



# The Cornerstone

## September 2014

# Imagine

## SERVICES

### TUESDAYS:

- 9.30 am Holy Communion Service

### FRIDAYS:

1st & 3rd Friday nights:

- ◆ 7pm Alive & In the House

### SUNDAYS:

- 7.15 am Traditional Communion Service
- 9.30 am Contemporary Communion Service with Kid's Time (followed by morning tea).
- September 14th - 11.30 am Confirmation Seminar
- September 21st - 8.30 am Morning Tea for Traditional congregation
- September 21st - 9.30 am Panel with the Hon Tim Mander MP; Neil Griffiths and Tim Peters

## September Calendar

### MONDAYS:

- 7 pm Men's Study Group

### TUESDAYS:

- September 16th - 7 pm Creative Arts Rehearsal
- September 23rd - 6 pm Parish Council Meeting

### WEDNESDAYS:

- 9.30am Gentle Exercises
- 12.30pm—Beacon Counseling Ministry
- September 24th - 4.45 pm Beacon Counseling Ministry Supervision Seminar with Bianca Woodley RN from *Right at Home*.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### SENIOR PASTORS:

Andrew and Lynette Peters

### RECTOR:

The Rev'd Dr. Andrew Peters PhD FAIM

### CREATIVE ARTS DIRECTOR:

Lynette Peters MA (Mus)

### WARDENS:

Jim Smith (Treasurer)

Vicki Herman

Neil Griffiths

### ADDRESS:

- 203 Flockton Street Everton Park
- Mail: PO Box 231, Everton Park 4053

### TELEPHONE:

- Phone: 3353 2020
- Fax: 3353 8877
- Emergency Pastoral Care: 0418 775 166
- Practical Care: 0408 770 748
- Emergency Prayer: 3355 4445

### INTERNET:

- E-mail: stjudes@tpg.com.au
- Website: stjudiesep.com.au
- QR - coming

John Lennon, in his song "Imagine", asks us to 'Imagine there's no heaven' and 'no hell below us'. Such a call fits conveniently into a secular scientific worldview that does not acknowledge the possibility of God. Such a worldview does not recognise the spiritual realm closely aligned with the very material world in which we live. This call to dispense with heaven and hell is not entirely devoid of spirituality, but proposes one that sees the material universe as god itself. "Itself" IS THE appropriate designation since such a concept of god is devoid of personality, compassion, love and honour. Lennon's call to smash down the walls of hostility, with an expectation of human unity, suggests the elimination of social class and the doing away of organised religion. Such a proposal, however, is shakily dependent on the character of an entity (i.e., itself) that just does not care about us or the plight in which we are situated. It presumes a unity devoid of human ingenuity and personality.

**But imagine this instead:** reports are coming in from scientific observatories from around the planet that something strange is going on across the whole breadth of the universe. They are receiving unbelievable information from every part of the universe - noting that the planets and stars are turning around on their axis to gaze at a distant entity which is moving swiftly, coming from one part of the universe towards our own planet. It seems like all the planets and stars are bowing to this entity, swamped in light, that is moving much faster than anything that has ever moved before. News is spreading rapidly throughout every country on earth and people are moving to gaze upon the televised pictures of this light moving so swiftly towards us.

As the light moves closer and closer, entering now our own galaxy, all Christians across the world feel the prompting of the Spirit of God

within them with the whisper "He is coming". Every one of them is stopping what they are doing and positioning themselves so they can see Him as He enters our own atmosphere - riding the clouds across the sky...

Jesus told His disciples that no one could accurately predict the time of His coming. However, He clearly noted that when He did come every person on the planet would know that He has come - as He would come riding upon the clouds (Matthew 24:30, 36). What are the repercussions of that coming? At His coming every person on the planet will bow to Him and confess indeed that He is Lord. Paul proclaims concerning that time:

*God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Philippians 2:9-11 NASB).*

At that point there is no other option and no valid excuses that could put off the inevitable - it is time to deal with God. But it may indeed be too late for such dealing.

God has already proclaimed His love for all humanity through the coming of the Son of God in the person of Jesus Christ over 2,000 years ago. God's love for us was so immense that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead to bring the reality and potential of eternity into our lives. He calls us not to presume upon His kindness and patience but to respond to His love in the here and now by inviting Jesus Christ into our lives as our own personal Lord and Saviour. We should act now, not later. Jesus said:

*Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven (Matthew 10:31-32 RSV).*

# Panel Service - Tim Mander

## Sunday 21st September at 9.30am

Our Contemporary Service on Sunday the 21st of September will be a panel service with the guest panellist being our local State Member the Hon Tim Mander MP. He will be joined by two of our leadership team Neil Griffiths, who manages a Fishing Tackle business with his wife Lyn, and Dr. Tim Peters who is a law lecturer at Griffith University.

The theme of this panel session will be:

### Christians on the Frontline

The panel led by Ps Andrew Peters will unpack the issue of our interaction with the world around us in our homes, business, school, sport and other activities as we touch the lives of others for our Lord Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God.

The panel session will be near the beginning of the service and followed by the Greeting of Peace, so that members from the early service can join us and head home after the greeting of peace.



# Congratulations

We congratulate Dr. Tim Peters for the completion of his doctoral dissertation and the notice of conferral of the degree of PhD by Griffith University Law School.

The theme of the dissertation is:

### Reading the Law Made Strange: a Theological Jurisprudence of Popular Culture

Some of the chapters in the dissertation have been published in law journals to date. Tim was supported in this major undertaking by his wife Chantelle and daughters Elsie and Lucia.



# PANTRY NEEDS

## Emergency Food Parcels



our cupboard is like Old Mother Hubbard— It is a little bare!!!!

Donations of dry, long life goods are wanted to boost pantry supplies for the needy. Items such as canned meat, canned vegetables, fruit, bottles of sauce, pasta, rice, soup, tomato paste, spaghetti, spreads, sugar, tea, coffee, boxes of cereal, long life

milk and juice are all ideal. Please leave items in the basket near the Foyer

## French Lavender Plant Appeal

We need 15 French Lavender plants to add to our landscape garden along the pathway to the Cornerstone Ministry Centre. We are looking for donations towards the cost of \$10 per plant.



# Flowers in Memory

## September



**September 14th:** Ken & Ella Symes, Leslie and Phyllis Hooper and Donald Symes, parents and son of Dick and Helen Symes

**September 28th:** Les Nash & Joseph Herman & Betty and Hans Seemann, fathers mother and stepfather of Vicki and Kevin

Jeremias notes:

Something has happened, something unique, something that has never happened before. There are no analogies to the message of Jesus in other religious or Jewish works, no parallel to a message that God was concerned for sinners, not the righteous, and that he grants them here and now a share in his kingdom.

[Joachim Jeremias, "The Problem of the Historical Jesus," in *The Historical Jesus*, ed. C Evans (London: Routledge, 2004), 181.]

