



Newsletter

April 2014

Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2 ^{NIV}



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

From The Enabler

The Consolation of the Cross



*Why are you
downcast, O my soul?
Why so disturbed
within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise
him, my Saviour and
my God.*

PSALM 42:11



*When anxiety was
great within me,
your consolation
brought joy to my
soul*

PSALM 94:19

Though not all, much discouragement, melancholy and anxiety is linked to our temperament, physical health and our day-to-day circumstances; things the devil will happily exploit to rob us of joy and peace. Do **you agree?** I'm not a psychologist or medical doctor. I'm a Christian pastor who's followed Christ for 30 years through numerous dark valleys. Whatever the causes

of our discouragement and anxiety, I commend to you a **'treatment'** that is on the one hand quite simple and yet on the other demands resolve.

What is this 'treatment'? Where do we find it? Look again at the Psalms above... **go on. Don't keep reading** this sentence. Look at them and think about the **'treatment'** they show us for our spiritual discouragement and anxiety.

Much of our modern melancholy (that I have to say I encounter frequently among Christians) needs to be challenged; by who? Look again at Psalm 42 above; not by others but by ourselves! The psalmist is reasoning with himself, even admonishing himself. In this season or circumstance of his life, his unhappiness is ultimately unbelief. He has lost sight of God and his salvation. In his mind he has allowed his situation to become bigger than God (just like what we let happen with

our problems lying awake at 3.00am in the morning!). He has also allowed his close **communion with God ('my Saviour and my God')** to fall away. How many of us commune more closely with our problems and anxieties than with our God? But the psalmist is determined to lift himself up from his unhappy state, to **defy the 'natural man' within whose natural bent is towards crippling self-focus and self-pity, to defy the devil and the world's scornful unbelief** (In his darkness, Micah speaks of **'She who said to me, "Where is the LORD your God?"'** – Mic 7:10). How? By challenging his unhappy condition and remembering his God. What does he remember?: **'My Saviour and my God'**. The psalmist remembers and looks to and once again trusts, his God (his character) and his salvation; with the firm resolve to praise God: **'for I will yet praise him...'** (Ps 42:11b).

Praise of others doesn't come naturally to us. We usually prefer that it's directed at us!

In my marriage, I need to remember and contemplate **Julie's many strengths and the blessing that she is to me and our family**. When I do this, I find myself thanking God for her and thanking and **praising her. It's the same with us and God**. We need to be deliberate and disciplined in remembering and **contemplating God's** innumerable strengths and infinite blessings (in creation and in Christ), and find ourselves thanking and adoring and praising God, no matter what our circumstances. **You'll find the same pattern in Psalm 103. Take a look. King David talks to himself. There, you're in good company!** But unlike us much of the time (whose self-talk is melancholy muttering and chronic complaining), **David's is exhortatory. He exhorts himself to praise God; and not with Anglican reserve and cautious constraint, but with 'all my inmost being' (Ps 103:1, 2a), and to 'forget not all his benefits' (Ps 103:2b).**

continued next page...

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5 NIV

*continued
from
previous
page*

Then he calls to mind God's character and qualities and salvation (Ps 103:3-18), and his sovereign rule over all (Ps 103:19), before then audaciously exhorting the angels to praise Him (Ps 103:20-21), and finishing by again telling himself to praise the LORD (Ps 103:22b).

The apostle Paul speaks of **the 'consolation (or comfort) of Christ's love' which is the** unique experience of his people who have the Spirit (Phil 2:1). And where and how has Christ loved us supremely?; in and at his **cross. 'I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me' (Gal 2:20b).** Surely our deepest and lasting consolation and **comfort comes from Christ's** love for us at the cross. Agreed? Then surely our **'treatment' for much of our** unhappiness and joylessness comes through regular contemplation of the character and salvation of God in the cross of Christ. Again, from Psalm 94 quoted at the beginning:

When anxiety was great
within me,
your consolation brought joy
to my soul
PSALM 94:19

So the title of this article:
'The Consolation of the Cross.'

The cross of Christ displays like nothing else the glory and holiness and justice and love and grace and goodness and wisdom and power and sovereignty of God. Here **God's magnificence is** magnified, his eternal Kingdom is established and his eternal salvation won. Nothing diminishes or **changes God's greatness and** salvation. Not a cloudy day or overcast soul. Not a cancer or a headache. Not a job loss or memory loss; nothing. God and his salvation remain **constant. I'm learning to be happy 'in God' in everything** – in our disappointments and afflictions AND in our easier and happier times; and some of you know from raw experience that the harder times are the best classroom **for learning to be happy 'in**

Let the size
of your God
determine the
size of your
goals.

Rick Warren

"For the Lord
is a great God,
the King
above all."

Psalm 95:3

God'. A farmer in the parish commented to me on the importance of spring rains. They arrive when the air temperature is on the rise which together with the rain generates most of the growth of the grass for hay and winter feed for stock. I was struck by the way he **summed this up: 'Three quarters of a year's growth happens in just one quarter of the year.'** The Bible and my own experience testify to the truth of that statement in our life with God. Over the

course of a lifetime, the lion's share of our growth in holiness takes place in those short sharp difficult seasons of life (Heb 12:4-13; James 1:2-4; 1 Pet 1:6-9; Rom 5:1-5; 8:28-29; Ps 119:71; & see **Jesus' example: Heb 5:7-8; 2:10**). In good and bad times, **we are in God's times and** purposes. We must know that and always know the consolation of the cross and the joy and praise of the saved.

Warmly,

David

Some Easter Trivia

In medieval times, a festival of egg throwing was held in church, during which the priest would throw a hard-boiled egg to one of the choirboys. It was then tossed from one choirboy to the next and whoever held the egg when the clock struck 12 was the winner and retained the egg.

Each year nearly 90 million chocolate bunnies are made, and when it comes to eating them 76% people prefer to bite off the ears first, while 5% bite the feet first and 4% the tail.

It is believed the Egyptians were initially the ones who exchanged eggs to symbolize the resurrection of Christ.

As per the Guinness Book of World Records, the largest Easter egg made till date, was just over 25 feet high, made of chocolate and marshmallow. Weighing at 8,968 lbs., the egg was supported by an internal steel frame.

10 Ways to Love

- 1) Promise without forgetting
Proverbs 13:12
- 2) Answer without arguing
Proverbs 17:1
- 3) Listen without interrupting
Proverbs 18
- 4) Give without sparing
Proverbs 21:26
- 5) Trust without wavering
1 Corinthians 13:7
- 6) Share without pretending
Ephesians 4:15
- 7) Enjoy without complaint
Philippians 2:14
- 8) Pray without ceasing
Colossians 1:9
- 9) Forgive without punishing
Colossians 3:13
- 10) Speak without accusing
James 1:19

Biblestudytools.com



Harvest Festival at St David's

The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand **God's word** and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!

Matthew 13:23 NLT



Funds raised from the sale of donated fresh produce, as well as all non-perishable goods, were given to the City Mission, and excess fresh produce was given to PresCare Aged Care facility.

This Life on Earth

Easter means that this life on earth is not all there is.

Jesus went "to prepare a place for us" in His Father's heavenly mansions for all eternity.

Jesus died for our sins, paying our penalty, so that we could be forgiven.

He was resurrected, to prove that death has no hold on those who repent and accept Him as Saviour.

This life on earth is a prelude to eternal joy with our Lord.

Easter is a celebration of our eternal destiny.

Joanna Fuchs

MST, PC & Staff Retreat



Mission
Donations
July 2013 to
March 2014

CMS

Link support
\$2,250
General \$750
Appeals \$150

Scripture Union

Staff \$600
RHS Chaplaincy
\$1,500
GT Chaplaincy
\$1,036
RPS Chaplaincy
\$360
Queechy
Chaplaincy \$15

World Vision \$387

Bible Society
\$1,234

ABM \$1,350

BCA \$1,290

Barnabas Fund
\$1103

Leprosy Mission
\$200

Samaritan's Purse
\$612

WAY FM \$250

TOTAL \$13,087
BUDGET \$12,150

Riverlinks

April 2014	
1st Tue	<p>(each Tuesday)</p> <p>Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town</p> <p>Home & Study Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 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 <p>Dr Patrick Sookhdeo Breakfast Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7:30am at St John's, Launceston <p>Q&A with T & E – 7:30pm at St Aidan's</p>
2nd Wed	<p>(each Wednesday)</p> <p>Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's</p> <p>Home & Study Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's <p>Healing service & sharing with T & E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 10:00am & after with lunch in St Oswald's Hall
3rd Thur	<p>(each Thursday)</p> <p>mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's</p> <p>Fellowship Evening sharing with T & E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 7:30pm at St MM's George Town
4th Fri	<p>(each Friday)</p> <p>KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town</p> <p>Youth Group – 6:00pm at St John's Launceston</p>
5th Sat	<p>Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St Johns L'ton</p> <p>Love, Life and Liberty Seminar – 9:00am at Legana Christian Church</p>
6th Sun	<p>Kids' Church – 10:30am at St Oswald's</p> <p>Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's</p>
7th Mon	

April 2014	
8th Tue	
9th Wed	
10th Thur	<p>Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's</p> <p>Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm</p>
11th Fri	
12th Sat	<p>Commissioning service for T & E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1:30pm at Wellspring, Sandy Bay
13th Sun	<p>Harvest Festival – 9:00am at Christ Church, Low Head & morning tea in the Boat Shed</p>
14th Mon	<p>Cadorna – 2:00pm</p>
15th Tue	<p>Recommitment to Ministry & Blessing of Oils Service – 10:00am at Christ Church, Longford</p>
16th Wed	<p>St Oswald's Fellowship Group – 2:00pm</p> <p>Ainslie Service – 2:15pm</p>
17th Thur	<p>Prescare Legana – 10:45am</p>
18th Fri	<p>*** Good Friday ***</p> <p>St David's Riverside – 10:00am</p> <p>St Mary Magdalene's George Town – 10:00am</p> <p>Dr Hugh Ross – 7:00pm at the Albert Hall</p>
19th Sat	

The deadline for the May Newsletter edition is 27th April

Calendar

April 2014	
20 th Sun	*** Easter Day ***
21 st Mon	*** Easter Monday ***
22 nd Tue	*** Easter Tuesday ***
23 rd Wed	Parish Office CLOSED
24 th Thur	Parish Office CLOSED Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
25 th Fri	*** ANZAC Day *** PeaceHaven ANZAC Day Commemoration – 10:30am
26 th Sat	
27 th Sun	CCCGT Messy Church – 4:30pm at the Catholic Church
28 th Mon	
29 th Tue	
30 th Wed	
1 st May Thur	
2 nd May Fri	Parent-free School Holiday Escape – 9:00am to 3:00pm at St Oswald's
3 rd May Sat	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St Johns L'ton

May and other dates 2014	
2 nd May	Parent-free School Holiday Escape at St Oswald's
11 th May	Preaching Workshop
16 th May	Bill Hybels at Door OF Hope
23 rd - 24 th May	SYNOD
24 th May	CMN Conference
15 th June	C&FM Workshop
21 st June	TBF at St Aidan's
29 th June	Riverlinks Together at Riverside

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
6 th	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Morning Prayer Messy Church	
13 th	10:00 am	Communion	
20 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
27 th	10:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
6 th	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Communion Morning Prayer Communion
13 th	9:00 am	Low Head	Harvest Festival
18 th	10:30 am	George Town	Good Friday
20 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion
27 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
6 th	10:00 am 10:30 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion Kids' Church
13 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & worship
18 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Good Friday
20 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
27 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
13 th	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
20 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
25 th	10:30 am	ANZAC Day Service	
27 th	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

Love, Life and Liberty seminar

Anne Lastman will speak, along with Emily's Voice CEO Paul O'Rourke & Babymum Australia founder/director Noelene Booth

Date: April 5

Time: 9am-3.30pm

Venue: Legana Christian Church

Cost: \$45 including morning tea, lunch & a free copy of "Why Satan Hates Our Kids" by Paul O'Rourke.

Register: www.registernow.com.au & search for 'Life Seminar'

More information: www.emilysvoice.com

Tasmanian Bible Forums

Hearing God's
Word together
in Tasmania



RSVP for catering:
17th June p: Anne 6327 4742
e: office@riverlinks.net.au

Revelation Unwrapped
with Revd Dr Tim Foster

Saturday 21st June
10.00am - 3.00pm

@ St Aidan's Anglican Church
21-23 Arthur Street, East Launceston
\$15 (includes morning tea & lunch)

Recommitment to Ministry
& Blessing of Oils Service

Tuesday 15th April
10am

at Christ Church,
Longford



barnabasfund
help and aid for persecuted church

Dr Patrick Sookhdeo,

International
Director of the

Barnabas Fund, will be visiting the state with other directors Rosemary Sookhdeo & Caroline Kerslake

Monday 31st March, 7pm

at St Andrew's Presbyterian,
36 St John Street Launceston

Tuesday April 1st, 7:30-9am
breakfast meeting at St John's
Anglican, Launceston

Harvest Festival

Sunday 13th April - 9am

at Christ Church, Low Head

Donations of non-perishable food
(in date please) will be given to
the Benevolent Society

Please bring a plate of food to share
over morning tea in the Boat Shed



10

Meet T & E

Tuesday 1st April, 7pm

@ St Aidan's EL

Q&A plus biblical reflection

Wednesday 2nd April

@ St Oswald's TR

10am Healing service &
with lunch in the hall to follow

Thursday 3rd April, 6:30pm

@ St Mary Magdalene's GT
Fellowship evening

PLUS Commissioning

Saturday April 12th

1:30 - 2:30pm

at Wellspring Anglican
in Sandy Bay

Bill Hybels in Launceston

16th May, from 1.00pm
at Door of Hope

Tickets are strictly limited, so register
online at door-of-hope.org/shop

Children's & families

ministry workshops

Three workshops to help equip you
for ministry with children & families

Sunday 15 June

Creating faith conversations 1

Sunday 24 August

Creating faith conversations 2

Sunday 19 October

Creative storytelling

Parent Free School Holiday EscapeE

Friday 2nd May

9am to 3pm

at St Oswald's Trevallyn

"The Rescue Mission"
with cooking, craft, music & games.

\$5 per family, limited places
available so register

by Thursday 17th April to James:

6327 3482 or

kids_families@riverlinks.net.au



Messy Church

How can you find the Easter bunny?

Eggs (x) marks the spot.

What do Easter Bunny helpers get for making a basket?

Two points, just like anyone else.

What will the Easter Bunny be doing after Easter?

Three to five for breaking and entering.

Why was the Easter Bunny so upset?

He was having a bad hare day!



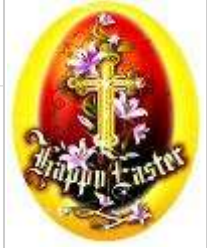
Easter Prayers

Christ is risen!

Let us pray for those who do not share our Easter joy:
We pray for those who live in the shadow of darkness and despair;
for those who live with the hopelessness of shattered dreams,
trust betrayed, opportunities lost, love denied;
for those who live without faith or hope or love;
who see no resurrection, no hope of new beginnings for themselves
or for the world.

Christ is truly risen, so let us show forth his resurrection,
that all who meet us will know that he is risen indeed! Amen.

Almighty God,
you have conquered death through your dearly beloved Son Jesus
Christ and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant us by your grace to set our mind on things above,
so that by your continual help our whole life may be transformed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit in everlasting glory. Amen.



The Easter egg
is hollow,
Just like they
found the tomb;
For it's meant to
represent
Christ has risen
for you!

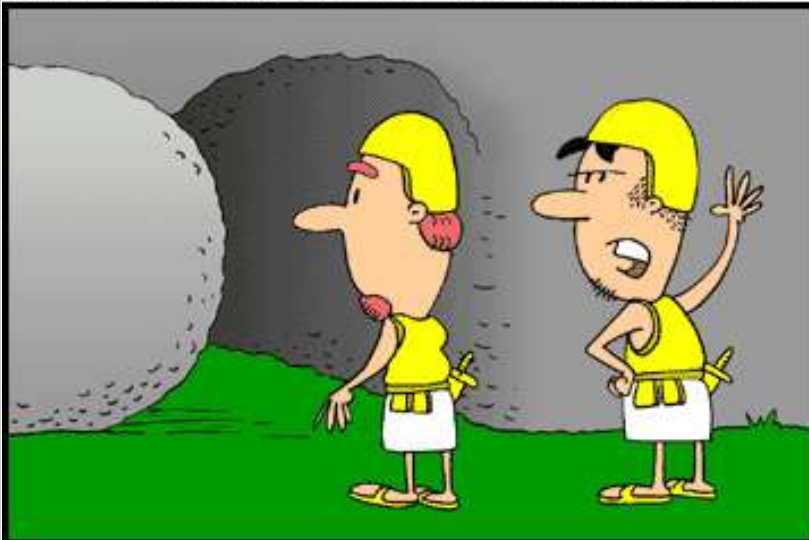
He isn't here!

God has raised
him to life, just
as Jesus said
he would.
Come, see the
place where his
body was lying.

Matthew 28:6

CEV

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**IT'S GETTING SO YOU JUST CAN'T TRUST
ANYONE THESE DAYS**

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You don't have to eat this chocolate for it to make you feel sick

UNICEF
estimates 1.2
Million children
are trafficked
every year

At least 20.9
Million people
are victims of
forced labour
worldwide

Human
trafficking is the
second largest
source of illegal
income world-
wide exceeded
only by drugs
trafficking.

There are even
reports that
some trafficking
groups are
switching their
cargo from drugs
to human
beings, in a
search of high
profits at
lower risk

CHOCOLATE UNWRAPPED

Over a third of the cocoa that makes the world's chocolate comes from the Ivory Coast, Africa. It's highly likely that the beans that make your favourite chocolate bar come from here.

Cocoa harvesting is back-breaking and hazardous work. The harvesters have to go into the bush to access the cocoa trees that grow the precious cocoa pods. Wielding dangerous machetes, they cut down the pods and crack them open. The cocoa beans are then extracted, dried and bagged for sale. The shocking reality is that much of this work is done by children.

Despite improvements in the chocolate industry, human trafficking remains an ongoing and deep seated problem. Due to the hidden and illegal nature of human trafficking, gathering statistics on the scale of the problem is difficult. Estimates of child labour on cocoa farms in the **Cote D'Ivoire and Ghana** from organisation such as the International Cocoa Initiative

(ICI), UNICEF and Tulan University vary from 300,000 to 1 million from 2007-2013. We know that a portion of these children have been trafficked.

Whatever ever the exact figure, this is far too many!

Thousands of boys as young as 10 yrs old, from the Cote D'Ivoire and neighbouring countries, are trafficked to pick and harvest these beans. Their freedom is taken and they are forced to work long hours on the cocoa plantations without receiving any money for their work. They are beaten and work in dangerous conditions.

Since 2007, STOP THE TRAFFIK have been raising awareness about this issue and together with activists from around the world we've been campaigning to the chocolate industry to say, "We want traffik-free Chocolate".

We think all chocolate companies have a responsibility to seriously address the key issues that contribute to children being trafficked to work on cocoa

farms. Large global chocolate companies hold a lot of power within the industry, much more so than the cocoa farmers, workers and co-ops on the ground in places like Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa where they grow a large **proportion of the world's** cocoa.

We are campaigning for the big global chocolate companies, to use their influence for positive change and ensure they are contributing to a sustainable **industry that doesn't rely on** exploitation and violence.

We have created a chocolate box which outlines six key steps that we believe are necessary to bring about the end of child trafficking in the cocoa industry.

As consumers act, we are seeing change happen. We have already seen change, bowing to STOP THE TRAFFIK'S



campaign and consumer power, five major chocolate manufacturers (Verkade, Swiss Noir, Cadbury, Nestlé and Mars) now supply us with certified chocolate bars.

However, there is still more to be done. We will not stop until trafficking has been eliminated from all chocolate supply chains and every bar is traffik-free.

4 SIMPLE ACTIONS TO TAKE

1. JOIN THE ONLINE PETITION at www.stophettraffik.org.au
2. ASK YOUR LOCAL SUPERMARKET TO TAKE ACTION: Send them a letter encouraging them to stock more certified Easter eggs
3. BUY ONLY CERTIFIED EASTER EGGS: look for certification on the packaging
4. DONATE: This Easter help Stop The Traffik to continue equipping communities around the world to disrupt human trafficking through donating the price of a Traffik-free Easter Egg. You can do this at stophettraffik.org.au or through the fantastic Shout for Good app.

Join the campaign and enjoy chocolate without the bitter aftertaste.



Look for



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

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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

Below & right:
PC, MST & Staff Retreat



Left & below:
World Day of Prayer
Bottom: Messy Church



Contact us:

Parish Office (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)
6327 4742 office@riverlinks.net.au
Children & Young Families Ministry