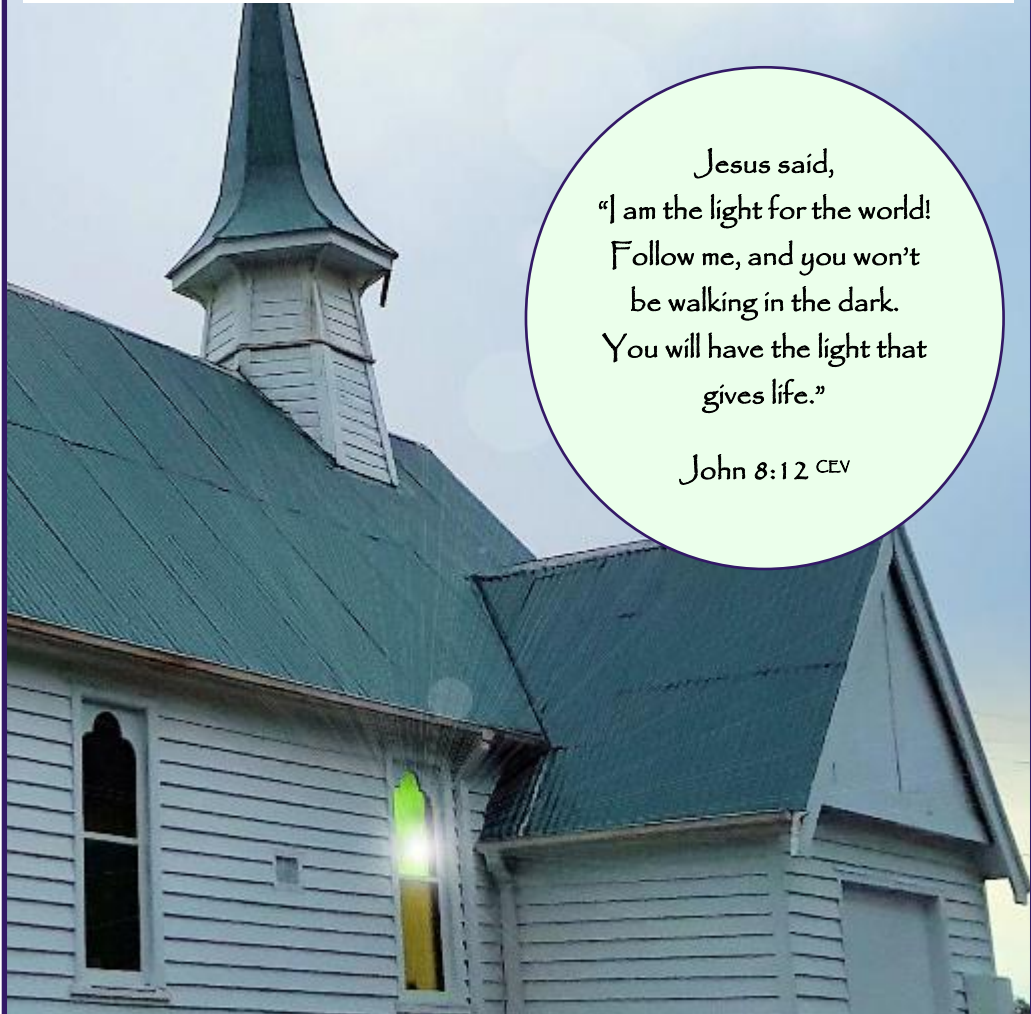




Newsletter

July 2018



Jesus said,
"I am the light for the world!
Follow me, and you won't
be walking in the dark.
You will have the light that
gives life."

John 8:12 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



From Roger

Dear Friends,

Much has transpired over the last month or two within the Anglican Diocese of Tasmania. And much of it has significant implications for the Parish of Riverlinks. In his Synod address, Bishop Richard outlined a process for Redress that allows us to acknowledge survivors of sexual abuse and to work towards providing avenues of healing and wholeness. This decision of the Synod has caused a high degree of anxiety, as churches across the state grapple with the implications of a proposal that will see a number of church buildings sold and all parishes needing to make huge sacrifices to implement the process. For Riverlinks this has come at a time when we were already engaged in the process of considering what the future might hold for each of our congregations. Whilst we are confident that God will continue to do his work of transformation and renewal this is a time of great change and thus a time of uncertainty.

There is a real cost involved

in letting go of who we are in order to become who God wants us to be. It is a risky business – just like the merchant trader who had to unload all his baggage in order to get his camel through a tiny gate into the city. For some the risk is too great. Remember the rich young ruler who couldn't bring himself to take the risk of laying down his baggage in order to find out if Jesus alone was enough for him. But the scriptures consistently speak of letting go in order to embrace what God has for us. Paul writes in Ephesians 4,

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:22-24)

And elsewhere he writes,

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. (1 Corinthians 13:11)

I thank my God every time I remember you.

In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians

1:3-6 NIV

Our journey together will involve a lot of letting go and laying down as we move towards maturity in Christ and the future He has for us. It will be a constant feature of our journey together.

When I was a child our family lived out in the country and there was never anyone around for me to play with. I had "things" to play with and I invented lots of imaginative games, but there were never any other children around, so I had quite a lonely childhood for the most part. But, when I was around ten years old, we moved to a new house close to some other children one of whom was a little boy the same age as me. Suddenly I had someone to play with and it was absolutely wonderful. He and I became great friends and we had a fantastic time together riding bikes climbing trees and playing games with other children.

This lasted for some years until things changed and we were going to different schools and adult life was breaking in on us. Suddenly we weren't into climbing trees, annoying girls or shooting imaginary enemies with homemade bows and arrows any more. It all

seemed too childish to us. It was time for us to let go and move on. But it was hard for us to leave that close childhood friendship and move on and make other friends.

Letting go is a normal part of our Christian life. There is no freedom without it. We have to let go in order to move on in God's purposes for us. There will be no transformation into the image of Jesus except that we lay down some things we are holding on to. Change is always hard because it involves a bit of us dying. Sometimes it seems like we are losing something that is important to us, but we won't move into the purposes of God still holding onto it. Jesus made some difficult statements about letting go. He said,

Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the *ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.* (John 12:24-25)

And,

Then Jesus said to his



Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

Will Rogers

Try to be like the turtle – at ease in your own shell.

Bill Copeland

People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing – that's why we recommend it daily.

Zig Ziglar

If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito.

Dalai Lama

**Continued
from previous
page ...**

Don't work too hard to give yourself the best of everything. instead make a greater effort to give God the best of yourself



God answers prayers -
YES:
He gives you what you want;
NO:
He gives you something better;
WAIT:
He gives you His best in His time



Let prayer be the key to open and close your day

disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it." (Matthew 16:24-25)

One of the really great thing about being Christian disciples is that we are not meant to go it alone. We are meant to belong to one another.

I remember when Juan Carlos Ortiz, an Argentinian preacher came to Hobart. I can still remember he talked about mashed potatoes and new potatoes. You boil new potatoes and serve them up whole with their skins still on. But, he said, Christians are meant to be like mashed potatoes. We have our skins removed and we are all mashed in together!

Independence just doesn't work in the Christian life. You cannot be mixed into God's family and still be independent. Dependency is part of the package when we become Christians. There can be no real fruitfulness or freedom in our lives without it. Jesus says in John 15:5, "Apart from me you can do nothing." I think we read that verse and think, "Come on, Lord, surely we can do something?" But no, Jesus says, nothing of eternal value.

As we shoulder the cost of being his disciples in this time of change and transition let us take heart together, yoking ourselves to the One who calls us to die to self and live to Him.

Your Brother in Christ

Roger

Financial Position

OFFERTORY	<u>Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Year To Date 31MAY18	134,279	146,850
Profit/(Loss)		<u>(12,571)</u>
MTD 27 June 2018	<u>11,170</u>	<u>13,350</u>
TOTAL	145,449	160,200

The Light Has Come



Did you know the Diocesan website has a daily praise and prayer resource available?

“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.” Hebrews 13:15 ^(NIV)

These resources are provided to give focus, if and when required. Feel free to use them, or not to, as you are led by the Spirit.

For those who are technology savvy, they have included a link to a song of praise each day.*** This has been shared as a YouTube clip as it often has the words come up also. Once again, feel free to use, or not use, as led.

A suggestion for each daily reading is:

- Declare aloud the Scripture given for that day;



- Read slowly a second time pausing to pray your own prayers in agreement with the Word.

For example:

Psalm 145:1 – a possible prayer after reading verse 1 may be:

“O Lord God, heavenly King, I praise you that you are King over all. You rule and You reign! Majestic King you are esteemed above all else and Your name is acclaimed in all the world. I will praise Your name for ever and ever.”

As you finish your daily praise give thanks, in faith, for all God plans for Tasmania and Australia.

These are available to download from the Diocesan website: anglicantas.org.au/thelighthascome/ or contact the Parish office for a hard copy.

****These songs may have a free ad that starts playing first but you can skip that after 3 seconds (click on Skip Ad box lower right in the song box) and then the song will come on.*



Do you know the rules or just the exceptions?



What the church needs is less block and more tackle



God is at the end of your rope



The ability to lie is a liability



Riverlinks

July 2018	
1st Sun	Messy Church – 4:30pm at St Aidan's
2nd Mon	"For the love of God" Screening and Q&A – 6:30pm at Village Cinemas, Launceston
3rd 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 the Parish office – 7:30pm Stanford's group at St Aidan's
4th Wed	<i>(each Wednesday)</i> Men's Shed – 9:00am to 4:00pm in Riverside Healing Service – 10:00am at St Oswald's Prayer Gathering – 12:00pm at St Oswald's
5th Thur	mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's
6th Fri	<i>(each Friday)</i> Combined Churches KYB Study Group – 10:00am at the Baptist Church George Town Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town "Dare To Rewear" City Mission Winter Relief
7th Sat	
8th Sun	Women's Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's L'ton
9th Mon	Cadorna – 2:00pm LiT (Leadership in Training) Camp

July 2018	
10th Tue	
11th Wed	
12th Thur	Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's Parish Council meeting – 7:30pm
13th Fri	
14th Sat	
15th Sun	
16th Mon	
17th Tue	
18th Wed	Ainslie Service – 2:15pm
19th Thur	Chaplaincy Soup & Sandwich Lunch – 12:00pm at St MM's George Town "Pay It Forward" Dinner – 6:00pm at Morton's Place
20th Fri	Fellowship Night – 6:00pm at George Town
21st Sat	

The **deadline** for the August Newsletter edition is **23rd July**

Calendar

July 2018	
22 nd Sun	CCCGT Combined Churches Service – 2:30pm at Anglican Church
23 rd Mon	
24 th Tue	
25 th Wed	
26 th Thur	mainly music – 10:00am at St Aidan's Crafty Circle – 10:00am at St David's
27 th Fri	
28 th Sat	CMS Prayer Breakfast – 8:00am at St John's Preaching Training Workshop
29 th Sun	Riverlinks Together – 10:30am at St MM's George Town
30 th Mon	
31 st Tue	

August and other dates 2018	
10 th August	Hoodies For Homelessness
11 th August	Bible Forum at St John's Launceston
11 th August	Winter Relief Gala Fundraiser at the Star Theatre
11 th August	Mens Bible Conference at The Branch, Kings Meadows
16 th August	Chaplaincy Soup & Sandwich Lunch at St MM's George Town
31 st August	Hope in Dark Times - An evening with Michael Leunig at Earl Arts Centre
22 nd September	Bishop's Training Event at Hutchins School , Sandy Bay

Service Times For Worship Centres

East Launceston			
1 st	4:30 pm	-	No service (Join with St David's) Messy Church
8 th	10:00 am		Communion
15 th	10:00 am		Morning Prayer
22 nd	10:00 am		Communion
29 th		-	No service
George Town			
1 st	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion Communion
8 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Together @ 10.30
15 th	9:00 am 10:30 am	Pipers River George Town	Communion ABU Baptist
22 nd	9:00 am 10:30 am	Low Head George Town	Communion Communion
29 th	10:30 am	George Town	Riverlinks Together
Riverside & Trevallyn			
1 st	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
8 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Praise & Worship
15 th	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
22 nd	10:00 am	Riverside	Communion
29 th		-	No service
Each Wed	10:00am	St Oswald's	Healing Service & HC
Peace Haven			
22 nd	10:30 am		Communion

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ
is the same yesterday
and today and forever.

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



Launceston Bible Forum The Christian Imagination

How important is using your imagination for the way you live your Christian life?
What does the Bible say about imagination?

And how might we use our imagination to glorify God?

Date: **Saturday 11 August**
Venue: **St John's Launceston**
Time: **2.00-5.00pm**

Presented by Graham Stanton, Lecturer in Practical Theology at Ridley College, Melbourne.

**George Town
Schools Chaplaincy
Lunches**

**Soup, Sandwich
& Slices**

**Thursday 19th July, 12 noon
at the Anglican Church**

3 Anne Street, George Town

\$10 per person (children negotiable)

Please join us for some good food and good company and support Chaplaincy in our schools

Also on 16th August



**MAKING
DISCIPLES
EVERY DAY**

BISHOP'S
TRAINING
EVENT 2018

Saturday 22 September, 10am-4pm
The Hutchins, School Sandy Bay
Register at: BISHOPSTRAININGEVENT.COM

MENS BIBLE CONFERENCE



SATURDAY 11 AUGUST, @ The Branch

Email Ben at mens.bible.conf@gmail.com
or call 6334 8145 before 8 August

Cost \$35 on the day in cash please
(includes morning tea & lunch)

God at Work Men at Work Give it a Rest
Christopher Ochs Andrew Corbett Richard Humphrey

City Mission Winter Relief

Dare to Rewear

Friday 6 July

Will you accept the challenge and dare to rewear something from a Mission Shop on Friday 6 July? Wear a whole outfit of just an item and encourage your colleagues, friends or team members to do the same.

Upload your pic to Instagram using #daretowear for your chance to win a prize!

Register a team via email to vanessa.cahoon@citymission.org.au

Pay It Forward Dinner

Thursday 19 July 6-8:30pm

Join chefs including MKR's Anna & Henry Terry for a 3 course dinner in Morton's Place and 'Pay It Forward' to people in need. Guests are asked to join us for a three-course dinner and invited to 'pay it forward' by paying what they think the experience is worth. Funds raised on the night provide free meals to Morton's Place patrons throughout the year.

To register your interest email vanessa.cahoon@citymission.org.au



Hoodies For Homelessness

Friday 10 August

Wear your hoodie and help raise awareness of homelessness as part of National Homelessness Week.

You can also join in for a \$5 breakfast at Morton's Place to kick off the day.

Winter Relief Gala Fundraiser

Friday 17 August 6:30pm

A stellar evening at the iconic Star Theatre taking a trip back to the 80s for all the music and fun of the classic Blue Brothers movie. Dress in theme, enjoy live music, canapes, free drink on arrival and great raffle prizes to be won.

Tickets \$70 available from eventbrite.com.au

'Share Your Warmth' is the theme for this year's Winter Relief campaign.

"Winter is a particularly tough time for many in our local community who are already struggling financially. The additional costs of trying to stay warm is something many families and individuals just can't afford."

(Stephen Brown, CEO)

There are many ways we can all help transform the lives of locals in our community this Winter



Knowing When To Send Your Cardboard Castle To Recycling



Birds have bills too, and they keep on singing!



For the road to heaven - turn right and go straight



Give before you are asked to



Sometimes silence is golden. Other times it's just plain yellow



“Don’t come in, Mum!”

“We’re making a surprise!”

The door to my seven-year-old son’s room is closed and I’m leaning in, ear to wood panels, to hear muffled exchanges between him and his three-year-old sister. There’s the occasional screech of sticky-tape being pulled from a dispenser, the snip of scissor blades and rustling of paper, plastic and who knows what else.

I smile and leave them to it. How I love it when they do this! When they talk in excited whispers, constructing Otherworlds, their imaginations swinging each other joyfully around.

What I’m saying is, I love it when they play nicely without needing a screen of some description sucking energy out their eye sockets!

Eventually, the door swings open and the two of them walk, slow as a bridal march, down the hall to find me in the kitchen. I drop the spoon of the pasta sauce I’m cooking and marvel at the

castle they have created. The main fortress is made from the plastic package our new letterbox came in, with a central tower built up using a Shapes box, gnocchi packet and biscuit trays. There’s an egg carton turret... there’s also a moment of white panic as I realise that the “princess” (a Lego Chima figure) is reclining on a “mattress” that is in fact one of those absorbent pads found on meat trays. I kid you not. Eew.

So, everything was paused as Mama scrubbed hands and gave an impromptu hygiene lesson. Won’t happen again. Pretty sure they now believe meat trays are the leading cause of child deaths.

Back to the castle... We oohed and aahed. But can I be honest? Deep down



I was inspecting the contraption, taking rough measurements relative to the size of my son's bedroom floor and predicting how long it would take before they move on to something new.

How long before I can sneak it out to the recycling bin?

Am I a bad mum?

Thing is, I'm thrilled about the energy they put into the project – their creativity, concentration, the way they worked diligently together, the commitment and fine motor skills. Totally pumped about all of that. Gosh I love my kiddos.

But the part where they get attached to what amounts to a week's worth of recycling stuck precariously together with a roll or two of sticky-tape? Not so much.

And it got me thinking about how God must feel much the same with us, his children.

He loves us. Loves the

devotion we pour into that new work project, the creativity in designing a new logo, kitchen or app, the innovation of solving problems, the tireless commitment to the task. He's into all of that.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as if working for God, not men."
– Colossians 3:23

God loves us to be industrious, productive. It's a reflection of the image of God to do so.

But when those projects: the architecturally designed home, the work project eating into weekends and family time, the art collection or fashion obsession – when they take spaces in our heart, energy stores and headspace that are reserved for God, that's when we need to take an armload to the recycling bin.

If you get my meaning.

Claire van Ryn

faithlikeamushroom.com

Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

Ephesians
4:21-24 NLT



East Launceston

21-23 Arthur St
East Launceston
0438 378 233

George Town

3 Anne St
George Town
0439 821 038

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

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 20th of each
month unless
otherwise stated**



SYNOD

“The Anglican Church of Tasmania has taken a decisive step today to make a significant sacrifice for survivors of sexual abuse in our organisation.”



Contact us:

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

6324 0039 office@riverlinks.net.au

Website

www.riverlinks.net.au