

Church Family News – March 2024



HOBART BAPTIST CHURCH, SUNDAY 31 MARCH

May you be truly blessed this Easter.

All welcome to worship together on **Good Friday at 9:30am** and **Easter Sunday at 10:00am**.

Matt Henderson will bring Good Friday's message and on Sunday Stephen Baxter will encourage us with the Hope that the Easter message imparts.

SERMON: "At Last!"

A Q&A session will take place after the sermon. During the sermon you can SMS questions to: 0491 070 718.

BIBLE READING: [Matthew 28:1-10](#); [Galatians 4:1-7](#)

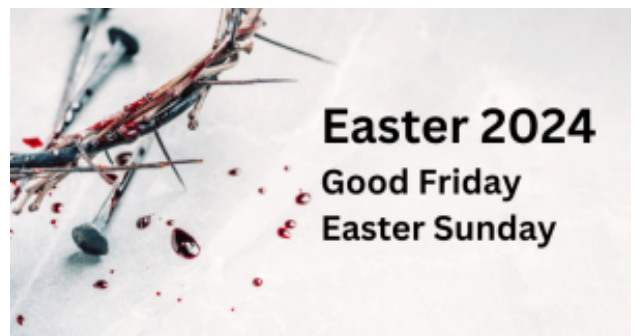
YOUNG PEOPLE: **Kids' Church** will be ON. **HBC Youth** will stay in the service.

WATCH: [LIVE on YouTube at 10.00am Sunday](#).

Enjoy fellowship over Morning Tea following the Sunday service only,

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

PLEASE NOTE: To contribute to Connector and Church Family News for any Sunday, please email connector@hobartbaptist.org.au no later than 5pm the Wednesday prior.



Do you require pastoral visitation? David Knox is keen to catch up!
Please have a chat with him, or email, to make a time: dknoxhome@bigpond.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MARCH

FRIDAY 29th 9:30am
*Good Friday Service with
Crossover Offering*
(donate below)

SUNDAY 31st 10am
Easter Sunday

Operation Christmas Child



– Collecting school supplies. See details below.

APRIL

SUNDAY 7th 10am A Special Service

SUNDAY 14th 10am *People of Peace* series begins

CROSSOVER OFFERING

Easter 2024

Don't forget the Crossover offering! Crossover aims to help Aussie Christians share Jesus. Collected as a retiring offering on Good Friday, and there is another opportunity on Easter Sunday. Donations can be given either through the Church Offering, suitably labelled, or directly by clicking the link below.

[DONATE TO CROSSOVER](#)



Based on 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again...

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT HBC

Serving others to serve God

Recently, the idea of serving at church was encouraged by **Matt Henderson during his sermon >**

Everybody has unique God-given skills and talents, and they help change the world around you. At Hobart Baptist, there are serving opportunities to fit your skills and your schedule!

Have you prayed about your involvement yet? You are welcome to add your name to Matt's list next Sunday, but **you could also find out more and add your name HERE >**.



CHURCH MEMBERS' MEETING

Last Sunday 24th March, the Church Member's Meeting, held after the wonderful Sanctuary Sunday Service and fabulous morning tea, was well attended.

The 139th Annual Report was presented and Mae Niones was welcomed into membership.

If you missed out on a copy of the Annual Report, printed copies are available or if you would like it emailed out, please ask.



FRIENDSHIP GROUPS AT ESTEEM

English Conversation

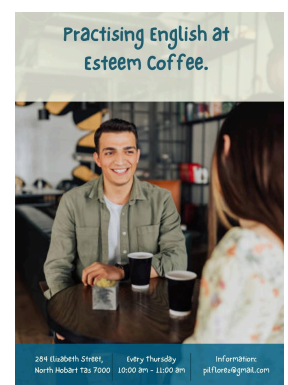
- **Thursday mornings, 10am – 11am**
- ANYONE IS WELCOME!
- Hosted by Pili (a Colombian young lady)
- There will be a topic for each day, but flexible and friendly.
- Volunteers needed! Camille Peacock will soon be looking for English speakers, to help facilitate.

Adult Colouring

- **Friday mornings**
- COME AND ENJOY SOME DOWN TIME!
- Hosted by Karen Conway and Celia Munro

Discussion Group

- **Fortnightly on Tuesdays, 1pm**



- Free and open discussion about how to be a follower of Jesus in today's world
- Members of the discussion group invite others to join!
- Next meeting Tuesday 9 April
- For more info, talk to William Maguire

Email Kelvin if you are interested or have ideas for other groups: kelvin@citynetworks.org.au

LUMINOUS* 2024

* *Luminous is a mid-winter event hosted by Hobart Baptist Church to be held 12 to 23 June.*

Luminous aims to open up conversations on important topics for the people of Hobart. This year's theme is **Sacred Tasmania** – *An exploration of the link between Tasmanian place, the sacred, and sustainability.*



You are invited to participate! This is your opportunity to be part of the team. There are lots of volunteer opportunities:

- Music and carols
- Movie, poetry and reading nights
- Hobart Baptist's signature **Christmas in Winter** celebration
- Art/exhibition
- Event Set-up
- Audio/Lighting and Video

To offer your ideas and suggestions please talk to Stephen Baxter, or email luminous@hobartbaptist.org.au

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Hobart Baptist are again supporting the **Operation Christmas Child** program during 2024.

Every Sunday, there will be a red tub available near the kitchen entrance for your donations – both gifts and cash donations are welcome!

It's March and we are collecting Something for School:

- 9×7 exercise books (larger books will not fit in the boxes)
- 15cm rulers (30cm rulers will not fit in the boxes)
- pencil cases
- pencils, pens, colouring pencils, textas, chalk
- sharpeners, erasers
- library bag



In October there will be a shoebox packing day held in the Soundy Lounge. And what a fun day that will be! Or, if you prefer, why not take a box or two home and pack them yourself?

Please see Kylie Henderson or Celia Munro for more info.

[Here are some ideas for gifts >](#)

CITY PRAYER

Read about the recent City Prayer event, and prayer points for our city: [HBC Prayer page >](#)



Details for 2024 dates

7.15am for 7.30am.

City Prayer: Finish 8.30am | City Breakfasts: Finish 8.30am

24th April – BREAKFAST – Hobart City Church of Christ (8 Goulburn St, Hobart) *Details coming soon!*

29th May – – Your Church (29 Charles St, Moonah)

26th June – Your Church (29 Charles St, Moonah)

31st July – **Hobart Baptist** (282 Elizabeth St. Nth Hobart)

28th August – BREAKFAST (details coming)

25th September – Hobart City Church of Christ (8 Goulburn St, Hobart)

30th October – **Hobart Baptist** (282 Elizabeth St. Nth Hobart)

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

Let's come together and pray for our city – knowing that ALL things are possible in Him.

Pastor Dave Morse, *Your Church* Moonah.

TITHES, GIFTS 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](#)

The Main Game



Learning to Live like Jesus in Hobart

4 February to 17 March 2024

A key focus of being part of HBC is ***Learning to live like Jesus in Hobart***. Jesus constantly called people to “*Follow me*” ([Matt 4:19](#)). Following Jesus meant putting into practice what he taught. It wasn’t an easy thing to do. Jesus told the crowds that; “*Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me*” ([Mark 8:34](#)).

The cross was a symbol of death. Jesus called people to give up their personal agendas, expectations and hopes, and join with his kingdom agenda. When we are able to do this in our daily lives we are able to access a more fulfilling and complete life.

For us today in Hobart, this is not just a Sunday thing, but a whole of life — a 7-days-a-week, 24-hours-a-day, undertaking. Every area of our lives, our family, school, work and even our alone time, is impacted by our commitment to be disciples of Jesus.

We begin 2024 with the encouragement to keep ***Learning to live like Jesus in Hobart*** and put plans in place to keep learning and growing.

Read more below the table ...

Date	Topic (orange text = video link)	Suggested Readings	Speaker
4 February	The Fruitful Life	John 15:1-8	Stephen Baxter
11 February	Your Call	Romans 12:3-8	Stephen Baxter
18 February	Remain	1 Corinthians 7:17-24	Stephen Baxter
25 February	The Time Out	1 Corinthians 14:26-39	Matt Henderson
3 March	The Main Game and Creativity	1 Corinthians 13:1-8	Michael Henderson
10 March	Building Culture	Acts 2:42-47	Matt Henderson
17 March	Living like Jesus	2 Timothy 1:6-10	Stephen Baxter

Jesus Followers Gathering Together – Huddles

When Jesus followers get together, whether it is on a Sunday in a larger group, or during the week in smaller groups, they come for instruction, support and encouragement for living out our calling in the context God has placed on our lives with ongoing creativity.

It's a bit like time out in a basketball game or a half time coach's address for football team.

A time out is often an important opportunity to find rest, to encourage each other and to receive instructions from their coach. The time out is not the main game, but it is very important. When we are a part of a church community it can be easy to fall into thinking that what we do on Sunday mornings is the main game.

But the truth is that our Sunday service is intended more as a time out. The main game is played out in our everyday lives; at our workplace, around our dinner table and when we do life together with our family, friends, colleagues and peers.

When we come together as a church community, we are having a time out from the main game. It is our opportunity for finding rest and encouragement, to receive instruction for living, and for taking time to remember and worship our God.

But how is the main game of life going?

On a basketball team, like most teams, people have positions they play. Teams need to support and encourage each other. Teams need to communicate well and value the contribution each person plays.

Our church community is called to do these same things. We each have a context and a calling on our lives. We all have work to do. We all need to be valued and encouraged.

Over the next few weeks, we are going to be looking at how we are travelling in these areas as a community. We will be looking at how we can support each other in the main game of living life Jesus, and how we can get the most out of our time outs.

Sanctuary Sunday March 2024



Unity and Diversity

Learning to Live like Jesus in Hobart

Sunday 24 March 2024

Stephen Baxter shares about our *Unity and Diversity*.

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

At 10am on Sunday 24 March 2024 we gathered for Sanctuary Sunday, which coincided with Harmony Week. This is one of the highlights of the year at Hobart Baptist Church.

It's always a time to celebrate being God's people with a special focus on our diversity. God loves diversity! Just by looking at the world around us, you can see the myriad of insects, flowers, trees, and landscapes.

During the morning we heard some great singing in other languages from our Vietnamese and Karen Fellowships.

Recognising our differences across ages, ethnicities and interests is an act of worship. The focus was on Galatians 3:28 where Paul writes, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus."

Watch the sermon and Q&A session, below.

Harmony Sunday: We are One Body + Q&A
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=3gvoL4EhDfk>