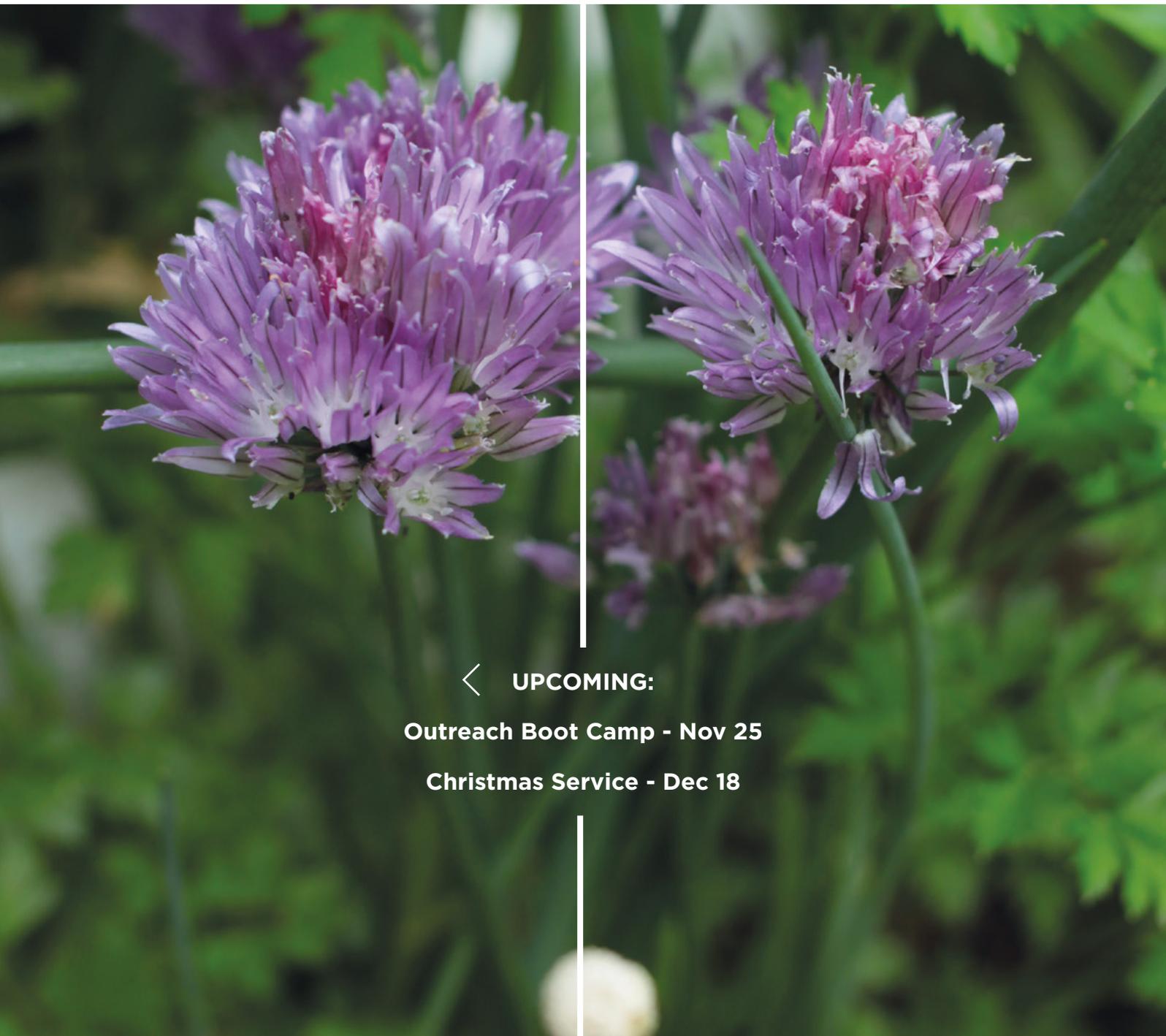


 华东永约教会
eccc: the **covenant** church

CHURCH NEWS

november 2016



< UPCOMING:

Outreach Boot Camp - Nov 25

Christmas Service - Dec 18

From the Pastor

You Can Know God

And the Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."
Genesis 18:17-19

God wants friends who will share in His likeness and teach others His ways: He found such a friend in Abraham. Abraham chose to love what God loves, and to abhor what He hates, to clearly teach and demonstrate the truth with his life.

This is a world where the decay of sin and creeping rebellion against God is casting its widening shadow like the darkness of the moon. It threatens to swallow up anyone who does not bow to it. Yet God would have champions like Abraham to prove to the world that His way of life and righteousness brings wholeness, security and strength – those champions are you and I, if we would step up to the challenge. God wants us to be witnesses to the truth so that no one can argue that they never knew His standards, or that those standards were good.

The other reason God wants friends is so that He can involve them in what He is going to do. God asked Himself, 'Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing...?'

Then He proceeded to tell Abraham that the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah, the home of Abraham's nephew Lot, had reached heaven. He would go down to see for Himself. Abraham in turn, with reverence and fear interceded for Lot and any other righteous in the city. "Would you destroy the righteous with the wicked?...Far be it for you to do such a thing as this..."

This exchange shows that Abraham understood God's character and standards. Because of this, God listened to him (read the whole account on Genesis 18-19), going to great lengths to delay judgment until Lot was safely away from the city.

This is the first account of intercession in the Bible and is a vivid description of how we can discourse with God and partner with Him to influence the destiny of cities and nations. This means then that the destiny of millions lie in the prayers of faithful intercessors.

Know God as well as Abraham did. Pray for others. Start today. Seek Him, choose to love His way of living until you too have full confidence in God's character and are teaching others what His ways are.

In so doing, you will be able to partner with God to impact and influence communities and nations for Him.

Make the quest to know God and make Him known the driving mission of your whole life.

Rise up to pray and intercede for friends and family: their destiny is directly tied to you and your prayers.

Blessings,

Pastor Jasmine

Last month...

We were privileged to host a number of guest speakers. As part of the series 'Reclaiming the Seven Mountains', we welcomed Jacob Mathews, Principal of Lighthouse Christian College Cranbourne to share God's heart for the Education sector, and Vickie Janson - former Federal candidate for Australian Christians - to share about the responsibility of Christians in Government

Jacob Mathews was our first guest on the 15th October. He challenged his listeners to diligently invest the greatest treasure of all into children: the Word of God. Only through such investment can children withstand the barrage of lies and wickedness from others, media and the world.

He called for the Churches to recognize their responsibility to instruct parents in the Word to equip their children to be bright lights in the world.

In sharing many examples from his own experience, he proved that if we are uncompromising with God's ways, God will be with us and we will prosper even if God's ways look foolish to the world.

Vickie Janson was our guest on the 22nd October. She gave a stirring presentation on the Christian's responsibility in politics. She refuted the popular notion that Christians should not be involved in politics: it is instead a mission field where they are needed to uphold truth and righteousness.

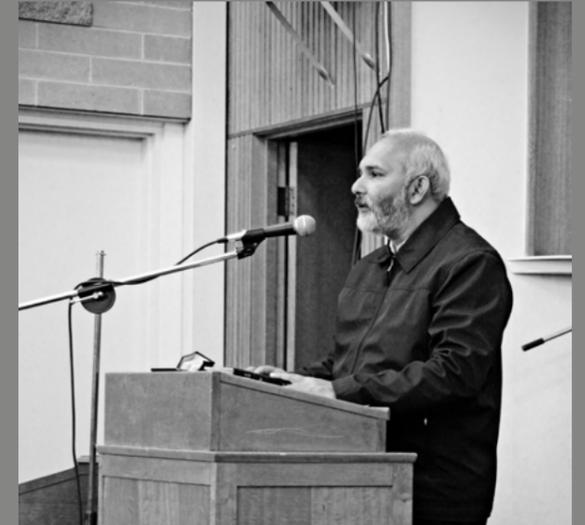
If faith is acting on your beliefs, then Christians who fight for truth to be upheld in our nation are doing exactly that. She maintained that it is the Judeo-Christian heritage that has championed truth and produced freedom and that "if we do not guard and defend the truth, we will lose our freedom." She ended with these exhortations: pray for politicians, as they have to deal with more abuse than most; and secondly, find your tongue: train and guard it to be a tool of wisdom, speaking the uncompromising truth with respect.

At the end of the month, David and Taryn Price, who are preparing to be missionaries to the African desert country of Niger in 2017, also came to share their story with us. They attend the church that Ding and Joanna attend in Maffra. This couple has 3 young boys and are preparing to be serving in Niger. David is a teacher, and Taryn is a pharmacist. Both will be working in a Christian hospital compound in Niger in their respective specialties. They shared about the spiritual climate in Niger, what their work will look like, and the general physical condition of the nation. The Covenant Church has decided to financially support David and Taryn's 2 year term in Niger via the Missions offerings taken up at the beginning of each month.

Listening intently to the sermon



Mr Jacob Mathews on 15 Oct 2016



"If Jesus is the King of Truth, then we are His subjects. Would you, as His subjects then bow to a lie?"

-Vickie Janson

David and Taryn Price sharing at our Sunday service



announcements

OUTREACH BOOT CAMP: 25-28 NOV

Want to practise introducing Jesus to others?

This year's Summer Camp will be held on the last weekend of November, and is open to all high school, university age students and young adults.

Invite your friends and those of similar age - it will be a great time of outreach, establishing faith and seeking God in worship and the Word of God.

Visit tinyurl.com/obcamp16 to register now!

STUDENT EXAMS

Please continue to keep students in our midst in your prayers as they are in the middle of exams.

WE'RE SUPPORTING A NEW MISSIONARY FAMILY!

We will be supporting David and Taryn in Niger, Africa from January 2017. Please remember to keep them in your prayers as they prepare to go on their mission!

JOSEPH'S SUMMER PROJECT

Joseph Yeow will be going to Byron Bay with the team from Power to Change (PTC) to minister to kids on Schoolies Week and share the gospel. He would appreciate your support in prayer and finances - see the page on the right for more details.

CMDFA PH DECEMBER MEETING

If you're a community health practitioner or studying to be one, you're invited to come to our celebratory November/December dinner on the first week of December. Please contact Faith if you would like to know more!

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

This year our Christmas Service will be held on Sunday December 18! Please bring your friends and a dish to share after the service.

WATCHNIGHT SERVICE - NYE

We will be having a special New Year's Eve service on Saturday 31st December 2016. Save the date in your calendar!

Mission Updates November

■ Ebenezer Operation Exodus

Russia's President Vladimir Putin has passed a new set of restrictive laws which prohibit a range of Christian activities – especially evangelism and holding church meetings in private homes. Several Christian ministers have already been arrested and fined.

So far these laws seem to have had little direct impact on the ongoing work of Ebenezer in teaching churches about Israel, assisting Jews returning to Israel and providing aid to holocaust survivors.

However, behind the scenes, the Russian secret service has met with two of Ebenezer's main leaders in Russia. They were seeking to intimidate them, telling them that they know exactly what Ebenezer is doing.

> Please pray for continued covering and protection upon the work of Ebenezer in Russia. May the work be hidden from prying eyes, and may the Lord continue to guide His people home and give them a sense of urgency as the doors in Russia could suddenly slam shut!

■ Byron Bay Summer Project (PTC)

Each year Power to Change (PTC) runs a Summer Project down at Byron Bay and this year I have the wonderful opportunity to take part on this missions trip once again.

Power to Change is a university campus ministry with the mission of "connecting people to Jesus and each other" through discipleship, outreach events and projects such as these.

The focus of this years project is to present the gospel to the schoolies kids and share with them the love of God! This year I am returning as a student leader, working with an amazing team of individuals to organise the worship team and support those who are newer to sharing their faith.

Last year God moved mightily and we were so blessed to speak to over two hundred people and see six people come to Christ! We believe God will use us once again to reach the lost and I'm looking

forward to see him at work in the heart of those we speak to.

The project will occur from November 19th to December 5th. We would really appreciate prayer for health and safety, guidance, financial support and energy to carry out this mission.

If you are interested in providing financial support please contact me by phone (0420597525) or email (joseph.yeow27@gmail.com)

God bless,

Joseph

> Pray for opportunities to share the gospel with those who are seeking God with open hearts, and for the safety and health of those ministering.

■ Alphacrucis College

Beginning last month, our church is partnering with Alphacrucis College, soon to be the only Pentecostal Christian university in Australia. Alphacrucis was established in 1990 and has a vision of raising up leaders of influence in both the church and the marketplace, which aligns with the vision of this Church. A set amount will be given monthly from the tithes.

Alphacrucis is collectively owned by the churches that make up Australian Christian Churches (ACC).

> Pray for the team at Alphacrucis to achieve their goal of influencing the next generations.

■ Moriah Trust

The Mount Moriah Trust is a U.K. based charity which supports 44 Arab and Jewish churches in Israel.

> Please continue to pray for their Tel Aviv ministry to the homeless addicts and prostitutes. Only the anointing of God can break the yoke of bondage.

This month we are talking about...

The 7 mountains of influence in our Saturday services, & To really know Jesus in our Sunday services.

Remember!

Missions Offering is taken up the first week of each month.



Our church

Eastern Chinese Christian Church (ECCC): The Covenant Church is a church located in Mount Waverley and ministering to the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Australia

Our Sunday services are conducted in both English and Mandarin Chinese.

Sunday Service 星期日中英文聚会

1.45pm-4.00pm

Saturday Service 星期六英文聚会

6.30pm-9.00pm

Service Location 教会地点

23 Grenfell Rd,
Mount Waverley VIC 3149, Australia

中文查经班

星期六在教会 7.30pm-10.00pm

Uni Bible Study

Monday at Church Office 7.30-9.30pm

Church Office 教会联络地址

9 Anthony St,
North Dandenong, Vic 3175

After Hours Phone: (03) 9792 1541

Online Donation 网上奉献

Account name: Eastern Christian Chinese Church Inc.

BSB: 033 186

Account number: 578 222

Contact us

www.covenantchurch.org.au

eccc1melb@yahoo.com.au

Senior Pastors

Mee-Chai (Jasmine) & Kwong Yew Yong

0425 786 574 & 0409 177 183

Assistant Pastor

Enoch Lavender

0415 452 850

Youth Pastor

Melissa Yong



华东永约教会

eccc: the covenant church

We support these ministries:

▪ EMPART

Reaching out to millions in India through 20,000+ churches planted since 1998, 4000+ church planters who are indigenous believers, bible schools, leadership training, mentoring, women's ministries, skills centres, children's homes and schools, mercy homes for the poor, widowed and disabled, medical teams and more...

www.empart.org.au

▪ KENNETH COPELAND MINISTRIES

An international Bible-based teaching ministry that broadcasts the news that Jesus is Lord no matter where you are, and that the Word of God is the final authority.

www.kcm.org

▪ CELEBRATE MESSIAH

A ministry that shares the love of the Messiah Jesus Christ with Jewish people in Australia, and includes a messianic congregation in Melbourne that provides Hebrew classes and outreaches to Jewish people in need.

celebratemessiah.com.au

▪ ALPHACRUCIS

Alphacrucis was established in 1990 and has a vision of raising up leaders of influence in both the Australian church and marketplace.

www.ac.edu.au

▪ EBENEZER

A Christian organisation that helps Jewish people return to Israel in fulfilment of Biblical prophecy. They provide humanitarian aid to the poor and needy in Jewish communities of the former Soviet Union, Israel and elsewhere.

www.operation-exodus.org

▪ CHINESE CHRISTIAN MISSION AUSTRALIA

CCMA minister to Chinese-speaking communities Australia-wide.

www.ccma.org.au

▪ OUR DAILY BREAD MINISTRIES

Formerly Radio Bible Class (RBC) distribute ≥60 million bible resources in 150 countries, mostly for free. These are available via podcasts, books, mobile app, radio or television broadcast, DVD, and their website.

www.ourdailybread.org

▪ DAVID & TARYN

This family will be serving in hospital and teaching ministries in Niger, Africa, from January 2017.

▪ ACCI WORLD MISSIONS & RELIEF

ACCI support individuals engaged in missions work internationally, by developing holistic and sustainable solutions to combat injustice, poverty and reinstate the value of life.

www.accimissions.org.au