



Newsletter November 2017

We make our own plans,
but the Lord decides where we will go.

Proverbs 16:9 CEV



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

Are you really listening?



Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

I don't know how many times Naomi has had to playfully throw something across the room to get my attention. I don't know how many times during conversations with my family when I find myself needing to stop them from speaking and ask them to start again. I don't know how many times my children have managed to get permission for doing something from me, without me realising what I had agreed to. Turns out that sometimes, I can give a really good impression that I am listening. I can nod and respond with appropriate 'yes' noises, so clearly I am 'hearing' but I'm not processing it, I'm not genuinely connected to or

owning my responses, I can in these circumstances react rather than respond, and sometimes I might even completely forget the conversation has even happened. Maybe I'm distracted by other things, maybe I'm busy, maybe I'm not in a great headspace – I know I could find all sorts of excuses, but the reality is sometimes I can hear, but simply not listen.

My family love me, and are gracious and forgive me – something that I am incredibly grateful for – but I have been pondering this, because I'm certainly not 'Robinson Crusoe' in this situation, and it's not only in the 'minor' matters of family



conversations, organising events, and sharing life with those most important to me that this sort of thing happens. I know that in my own life, and in the lives of those I have observed around me, all of us have the ability to 'hear', but not truly listen. But what about when it is God speaking to us?

Now I'm not talking about those times when we haven't realised that God is getting our attention, nor am I talking about when we are purposely closing our ears to what he is saying to us. I mean when God has got our attention about things – a recurrent theme in our daily devotions, a word of knowledge from a friend, an experience of the power and presence of God, or any other way that God grabs our attention – and we hear but don't respond, those times when we're not really listening. James 1 tells us that those who hear the word of God but don't do it are like those who look at themselves in a mirror and then immediately forget what they look like. It's no wonder that sometimes we realise God is

speaking to us but we constantly feel like our wheels are stuck and we are spinning in place. Maybe we are hearing, but not really listening.

I'm horrified at the way that my responses to my family at times show such incredible lack of awareness, how annoying and hurtful it must be at times, and how much this sort of behaviour demonstrates to them disrespect rather than honour and love. What does this behaviour say when it is directed to God? God who created this world for us to live in. God who loves us so incredibly much, and with such depth that he would take our sin upon himself, by sending his son to die in our place and take the punishment that we so richly deserve. God who has consistently pursued us with such a powerful and unwavering love, and who has promised us the richness of his glory and life eternal with him. When God speaks, I don't just want to hear, I want to listen and I want to own my response to him.

But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it— not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it— they will be blessed in what they do.

James
1: 22-25 ^{NIV}

Continued
from
previous
page ...

Honk if you
love Jesus!

Pray if nobody
else honks



Lord, please
keep your arm
around my
shoulders and
your hand
across my
mouth



If your knees
are knocking,
kneel on them



Joy is peace
dancing.

Peace is joy
resting



I know that there are times when I have not done this, but I also know that when I am truly listening, with the sort of listening that leads to action, my life is incomparably better. I also know that, just like my family, God is gracious, he is loving, he forgives us our faults, and he continues to pursue us, because he wants us to know him, and to hear him, and to live how he intended us to live. Therefore as we grow as disciples, we need to be sure that we don't simply ask ourselves: What is God saying to you? Because this is only half the story.

When God speaks to us, when the Kingdom of God breaks into our lives, when our Creator and King wants to get our attention, that we might be transformed, that we might be renewed, that

we might be sanctified, that we might walk in his ways and according to his purposes. It's not enough to simply hear as if it is noise intruding over the distraction of work, or the blare of the television, and give it a cursory reception. When we truly want to grow as disciples of Jesus, we must ask ourselves two questions: What is God saying to me? **AND** What am I going to do about it?

My prayer for Riverlinks is that you continue to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus, that you continue to pursue him joyfully regardless of the season, and that you truly grow disciples of Jesus, who make disciples of Jesus. I encourage you to use those 2 questions as launching pad.

Josh

Church mice



Financial Position

| OFFERTORY | <u>Income</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| Year To Date 30SEP17 | 35,457 | 40,050 |
| MTD October 2017 | <u>10,435</u> | <u>13,350</u> |
| TOTAL | 45,892 | 53,400 |
| Profit/(Loss) July to September 2017 | | <u>(4,593)</u> |

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

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

*& for **Children, Youth & Families Ministry** contributions:*

BSB 067 600
 Account # 1077 1716
 Name: Riverlinks Anglican Church



Prayer is most effective when we spend at least as much time listening as we do talking



Road rage?
 How would Jesus drive?



Marriage is a duet, not a duel



Remember the reason for all the seasons



Like farmers, we need to learn that we cannot sow and reap the same day



Do It Anyway

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centred.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Riverlinks

| November 2017 | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 st Wed | <p><i>(each Wednesday)</i></p> <p>Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Prayer Gathering – 12:00pm at St Oswald's Men's Shed – 1:00pm to 4:00pm in Riverside Home & Study Groups – 7:30pm at Stott's home</p> |
| 2 nd Thur | <p><i>(each Thursday)</i></p> <p>mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's</p> |
| 3 rd Fri | <p><i>(each Friday)</i></p> <p>KYB Study Group – 10:00am at Baptist Church George Town Good News Club – 3:30pm at St David's Riverside Youth Group – 5:00pm at St John's Launceston Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town</p> |
| 4 th Sat | <p>Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Launceston</p> <p>West Tamar Parish Annual Floral Festival – 9:30am at Holy Trinity, Beaconsfield</p> |
| 5 th Sun | Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's |
| 6 th Mon | *** Recreation Day Holiday *** |
| 7 th Tue | <p><i>(each Tuesday)</i></p> <p>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</p> |
| 8 th Wed | |

| November 2017 | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 9 th Thur | <p>Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm</p> |
| 10 th Fri | Launceston Churches Combined Worship Event – 7:00pm at Door of Hope |
| 11 th Sat | <p>MST Retreat – 9:45am at St Oswald's MST & PC Strategic Discussion – 1:30pm at St Oswald's</p> |
| 12 th Sun | |
| 13 th Mon | Cadorna – 2:00pm |
| 14 th Tue | |
| 15 th Wed | Ainslie Service – 2:15pm |
| 16 th Thur | Regis Aged Care Legana – 10:45am |
| 17 th Fri | Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town |
| 18 th Sat | CMS Prayer Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's |
| 19 th Sun | Messy Church Games & Fun Night – 4:30pm at St Aidan's |
| 20 th Mon | |

The deadline for the December Newsletter edition is 20th November

Calendar

| November 2017 | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 21 st Tue | Happy 13 th Birthday Riverlinks! 13 |
| 22 nd Wed | LMST & PC Meeting with Bp Richard |
| 23 rd Thur | Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's |
| 24 th Fri | "Moving Mountains Together" Scripture Union Fundraising Dinner – 6:30pm at Trevallyn Bowls Club |
| 25 th Sat | CMS Prayer Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's LMST & PC Consultation Meeting with Rev Sandy Jones – 9:45am |
| 26 th Sun | CCCGT Combined Service – 2:30pm at St MM's George Town |
| 27 th Mon | Riverside & Trevallyn Christmas Lunch – 12:30pm at Trevallyn Bowls Club |
| 28 th Tue | |
| 29 th Wed | Residential Care: Tips & Guidelines Info Session – 2:00pm at Aldersgate Village, Newnham |
| 30 th Thur | |
| 1 st Dec Fri | Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town |
| 2 nd Dec Sat | Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Launceston |
| 3 rd Dec Sun | Messy Christmas – 4:30pm at St Aidan's |

| December and other dates 2018 | |
|--|---|
| 3 rd December | Messy Christmas at St Aidan's EL |
| 19 th December | Usual Unusual Christmas Service at St MM's George Town |
| 11 th -14 th January 2018 | CMS SummerView at Camp Banksia Port Sorell |

MAKE SOMEONE FEEL
LIKE A MILLIONAIRE...
PHONE-A-FRIEND TODAY!



Service Times For Worship Centres

| East Launceston | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 5 th | 10:00 am 4:30 pm | Morning Prayer Messy Church | |
| 12 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| 19 th | 10:00 am | All In Service | |
| 26 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| George Town | | | |
| 5 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Pipers River George Town | Communion Communion |
| 12 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Low Head George Town | Communion Communion |
| 19 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am | Pipers River George Town | Morning Prayer ABU Baptist |
| 26 th | 9:00 am 10:30 am 2:30 pm | Low Head George Town George Town | Communion Communion CCCGT Service |
| Riverside & Trevallyn | | | |
| 5 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| 12 th | 10:00 am | Praise & Worship | |
| 19 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| 26 th | 10:00 am | Communion | |
| Each Wed | 10:00am | St Oswald's Healing Service & HC | |
| Peace Haven | | | |
| 12 th | 10:30 am | Morning Prayer | |
| 19 th | 10:30 am | Holy Communion | |

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

Residential Care

Considering residential care?
Tips & guidelines

A free community information session

**Wednesday 29th November,
2pm to 4pm**

at Aldersgate Village 3 Tallentire Rd, Newnham

Phone 6341 1400 to book

Uniting AgeWell Speakers:

Margaret Williams

Manager of Integrated Services

Nickie Arthur

Client Services Coordinator

Ian Wheeler

Chaplain



Fellowship
Nights

1st & 3rd

Friday

from 6:30pm

with a shared
meal, DVD &
discussion

@ St MM's,

3 Anne Street

George Town

All welcome!

A large photograph of a church service with a congregation. A banner at the top reads "LAUNCESTON CHURCHES COMBINED" with a cross symbol below it. A teal box at the bottom right contains the text "ONE BODY MANY PARTS".

DATE | 10 NOV 2017
TIME | 7.00PM
VENUE | 50 GLEN DHU ST. SOUTH
LAUNCESTON TAS 7249
(DOOR OF HOPE)

**TOGETHER WE
LIFT UP OUR
VOICES TO
GLORIFY THE
KING OF KINGS**

SU TASMANIA'S FUNDRAISING DINNER

SU
TASMANIA

Moving Mountains TOGETHER



SPEAKER: JOHN ZECKENDORF
TASMANIAN &
MT EVEREST CLIMBER

SU TASMANIA FUNDRAISING DINNER TREVALLYN bowls club

We're inviting you to our upcoming fundraising dinner at the **Trevallyn Bowls Club** on **Friday 24 November** to raise money for SU Tasmania & our work with young people & families through camps, clubs & school chaplaincy. Come along & enjoy a wonderful meal & hear from our speaker, John Zeckendorf.

Tickets \$40pp

NOVEMBER

24

Kathy Schlenk, 03 6244 8422, enquiries@sutas.org.au
RSVP: 17 November

Dessert auction will also be held. Bookings close 16 November. For info & tickets go to:

www.sutas.org.au/dinners



SUMMerview 11-14 JANUARY – Registrations now open

Bible Teaching:

- CMS Australia International Director – Peter Rodgers
- Principal St Andrew's Hall – David Williams

Missionaries on Home Assignment:

- David and Prue Boyd – DR Congo + Sarah (secure worker) – Middle East

www.cms.org.au/tas/summerview

What in the world is God doing?



Tim Costello AO is an Australian Baptist minister and the current Chief Advocate of World Vision Australia



The closest a person ever comes to perfection is when he fills out a job application form



You'll never be as lazy as whoever named the fireplace



Tim Costello wants to know how we can see light in a dark world

It seems our planet has reached a cosmic crossroad. Geopolitical unrest instead of peace has become the order of the day.

Nuclear annihilation now seems to be a possibility with the likes of US President Trump, Russian President Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un seemingly poised to push the buttons for the world's destruction.

Civil war and tribal conflict rages unabated in South Sudan with thousands of people – mainly children – crossing the border into Uganda every day. Meanwhile, 20 million Africans – our brothers and sisters – are facing starvation at this very hour.

The fragmentary nature of our experience shatters us into fragments. One minute the world is full of light, then suddenly it is full of dark.

No wonder we want to cry. Yet God's providence overrules all things. In Acts chapter 17, Paul says, "It is he who gives to everyone life and breath and everything ... In Him we live and move and have our being." (Acts 17:25-28)

God is not "out there." He is, in the words of theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the "beyond" in the midst of our life – a depth of reality reached not on the borders of life but at its centre.

The way we view the world influences our thoughts, our choices and our actions. Providence means that God has not abandoned the world that he created, but instead works within that creation to manage all things.



When we see through God's eyes, we view a world that he asks us never to give up on. It is sometimes the assertion of possibility over all probabilities; evidence of things yet unseen.

The world may seem full of evildoers opposed to God's purposes. We could be tempted to think that evil in the universe might derail God's plans. Yet, all things are under God's control.

We can believe in God's promises and then act to fulfil and embrace the purpose for which we were created – to carry out his will, to love our neighbour, to fight for justice. We are to take part in God's divine plan.

No matter how difficult today seems, hope and faith always offer the chance for a new beginning. When we truly hope and trust, breakthroughs happen. The Bible is an account of miracle after miracle — of God's continual working in creation to redeem and restore humanity.

The call today is for Christians to reboot the imagination that will enable them to live in the world in the light of God's divine and unfailing providence.

Tim Costello

This article first appeared at eternitynews.com.au



Nature abhors a vacuum, but not as much as a cat does



What are they planting to grow seedless watermelons?



Every novel is a mystery novel if you never finish it



The worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of charades



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TOO EARLY, MAN ... HE WON'T EVEN BE BORN FOR A COUPLE WEEKS YET 12-13-2013

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East Launceston
0438 378 233

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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 Rd
Riverside

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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



Above: Mission support luncheon in Riverside



Left:
Monte Mumford
& Lynda Nicholls
& Far Left:
Bob McKay
@ St Oswald's

"Healing for the Mind & Soul"

Below: Samaritan's Purse Operation
Christmas Child boxes blessing @ St Aidan's



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