



*St John's*  
Being the Gospel to all People

## Weekly Newsletter 6 December 2015 Advent 2

### **“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: 'Our Coming Saviour – Herod' Advent 2**

**Readings: Isaiah 9:6-7**

**Other Readings: Micah 5:2-4; 2 Samuel 7:12-17**



### **Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

## **NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 13<sup>th</sup> December Advent 3**

**Christmas Theme is: "Our Coming Saviour – Shepherds"**

**Focus Scripture: Luke 2:8-20**

**Other Readings: Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 19:1-6**

**Prayer points:** Please pray for: George Morrison who is improving well please pray for this to continue. Little Cubs Kindy for more children, they need at least 15 more children for the New Year. Averill Rule and Brenda Ryan with ongoing health issues.

**Christmas is coming!!!! "Church Decorating"** Please come and join in preparing our church for Christmas on SATURDAY 5<sup>th</sup> December from 2 – 5 pm. We need you. ☺. Lorraine

**CAROL SINGING IN THE COMMUNITY:-** We are at it again this year – taking our voices and Christmas spirit out into the community to bring some pleasure (we hope) to members of our church and the community!

Date: Tuesday 15 December. Meeting in car park at 6pm heading off at 6.10 sharp! We have a lot of visits this year, including 3 Retirement Villages; Highlands, Bruce McLaren and Dannemora Gardens!

We need as many voices as possible – in fact we need YOURS! You do not have to be a trained singer or be part of our singing group – if you can make a noise come along!

Bring a plate for supper – Dannemora Gardens will be hosting us for supper when we finish singing there. Need more information – contact Judy 2748534

**THANK YOU** "Thank you to all those who contributed photos to the St Johns Photo Archive." A third volume has been started with photos from our 40<sup>th</sup> celebration and includes additional photos taken by John Copping. All three volumes have been available in the church foyer during the past week, and will now be kept in the church office. If anyone wishes to view them at church, or borrow them for a short time, ask Lorraine or Jeannine.

There are more photos to be processed, but these can wait until 2016! The demands of the Christmas Season come first! Best wishes to you all! Trevor Haigh.

**FAMILY BARBECUE:-** The Leadership Team are holding a "Family Barbecue" before Christmas. The "Family" we have in mind is the community who use our buildings through the year - Kindergarten, Mainly Music, Holiday Programme, our Korean friends etc. etc. and all their families. We want to make a time to meet them, get to know them, thank them for the rent they pay us and in an informal setting be the Gospel. No preaching - just invite them to our Christmas services.

To make this work it is vital that you, the congregations of St Johns, are there to be the hosts. Bring your own family.

The date and time is the afternoon of the first Sunday in December, Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December at 4pm. Put it in your diary and pray for a fine day.

We need people to help:-

Setting up after morning service on the 6<sup>th</sup>

People to supervise and play with children

Loan of gazebos – freestanding

Salad and soft drink servers

Tea and coffee servers

Cleaner-uppers

If you have any ideas for improvement or can help please talk to me, Alan Vickers or Ian Dittmer. Bob Williamson

**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS LUNCH**, Thursday, 10 Dec., Noon, at ARA TAI Café, Half Moon Bay .Please add your name to the List in the Foyer. If you wish, you may bring a small unwrapped gift for a child at the Women's Refuge. I believe 8 year old boys often miss out. Thanks, Loas Toung

**Mandarin Fellowship** Christmas party/dinner 12 December, 5pm. Shared dinner here at Church with dinner first then songs and prayer. All Welcome. Any questions please see Shania Qiu.

## **Christmas and Sunday Services for December 2015:**

December 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30 pm is our Regular Sunday Worship.

December 13 9:30 pm is our Children's Nativity Service.

December 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 pm is our Lessons and Carols Service in the morning.

7pm is our Blue Christmas service.

December 24<sup>th</sup> 7 pm is our Family Christmas Service

10:30 pm Carol singing

11 pm Christmas Eve Service.

December 25<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Christmas Day Service.

December 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Is back to regular Sunday worship!

Please invite friends and family to join you and us in these special times of remembering Our Coming Saviour, celebrating the coming of our Saviour and looking to his coming again.

## **Finance summary 4 months to 31 October 2015**

	Actual	Budget	Last Year	Notes
<b>Income</b>				
Giving	31525	36666	34861	1.
Rents	28848	28560	24657	
Total income	64020	71962	65515	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Staff	39123	39647	31085	
Total expense	68484	70548	61075	2.
Surplus/(Deficit)	(4708)	1414	4439	

Notes- Reasons for (deficit) against budget

1. Thanksgiving (1610), Envelopes (3214)
2. Insurance all year paid (3681) will save in full year.

**"Giving is down almost 15% on our budget forecast which is requiring us to defer maintenance. If you are able, please review your giving and if you would like to join the envelope system or to move to Direct Credit giving please talk to Bob Williamson or Brannie Ma."**