




Newsletter

February

2016



God's own glory will be like a huge tent
that covers everything.
It will provide shade from the heat of
the sun and a place of shelter and
protection from storms and rain.

Isaiah 4: 5b,6 ^{CEV}

Pencil pines, Lake Mackenzie fire by Rob Blaker

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

Politics in Action

A Senator in the USA was once asked about his attitude toward whisky.

"If you mean the demon drink that poisons the mind, pollutes the body, desecrates family life, and inflames sinners, then I'm against it.

But if you mean the elixir of a New Year toast, the shield against winter chill, the taxable potion that puts needed funds into public coffers to comfort little crippled children, then I'm for it.

This is my position, and I will not compromise."

The Main Thing

"The main thing is to make the main thing the main thing".

This was advice Tasmanian pastors were given a few years ago by C. W. Brister. He was referring to pastoral care but it's a thought which applies to much in the churches and in personal Christian living, witness and action. In a large church I was part of (longer than 20 years ago) there were a couple of congregation members whose one activity appeared to be checking the flowers to see if they had enough water. If not, then it was important for them to report the fact to the pastor (usually just before the start of worship.) Their main thing might not have been the main thing! But what they were thinking is really not the point for today. What is the main thing in our mind? And is it the main thing?

I think we can drift away; there's a new book, another TED talk, or a new visiting

speaker. We must get our paperwork and planning and vision statements letter-perfect. The furniture needs refurbishing. The building needs extending/contracting/repurposing. The sound system needs a radical overhaul. The projectors need synchronising. We need to settle once and for all where our source of worship music comes from, or what our Bible translation is, or whether we're Spirit-filled or not. And there's justice, mercy missions, and earth care to be thought of. I could go on and on.

Let me suggest that when these thoughts become central we've lost the main thing! Those may all be good things to do, but we need a good reason to do them. If they've become ends in themselves then we've lost the main thing.

When one of the teachers of the law tried to put Jesus on the spot, Jesus spoke about the main thing. He said, "You

shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."
(Matthew 22:37-40, NRSV)

If we ask ourselves these two questions regularly, "How does this show my love of God?" and "How does this show my love of my neighbour?" we'll keep the main thing as the main thing.

Ian Carmichael

Reproduced from 'Advance' magazine
December 2015

New Year, New You?

Peter turned to his friend, Ken, and asked for a cigarette.

"I thought you made a New Year's resolution to quit smoking," said Ken.

"I'm in the process of quitting," replied Peter with a grin. "Right now, I am in the middle of phase one."

"Phase one?" wonders Ken.

"Yeah," said Peter, "I've quit buying."

I've decided 2016 starts again on 1st February. January was just a trial month

Though We Fall Short, The Father God Waits For Us To Return

Trust in the Lord. This is our salvation in times of trouble. Isaiah reminds us of this truth here in this chapter. Israel was no more a stranger to difficulties than we are. The story of Israel reveals our story too. Like Israel, we too sometimes find ourselves attacked, or threatened unjustly by outside forces. Like Israel, we are not alone. We have our defender.

It is a great comfort to know that God is gracious toward those who love him and keep his commandments. Those who fear the Lord, who obey

his commandments, have in him a defender, an ever constant and faithful protector. We do not escape suffering in this world, but how we respond to it makes all the difference. Because we love God and because we know he loves us, we can turn our suffering into meaning and purpose. We can do this because God's love for us is infinite and unbreakable.

Though we ourselves fall short in many times and in many ways, we know that

Riverlinks

February 2016	
1st Mon	<i>(each Monday)</i> Child's Play – 9:30am at St O's
2nd 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 in the Parish office – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
3rd Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Men's Shed – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home – 7:30pm St Oswald's
4th Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
5th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town Re:Fuel – 6:00pm at St John's Launceston Fellowship Night – 6:30pm at George Town
6th Sat	
7th Sun	
8th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
9th Tue	*** <i>Shrove Tuesday</i> ***
***** <i>Please check with each group individually for new year restart dates</i> *****	

February 2016	
10th Wed	*** <i>Ash Wednesday</i> ***
11th Thur	Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
12th Fri	
13th Sat	
14th Sun	
15th Mon	
16th Tue	
17th Wed	Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
18th Thur	PresCare Legana – 10:45am
19th Fri	
20th Sat	
21st Sun	Shared Lunch Riverside – 12:00 noon
22nd Mon	

The **deadline** for the March Newsletter edition is **22nd February**

Calendar

February 2016	
23 rd Tue	
24 th Wed	*** Launceston Cup Day ***
25 th Thur	
26 th Fri	
27 th Sat	
28 th Sun	GT Combined Churches Service – 2:30pm at St Mary Magdalene's George Town
29 th Mon	

March and other dates 2016	
4 th March	World Day of Prayer
5 th March	MST & PC Retreat
24 th March	Recommitment to Ministry/Blessing of Oils Service & meet with the Bishop
25 th - 29 th March	Easter
29 th May	Riverlinks Together at George Town

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
7 th	10:00 am	Morning Prayer	
14 th	10:00 am	Communion	
21 st	10:00 am	All In Service	
28 th	9:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
7 th	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Communion Praise, Prayer & Proc. Communion
14 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Baptism
21 st	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion ABU Service
28 th	10:30 am	George Town	Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
7 th	10:00 am 10:30 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion 10.30 Worship @ St O's
14 th	10:00 am 10:30 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Praise & Worship 10.30 Oikos @ St O's
21 st	10:00 am 10:30 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion 10.30 Oikos @ St O's
28 th	10:00 am 10:30 am	Riverside Trevallyn	Communion 10.30 Worship @ St O's
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
14 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
21 st	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
28 th	10:30 am	Holy Communion	

PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



PRAYER PUPS
CHRISTIAN COMICS

www.prayerpups.com

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

399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside - 6324 0039 office@riverlinks.net.au



Ray Metcalfe from Prison Fellowship

will be the guest speaker at the
next George Town Combined
Churches Service

Sunday 28th February

2:30pm

at St Mary Magdalene's
3 Anne St, George Town



Recommitment to Ministry & Blessing of Oils Service

*There will also be opportunity to
meet with Bishop Richard Condie*

Thursday 24th March

at Christ Church,
William Street, Longford

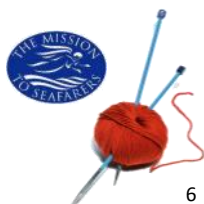
- 11.00am Recommitment and
 Blessing of Oils Service
 for Clergy and Laity
- 12.30pm Lunch

Bell Bay Seafarer's Mission are always in need of beanies for visiting seafarers.

All colours, patterns and
designs in adult sizes will be
gratefully received.

**If you can help, beanies may be
left with Anne at the Parish
office for delivery**

Celebrating 25 years of mission at Bell Bay



World Day of Prayer
AUSTRALIA

**Friday 4th March
10:00am**

WDOP services will be held at
the Catholic Church, Pomona
Road Riverside, and at the
Catholic Church in George
Town

*2016 host country is Cuba and the
theme, prepared by the women, is
"Receive children, receive me" with
a focus on children. The scripture
readings for the service are Isaiah
11:1-10 and Mark 10:13-16. The
Bible study texts are Mark 10:13-16
and Luke 19:1-10*



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God waits for us to return to him like the Prodigal Father. In times of either internal or external distress, God hears our cries. If we turn to him, he will indeed be our arm, our strength in the morning. It is he who will comfort us when we are oppressed. In faith, we know that he is, in fact, our salvation. Indeed, our salvation can come from no other source.

When we are troubled, we often feel alone, without friends, or allies. Those that are closest to us sometimes abandon us and in this we suffer even more. But if we put our trust in God, if we obey him in all things out of humble love, we will know the comfort of his presence in the midst of our trials. God alone is eternal. God's love alone is infinite. God does not put us to the test, but walks with us when we are

being tested. Jesus proves that to us in his incarnation, his death and his resurrection. He is the evidence of our salvation for all time. Emmanuel! God is with us! Thanks be to God!

Lord, in you we place our confidence. Your love is our strength. Under the protection of your arm we are saved. Help us to turn to you with confidence in our times of trouble. Fill us with knowledge of your presence when we most need it. Give us the grace to grow more obedient to your great love each day. Use us, then, as living instruments of that love for all those we find in distress around us, in our homes, our neighbourhoods, and our cities. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

This article first appeared at
www.jesusdaily.com

Jesus Daily

Parish Mission Donations 2015/16

CMS Link
Missionaries
Tim & Emma
\$1500

CMS General
Support \$500

ABM \$700

BCA \$1276

Barnabas
Fund \$500

Bible Society
\$500

SU George
Town Schools
Chaplaincy \$750

SU Riverside HS
Chaplaincy
\$1000

SU Staff
Support \$300

World Vision
\$258

Leprosy Mission
\$84

Samaritan's
Purse OCC
\$360

SparkLit \$500



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

Peace Haven

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
6324 0039
office@riverlinks.net.au

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necessarily reflect those of
the clergy or the Anglican
Church.

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



Carols in the Park



CMS
SummerView



Contact us:

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

6324 0039 office@riverlinks.net.au

Children & Young Families Ministry

6327 3482 kids_families@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au