

Church Family News, 25 July 2021



THE STORY OF RUTH CONTINUES

All welcome this Sunday as Scott Ambrose continues the current Sermon Series: **The Story of Ruth**.

Ruth's story contains some clues for Hobart Baptist Church as it seeks to prophetically serve the city of Hobart.

Kids' Church resumes this week after the school holidays. Children will leave during the service and move to a new location upstairs.

The Baxters are away until Sunday 8th of August. Please pray that their holiday will be a time of refreshment and that it will resemble the plans they had to some degree at least. During this time please direct any queries to the secretary, Heather Galloway (secretary@hobartbaptist.org.au).

- **BIBLE READING** [Ruth 1:21-2:20](#)
- **WATCH** [YouTube service available from 10.15am Sunday >>>](#)



SERMON SERIES: THE STORY OF RUTH

11 July to 8th August 2021

Hobart Baptist Church envisions itself as prophetically serving the city, and Ruth offers us a thread to follow to enter that space. To be a prophetic servant in her time, Naomi came back in grief to her hometown and brought Ruth, a foreign woman, with her, who would then bring a descendent to Naomi.

[Read More >>>](#)



CHURCH KEYS

The church key system is having an overhaul – incorporating the old and the new parts of the building into one. The new keys are now available for distribution for those who need one and didn't get it last week. To help offset costs we are asking all to pay a \$20 deposit for their key.

We anticipate the locks will be changed in the coming week.

Please see David Needham at church on Sunday to receive your new key, or let the secretary know if you need one.



NAME TAGS

If you attended services pre-Covid times you may remember the name tags we used to wear. Such a helpful aid to the memory for many of us, and extremely helpful for those who are new to the Church.

Thank you to those who collected their name tag last week, if you didn't, you are encouraged to collect yours from the board in the Foyer over the next few weeks – it's yours to keep, but please wear it each week. If there isn't one with your name on it, and you would like one, please talk to the secretary.



WANTED: OLD TYPEWRITER

Michael Henderson is hunting for a working old typewriter (1960-80s model) to use for a writing piece he is working on. If you are able to help please contact Michael by email michael@tasbaptists.org.au or Mob. 0408 468 223.

PS It doesn't need to be this model!



PHOTOS OF CHRISTMAS IN WINTER



Carols in the Tab: Away in a Manger



Peter, Joy and Betty: A German Carol



Carols After-party!

BUDGET 2021/22

The Church Members' Meeting held on 27 June adopted the Budget for the 2021/22 financial year which provides for weekly offerings of \$2,340.

This is a significant challenge to the Church based on the average weekly offering for 2020/21 which was \$2,023 against a budget of \$2,200.

For the quarters ended 30 September, 31 December, 31 March and 30 June the average weekly offerings were \$2,012, \$2,081, \$2,066 and \$1,932.

Please give this your prayerful consideration.



Geoffrey Clarke – Treasure

GIVING – YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS



Offerings – why do we give?

Baptist churches operate independently – they do not receive financial support from a parent body or government agency. We therefore have to generate our own income to support our budget: to pay our Pastoral staff, cover administrative costs and general running costs as well as supporting local and overseas missions.

Offerings from the congregation are the major source of our income, and as such are very important. We thank all who continue to give faithfully on a regular basis.

We could not operate without this support.

Currently our offerings income falls short of meeting our budget, hence we are looking forward to the whole building being available for use by the community, and the revenue from hiring the spaces increasing our potential to reach out and minister to the community.

EFT is a great way to ensure regular giving and as well there are offering boxes available for use as you leave the Sanctuary.

[You can give online here>>>](#)

COVID-19 REMINDERS

Tasmania is a very popular place for tourists so it is important not to be complacent and to remember the simple guidelines to keeping everyone safe, including:

- Stay at home if you are unwell – always cover coughs and sneezes.
- Please use hand sanitiser when you arrive and before you leave
- Ensure your name is recorded – Please scan the Check in TAS QR code or sign the attendance sheet.

Thank you for your assistance.

Heather Galloway

Duty of Care Officer



The Story of Ruth



Sermon Series

11 July to 8th August 2021

Hobart Baptist Church envisions itself as prophetically serving the city, and Ruth offers us a thread to follow to enter that space.

To be a prophetic servant in her time, Naomi came back in grief to her hometown and brought Ruth, a foreign woman, with her, who would then bring a descendent to Naomi.

To be a prophetic servant, Ruth enters a foreign community, aids her mother-in-law and reflects the spirit of the law to a people who knew the law. To be a prophetic servant, Boaz comes to the city gates to redeem Naomi and Ruth into his family.

Read more below the schedule ...

Sermon schedule

The HBC YouTube service is available from 10:15am every Sunday.

WATCH SERVICES AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE >>>

Date	Title	Bible Reading	Preaching
11 July	<i>Welcome to Ruth</i>	Ruth 1:1-14	Liam Conway
18 July	<i>The Redeemer</i>	Leviticus 25:23-28	Liam Conway
25 July	<i>Hope Restored</i>	Ruth 1:21-2:20	Scott Ambrose
1 August		Selection from Ruth 3	Michael Henderson
8 August	<i>Mother of the Messiah</i>	Ruth 4:13-22	Liam Conway

MORE ABOUT THE STORY OF RUTH SERMON SERIES

The Book of Ruth is a portion of the Megillot (the scrolls) that is traditionally read out at the Hebrew Festival of *Shavuot*, which commemorates the Law being Given at Sinai.

The Megillot were compiled in the post-exilic era, and written with the post-exilic struggles in mind. These struggles are expressed in Deuteronomy Chapter 23:2-6, and Ezra 10:1-17, which discuss the nature of intermarriage within the covenant people.

As such Ruth exists in contrast, being a Moabitess, intermarried with an Israelite, and ancestor of King David. She is an unlikely person to become the mother of the Messiah, as she is often called, and blessed for her connection to the nation of God.

Redemption is a major theme throughout Ruth, and the legal title of Guardian-Redeemer in the NIV is discussed several times through this small book (further reading in Lev 25:23-28).

The Redeemer in the story of Ruth (Boaz) is one who provides for his family, buys them back from destitution, cares and looks after them. To be a prophetic voice in Hobart is to bring the news of the kinsman-redeemer in Christ, who comes to bring the planet into the family of God.

KEY SERIES THEME:

Go'el – The Kinsman-Redeemer

SUB-THEMES OF RUTH:

- Migration used by God to achieve his purposes
- Women are just as capable as men to make a commitment to God
- *Chesed* (loving-kindness) is to be expressed by the people of God
- Foreigners are welcome into the community of God's people
- God moves people from emptiness to fulfilment
- Redemption includes the social and physical needs of living

HBC Members – and Others!



Hobart Baptist Church would not exist without the support and care of our official membership.

Outcomes from HBC Members' Meeting held after the 10am Service, Sunday 27th June 2021

THE RECENT MEMBERS MEETING WAS WELL ATTENDED.

Minutes from a Members Meeting on 28 March 2021 were confirmed.

Senior Pastor's report: Stephen added to his report saying that the difficulties with the building from last year had rolled over into this year. When we announced the Luminous Festival we did not know if it would be able to go ahead. But God was faithful and it was significant that the first event held was not about us, but was Luminous, shining light into the dark world. It drew people from all walks of life including many non-Christians.

The Tasmanian Christian Fund Grant had boosted the festival by enabling us to pay for catering, advertising etc. The announcement of Liam's call to Longford was good news and the fact that we had been able to provide a nurturing ground for him was great. Stephen's prayer was that Liam and Hannah will be blessed and will be a blessing. Whilst the numbers at our service have not returned to pre-Covid levels, we have much to be thankful for. It is a similar picture around the country and some churches in Victoria are yet to return to meeting in person. Stephen and Jenny will be on leave from 8 July for four weeks.

Secretary's Report: The secretary provided a written report and highlighted the fact that it was good to put the building works behind and to move into using the building. We are still learning how to use the building but encourage everyone to think how they might become involved.

Coffee Shop: Jo Sinclair gave an update on the progress to date on getting the coffee shop up and running. She has been working with Conrad and Angel Go, a Christian Filipino couple with a heart for mission, who will be leasing the coffee shop and are employing experienced café owners as mentors. The designs are being drawn up, Council requirements to be met, and they are in the last stages of getting sign off on a grant from Bapcare for set up costs.

Treasurer's Report: Geoffrey Clarke presented the financial statements for the 3 quarters ending 31 March 2021, acknowledging that they were out of date as it is nearly the end of the financial year. Whilst offerings were down, the support from the Government means that we are in a stronger position than we otherwise would be. The treasurer went on to present the budget for the 2021-2022 financial year, which was based on this year's. The offerings target presents a challenge as it is higher than what we have been achieving this year. The budget was adopted.

Diaconate Vacancy: Hannah Conway was elected onto the Diaconate for the remainder of the year.

Membership Application: Heather Galloway presented the interview report and the meeting voted to welcome Ruth

Burgess into Membership of the Hobart Baptist Church.

Building Update: Antal was happy that we are now using the building! The main task that remains is to get the finances in order.

Work on shortening the pews is nearly complete and whilst the cost is not cheap the Joiner is doing more than he quoted for.

A minute of appreciation for Antal's work over the course of the Building Redevelopment was recorded.

Hard copies of papers are still available if you would like them.

Heather Galloway, HBC Secretar

Members' Meetings are held quarterly, and are open to members and non-members alike.

The Members are led by the Deacons, who meet monthly.

HBC Diaconate 2021

Chair: Scott Ambrose

Secretary: Heather Galloway

Assistant Secretary: Karen Stott

Treasurer: Geoffrey Clarke

Assistant Treasurer: vacant

Ex-officio: Stephen Baxter

Ordinary Deacons: Celia Munro; Joanna Sinclair; Moo Lay Graham; David Needham