



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 25 January 2015

"Being the Gospel to all People"

A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy some time with us.

Today's Theme: Embracing the Tension

Focus Scripture: Mark 1:14-20

Other Readings: Jonah 3:1-5, 10



We don't know what there was about Jesus that led Simon, Andrew, James, John, and others to leave their homes and families to follow Jesus. Did they know him already? Or was this their first contact with him? In any case there was something remarkably compelling about Jesus to cause these and others to follow him into an uncertain future. The astonishing feature of the story is that they followed Jesus with no idea of where it would lead.

Mark 1: 14-20 (NIV) Jesus calls Simon Peter and Andrew

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 1 February 2015

Theme: The Knowledge of Love

Focus Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

Other Readings: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Prayer points: Please pray for: The Dimock family in their grief for Ron's death; Margaret Morrison's successful radiotherapy treatment; Ron Ashton

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

Holiday Programme 2015: Thank you to all the helpers who worked at the Holiday Programme. Without you it could not happen. Thanks also to all the church family for providing baking.

Christmas Offerings



It is very pleasing to report that offerings over the Christmas services for the work of the City Mission totalled \$609. This amount plus our "tithe" of 1/10 of the Thanksgiving offering (about \$300) will be forwarded to the Mission. Bob Williamson - Finance convenor.

Thank you to everyone for their help at All Saints with Ron Dimock's funeral. The family were very appreciative.

On behalf of all St John's drivers, I would like to thank all those who helped top make our car-park a wonderfully easy place to park – *again*. It was a dedicated but small team – so thank you for your Monday morning – we all appreciate it.

Real Life :-This Sunday night (25th January) John's guest will be former Commonwealth winning weightlifter, Precious McKenzie.

On behalf of my family, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for your Christmas wishes, cards and wonderful gifts. We have been blessed with these expressions of your love for us. I hope you have had a good Christmas time with family and friends and may God bless your new year. Lorraine

Offerings:- I am just starting the process in preparation for the end of the financial year and would like to know if anyone has any spare envelopes they are no longer using that I can reissue. If you would prefer to have envelopes on a different cycle ie fortnightly instead of weekly please let me know, or if anyone would like more information on giving by Direct Credit instead of the envelope system please contact Jeannine in the office.

Church Picnic: Sunday 22 February: There will be a church picnic at the home of Peter and Jan Hancock, 1 Orangewood Drive, Northpark on Sunday, 22 February. Everyone is welcome. More details will follow later.

FINANCE REPORT TO CONGREGATION FOR NEWSLETTER

NOTES

1. OFFERINGS RUNNING A LITTLE ABOVE BUDGET
2. THE SURPLUS IN DECEMBER AROSE BECAUSE OF SPECIAL GIVING. IT INCLUDES A GRANT OF \$7000 FROM THE DIMOCK FAMILY TRUST FOR CHAIRS IN THE HALL WHICH HAS NOW BEEN SPENT. ALSO, WE RECEIVED A SPECIAL DONATION OF \$1500 FOR MAINTENANCE. MANY THANKS TO THESE DONORS.
3. EXPENSES TRACKING WITHIN BUDGET ESTIMATES BUT SOME BIGGER BILLS EXPECTED.
4. OVERALL - LOOKING GOOD. THANKYOU EVERYONE AND PRAISE THE LORD!

	DECEMBER 2014		YEAR TO DATE (6 MONTHS)	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
<u>INCOME</u>				
OFFERINGS	8120	7433	46871	44594
SPECIAL GIVING	8500	208	12305	6248
OTHER INCOME	5760	6240	42860	38730
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	22380	13861	102035	89572
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
REGULAR	11652	14716	86033	88398
SPECIAL PROJECTS	-	-	-	-
<u>SURPLUS(DEFICIT)</u>	10729	(835)	16002	1174

From your Finance Team