



## THE LINK



Weekly Newsletter of the Christian Reformed Church of Perth Inc.  
Postal Address: 49 Grace Street, Ferndale, 6148

5 Colombo Street  
Victoria Park.  
Worship Services  
9:30 am and 5.30 pm

Pastor: Reinier Noppers  
273 Station Street  
EAST CANNINGTON 6107  
Phone: 9356 7490.

### CHRISTIAN WHEATBELT FELLOWSHIP

Pastor: Geoff Van Schie  
6 Booth Street,  
WONGAN HILLS 6603  
Phone: (08) 9671 1349

Church Website:  
[www.crcperth.org.au](http://www.crcperth.org.au)

## Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 AD

### Worship Services In Perth

#### TODAY

9.30 Am Pastor Reinier Noppers “*The Abounding Magnitude of God’s Love.*”  
Reading: John 15: 9 – 17. Text: Jonah 4: 5 – 11.

5.30 Pm Pastor Reinier Noppers “*Living Sacrifices.*”  
Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4 – 12; Romans 12: 1 – 8. Text: Romans 12: 1.

#### NEXT SUNDAY

9.30 Am Pastor Reinier Noppers  
5.30 Pm Pastor Reinier Noppers.

#### WELCOME

*A warm welcome to all of you who have come to the services today, and a special welcome to visitors.  
May the Lord bless each of us as we worship together: that His Name may be glorified and we  
encouraged and strengthened in faith*

#### Meditation

##### Never Borrow Sorrow from Tomorrow.

*Deal only with the present,  
Never step into tomorrow,  
For God asks us just to trust Him  
And to never borrow sorrow –  
For the future is not ours to know  
And it may never be,  
So let us live and give Our best  
And give it lavishly –*

*For to meet tomorrow’s troubles  
Before they are even ours  
Is to anticipate the saviour*

*And to doubt His all – wise powers –  
So let us be content to solve  
Our problems one - by one.  
Asking nothing of tomorrow  
Except “Thy Will be done.”*

Author unknown



It is a wonderful blessing to be able to gather in worship each week, to join in fellowship as we encourage each other in faith and as a church together bring praise and glory to God.

We continue to pray for those who are unable to be here with us, like **Arie and Mary van der Linden, Riet Kik** and others, who,

because of health issues remain at home; as well as praying for those who choose to stay away for other reasons.

It is of no small significance that the church of Christ is likened in Scripture to a body, each part contributing to the whole, and the whole suffering when one part doesn't.

We see this again today as we hold our **AGM** after this morning's service, a time of reflection over the past year, a time of looking to the future with our faithful God, and a time of assessing our finances and budget and committing together to walk with God as we determine to make His kingdom our focus and priority.

It is also highlighted as we join in a shared meal, a time of fellowship that declares we belong together as family in Christ.

**Catechism:** as usual this Monday afternoon and evening: please let me know if you are unable to make it.

*Pastor Reinier*

+++++

## Announcements

- **Canning Bible Study** will meet at the home of Bardi Bester this Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September starting at 7:30 pm. New members are always welcome as we get closer to completing our study of the Gospel according to John.
- **Ladies Fellowship** will meet DV this Wednesday at 1.30 Pm at the church. Topic: "Scripture Fulfilled." All ladies welcome.
- **Cadets:** See notice elsewhere.

+++++

### Financial Church Update

Weekly income required as per budget:  
**\$2,726.00**  
To date required 8 weeks: **\$21,808.00**  
Income received to date: **\$15,169.95**  
Budget shortfall as of today: **\$6,638.05**  
*BoM*

### GEMS Helpers Needed!

GEMS have been blessed with a group of 20 girls this year and with only 4 leaders we'd really love some more help! If you are female member of the church and would be able to share 2 hours of your time on a Friday night or if you have a skill that you could teach the girls e.g. knitting, crocheting, painting, etc, then we'd love to hear from you!

If we get enough helpers then you'd only be required for one or two nights during the year. No

preparation would be required of you as a helper, just turn up on the night and lend a hand where needed.

A typical night might ask you to help set up supper or crafts in the first hour and then help the girls doing an activity or craft.

GEMS is run fortnightly on a Friday night from 7pm - 9pm at Gosnells CRC and has girls in grades 2 - 8. If you are able to assist or want more information please contact Clarissa Swarts on 0413 900 664.

+++++

### Cadets notice

Cadets from Willetton and Gosnells along with their father or male relative are invited to play Indoor Soccer:

**When:** 5 September @ 7 PM to 9 PM

**Where:** Fitzpatrick Sports Centre Maddington (1860 Albany Highway Maddington)

**Who:** Cadets and their fathers or close male relative

**Cost:** \$8 per person.

Drinks and snacks will be provided.

Please organise your own transport to and from Fitzpatrick's directly. **We will not be meeting at the Church before or after the night.**

Please contact John O'Sullivan or Paul Nieuwkerk if you have any questions.

+++++



### NEWS FROM OTHER CHURCHES

#### WILLETTON:

- **Peter Versteeg's** operation had to be postponed as the surgeons were unable to place a lumber catheter into Pieter's spine. The postponed operation went ahead last Thursday.
- **Robbie Plowman** fell through the shed roof at home and has shattered both wrists.

#### OTHER CHURCHES - Geelong:

- **Rev. Ron Nauta** has asked to be released from ministry in Geelong Church for personal reasons.

*Please uphold our dear brothers and sisters in prayer, many for healing and others for safe travels*

+++++

### India Team 2015

Anyone interested in going on the next mission trip to India in Feb 2015 or would like to know a little more about what is involved, please be at Bill and Hilary Hobers' home on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 1pm.

Purpose of trip: Building houses for leprosy sufferers, assist in medical clinic, support work of the orphanage, outreach to homeless, widows and villages.

Address: 151 Nicolas Drive, Casuarina  
Phone 9439 4559.

Mob: 0409 080018 (Hilary)

Mob: 0419 928360 (Bill)

+++++

### Dear Ladies

We are very excited to announce that the next CRCA Women's Convention will be held in Adelaide from Friday 11 March 2016 to Monday 14

March 2016. The convention will be held in a delightful setting Nunyara Conference Centre in Belair. This is a wonderful centre located in the foothills of Adelaide. Our theme is 'be transformed' based on Romans 12:2.

Put this date in your diary as we are hoping to see many of you there. We will be sending out more details next year.

Blessings

*Jo Lammersma*

*Convenor of the organising committee*

++++++

## **Goodbye Mrs Doubtfire**

The death of Robin Williams recently caused much commentary in the news and a flurry of responses in the social media. But the commentary was not just about the death of an iconic actor and comedian. It appears that the actor, who was just 63, took his own life – apparently as the culmination of a long struggle with depression. That has led to much soul-searching and (understandably) an increase in calls to charity help-lines. As someone commented on Facebook, “If a man with such a good sense of humour can do himself in because of depression, where does that leave the rest of us?”

It's not my purpose here to discuss either depression or suicide. Both are huge problems in our western society. Over the years I've sat with too many people who were desperately unhappy and some who were clinically depressed – the “light at the end of the tunnel” was a train that hit them for six. I also know the particular anguish that suicide creates for family and friends – the funeral of a suicide victim is arguably the most difficult funeral for a pastor to take. The tragedy is not just Robin Williams' death (we all die) but that he was so desperately unhappy that he saw no other solution than to take his own life.

For me there were two other things particularly that came to mind. The first is that fame and fortune do not necessarily make people happy and if there is any moral lesson in the story of Robin Williams' death it is that fun and laughter can be very superficial things. I confess that I enjoyed the movie, Mrs Doubtfire and I watched it with the family on more than one occasion. I appreciated the way in which the hero of the story fought for his marriage and his family – despite his rather dysfunctional persona. But it was above all a fun comedy that was good for a laugh. The trouble is that Mrs Doubtfire is a split personality. There's the zany home-help and

nanny who provides us with a couple of fun-filled hours of escapism. But there's also “her” alter-ego – the man who was not really such very good husband or father despite his commitment to the family.

In some ways, that seems to me like a good picture of Robin Williams. On the one hand we have the very public person of an actor and comedian. He was renowned not only for his role as Mrs Doubtfire – there were a number of other memorable movies such as Dead Poets Society. But that was the Robin Williams that was the public persona – the movie star. There was another person that we didn't see so well. There was the Robin Williams who struggled with addictions to drugs and alcohol and who spent time in rehab for substance abuse. There was the Robin Williams who was the philanderer and womaniser whose extra-marital affairs ended at least one of his three marriages. Some have even spoken of the Robin Williams who dabbled in the occult. Was this other (non-public) “Mrs Doubtfire” all bad? Not at all! There was also the Robin Williams who founded a philanthropic organisation and who gave the proceeds of a concert to help rebuild Christchurch after the earthquake there.

The point is that so much of social media commentary this past week has focused only on the public persona... the movie star and comedian. As one Facebook person lamented, “The world just got less funny”. Sadly, Robin Williams is just one of a long list of famous movie stars whose private life was rather a mess and who saw no way out but to end it all. From Marilyn Monroe to Heath Ledger there have been many sad situations where fame and fortune just did not translate into personal happiness. Jesus warned us that we can gain the world but lose our soul.

The other matter that troubled me this past week was that I saw so many Christians on Facebook who lamented this death of an iconic actor and comedian as a great loss. I want to say to them, “Hey folks, while we don't like to see anyone die in such circumstances, he was only a movie star.” To the world around us they become “idols” who accept the worship of their adoring fans. Christians ought to have a more sober outlook. The reality is that Robin Williams is just another person who needed Jesus in his life – but that's not the kind of

message that you will hear from Mrs Doubtfire.

*Rev John Westendorp  
Toowoomba CRC Church*

+++++++

## **Tell them why**

### **We must not separate ethics from redemption.**

There is a scene in the movie Chariots of Fire, where two British Olympic officials are discussing trying to talk Eric Liddell into competing on a Sunday at the 1920 Paris Olympics. One official realises that they are asking him to do the impossible: to forget about God and to run the race of his life.

The other night Maxine and I were watching My Kitchen Rules, (we only watch quality TV in our home) and Uel was introduced as a youth worker. We caught a glimpse of his tattoo - 1 John 2:2. He was obviously a Christian youth worker, though that was edited out. The 2011 *Masterchef* winner, Kate Bracks, was only identified as such when she did not address the Dalai Lama as "Your Holiness". I have just read an article from the New York Times by Nicholas D. Kristof on Catherine Hamlin's magnificent work among fistula victims in Ethiopia which makes no mention of Dr Hamlin's Christian faith nor indeed of the Christian staffing of the hospital she founded in Addis Ababa.

It's a common enough mistake. The world is quick to claim the benefit of Christ's work, heaven; it just doesn't want Christ. And the world may like what it sees in the redeemed, it just doesn't want to recognise its source or inspiration, the redeemer. What has this got to do with preaching? This worldly problem can be perpetuated in the thinking of the believer by our poor preaching.

T. David Gordon has said that "ethical exhortation must never be divorced from its redemptive environment". We make that divorce whenever we urge some action without telling people why they should live that way.

We must preach the redeeming work of Christ and its implications rather than just preach its implications. Paul does this in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, where he exhorts the Corinthians to flee from sexual immorality. He bases the exhortation for sexual purity on three

"whys": because of our doctrine of the body, our doctrine of the Spirit and our doctrine of redemption. "You are not your own, you were bought with a price."

The world needs to hear the word of explanation, that what we do springs from what we are, and what we are is a result of what God has done for us. Beware of the fallacy represented by the well-known statement, "Tell me the gospel and use words if you must." The Lord Jesus, who lived the perfect life, did not let his actions do all the talking. The life of Jesus, though perfect, was the backdrop to his saving word.

Let's not let the world, which confuses fruit for root, confuse us. We live out the new creation lifestyle because God's Son has laid down His life in payment for our sin and God the Father has raised Him from the dead, showing His acceptance of Christ's work, and He now gives us His Holy Spirit who makes us new from within and leads us to surrender control of our lives to the Lord Jesus.

Our message is not: be good, be better people, be moral, be selfless. In Exodus 20 God declared that He was Israel's redeemer (Ex.20:2) before He gave them His law (Ex.20:3-17). The message is: "Come to Christ and have God's image restored in you, through the Father who chose you, the Son who redeemed you, and the Spirit who sanctifies you."

*David Cook is Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia*

*Taken from spring AP edition 2014.*

+++++++

## **Help needed to find accommodation for 3-4 days a week.**

Room / Granny flat or place to put a caravan for an extended time.

Close or within 15 minutes of Fremantle.

Please call John Hughes 9756 7653 / 0428 927 141

+++++++

## **CROQUETTES**

To place your orders, please ring:

Corrie 9398 8340, Gerrie 9394 0494, or Keemie 9398 3658

All funds raised go to Electric Bed Number 4 – Manoah Hostel.

+++++++

## TRAVEL COMPANIONS...

Formally Nog N Keer Terug

You are invited to join us on a personally escorted tour of Holland, Belgium, France, Luxembourg and Trier in Germany in the spring/summer of 2015. The tours offer you the opportunity to combine your interest in all things beautiful in Europe with time set aside to visit family and friends in the Netherlands. Each group consists of only nine people.

At **Travel Companions** we assist you with passports, airline tickets, and travel insurance. We take care of all accommodation and tickets to all events, and we look after all the other bits and pieces for you. No hassles.

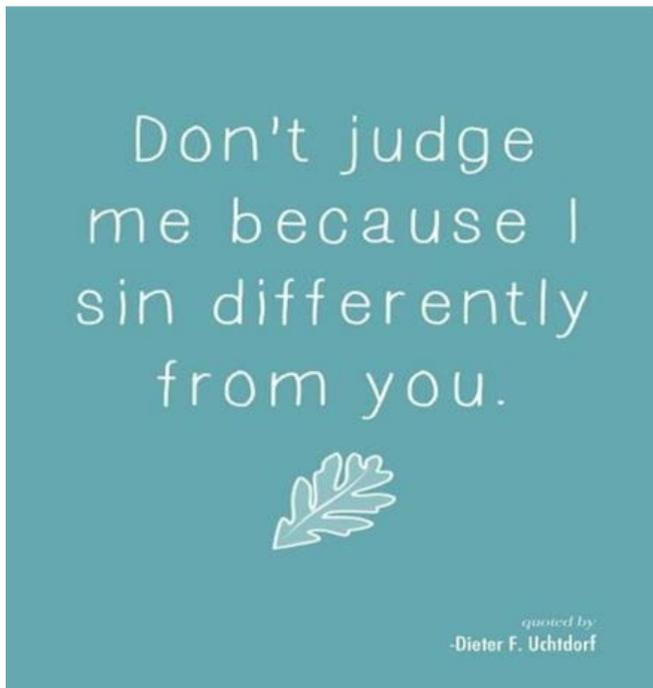
You must be 60 plus and independently mobile as the tour takes in some pleasant city and garden walks.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE 15TH. OCTOBER 2014 or when all places filled whichever is first.**

Contact Robert Spits for more details and the travel itinerary (03) 5277-2933 or 0418-520-205, or you can email us on [robert@spits.net.au](mailto:robert@spits.net.au)

Please note that TRAVEL COMPANIONS is a not for profit venture

+++++



## Please remember the '4 Ps'...

- \* **PRAY** for the Spirit to be poured out on us His people
- \* **PLANT** fellowship groups and churches in an ongoing way
- \* **PREPARE** leaders who will lead such fellowships and churches
- \* **PRODUCE** necessary structural reforms in our church.



## WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>3.45 &amp; 7.30 Pm</b>	<b>Instruction Classes</b> – Manse & Church
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>7.30 Pm</b>	<b>Canning Bible Study</b> – Bardi Bester's.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>1.30 Pm</b>	<b>Ladies Fellowship</b> - Church
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>7.00 Pm</b>	<b>Cadets Indoor soccer</b> - Maddington.

+++++

**SHARE & CARE**  
About One Another in Christ

*Eril Morgan* 9258 4566

*Mary van der Linden* 9478 1394

## Second Offerings

**Today:** Solomon Island Workgroup  
 September 7<sup>th</sup>: Leprosy Mission  
 September 14<sup>th</sup>: Candidacy Committee &  
 Door Offering for G.O.S.P.E.L

+++++

## WORSHIP MINISTRY

DATE	GREETERS	DATA Am / Pm.	SOUND Am / Pm	Musician/s	VIDEO Am Pm
<b>Today</b>	Hetty & Steve	Luke	Isaak	Rachel & Mp3	James
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Jacqueline & Henry	Steve	Paul v/d K	Rachel	James
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Eril & Raymond	Isaak	Evan	Rebecca	Henry

## CRECHE

<b>Today</b>	Jasmine, Emma & Melissa
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Ilezebel, Jordan & Rebekah
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Melody, Isaak & Bethia

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

<b>Today</b>	Jessica & Vanessa
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Jessica & Mitchell
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Yvonne & Saara

## FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

<b>Today</b>	Fams. Noppers & Zoethout
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Fams Nieuwkerk & R v/d Kooij
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	Fams victor, Slooter & Wim

## YOUTH COFFEE

<b>Today</b>	Fam de Boer 22 Newenden St Maddington
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	tba
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>	tba

**Please utilize the church's electronic banking**

**Banking details:**

Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
 Christian Reformed Church of Perth  
**BSB:** 066 153 **Account:** 1002 5589

## Tithing is giving back to God

*Smiles are wondrous things;*

*you can give them out for eternity and always have one left for yourself.*

*Colleen, age 13*

Editor: Arnold Zoethout Ph. 9451 1316

Mob. 0413 379 244. email: [zoethout@iimetro.com.au](mailto:zoethout@iimetro.com.au)

