



Newsletter

June 2013

Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven.
Revelation 1:7^{NLT}

**Our vision: “Growing a community of faith
committed to Christ and making him known”**

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



Creeds in the Bible

The Apostle's Creed

*I believe in God,
the Father
almighty,
creator of
heaven and
earth.
I believe in
Jesus Christ,
God's only Son,
our Lord,
who was
conceived by
the Holy Spirit,
born of the
virgin Mary,
suffered under
Pontius Pilate,
was crucified,
died, and was
buried;
he descended
to the dead.*

Most of us are familiar with the Apostles Creed (Page 14 AAPB) and the Nicene Creed, (Page 103/104 AAPB) both of which were written in the centuries after the resurrection of Jesus and therefore do not appear in the Bible. However, there are also a number of creeds (or confessions of faith) in both the Old and New Testaments.

Before we have a closer look at the content of a couple of these creeds, let's spend a moment thinking about creeds. Many people think a creed is a statement of belief. While this is true, a creed is much more than that. A creed is a statement of belief in the things that God has done to bring us salvation. Thus a creed is more about the things that God has done than it is about what I believe. A creed reminds us that the Christian faith is based on historical events; events that have taken place on a particular day at a particular time at a specific location somewhere on planet Earth.

Let's have a look at a couple of examples. We begin in chapter 6 of Deuteronomy. The book of Deuteronomy consists of three sermons that Moses preached as the people prepared to enter the Promised Land.

The theme of these sermons is the covenant relationship between God and the Israelites and their responsibility to obey God and to keep their side of the covenant.

(Deuteronomy 6:20-25)

In the future, when your son asks you, "What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?" (v20)

tell him: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. (v21)

Before our eyes the LORD sent miraculous signs and wonders—great and terrible—upon Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. (v22)

But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land that he promised on oath to our forefathers.(v23)

The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. (v24)

And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us that will be our righteousness. (v25)

The important thing to note is that Moses' answer in verses 21ff is not a statement of doctrine or a philosophy of religion as we might expect. Rather it is a statement of the things that God has done to achieve the salvation of Israel; a statement of historic events; God's intervention in the history of Israel.

Look again at the verbs (the action words) in this passage:

The Lord brought us out of Egypt

The Lord sent miraculous signs and wonders

He brought us out from here to bring us in

And give us the land that he promised.

Each of these verbs describe actions of "the Lord" on behalf of the Israelites; actions of the Lord to fulfill their salvation. In response to God's actions on their behalf to gain their salvation, the Israelites were required to love God and to obey his commandments. (Deuteronomy 6:24)

Let's turn now to the New Testament and to Paul's first letter to the Corinthian church.

1Co 15:1 Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel preached to you, which you

received and on which you have taken your stand.

1Co 15:2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

1Co 15:3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve....

In this short summary of the gospel Paul is probably referring to an early Christian creed which he first heard in Jerusalem as early as 33/34AD. This brief creed is all about the things that God has done (through Christ) to bring salvation to his people:

Jesus DIED for our sins

He was BURIED

He was RAISED on the third day

He APPEARED to Peter etc...

Each of these verbs describes actions of Christ to achieve our salvation.

This creed also tells us why Jesus died (verse 3). 'He died for our sins.'

On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*continued
from
previous
page*

His death was not a ghastly accident. It was and always has been part of God's plan. Jesus death, burial and resurrection were historical events and Paul goes to some length to verify this by listing many of those to whom Jesus appeared after his resurrection, including over 500 at one time.

Have a look at the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed and you will see that both of these creeds follow the same pattern as the passages in Deuteronomy and 1 Corinthians; i.e. both of these creeds incorporate a summary of the things God has done to bring us salvation.

*Just because
we don't like
the truth
doesn't mean
we don't
need to
hear it."*

Over the years we have often been encouraged to be ready, at any time, to share our testimony with 'not yet' believers, people who are considering Christianity but who have not yet decided to follow Jesus. I would like to suggest that there are three things we need to do.

Firstly, we should be able to share our personal story (our testimony) at a moments notice:

What first aroused my interest in Christianity?

What were the factors that convinced me to become a Christian?

What impact has my faith had on the rest of my life?

How am I certain of the reality of my faith today?

I'm sure that we can all come up with similar questions appropriate to our individual circumstances. The important thing is that we should be prepared to talk about our faith at a moments notice. For most of us such opportunities do not come often, so we need to be well prepared.

Secondly, we need to recognize that the creeds are powerful tools for sharing our faith. Remember, a creed is a summary of the things God has done to bring us salvation.

I'm not suggesting that we should memorize a creed and recite it to people, expecting that they will immediately fall to the floor in repentance. However, I am suggesting that we can take each of God's actions in the creed and work through them one by one with our 'not yet' Christian friends.

God has given us 3 powerful tools for sharing our faith. Firstly we have our own personal testimony our subjective testimony which is unique to each one of us; and Secondly we have the creeds, our objective testimony which are the same for each of us and which summarize all of God's actions in bringing us salvation. Thirdly, having done all the work to prepare our subjective and objective testimonies, we need to pray that God will give us opportunities to use them.

Paula Renaye

Are you praying for your family?



Why we need to be praying daily for our children, family, and friends.

It was the question my young adult daughter said at the end of last year, after attending John 'Chappo' Chapman's funeral and memorial service ... *"Who's going to pray for me now?"*.

Chappo was a close family friend of the Lewers who shared many meals with us and our children over the past 20 years. One of the many gifts that Chappo bestowed on our family were regular prayers. I know that we weren't the only family to benefit from regular prayer to our great God from Chappo. However, his example and the example of many other faithful saints has been a wonderful model to me of faithful, persistent prayer for families.

As a family, we have been blessed by the prayers of those in our church family and further afield. It is incredibly humbling to be prayed for every day. The

example of these godly friends has spurred me on to intercede for others and particularly their children.

The best defence is a prayerful offence

Families today are under attack on many fronts - within the family through marriage breakdown and infidelity, and from outside the family through media bombardment of children. Satan is hard at work to destroy families.

What is the answer? It can only be God working through the prayers of His people to bring about His purposes for His glory. In 2 Corinthians 1:9 – 11, Paul says,

"For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

Former US President Ronald Reagan was once challenged by a college student who said it was impossible for Reagan's generation to understand his. "You grew up in a different world," the student said. Today we have television, jet planes, space travel, nuclear energy, computers..." Taking advantage of a pause in the student's litany, Reagan said, "You're right. We didn't have those things when we were young. We invented them."

continued on page 8...

Riverlinks

June 2013	
1st Sat	SYNOD Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Launceston
2nd Sun	Kids' Church – 10:30am at St Oswald's Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
3rd Mon	MST meeting – 6:45pm in the Parish office
4th Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 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
5th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's
6th Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
7th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town
8th Sat	
9th Sun	

June 2013	
10th Mon	*** <i>Queen's Birthday Holiday</i> Cadorna – 2:00pm
11th Tue	
12th Wed	
13th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
14th Fri	
15th Sat	
16th Sun	
17th Mon	
18th Tue	
19th Wed	St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
20th Thur	Prescare Legana – 10:45am
21st Fri	

The **deadline** for the July Newsletter edition is **24th June**

Calendar

June 2013	
22 nd Sat	
23 rd Sun	CCCGT Service – 6:00pm
24 th Mon	
25 th Tue	
26 th Wed	
27 th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Tamar Park – 1:45pm
28 th Fri	Youth Group – 7:30 to 9:30pm at St Aidan's
29 th Sat	
30 th Sun	Riverlinks Together Combined Service – 10:30am at St MM's George Town

July and other dates 2013	
12 th - 14 th July	Ministry Conference
28 th July	Preaching Workshop
17 th August	Tasmanian Bible Forum at St Aidan's
11 th - 13 th September	Clergy Conference
13 th October	Riverlinks Together with Bishop John

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
2 nd	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
9 th	10:00 am	Communion	
16 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
23 rd	10:00 am	Communion	
30 th	-	No service	
George Town			
2 nd	9:00 am	Hillwood	Communion
	9:00 am	Pipers River	Morning Prayer
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
9 th	9:00 am	Low Head	Morning Prayer
	10:30 am	George Town	Together @ 10.30
16 th	9:00 am	Pipers River	Communion
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
23 rd	9:00 am	Low Head	Communion
	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
30 th	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
2 nd	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
9 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & worship
	5:00 pm	Trevallyn	Communion
16 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
23 rd	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
	5:00 pm	Trevallyn	Evening Prayer
30 th	-	No Services	
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
9 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
16 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
23 rd	10:30 am	Holy Communion	

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office

399 West Tamar, Riverside - 6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

*continued
from
page 5*

*It is no
coincidence
that the word
LISTEN
contains the
same letters
as the word
SILENT*

*You also must help us by prayer,
so that many will give thanks on
our behalf for the blessing
granted us through the prayers
of many".*

Paul says he and Timothy were delivered by God from a great peril, "through the prayers of many".

So, what is the best thing parents can do to help our families endure through our perils? Pray! Pray! Pray!

Tips for a strong prayer life

Be organised & pray regularly: Have a list - it helps you to be systematic, and can stop your mind from wandering. You might like to get photos of the families you pray for. Chappo would hassle us to update our photo, he also used to pray for our son when his watch beeped (Jacob had played with the watch and Chappo didn't know how to get rid of the beep!). There are also

apps for ipads and phones – my husband uses Prayer Partner which he finds very helpful.

Get informed – know what is going on in people's lives.

Model a prayerful life - be an example to your kids in how you pray for others connected to you - family, friends, missionaries etc.

Use scripture – when you don't know specifics about people, use words from the Bible to pray for them.

Just do it!

As John Bunyan said,

*You can do more than pray,
after you have prayed.
But you cannot do more than
pray, until you have prayed.*

I'm praying for you, as you work hard at praying for others!

Janene Lewers

Published: April 16, 2013



Church Mice

Used by permission Copyright Karl A. Zorowski





Riverlinks Together

Combined Service at St Mary Magdalene's
Anne Street George Town

Sunday 30th June @ 10:30am

followed by a shared lunch
(please bring a plate of finger food to share)



Tasmanian Bible Forums



Three meaty parables for the
slack, cosy & frightened
with Revd Adrian Lane

Saturday 17th August
10.00am – 3.00pm

@ St Aidan's East Launceston

Still only \$15 (includes morning tea & lunch)

Reserve your place by **today** by contacting the Parish office

You are invited to St John's

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, 1 June at 8am

at the Parish Centre,
157 St John St, Launceston

Join us for a scrumptious two course
breakfast, and listen to
Olive Kobuthi tell her story.

RSVP: by Thurs 30 May Cost: Faith donation
Office 6331 4896, Stephanie 0416 289 275
or Jenny 0437 697 746

Winter Warmer Quiz Night

Friday 14th June, 7pm
at Punchbowl Christian Centre

raising funds for the
City Mission Winter Appeal
Tickets \$15 per person

Bookings through City Mission
reception 6335 3000

Abortion Update

There are over a million words in the English language, but we can always use more.

Here are some from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary website: Epiphunny (noun): The moment of sudden revelation when one gets the joke.

Nagivator (noun): A bossy person who rides in the passenger seat and gives directions to the driver.
hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia
(noun) : the irrational fear of long words

From the office of Bishop John Harrower May 24, 2013

What is the current status of the proposed changes?

- The Reproductive Health Bill (Access To Terminations) Bill 2013 passed the House of Assembly of the Tasmanian Parliament on April 16, 2013. All members of the Greens party, and all members of the Labor Party, except The Hon. Michael Polley, voted for the Bill.
- The Bill has NOT become law. It must now be considered by the Legislative Council. The Bill has passed the first reading in the Legislative Council. This simply means that the Council has agreed to consider it.

The Legislative Council will consider the Bill in detail in the coming weeks, probably sometime in June. It may choose to reject the Bill, to pass the Bill as it currently stands, refer the Bill to a committee for proper consideration, or to change (amend) the Bill and return it to the House of Assembly.

What is actually being proposed, as it currently stands?

The Minister for Children (The Hon. Michelle O’Byrne) released a Draft Bill in March. Our submission was based on this Draft Bill. The Bill that passed the House of Assembly was slightly different to the draft but not in any substantial way. The key concerns, as presented in our submission, remain.

The Bill, as it stands:

- implements “abortion on request” for any reason, up to 16 weeks of pregnancy.
- allows abortion at any stage in pregnancy after 16 weeks if a doctor and a specialist agree that proceeding with the pregnancy would be to the detriment of the mother. The doctor must take into account a number of circumstances, including the social and economic impact on the woman. These broad grounds effectively remove any restriction, even for late term pregnancies.
- compels doctors who have a conscientious objection to facilitate in an abortion by referring any patient who is seeking “pregnancy advice” to a doctor who will provide the abortion. This overrides a doctors professional

judgement and duty of care. It questions the professionalism of all those who ascribe human value to the unborn child. Failure to refer runs the risk of deregistration and unemployment.

- compels “cousellors”, broadly defined as any form of advice-giver, to similarly refer those seeking advice. The penalty is approx \$30,000 fine or imprisonment.
- implements “access zones” that prohibits certain activities within 150m of an abortion provider.
- has other technical issues that demonstrate that it has been sloppily and hastily drafted.

The stated aim of the Bill is to decriminalise abortion. None of the issues outlined above need to arise in order achieve this aim. If abortion is to be decriminalised, it should not be done like this.

What can I do?

We encourage you to make contact with the members of the Legislative Council in order to communicate your views on the matter.

The best form of communication is a letter,

phone call or email that thoughtfully outlines the particular ways in which you disagree with the Bill. You may wish to urge them to reject the Bill or to at least significantly amend it. You may wish to tell them that the aim of decriminalisation should not be achieved through the measures currently included in the Bill. *Contact details are listed below.*

There is also an e-petition that can be signed at:

tinyurl.com/pd5jtjz or a print copy is available to sign in centres (sign one or other, NOT BOTH). Closing date 23 June.

Local members:

Launceston

Rosemary Armitage MLC
1 Civic Square Launceston 7250
rosemary.armitage@parliament.tas.gov.au

Windermere

Ivan Dean MLC
1 Civic Square Launceston 7250
ivan.dean@parliament.tas.gov.au

Rosevears

Kerry Finch MLC
1 Civic Square Launceston 7250
kerry.finch@parliament.tas.gov.au

This article has been reproduced from Bishop John's blog www.imaginarydiocese.org

*Be fair to
the poor
and to
orphans.
Defend the
helpless
and everyone
in need.
Rescue the
weak and
homeless
from the
powerful
hands of
heartless
people.*

*Psalm
2:3,4 CEV*



East Launceston

21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston
0438 378 233

George Town

3 Anne St
George Town
0439 821 038

Hillwood

Hall - Jetty Rd
Hillwood

Low Head

Low Head Rd
Low Head

Peacehaven

185 Penquite Rd
Norwood

Pipers River

School Rd
Pipers River

Riverside

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside

Trevallyn

34 Bain Tce
Trevallyn
0409 799 419

Parish office

399 West Tamar Hwy
Riverside
6327 4742
office@riverlinks.net.au

Riverlinks Anglican Parish
Newsletter is published
monthly.

Opinions expressed in this
publication do not
necessarily reflect those of
the clergy or the Anglican
Church.

Newsletter deadline for
photos, articles, etc. is 20th
of each month unless
otherwise stated



Above: May Messy Church

Below: Biggest Morning Tea



Contact us:

Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)

6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry

6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au