

Announcements

December-January editions of ConneXions and Challenge are now available.

Today:

- 9.00-9.20am: Prayer meeting
- 9.30am: worship – Gary Ware
- 5.30pm: evening fellowship – First Sunday prayer.
- Nelson: 9.30am (Victorian time) – Alan Clarkson.

Next Lord's Day:

- 9.00-9.20am: Prayer meeting
- 9.30am: worship – Gary Ware
- 5.30pm: evening fellowship – Psalm 1.

Monthly church prayer meeting: beginning tonight our church will begin devoting the first Sunday evening of the month exclusively to prayer. Join us for this vital ministry of intercession.

Ian Touzel and family are on holidays from this Thursday (22nd) until 14th January. They thank everyone for their prayers, support and encouragement during 2011 and wish you the Lord's blessing for Christmas and 2012.

Holiday Muster 2012: January 16-20. Monday-Thursday: morning programme. Friday: evening programme. Volunteers need – contact Christine Ware – M: 0412 501 213.

All Age Sunday School resumes on 5th February.

Church Camp: Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th March at Karnkendi. Speaker: Darren Middleton, Pastor, North Geelong PC, on *Revelation: Heaven Opened - making sense of the seals, trumpets, dragon and whore!* Brochure now available.

Church Contacts

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www.mgpc.org.au



...growing God's family...

Lord's Day, January 1, 2012 AD

Bragging Rights

2 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 5

"Welcome", as you worship with us today

Order of Service

*Please speak to God before the service and to everyone else afterward.
Those who are able are invited to stand for the items marked **

9.20am Prelude to Worship

Gathering God's People

Bring to the Lord a glad new song

Glory of glories

*Stand up and bless the Lord

Announcements: Jeroen Zwijnenburg

9.30am Worship

Call to worship:

Responding To God's Presence

**Prayer of Confession:*

Song of Assurance: You gave Your life / If Christ be God

/over...

***Assurance:** 1 John 1:9
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***Affirming our Faith:** The Apostles' creed

***Praise:** Glory be to the Father

Experiencing God's Word

Bible Reading: Isaiah 33: 1 - 24
The sixth and final oracle of woe of this section (chapters 28-33) is directed against Assyria, whose destruction will be Israel's restoration and the LORD's exaltation

***Praise:** Speak, O Lord

Bible Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 5

Sermon: *Bragging Rights* – Gary Ware

The qualities in which a church should take pride:

1. Growing faith;
2. Love for one another;
3. Grace in persecution and affliction.

Responding To God's Grace

How does God want me to respond to His word?

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer: Jeroen Zwijnenburg

Tithes & free will offerings

Visitors are not obligated to give an offering. Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

Blessing

*** Praise:** At Your feet our God and Father

Next Lord's Day:

- Continuous reading plan: Isaiah 34:1- 17
- Passage for preaching: 2 Thessalonians 1: 6 - 11
- Songs: In love and in grace; O worship the King, all glorious above; Stop! Go! Watch!; You sons of the Gods (Psalm 29); When on the night that soon to know; I will glory in my Redeemer.

Words Worth Thinking About

"Survey the record of your own history, dear reader. What a chequered life yours, perhaps, has been! How dotted the map of your journeyings, how many-colored the stones that have paved your path, how varied and blended the hues that compose the picture of your life! And yet, God constructed that map, God laid those stones, God pencilled and painted that picture. God went before you, God is with you, and God is for you. He was in the dark cloud that enshrouded all with gloom, and He was in the sunshine that gilded all with beauty. "I will sing of mercy and of judgment; unto You, O Lord, will I sing."

— Octavius Winslow

<http://octaviuswinslow.org/2011/12/30/december-30-the-lord-our-bulwark/>