

Church Family News, September 2023



Hobart Baptist Church, Sunday 24 September

Join us at 10am this Sunday, to worship together, sing praise and be encouraged and inspired by God's word.

Joel Ortiz will introduce the new sermon series: *Praying the Lord's prayer.*

SERMON: An introduction to the Series.

BIBLE READING: Ephesians 1:3-10

WATCH: LIVE on YouTube at 10.00am Sunday

A Q&A session with the speaker takes place after the sermon each Sunday.

To join, text a question to **0491 070 718**.

Stay on after the service for fellowship over morning tea, including a coffee from Esteem.

Kids' Church (Primary school aged kids) and **HBC Youth** is on.

For enquiries regarding room use/hire, please email Kelvin Smith (kelvin@citynetworks.org.au).

Stephen and Jenny Baxter will be attending Burnie Baptist this Sunday for the Induction of their new Pastor, Matty Copin.

HBC send greetings to Burnie for this much anticipated service.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



SEPTEMBER

Operation Christmas Child: During September contributions can be from any of the categories. See below for more details.

SUNDAY 24th 10am. *Praying the Lord's Prayer* sermon series begins.
6-8pm. Abeba's Eritrean Long Table Banquet at HBC. Bookings through Kelvin.

TUESDAY 26th 10.30am. Ladies coffee morning at Esteem.

WEDNESDAY 27th 7.30am. Prayer for the City. Hobart City Church of Christ (8 Goulburn St, Hobart)

OCTOBER

SUNDAY 1st – 6-7:30pm. Interactive Informative Session on the Voice

WEDNESDAY 4th – 10.30am. Catch up with Jan and Anna Yawan at Esteem

SUNDAY 15th – 22nd. National Baptism Week. More details below.

SATURDAY 28th – Operation Christmas Child shoe box packing, Soudy Lounge between 10am – 2pm

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 4th 11am-2pm. Safe Church Training, Gibson Hall. See below for more details.

SATURDAY 18th 9:30am – 3:30pm, EmpowHer Day of Courage at Longford. More below.

NEW SERMON SERIES

PRAYING THE LORD'S PRAYER – 24 SEPTEMBER TO 12 NOVEMBER 2023

The Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6:9-13 is perhaps the most well-known and beloved prayers in the history of the Church.

It is the example given by Jesus to his disciples and has been used as a model prayer for Jesus' followers everywhere.

Each week we will take a close look at the Lord's Prayer by exploring each of its sections, and asking how it can be applied to our own lives.

As we explore, we will discover how Jesus' model for effective prayer can help us to grow in our relationship with God, with each other and be more effective in our work for the Kingdom.

For more information, [visit the sermon page here...](#)



LONG TABLE BANQUET – SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER



This Sunday 24 Sept, 6:00- 8:00pm. Drinks for 5:45pm at HBC.

Hopefully you and your friends have booked tickets for Abeba's traditional Eritrean banquet which is on tonight. Enjoy!

Abeba is currently participating in a training course in preparation for launching her business at the next Multicultural market weekend – 25/26 November. Save the date!

INTERACTIVE INFORMATIVE SESSION ON THE VOICE

Interactive Information Session on the Voice

1st October 2023
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Refreshments provided

Hobart Baptist Church
284 Gleneden St, North Hobart

Rev. TIM COSTELLO
Pastor, Baptist Church
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church

LEE ARCHER
Executive Director
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church

ROONEY DILLON
Executive Director
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church
Pastor Emeritus, Baptist Church

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NATIONAL BAPTISM WEEK

This year, along with other Baptists Churches, and supported by Crossover Australia, we will be celebrating National Baptism Week in October.

This is a great opportunity for churches, youth groups, small groups and ministries across Australia to celebrate, explore and offer baptism.

If this is something you have been considering, or would like to know more about, now is a perfect time to ask. Talk to one of our Pastors TODAY.

**NATIONAL
BAPTISM
WEEK** **October
15-22**

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING – SAT 4 NOVEMBER



HBC will be running a Safe Church Training Session on **Saturday 4 November** from **11am-2pm**, in the Gibson Hall. Bookings are essential and are required no later than 28 October.

RSVP to Matt Henderson – matt@hobartbaptist.org.au

As previously stated, to satisfy the requirements of our Insurance, it is imperative that everyone who works with children or vulnerable people and ALL leaders within the church are signed off on their training by the end of November or they will not be able to continue in their role.

Leaders include: Pastors, Deacons, Kid's Church and Youth leaders, those involved in the 10am service on a regular basis (those who sing, play instruments, read the bible, pray, lead the service, welcome people, serve morning tea, and also extends to the Karen community, Vietnamese fellowship.....

pretty much everyone within the church!

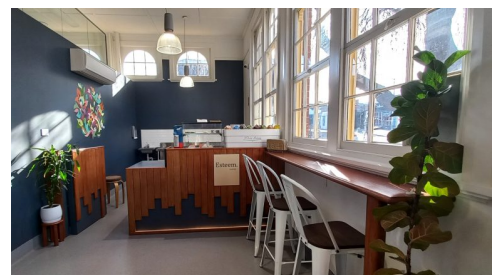
Please talk to Matt, your ministry leader or myself if you are uncertain, have any questions, or are unavailable on that day. The in person training is the preferred option, however there is an online version available if required.

Heather Galloway

ESTEEM COFFEE

Esteem coffee is open 7.30am – 2.00pm weekdays. If the Esteem sign is outside, good coffee awaits inside! Toasties and croissants also available.

HBC support for the coffee shop is essential. Drop in for a coffee, invite a friend, and spread the word far and wide. Esteem is a unique coffee shop and the space is great for a relaxed friendly catch up with people – so what is not to love about it!? See you there!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2023

National Collection week for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes is fast approaching. You are invited to help pack the shoeboxes in the Soundy Lounge on Saturday October 28 between 10am – 2pm.

We will continue collecting items from all categories:- Education, Hygiene, Something to play with, Something to love, Something to wear and Something special, until our packing day at the end of October.

Financial donations to help cover the cost of sending the boxes would also be appreciated. (\$12.50 a box).

For further information please speak to Celia or Kylie. THANK YOU for your generosity!



JAN AND JIT YAWAN WRITE

Dear brothers and sisters at Hobart Baptist,
We are so thankful for your partnership with Jan and then Jit and Anna, too, over such a long time – it's over 46 years now since you commissioned me (Jan) to come to Thailand and you've hung in for the long haul.

Jan and Anna are making a fleeting visit to Hobart, to again say thanks to all who support us financially as well as with interest and prayer for us to be here in Sangklaburi, Western Thailand as we seek to show the love of Jesus in what we say and do.

If you would like to catch up with Jan and Anna, come to **Esteem from 10.30am on Wednesday 4 October** – all welcome.

To read their latest Newsletter [Click here >>>](#) .



HBC LADIES COFFEE MORNINGS



All ladies invited to get together over coffee on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Where: Esteem Coffee Shop (HBC Foyer)

Time: Drop in anytime between 10.30am – 12:00pm.

Next Coffee Chat is Tuesday, 26 September.

Join us for good coffee, tea, toasties or croissants!

PRAYER FOR THE CITY

Church Together Tasmania invite everyone to gather together and pray for our city, believing that God will touch our city, making the impossible possible in His name.

Prayer for the City occurs on the last Wednesday morning of each month. All welcome – **7.15am for a 7.30am start**.

27th September – Hobart City Church of Christ (8 Goulburn St, Hobart)

25th October – Hobart Baptist Church (282 Elizabeth St, Nth Hobart)

29th November – Hobart Baptist Church (282 Elizabeth St, Nth Hobart)



EMPOWHER DAY OF COURAGE

Saturday 18 November, Longford | [Find out more >](#)

We can take busload if enough people are interested!



GIVING – YOUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS



'Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.'

2 Corinthians 9:7

We thank all who give faithfully on a regular basis, as without this support we would not be able to operate. Your offerings support our budget: and through that it enables the church to continue to be an important part of the North Hobart landscape and the place from where we can prophetically serve the City of Hobart.

It is where we can know the benefit of worshipping with others, where we hear the stories of Jesus and how they apply to us, where we are encouraged in our journey with Jesus, from where we can share God's love with others and help them to know and trust in God themselves. Our influence can also be far reaching – there is no limit to God's love through our deeds and actions. Thank you for your generosity.

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](#)

reCreation: Past, Present and Future



16 July to 17 September 2023

The first readers and hearers of the story of creation, found in the early chapters of Genesis, had little sense of the size, nature, and scope of the world nor the task the Creator gave them in stewarding it. Over the centuries that followed, human knowledge grew and successive generations reimagined life in the light of their expanding knowledge.

For example, when people could not travel freely, knowledge was limited to, and dependent upon, the place where they lived and visitors they received. Knowledge grew when explorers returned with fascinating tales of distant lands, peoples and creatures. Those who wrote and compiled the Old Testament had a horizon limited to the Middle East. By the time of the New Testament writers, it had expanded to the Roman Empire.

Read more below the table

Series Schedule – click the sermon title to watch

1	16 July	Genesis 1:1-31	The Revelation of Creation	Stephen Baxter
2	23 July	Genesis 1:26-31	Good and Very Good	Matt Henderson
3	30 July	Genesis 1:1, 31 Romans 1:20	A Sacred Universe	Stephen Baxter
4	6 Aug	Genesis 2:4-7	The Earth is our Home	Stephen Baxter
5	13 Aug	Genesis 1:26-28	Original Blessing ... the universe as gift	Michael Henderson
6	20 Aug	Psalm 8:1-9	Being Human: dust of the earth, breath of the divine	Matt Henderson
7	27 Aug	Genesis 3:1-8	Un-Original Sin	Stephen Baxter
8	3 Sept	Genesis 1:26-30	"Complete Authority"	Matt Henderson
9	10 Sept	Genesis 1:31-2:2	The Seventh Day Entering Rest	Stephen Baxter
	17 Sept		Sanctuary Sunday	

Then, arriving at the Protestant Reformation, the horizon was Europe. By this time it was expanding rapidly, through nautical exploration pioneered by Columbus, and the proposal of Copernicus that the earth revolved around the Sun – not the other way around. This discovery had a profound, transformative effect on every aspect of Western culture including spirituality and the Reformation. Interestingly, Martin Luther and Nicolaus Copernicus were contemporaries, born and buried within 10 years of each other.

Propelled by technology and space travel, today's horizon is literally out of this world. We are now the first generations in human history to look back at ourselves from outer space. It is encapsulated by the photograph of the 'blue marble', taken by Apollo 17 astronauts in 1972. This picture of a fragile, vulnerable, and isolated Earth suspended amid the vast emptiness of space, changed the world. Historian Robert Poole suggests,

"The sight of the whole Earth, small, alive, and alone, caused scientific and philosophical thought to shift away from the assumption that the Earth was a fixed environment, unalterably given to humankind, and towards a model of the Earth as an

evolving environment, conditioned by life and alterable by human activity, it was the defining moment of the twentieth century.“

It was a defining moment because it lengthened our horizon, and shifted our perspective. In past eras, the many unknown regions of the world beyond the horizon were exotic, exciting and ripe for exploration. Today, those regions are vastly reduced. What's more, they are easily recorded in video and introduced to us via our smart phones.

The old stories we told ourselves to explain who we are, what we do and why we are here, are no longer adequate. The exploration of space, the insights of modern science, rapidly changing technology, and the communication revolution, have destabilised all the old meta-narratives. Today, for the first time in human history and despite the remaining differences in language, customs, worldviews and religion, there is a collective “knowing” that we share the one planet and the one destiny. Everything is interrelated. We cannot ignore each other. We must learn how to work together to ensure and secure our future.

For younger generations, any spirituality or religion that appears indifferent or ignorant of our 'fragile' world, and reluctant to work together for the future, is quickly dismissed as out-of-date, inadequate, irrelevant and even dangerous. Any answers to the questions of “Who am I?”, “How did we get here?” and “What does the future hold?” can only be addressed in the context of this expanded horizon.

Can we find in Genesis a story big enough to answer the deep question of today? Is it big enough to encompass all of life for every human being?

The answer is yes.

But it needs a deep reframing, not dissimilar to the reframing the Reformers undertook in their day in the light of their current new discoveries and technological change. Our task is to reimagine and reinterpret our Creation stories with a narrative big enough and meaningful enough to recapture our imaginations and provide new vision for what God is doing in our world.

In this series we revisit the first few chapters of Genesis, hoping to begin developing a spiritual theology that is aware of these expanded horizons and attuned to the spiritual longings of contemporary Hobartians.
