

Church Leadership

Intentional Interim Pastor

Rob Newton

Elder

Graham Wells

Deacons

Carys De Marchi

Adam Lindsay

Joslyn Mauchline

Chris Neilson

Rob Vandenberg

Ernie Vanderwert

Transition Team

Graham Wells

Jenny Banks

Joy & Ted Gray

Margaret Hartley

Joslyn Mauchline

Lorna McCrae

Rob Vandenberg

Ernie & Linda Vanderwert

Sunday Services

For the foreseeable future we are streaming Sunday services live on Facebook at 10.00am.

1. There will be live worship via Facebook at 10.00am with Adam, Josh and Emma.
2. The message will follow immediately on Facebook (10.10am) as a separate post.
3. Communion will be in Zoom Groups at 11.00am



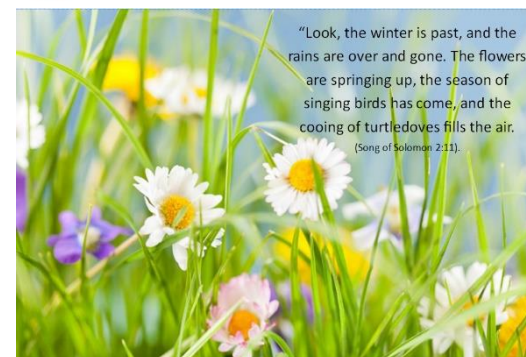
We gather together for worship each Sunday at 10am to celebrate Jesus as our Lord and Saviour!



18 Park Street,
Bright VIC 2741

www.brightchurchofchrist.org

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"Look, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone. The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air."
(Song of Solomon 2:11).

Moving from winter to spring reminds us that God designed the cycles of life, experienced in our seasons, months, and weeks. Seasons separate times for planting and harvesting, working and resting, pruning and blossoming. As believers we soon discover there are also seasons in our personal and collective spiritual journeying. This year you may have felt like our physical winter was a metaphor for a spiritual winter, as so many normal aspects of life and ministry went into hibernation. In God's goodness winter always gives way to spring, "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Gen 8:22). Like the changing seasons, a spiritual winter soon gives way to spring. The Song of Solomon draws on the explosion of new life in springtime to illustrate a blossoming romance, which many read as a prophetic illustration for the love and intimacy God develops with his people. "Look, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone. The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air. The fig trees are forming young fruit, and the fragrant grapevines are blossoming. Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one!" (Song 2:11–13). As winter gives way to spring and new life bursts forth around us, let us expect God's loving hand to release a 'spiritual spring' of intimacy with Him.

Grace and Peace.

Rob.

Pastoral Support. Being part of a small group is very important in terms of giving and receiving personal support. The pastoral care team is also doing an amazing job in offering additional support to individuals as required. Rob is available if you would like to catch up personally any time.

Counselling. Rhonda is a qualified Christian Counsellor and is offering a free session to anyone in the congregation.

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Church Family News

- We were saddened in early August by the sudden passing of Wes Rodgers. Wes was pastor of this church from 1993-94 and has, together with Rita, lived in Bright for the past 25 years. Until recently Wes & Rita were regular attenders at our church, and are well known to many members of our congregation.
- *In the previous newsletter we welcomed Ethan Neilson to our church. Since then Ethan and his mum, Alison, have had a trip down to the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne for Ethan to have emergency surgery. The surgery was successful and his stay in the hospital was not long. The family is now back at home and Ethan is progressing well.*
- Geoff Cook has advised that he now has a new email address – gfcCook1@bigpond.com



Prayer & Praise

- Pray for Rita Rodgers and the family following the recent passing of Wes.
- Anne Atkins is in hospital following further surgery. Please pray that the infection she has will disappear and she will be able to return home to recover.
- Praise for the success of Ethan's surgery and prayer for his continued recovery.
- Alan McCormack continues to improve but still needs our prayers.
- Please remember Geoff Cook and Kim Dealy who are struggling with various health issues at the moment.
- The Transition Team as they are nearly at the end of their task and are ready to formulate a church profile and a pastor profile.
- Rob Newton as he continues to lead our church from afar.

Outreach to Papua New Guinea

As many of you are aware, Ted & Joy Gray have an abiding interest in PNG and have visited the country several times.

Ted and Joy are currently putting boxes of books together to send over to the rural schools and the Gandep Bible College, in PNG. (To get to the Bible College from Madang in the northeast of the country, Ted and Joy travel for 6 hours by truck, 4 hours by motor canoe and 3 hours by tractor.) They are needing books to fill boxes for the school kids. The books they'd love are simple story books, books on the alphabet, colours, numbers, animals, and short stories with lots of pictures. Joy took books with her on a previous visit and they were well received, so she wants to send as many as she can.

If you have any books that are in good condition and you would be happy to donate, Joy and Ted would be very grateful.

The Men's Coffee Gathering is now in recess until current restrictions are relaxed.

The Women's Fellowship Morning usually takes place on the 3rd Thursday of the month, however due to current restrictions it has been decided that this will not take place in September.

Financial Matters

Tithes and offerings received for August were \$5315.

Tithes and offerings can be transferred electronically to the CBA Bright BSB 063645 Account 10022514.

Used Stamps & Bottle Tops needed!

The amount of mail we receive in the letterbox has decreased considerably to what it was in the past, but can you please save the stamps from any mail you receive and bring them to church the next time you attend. These stamps are sold and the funds used to support overseas missions.

There is also a request for you to save bottle tops – both plastic and metal. These are used to make prosthetic limbs. Once again, please bring them to church next time you come.

To think about

If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?