

# Remember

Remember is a word that has gravitas (serious implications) in the Hebrew and Christian traditions.

For the Jews it is-Remember when we were in Egypt. Remember our slavery in Egypt because they feared us. Remember God moving his hand over Egypt and the plagues that came on account of Pharaohs' hardness of heart. Remember the Angel of the Lord passing over. Remember when we fled Egypt and crossed the sea on dry land. Remember when we received through Moses the Commandments and Law. Remember when we wandered the desert for 40 years because of our fear. Remember when we crossed into the promised land. Remember King David and his dance before the Ark of the Covenant. Remember King Solomon and the building of the Temple. Remember when we were in exile in Babylon. Remember when we returned to Jerusalem. Remember!

In the Christian Tradition, we Remember Jesus' birth at Christmas. We Remember His life, ministry and teachings on love of God, neighbour and self. Remember the New Covenant instigated by Jesus in the "Passover" meal (from which elements were taken and used in what we today we call Communion. Remember the desertion of the disciples at Jesus arrest. Remember Peter's betrayal at Jesus trial. Remember Jesus Crucifixion. Remember the empty tomb. Remember the resurrection of our Lord. Remember Jesus challenging Thomas' doubting by inviting him to reach out his hand and put it into Jesus' side. Remember Peter fishing with the other disciples when Christ Jesus meets them on the beach. Remember the road to Emmaus revelation. Remember the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Remember the boldness of the Apostles. Remember Saul's hunting of Christians. Remember Saul's road to Damascus meeting with Christ Jesus. Remember Paul's conversion and teachings. Remember!

The thing about **Remember**ing is that by its very nature - it is a statement that admits we are not 'there' anymore;

pronunciation - is a statement that requires us to deal with today rather than remaining in

Use - it empowers us to see, that by the grace of God we must be looking to be where Christ Jesus is requiring us to be today.

Thus Remember is a word that reminds us of God's faithfulness.

God's trustworthiness.

God's actions.

Remember we have a living Messiah, Jesus who is our Christ; (the Son of God) seated at the right hand of God.

Remember our Saviour who gifted to us all mercy, and bestowed upon humanity, His grace.

Remember Christian at your baptism when you surrendered your life to following Him, Christ Jesus alone.

- Remember your baptism.
- Remember your love of Christ.
- Remember your love of neighbour.
- Remember your life before your baptism, how you wanted everything your own way.
- Remember what it got you.
- Now remember the Good News that rescued you.

Humanity works in fear, anger, condemnation and separation. Our Churches are not the place for "what people want or don't want" rather they are the places and times to be reminded of what our Christ Jesus would have us do together as the body of Christ. Through prayer remember our God always works in love, joy, peace and hope for tomorrow.

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Remembering helps us to turn back to God in times of fear, pain or when we are lost.

As your CEO, I pray I'm working with you, towards the day we will say together:

Remember our faithful seeking of Christ Jesus' leadership, our shared love for each other and our work together as Churches of Christ in advancing Christ's Church in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Remember our united ministry proclaiming the Good News to all those souls who are now members, leaders and ministers of our churches.

I pray for tomorrow that our present situation as a Conference will be but a memory to guide the next generation.

However today, it is ours to work through!

So let us pray in love, joy, peace and hope with humble hearts to serve our Lord, working together as proclaiming together Lord Reigns"!

See you soon at Convention! Scott!



Moving on in.... Faith Hope Love

November 14: CareWorks AGM Western Communities—Flinders Park

**November 15: GR Stirling Lecture Tabor College** 

**November 16: Celebration Night Elizabeth Church of Christ** 

November 17: A day of reflection, prayer, discussion, connecting, reviewing, and the AGM.

**Aldgate Church of Christ** 

## 149th Church Anniversary

Strathalbyn Church of Christ Sunday 4th November 10.30am worship Lunch to follow

Speaker: Scott Combridge



### Date claimer for 2019

150th Anniversary of Strathalbyn Church of Christ Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd November

Call to Pray....You are invited to join with people across our churches in praying for one another. This month we pray together for:

Mt Gambier; Mundulla, Murray Bridge; Nailsworth; Naracoorte and Noarlunga Centre

## ARPA Players acting out in support of CareWorks, and you are invited!

The Australian Retired Persons' Association Radio Players love to act. Each week they rehearse in the old-time radio play style at the Western Communities Church of Christ.

This year during **Anti-Poverty Week**, they will be holding the second annual performance in support of CareWorks. This year they will be supported by Geoff Payne who has a few tricks up his sleeve!

Join us and enjoy the comedy and nostalgia of the heyday the 'wireless' era.



Sunday October 21st @ 2.30pm at Western Communities Church - Mile End, 2 Danby Street, Torrensville (just off Henley Beach Road). Entry: Gold Coin Donation



Is your Church planning an Anti-Poverty Week event? If so, let the CareWorks office know, and we will publicise it.

# **Great Gifts – Real Impact**

The happy children on the cover of this year's Great Gift Catalogue are from the Ranwas community in Vanuatu. They now have safe water close to their homes. As one young girl, Melina, said,

"We are happy because we wake up in the morning and there is water, and when we get home from school there is water."

Your church's support is vital in creating this ongoing change for communities like Ranwas. Join us in promoting and distributing the new GMP Great Gift catalogue. These gifts are a practical way of inviting members of your church to be a direct part of bringing real change to positively impact communities in need around the world.

When someone buys a Great Gift they can receive a gift card to give to a friend or family member. Gift cards can be received electronically or by post (with an envelope), just select your preference on the order form or when you purchase online.

All Gifts over \$2 for Relief and Development (COCOA projects) will receive a tax-deductible receipt. Gifts of Church Partnership (ICP) and Indigenous Ministry (IMA) are not tax-deductible, but will contribute to the valuable work of our Church and Indigenous partners. If you're not sure, look out for the gifts marked TD for tax deductible.



Your church can continue making a real impact and changing people's lives for the better through giving Great Gifts. It's churches like yours whose generosity enables the ongoing work of our partners. Working together is what empowers our projects to have real impact.

For more information and resources visit www.greatgifts.org.au/resources, contact info@gmp.org.au or call 8352 3466.

# Page 13— A selection

Gordon Stirling's contribution to Churches of Christ in the 20th and early 21st centuries remains strikingly contemporary.

Here, for the first time, a taster of Gordon Stirling's "Page 13" articles (published on 13<sup>th</sup>

page of the National Churches of Christ journal, "the Australian Christian") are made newly and readily available for Churches of Christ communities and beyond long after their initial publication in 1979-1987. G R Stirling's insights remain apt for our time and context.

This collection represents a selection from almost 200 Page 13 articles.

Copies of this booklet are available from Churches of Christ State Office for \$5.50 (plus \$3 postage)

Please contact the State Office for your copy.



# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MarionLIFE Hunger Walk will be held at 9am on Saturday 3 November! Join us for a 4km walk along the Sturt River to

raise awareness about those experiencing hunger and raise money to support MarionLIFE's work supporting individuals and families in need.

The event will also have stalls from local community organisations.

Register today and get involved!

MarionLIFE Hunger Walk

Date and Time: Saturday 3 November, 9am-

11am

**Cost:** \$15 for adults, \$5 for concession/children

Register: <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/426602">https://www.trybooking.com/426602</a> Information: Contact MarionLIFE on 82770304

or hungerwalk@marionlife.org.au













## building strong marriages

Helping couples invest in their marriage is a vital part of the ministry many of our ministers offer, particularly when ministers are asked to officiate a wedding. I often say to couples when they ask me to 'marry them' that I would be happy to contribute to their special day but I am more interested in helping their marriage last a life time.

Many of our ministers use a relationship enrichment resource called 'Prepare-Enrich'. I was a Prepare-Enrich trainer for a few years so I helped usher in the new format for the resource launched in 2009. Since leaving congregational ministry 5 years ago I don't use Prepare-Enrich as much but from time to time I am asked to facilitate a conversation with a couple.

I just had my first opportunity for the year to use the program again and noticed it there were changes to some of the resources. Prepare-Enrich has included a lot of updates as of late 2017 so here are some highlights for you.

If you haven't used the resource for a while, please be aware that you need to request a new password as the security protocols for facilitators has been upgraded. You'll also be please to know that there is a new facilitator's guide to help you map out your feedback sessions with a couple and the kinds of things you need to talk about in each session. There are upgraded couple resources to encourage people to use this as an ongoing marriage investment tool. This is not about preparing people for a wedding but about helping them continue to invest in a marriage.

You can now download the whole couple workbook for free and the 6 core exercises as separate sheets to work with couples. You'll also be pleased to know there is a new customized couple work book with biblical references and a biblical reference guide to help couples use scripture to work through the core scales such as conflict resolution, loving your partner, health issues, parenting and more.

If you would like further information or assistance in navigating how to use Prepare-Enrich please go to <a href="https://www.prepare-enrich.com">www.prepare-enrich.com</a> or contact me direct and I'll be happy to discuss this further. I encourage ministers to use prepare-enrich as a tool to help couples (no matter how long they have been married) invest in healthy, vibrant, long lasting marriages.

Mark Riessen Mission & Ministry Director



# <sub>go</sub> reo Telaunched!

#### Adventurous explorations in life and faith

We are pleased to announce the relaunch of Stirling Theological College's journal of ministry and theology, **reo**, as an online publication.

**reo** online will include several batches of content released per year. As a subscriber, you will receive an update whenever a new batch goes live.

Batch 1: 2018 *Cross-pollination* is now available online at <u>reojournal.com</u> with articles from current student and minister at Thornbury Church of Christ, Sue Maric, Dr.

Hery Susanto
(Churches of Christ Indonesia) and



Stirling tutor Karen Yunia, plus Dr. Andrew Menzies and Dr. Sam Curkpatrick.

One of our new priorities in editing reo is to include material from different states and Churches of Christ overseas. We want reo to become a relevant and interesting journal, providing individuals and leaders within the Churches of Christ movement space for theological reflection on contemporary issues.

If you would like to receive 3-4 editions per your via email, please sign up on the website, www.reojournal.com

