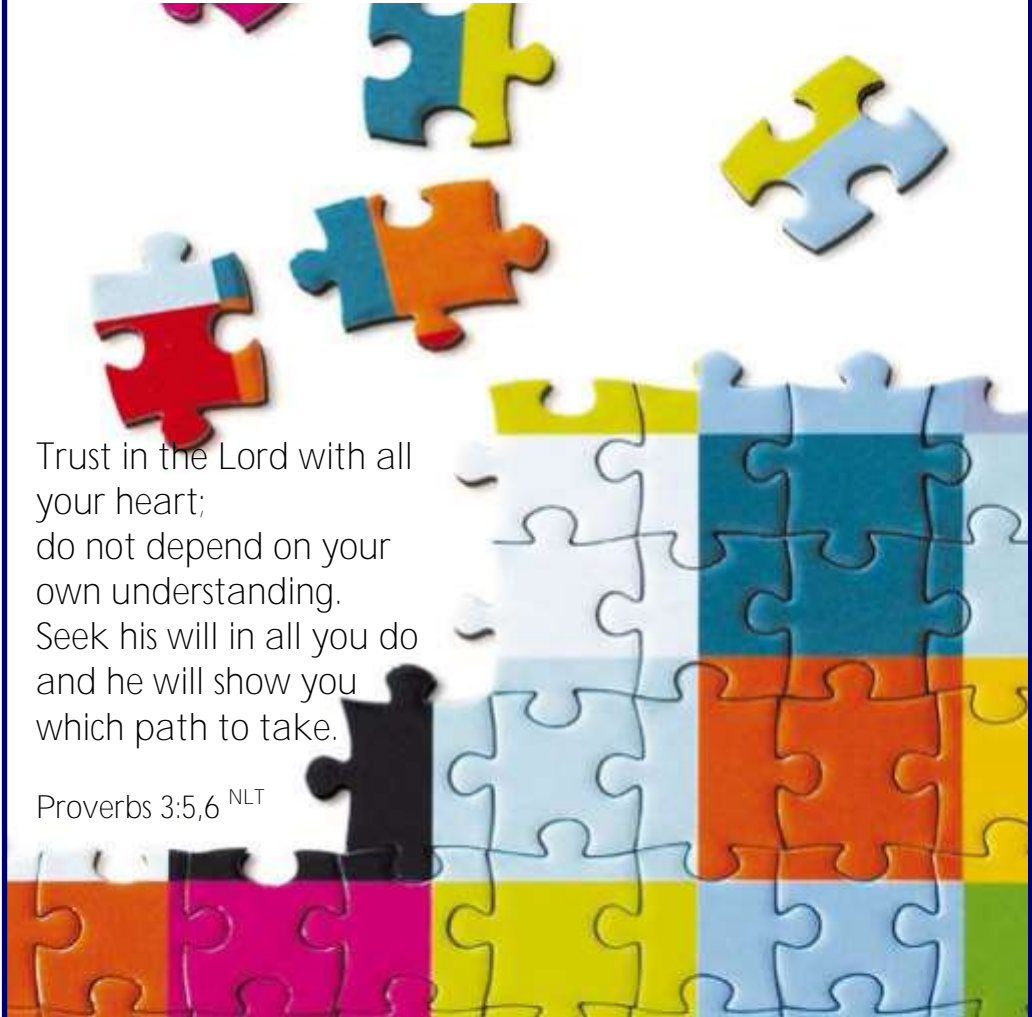




# Newsletter

## March 2017

A large graphic of interlocking puzzle pieces in various colors (red, blue, yellow, orange, white, black, pink, green) arranged to form a path that leads from the bottom left towards the top right. The path is composed of several rows of pieces, with some pieces missing, creating a sense of a journey or a path to be completed.

Trust in the Lord with all  
your heart;  
do not depend on your  
own understanding.  
Seek his will in all you do  
and he will show you  
which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5,6 <sup>NLT</sup>

*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

# Upside Down



It is the same  
with my word.

I send it out,  
and it always  
produces fruit.

It will  
accomplish  
all I want it to,  
and it will  
prosper  
everywhere

I send it.

You will live in  
joy and peace.  
The mountains  
and hills will  
burst into song,  
and the trees of  
the field will  
clap their  
hands!

Isaiah  
55:11,12 <sup>NLT</sup>

I was out walking... honestly, so many of my revelations, the whisperings from my heavenly Father, are received on these regular walks of mine, when the sun is in its infancy and the tracks are lonely.

I was out walking, admiring the beauty around me; the craggy cliff faces stroked smooth and lined by the movements of the tidal river below; the merry clumps of hydrangeas in bright contrast with the grey-green of eucalypts; the air a-hum with cicada song.

I was mesmerised by all of this as I scoped an uprooted tree, sprawling down the steep side of the track, silver and dying.

I walked past.

And as I continued, I thought about how the tree was upside down, its roots pointed up like branches and its branches digging down like roots.

I turned back, walked the hundred or so metres back up steps to look again at this

tree that seemed to be talking to me. Not like the talking trees in The Chronicles of Narnia or The Wonderful Wizard of Oz but more as a symbol of something, like a war memorial or an astonishing piece of artwork.

It was a warning to me.

*"Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."*  
*Colossians 2:7*

For those brief moments, as I beheld that sad tree, I was warned of the consequences when we plunge our roots into anything but the goodness of God; His loving salvation, His grace, truth and hope. When they are fixed on anything else, on human



strivings for wealth, beauty, success - even happiness - we become like that tree with its roots waving in the air. We invest our hope and security in nothing more than wind and dust, starving ourselves of true and lasting sustenance.

*"Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'"*

*John 4:13-14*

We're upside down to the world.

Investing our energy, time and resources in a God we cannot see is on the whacko scale for anyone who hasn't yet encountered Him for themselves.

Or can we see Him?

I see Him in the gentle way I am watered and cared for. The Tender Gardener nourishes me to my core and I am daily amazed by the reality of His presence in my life.

When my roots are right way

down, plunged into His Word, His presence, His truths, my branches are strong and stretched wide with joy, ready for His plans to be made whole in me.

*"The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God.*

*They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;*

*he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."*

*Psalms 92:12-15*

Claire van Ryn

see *Claire's blog @*  
*faithlikeamushroom.com*



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY  
Thanks To Pam Wynn  
EVE DISPLAYS THE NEW FALL LINE 10-17-2005

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.

But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night.

They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

Psalm 1:1-3 NLT

# Four Steps to Forgiveness

Waiting for something to turn up?

Start with your own shirtsleeves



Persevere. Remember that the mighty oak is just a little nut that stood its ground



Looking for a life guard?

Ours walks on water

As a pastor and blogger, some of the most common questions I hear (both online and in person) have to do with forgiveness. We've ALL been hurt before, and we don't always know how to deal with the pain of heartbreak or betrayal in a healthy way. Most people want to live a grace-filled life free from bitterness or grudges, but they aren't sure how to do it.

***Does forgiveness mean pretending the offense didn't happen? Does it mean the other person is completely off the hook?***

This is a HUGELY important issue in helping us have healthy relationships and a healthy life in general. Below, I'm going to outline four key steps that need to happen for true forgiveness to take place. If you'll apply these timeless steps to your own areas of anger or hurt, this could make a world of difference in setting you free and helping you move forward.

For true forgiveness to take place, we need to do the following four things... 4

## 1. Choose to pursue healing instead of payback.

My friend Derek Elam was shot and killed in his early twenties while he was working behind the counter at a music store. Derek's mom, Diana, responded to that tragedy with an incredible amount of grace and faith. After Derek's killer was caught and convicted, instead of allowing bitterness and rage to steal her joy, she decided instead to pray for Derek's killer and extend grace in the hopes that this young man would eventually find forgiveness through Christ. Although he will spend the rest of his life in prison for his crime, through faith in Christ he could live in freedom even while he's in a prison cell, and he could be

"Forgiveness simply means loving someone enough to pursue healing instead of punishment when they have wronged you."

DaveWillis.org

"Don't treat people  
the way they treat you.  
Treat them the way  
God treats you."

reunited with Derek in heaven as a brother in Christ and not as an enemy. Diana's faith has not only given her peace, but it has touched the hearts and lives of many around the world who are struggling to forgive.

When we've been wronged, there may need to be consequences as there clearly were with Derek's killer. When consequences are required, we need to trust God to take care of that part. It's never our job to take revenge. It's only our job to trust God. He's the only judge. It's our mission to pursue peace and healing. God gives us His best even when we're at our worst and He calls us to do the same for others.

*"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord."* Romans 12:18-19

## 2. Refuse to keep score of past hurts.

In any relationship, you're eventually going to be hurt. When a loved one hurts through their words or their actions, your natural instinct will be to hurt them in return, but instead, you must consciously choose to let go of the right to "get even" and pursue healing for yourself and healing for the relationship. Just like we have a natural tendency to want to get "payback," we also have a temptation to "keep score" of someone offenses and use them for leverage in the relationship. True forgiveness requires us to tear up this invisible scorecard. Healing can't happen when we're constantly reminding each other of past offenses. In a relationship where you keep score, both people lose.

In a relationship where you choose to forgive, both people win. It's been said that **holding a grudge is like drinking poison and then hoping the other person dies!** Don't get caught in the scorekeeping trap.

When a man is ready to uncover his sins, God is ready to cover them



We use duct tape to fix everything.

God used nails



If you don't have any needs to pray about, thank God you don't

# Riverlinks

March 2017	
1st Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Healing Service – 10:00am at St David's <b>Men's Shed</b> – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home
2nd Thur	<i>(each Thursday)</i> mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
3rd Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town Good News Club – 3:30pm at St David's Riverside Re:Fuel – 6:00pm at St John's Launceston World Day of Prayer – 10:00am at St Oswald's World Day of Prayer – 10:00am at Cornerstone Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town
4th Sat	
5th Sun	
6th Mon	<i>(each Monday)</i> <b>Child's Play</b> – 9:30am at St O's Home & Study Groups – 2:30pm St Oswald's at Collings' home CMST Meeting – 6:45pm at the Parish office
7th Tue	<i>(each Tuesday)</i> Prayer Group – 1:00pm at St MM G/Town Home & Study Groups – 1:30pm at Collings' home – 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

March 2017	
8th Wed	
9th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
10th Fri	
11th Sat	
12th Sun	Cursillo Northern Ultreya – 12:00 noon at St John's Launceston
13th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm
14th Tue	
15th Wed	<b>St Oswald's Fellowship Group</b> – 2:00pm Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
16th Thur	PresCare Legana – 10:45am
17th Fri	
18th Sat	<b>Bishop Richard's Northern Vision Consultation</b> – 10:00am at St John's Launceston <b>Connect Children's Ministry Conference</b> – 9:00am at Scotch Oakburn College, Newstead
19th Sun	200 Years of the Bible Society Celebration – 2:30pm at St John's Launceston

The deadline for the April Newsletter edition is 27<sup>th</sup> March

# Calendar

March 2017	
20 <sup>th</sup> Mon	
21 <sup>st</sup> Tue	
22 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	
23 <sup>rd</sup> Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
24 <sup>th</sup> Fri	
25 <sup>th</sup> Sat	
26 <sup>th</sup> Sun	CCCGT Combined Service – 2:30pm at Salvation Army
27 <sup>th</sup> Mon	
28 <sup>th</sup> Tue	
29 <sup>th</sup> Wed	
30 <sup>th</sup> Thur	
31 <sup>st</sup> Fri	
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> April	MST & PC Retreat

April and other dates 2017	
1 <sup>st</sup> April	MST & PC Retreat
12 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Launceston Alive Easter Festival
14 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Festival at Camp Clayton
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Riverlinks Together with Tim & Emma

## Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Morning Prayer Messy Church	
12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Communion	
19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	All In Service	
26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Communion	
George Town			
5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:30 am	Hillwood Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion Communion
12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
19 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion ABU Uniting
26 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
Riverside & Trevallyn			
5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & Worship
19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Riverside	Holy Communion
Each Wed	10:00am	Trevallyn	Healing Service
Peace Haven			
12 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Holy Communion	
19 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	
26 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Morning Prayer	

Please send articles, comments, information & photos to the Parish Office  
399 West Tamar Hwy, Riverside - 6324 0039 [office@riverlinks.net.au](mailto:office@riverlinks.net.au)



**BIBLE SOCIETY**  
1817-2017

*Celebrate  
200 years*



2:30pm 19 March | St John's Launceston



*just  
in  
time*

Check the website for full  
programme, times & locations  
[www.launceston.org.au](http://www.launceston.org.au)

LAUNCESTON ALIVE  
EASTER FESTIVAL  
12-16 April 2017

**easter festival**

SAVE THE DATE



*Jesus - Alive All*

Friday April 14th - Monday April 17th 2017

Join us for a week of celebration and worship. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with us in Launceston. We are proud to offer a full range of activities for all ages and backgrounds. Join us for a week of celebration and worship. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with us in Launceston.

Our weekly events from 9am to 11am are free and open to all. We are proud to offer a full range of activities for all ages and backgrounds. Join us for a week of celebration and worship. Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with us in Launceston.

Spencer Park, Launceston, Tasmania. For more information, visit [www.launceston.org.au](http://www.launceston.org.au)

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST & FIND OUT MORE AT  
[www.compton.org.au/easterfestival.html](http://www.compton.org.au/easterfestival.html)





# NORTHERN ULTREYA

Saturday 11 March

12 noon for shared lunch

at: St John's Parish Centre  
157 St John Street, Launceston

Witness Speaker: Jonathan Morris  
Ultreya from 1-3pm

Enquiries to: Davina 0439 448 013  
Margaret 0488 046 261

*Let us pray*  
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER  
PHILIPPINES  
*Am I being unfair to you?*



## World Day of Prayer Services

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March  
10:00am

- ★ St Oswald's Church  
Bain Tce, Trevallyn
- ★ Cornerstone Church  
Gordon Square,  
George Town

## Bishop Richard's Northern Vision Consultation



Saturday, 18 March from 10:00am to 4:00pm  
at St John's Church | 157 St John St Launceston

Bishop Richard is preparing to launch a new Vision for the Diocese of Tasmania. He believes this to be a shared vision for the whole Diocese, so he would like you to join with him in conversation to prepare for this Vision.

**NO CHARGE - However bookings are essential**  
**[www.stickytickets.com.au/48479](http://www.stickytickets.com.au/48479)**

*Morning Tea will be provided but you are asked to bring your own lunch*

continued  
from  
page 5

*“Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?” “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven.”*

Matthew 18:21-22

(Jesus isn't saying we can stop forgiving after exactly 70x7=490 offenses, but rather, He's using hyperbole to remind us that we shouldn't be keeping score in the first place.)

“QUOTE”  
UNQUOTE

When I die,  
I want to go  
peacefully like  
my grandfather  
did—in his sleep.

Not yelling and  
screaming like  
the passengers in  
his car.

Bob Monkhouse

Always borrow  
money from a  
pessimist.

He won't expect  
it back.

Oscar Wilde

*“You don't have to trust someone in order to forgive them, but you do have to forgive them in order to make trust possible again.”*

**3. Recognize that forgiveness and trust are two very different things.**

When we struggle to forgive, it's often because we've believed the myth that forgiving someone requires trusting them. The truth is that forgiveness can't be earned, it can only be given (that's called “grace”), but trust can't be given, it can only be earned (that's called “common sense”). When

someone wrongs you, give your forgiveness instantly but give your trust slowly. Trust isn't required to forgive, but forgiveness is required to make trust possible again.

**4. Accept the apology even if it never comes!**

Some of us are holding grudges against people who may never apologize. Perhaps, you're even holding onto some bitterness against someone who has already died. We may never hear the words, *“I'm sorry. I was wrong. Please forgive me,”* but even when we don't hear them, we need to find the faith to put these wrongs into God's hands so that we can move forward with peace instead of bitterness. As C.S. Lewis has said, ***“It's like crossing the monkey bars. At some point, we have to let go if we ever want to move forward!”***

Dave Willis

sixseeds.patheos.com/davewillis

*“Holding a grudge doesn't make you strong; it makes you bitter. Forgiving doesn't make you weak; it sets you free.”*

# Financial Position

OFFERTORY	<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Year To Date 31JAN17	91,807	96,250
February 2017	<u>10,533</u>	<u>13,750</u>
TOTAL	102,340	110,000
Profit/Loss Year To Date		<u>- 7,660</u>

*Direct deposit account details for your Parish offertory contributions:*

BSB            067 021  
 Account #    1000 6848  
 Name:        Riverlinks Anglican Church

First the doctor told me the good news: I was going to have a disease named after me.

*Steve Martin*

# Take Time

- Take time to think; it is the source of power.
- Take time to read; it is the foundation of wisdom.
- Take time to play; it is the secret of staying young.
- Take time to be quiet; it is the opportunity to see God.
- Take time to be aware; it is the opportunity to help others.
- Take time to love and be loved; it is God's greatest gift.
- Take time to laugh; it is the music of the soul.
- Take time to be friendly; it is the road to happiness.
- Take time to dream; it is what the future is made of.
- Take time to pray; it is the greatest power on earth.



My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start.

So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms, a bottle of wine and a chocolate cake.

I feel better already.

*Dave Barry*

*Author unknown*

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

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 20<sup>th</sup>  
of each month unless  
otherwise stated

# connect

connecting children, churches, communities, culture



## Connect Children's Ministry Conference

**Saturday 18 March 2017**

**9:20 am - 3:30 pm (Registration from 9:00 am)**

**Scotch Oakburn College, Senior Campus,  
85 Penquite Road, Newstead, Launceston, Tasmania**

Keynote speaker: Sue Bluett



Generational Connections:  
growing disciples across all the ages

Sue works at St Mark's Anglican in Emerald,  
Victoria, where she is an ordained minister.  
She has qualifications in teaching, ministry and  
theology, and has worked across a range of  
denominations and with Scripture Union in  
New Zealand.

**ELECTIVES**  
**PRAYING WITH KIDS**  
**PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS**  
**ENGAGING BOYS**  
**PASTORAL CARE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

To register visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/connect-2017-registration-28028109831](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/connect-2017-registration-28028109831)

for more information visit

[www.facebook.com/TasCMN](http://www.facebook.com/TasCMN)



© GHP, 2017

### 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](http://www.riverlinks.net.au)