

Anglican Parish of Diamond Creek
Knowing Jesus. Making Jesus Known.
Church News
January 21st and 28th, 2018

Our current series:

LOOK
at
JESUS

Catch up on talks at stjohnsdc.org.au

*Readings: **Jan 21st** John 1:35-42 **Jan 28th** John 1:43-51 **Feb 4** Philippians 3:7-11*

If you're visiting today, welcome! It's great to have you.
Children are always welcome in our services. Someone up the front will explain what's on for kids today.

Feel free to stay for a chat after the service, meet some new people, and find out what else happens during the week. You can also Connect with us at **stjohnsdc.info** or using the cards in the seats.

Beach Mission

For many of us summer involves more than a break from work, a holiday or a few beach trips, it involves beach mission. Through the organisation of Scripture Union, some of us here at St Johns took off two weeks from our summer break to head down to Wilsons' Promontory Tidal River as part of a group called Theos. Fourteen of us camped in tents, without power, and amongst the ever changing weather of the Prom, in order to be part of the Tidal River camping community.

For those unfamiliar with this mission, Tidal River Theos is a beach mission focused towards those 18yrs and older, with our program involving seven free cooked breakfasts for campers, beach games, two Open Mic Nights, and an "Open Tent" each night for anyone to come, chill out, play giant Jenga and enjoy hot chocolates and plenty of popcorn.

Theos is a largely relational beach mission, with our primary goal to love the community, and demonstrate Jesus and his love to them either through words or actions. This occurs in three main ways; as an example of Christ through our team living in close Christian community and the way we relate to each other despite our differences; through our acts of service in giving to the community with free meals and hot beverages and a welcoming space to hang out in the evenings; and through conversations with people we meet that inevitably turn towards why we're there and who Jesus is in our life.

Every summer mission has its highlights and trials. This Theos had a lower attendance at some cooked breakfasts and Open Tent evening, which challenged us not just to stick with the "program", but venture out and meet people where they're at. Our main difficulty was the high occurrence of injury and illness we faced as a team, which saw one person go home early with a potential long-term health issue. I myself had difficulties with my long-term health condition, and we had to treat multiple toe injuries, mainly from sport accidents.

However on the flip side, we trusted God that it was His mission, and He certainly pulled us through. We praise God for the many late night conversations with campers that we pray helped them move that little bit closer towards knowing Christ. We were thankful for the turnout of our Open Mic nights, one with an attendance of 80+ people, and many so keen to stay around after and discuss life and faith. A personal highlight for me this mission was hearing from campers over and over how thankful they were for what we do every year, and how welcomed everyone felt as they came into our Open Tent.

Please keep beach mission in your prayers this year, for the people we met to keep hearing more about Jesus, for the recovery of some team members with their health issues, preparations for mission and fundraising this coming year. Also, if it's sparked your interest and you'd like to be a part of next years mission or help out in any way, please let me know.

Lisa Schryvers – Co-director for Theos Tidal River.

Prayer

At our church, we pray expectantly, confident that God changes things as we pray. Here are some things we'd love you to saturate in prayer over the next few months:

Staff appointments

- **Julie Blinco - Assistant Minister**

Pray for Julie's move and transition into her new role. Julie begins with us on Feb 4th.

- **Kylie Pilkington - Children & Families Minister**

Kylie begins as Children & Families Minister on 24th January. Pray that Kylie will slip comfortably into her new role in the office.

Coming up

- **Church Training Day**

Prayer for the preparations for this training day, as well as the day itself, Sunday 4th February.

- **Camp Crave**

Pray for our High School Youth Camp, 9-11 March.

- **Easter Services**

As we move out of Christmas time, many people may drop off from church attendance again. Pray that they might look at church as more than just Christmas and Easter.

Ash Wednesday 14 February 9am, Maundy Thursday 29 March, Good Friday 30 March, Easter Sunday 1 April.

Monthly Prayer Meeting - First Saturday of each month

Beginning Saturday 3rd February 8am at Ted and Diane King's home. Enjoy a light breakfast. 15 Timbertop Drive, Doreen.

Fortnightly Prayer Meeting in the foyer at St John's 1.30pm-3.00pm

Pray for Schools/Chaplains in the Diamond Valley area.

Beginning on Monday 5 February. Young children welcome. Toys provided!

Dates & Details

More at stjohnsdc.info & Community Noticeboard

Combined Service 10am and Training Day Sunday 4th February at St John's

Lifegroup Leaders and Coaches Meeting dates:

You can attend the morning or the afternoon meeting, you do not need to attend both. This is likely to be our only all-in meeting for the year so please make it a priority.

Morning: 11:30-12:30 on Sunday 11th February

Afternoon: 4-5pm on Sunday 11th February

More information: www.stjohnsdc.info

Contact: Kirk Mackenzie, kirk@stjohnsdc.org.au or 9438 1264

Rosters - 9.30am Service and Hospitality Roster Term 1

Available on the welcome desk and can be accessed on Elvanto.

Next week's Services

Sunday 28th January - John 1: 43-51

St Michael's 8am Holy Communion

St John's 9.30am Holy Communion

St John's 6.00pm

Code Red

If a day is declared **"CODE RED"** by authorities no activities, including Sunday services, weddings, or funerals will be held on the premises of any church of the parish on that day.

Offertory Update - December 2017

Budgeted giving: \$38,135

Actual giving: \$40,175

Giving via Direct deposit:

Account Name: St John's Anglican Church

BSB: 063 246, Acct No: 1006 0757

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Monday 9-2 | Tuesday 9-3.30 | Wednesday 9-4 | Thursday 9-4 | Friday 9-2