by how little eternity features in the minds and hopes of Christians and how little it all seems. Why do you think that is? Do you think that it could be partly due to allowing our present circumstances to fill our horizon – work, family, problems, plans? We can then only see what we can see, if you know what I mean. I also wonder if

- Met with Paul Cavanough (Diocesan Director of Ministry Support) to discuss my ministry, 22nd July
- Preparation for preaching conference day held at St Aidan's
- Hosted and participated in preaching conference day held at St Aidan's, 4th Aug (led by Principal and faculty of SMBC and Professor of Preaching at Dallas Theological Seminary, USA)
- Provided hospitality and accommodation for visiting college faculty for preaching conference
- Read Tim Hawkins' youth strategy document as background to discussions concerning possible children and youth worker in parish
- Participated in meeting with MST/PC members and prospective children, youth and young families worker, 4th Aug
- Wrote update reports for MST/PC on meetings regarding prospective children, youth & young families worker
- Met with Julie Rogers-Smith and Morleys for discussion on the next steps with mainly music and Kid's Church
- Organised supervision of and paperwork for a parishioner's Preliminary Theological Certificate exam
- Phone and in-person discussions with potential new George Town MST members
- Wrote Enabler's report for parish Annual Reports
- Wrote Enabler's quarterly activity report
- Participated in parish AGM/lunch
- Attended mainly music at St Aidan's, 23rd July
- Attended parish meeting at Riverside with new Riverlinks link missionaries – Andrew & Pam Lake, 26th Aug
- Hospitality to Andrew & Pam Lake
- Attended Kid's Church Trevallyn 2nd Birthday lunch, 27th Sept
- Attended Senior's outreach service & afternoon tea at St David's R'side, 2nd Oct
- Attended St Oswald's Healing Service, Wed 14th Oct
- Attended Riverside/Trevallyn prayer meeting at Riverside, 18th Oct
- Work on children's ministry training day planned for Saturday 17th April, featuring Quizworx
- Evaluated on-line liturgical resources
- Researched availability of biblical preaching on DVD for use in Riverlinks
- Researched resources for a Riverlinks home group
- Attended Diocesan Ministry Conference, Sunday 9th August
- Julie and I met with Brian Roberts (CEO, Bush Church Aid) to discuss our present and future ministry, 21st Aug
- Attended special mainly music session at St Aidan's, 23rd Aug
- Helped organise 2009 Diocesan Ministry Conference

Work on (BCA funded) diocesan Ministry Development Officer tasks:

- ⇒ coordinating the diocesan Certificate in Theology and Ministry, including organising elective units, promotion, marking assessment, revising prospectus and other documentation, researched potential text for Pastoral Care unit, writing introductory chapter for Ethics unit
- ⇒ early organization of the 2010 Tasmanian Bible Forums – speaker, dates and venues
- ⇒ continued writing material for the online Preaching Page on the diocesan website and improving layout and presentation of existing material, promotion on diocesan website homepage
- ⇒ coordinating a new online lectionary-based bible study resource on the diocesan website – continued organising contributors from the diocesan clergy team and wrote my studies for Advent 09.

Enabler's Quarterly Activity Report for period 22nd July – 19th October

Observed and evaluated Team and non-team members' Sunday ministries, spoke with parishioners, and ministered, as follows:

26th July East Launceston
 2nd Aug **Led and preached** at Hillwood
Preached at George Town
 9th Aug Diocesan Ministry Conference, Ulverstone
 16th Aug Riverside & Trevallyn
 23rd Aug East Launceston
 mainly music for families, East Launceston
 30th Aug Riverlinks Together at East Launceston AGM & lunch
 6th Sept Holidays
 13th Sept Holidays
 20th Sept **Preached & Celebrated** at Pipers River
Preached at George Town
 27th Sept Riverside
Bible Man at Kid's Church, Trevallyn
 KC 2nd Birthday lunch
 Led Preaching Workshop at Riverside
 4th Oct **Preached** at East Launceston (1st of mini-series)
 11th Oct **Preached** at East Launceston (2nd of mini-series)
 18th Oct **Preached** at East Launceston (3rd of mini-series)
 RS/TR prayer meeting at Riverside

On annual leave – 5th to 17th September

- Met with various Team members and with PC Chair
- Extensive emailing and phone calls with Team members & parish office
- Prepared for and attended monthly combined MST meetings (missed Oct meeting as unwell)
- Prepared for and attended local Team meetings with RS/TR, GT, and EL teams
- Weekly evening meeting with male parishioners for Bible study and prayer
- Prepared five sermons for Sunday services
- Prepared Bible Man segment for Kid's Church, Trevallyn
- Prepared Life interviews for August and September Riverlinks newsletters and articles for October and November newsletters
- Prepared for and led parish preaching workshop. These now attended by Salvation Army Officers and several members of Evandale Anglican Church, in addition to Riverlinks preachers
- Wrote numerous sermon critiques for Riverlinks preachers
- Maintained contact with parish's preaching development team
- Met with a Riverlinks preacher to discuss his yet-to-preach sermons
- Gave email-help to preachers on their yet-to-be-preached sermons
- Wrote three Bible studies for St Aidan's home groups to correspond with my mini preaching series at St Aidan's
- Wrote numerous Bible studies for Riverlinks home groups
- Pre-reading for Natural Church Development process
- Continued writing discussion paper to guide MST/PC's 20-year planning meeting
- Led MST/PCs 20-year planning meeting, 19th Sept

another cause of our short-sightedness is our lack of engagement with the Bible, because the Bible is very long-sighted. It has a dual focus – it looks back to God's salvation and victory won at the cross of Christ, and it looks forward to the fullness of that salvation and victory at the return of Christ. The very night before he died, Jesus had every reason to be consumed with thoughts of the next day; and yet he took the time to look ahead with his disciples to when he would return in triumph (Mt 24:1-25:46 – have you ever noticed that this teaching takes up two whole chapters of Matthew's Gospel?); and Jesus repeatedly exhorted his followers to be waiting expectantly for this future – living and serving with one eye on the horizon. The rest of the New Testament has exactly the same outlook, and the closing chapters of the Bible are entirely focused on the final victory of God and the incomprehensibly wonderful future Kingdom (Rev 19-22).

These chapters of the Bible highlight our other problem as I see it. When busy 21st century Christians **do** stop and think about eternity, it is a somewhat anaemic vision of it, usually in terms of their present circumstances. For example, the busy person is looking forward to an eternal rest, heaven's version of long service leave! But Jesus spoke of work and degrees of responsibility in the New Creation (Lk 19:11-27; Mt 25:14-30). And it's at that point that our vision of eternity is massively enlarged; because the Bible says that God's people are co-heirs with Christ of the Kingdom of God, the New Creation (Rom 8:16-17).

Continued next page...

That means that together with Christ, we his people will rule over the world to come! In case you think I'm overstating things, take a look at those passages

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

**Romans
8:16-18**

FROM THE ENABLER *cont/...*

in Luke and Matthew I just referred to; then flip over to the Old Testament, to Daniel 7, especially the remarkable vision recorded in verses 9-28. But sit down first!

One more example of our problem will suffice. The chronically ill Christian, be it with depression or disease, is looking forward to being free of their affliction. Now that's fine and true, but it's still too small a vision for God's people. It's like thinking that peace in a conflict situation is only the absence of conflict. It **is** that, but it's much more. It's also full restoration of the relationships. Again, the Bible's vision of the future is so much bigger and better. Yes, it is the passing of the old order of things with its disease, death and tears (Rev 21:1-5). But it's also the start of the **new** order (Rev 21:5) in which we will be given new bodies fit for eternity. The adjectives used of them are mind boggling:

'powerful'
'glorious'
'imperishable' (1 Cor 15:42-44).

Just think about that.

But God's vision for the future is greater still. In Christ and with Christ, his people will finally fulfill God's purposes for humanity: God's likeness corrupted by sin will be perfectly restored. We will be like Christ: completely free of sin's dark shadow and influence, with righteous motives, desires, thoughts, speech and behaviour (1 Jn 3:2-3). Knowing God perfectly and loving perfectly (1 Cor 13:8-13). This is nothing less than sharing in Christ's glory (Col 3:4; Rom 8:30)!

Just take a minute to take that in.

But God's grand vision is even greater still because it involves the entire creation. God's great purpose in eternity is to unite all things, things in the seen

So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

1 Corinthians
15:42-44

tifully embroidered cloths and brought along their prettiest cups, saucers and plates which added an atmosphere of yesteryear to the presentation of the afternoon tea.

Paintings and old photos, brought from homes, were hung around the walls to give a relaxing, homely feel to the hall. Flowers in large vases and small bowls on tables lent a Spring feeling along with the beautiful sunny day.

Jenny
Pedley



“Remember when ...”

SENIORS GATHERING

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN...

Your joints are more accurate than the weather service.

Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.

The twinkle in your eye is only the reflection of the sun on your bifocals.

Your back goes out more than you do.

Your idea of a night out is sitting on the patio.

People call at 9pm and ask, "Did I wake you?"

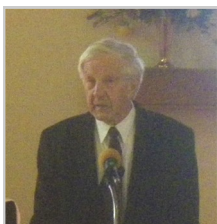
You look for your glasses for half-an-hour, then find they've been on your head all the time.

The Congregation at St. David's Church Riverside have been reaching out to seniors in their area for two years by providing a special weekday service, Friday, twice a year. The last one was held during Senior's week on 2nd October this year.

Stephen Atkins, a well known young Gospel singer from Devonport, was engaged as the entertainment for the afternoon. His repertoire included Amazing Grace, the Seekers song, "Another you" as well as some of his own writings. They all spoke to our hearts of the love and grace of God and of times gone by. All really enjoyed his music.



Stephen's father Peter gave the sermon during the short service. Peter was delighted to have this opportunity to speak the Gospel to his contemporaries. It turned out that he had a lot in common with many of the parishioners. He had gone to school with one and lived in the parish of Kentish where another had worshipped as a child. Also Peter's aunt and uncle, Ken and Aileen Atkins had been involved with St David's and had been involved in the building of the Church. It was all very amazing! His talk was described by our enabler as "winsome". I am very sure it did win some!



The ladies provided a sumptuous afternoon tea and also their own beau-

and unseen world, under Christ (Eph 1:10). That means that God's people will be perfectly united (that's hard to imagine!), together with the angels, in an harmonious New Creation, under the righteous rule of Christ. Paul writes elsewhere that the whole creation, presently groaning in its decay and futility, will be set free upon the bodily resurrection of God's people (Rom 8:20-23). This vision is truly profound, especially against the backdrop of our present world characterised by disunity, disharmony, disorder, decay and death. God in Christ truly is making all things new (Rev 21:5).

I urge you to see to your short-sightedness and spiritual anaemia; to be people of the Bible and so people of great hope and vision. In the person and work of Christ, God has already accomplished his eternal purpose (Eph 3:11). We are therefore a confident, even bold, people, as we expectantly wait for Jesus to apply to the cosmos all that he has already achieved by his life, death and resurrection. In the 'trial of life' only God's Vision and Purpose will do. Don't settle for anything less!

As you work out together your Vision for Riverlinks and your 20-year mission plan for your centre, remember God's Vision and Purpose, for that is what we are preparing for, and that will shape and direct our parish's vision and plans, as it will our own life and discipleship.

What can you see, on the horizon?

Warmly, *David*

His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians
3:10-11

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC @ ST A'S

We had a great Teddy Bear's Picnic on Sunday 25th October. Over 60 people attended, made up of mainly music families, baptism couples, playgroup parents and others invited personally.

It was great to see whole families participating in the various creative activities, singing, listening to stories and enjoying a great BBQ tea.

Thank you all for your prayers and support.

Jo Tevelein



If you go down to the woods today, you'd better be in disguise...



CELEBRATIONS AT ST OSWALD'S



- ⇒ Ian Morley became an Australian citizen at a ceremony presided over by West Tamar Mayor Barry Easterher
- ⇒ The whole Keddie Gray family were baptised together by Norman Lawrence



Emily McMullen was also baptised at St Oswald's in October, shown here with her dad Matthew



Only 54 days
left until
Christmas!!!



NOTICES



What do you give to the person that has everything?

How about a goat, a toilet or school supplies??

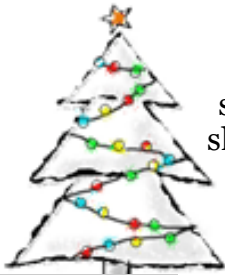


TEAR Australia's "useful gifts" are available for sale **NOW** at the Parish office

Gift prices start at \$5 . You receive a card with a photo and description of the item you bought and all donations are tax deductible.

Pay cash cheque or credit card, do all your Christmas shopping in one place and give 3rd world communities skills and resources to walk the long road out of poverty.

The true spirit of Christmas!



AWF Fellowship Day at Cressy
Thursday 12th November from 10:30am

Don't forget...

"Tasmania's Longest Conga Line"

**on Saturday 7th November
2:00pm at Royal Park**

All funds raised go to help the poor & under-privileged children in the Baan Sop Heuy Fan Community, NW Thailand - a Compassion Child Development Centre(Project TH-977)

It is for everyone, ages 0 - 100+ ... **if you can do 1, 2, 3 kick then there is nothing stopping you!!!**

Missing from St David's:

Several large white table cloths

If you have borrowed these or know where they have gone, please contact Jan Menzie 6327 3331



Don't FORGET!

Don't miss the George Town Teddy Bear's Picnic on Sunday 8th November at 10:30am

Riverlinks

November 2009	
1st Sun	All Saints
2nd Mon	Ministry Support Team Meeting – 6:45pm
3rd Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Women of St Aidan's Prayer Group Home Groups – 11:00am at St David's Hall followed by prayer at 12:00pm – 1:45pm at Igglesden's home – 7:30pm at Booth's home – 7:30pm at Pedley's home – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
4th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> East Launceston Play Group – 10:30am to 12:00 noon in "The Upper Room" St Aidan's Evening Home Groups – 7:30pm at Boughton's home – 7:30pm at Bullard's home Clergy Conference
5th Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> Home Group – 10:00am at Collyer's home mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's Clergy Conference
6th Fri	Clergy Conference
7th Sat	Tasmania's Longest Conga Line at Royal Park Launceston

November 2009	
8th Sun	Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's Preaching Workshop – 2:00pm at Riverside
9th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
10th Tue	
11th Wed	
12th Thur	AWF Fellowship Day at Cressy Parish Council – 7:30pm
13th Fri	
14th Sat	Cursillo Northern Ultreya at Christ Church Longford
15th Sun	
16th Mon	
17th Tues	
18th Wed	St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:30pm

Calendar

November 2009	
19th Thur	Presbyterian Home Legana – 10:45am
20th Fri	
21st Sat	
22nd Sun	Kids' Church – 11:00am at St Oswald's
23rd Mon	
24th Tue	
25th Wed	
26th Thur	Tamar Park – 1:45pm
27th Fri	
28th Sat	
29th Sun	Riverlinks Together combined service – 10:00am at George Town
30th Mon	Prayer Group – 1:30pm at George Town

December and other dates 2010	
2nd - 29th January 2010	ACT Summer Camps from Grades 3 - 12
14th - 17th January 2010	CMS Summerview at Camp Banksia Port Sorell



The **deadline** for the next Newsletter edition is **20th November**

Send any articles, comments, information or photos to
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