

What's Happening at BCC

Sunday Services -
10.30 am and 6.30 pm
Kidz Biz & Kidz Care-
Sundays 10.45 am
Home Groups -
Wednesdays 7.30 pm
Thursdays 7.30 pm
Ibis Church Service -
Alternate Wed 2.15 pm
Milestones -
Thursday 10.00 am
Prayer Time -
Friday 6.30 am
Youth Group -
Fridays or Saturdays
Prime Lifers -
As arranged
Men's -
As arranged
Women's -
As arranged
Young Adults -
As arranged
Food Bank Day -
Monthly - Last Sunday

See the web or news letter for other details

Ministry Contacts

Sr. Pastor	Greg Jones
Asst Pastors	Chris Swain; Bill Redman; Vicki Frearson
Elders	Greg Jones, Steve Arnol David Frearson, Ray Russell, Chris Swain
Deacon's Supervisor	David Frearson
Food Bank	Annie & Peter Vaane
Home Groups	Vicki Frearson
Ibis Home	John & Glenda Langerak Helen Regel Heather Newman
Kids Care	
Kidz Biz	Mark Spurr
Kid's Hope Aust	Sandra Chilcott
Kitchen	Henry Lions & Greg Jones
Men's Ministry	Mike & Dianne Boskell
Missions	Carrie Loring, Jacki Chid
Milestones	Bill Redman
Music Teams	Glenda Langerak
News Letter	Darron Langerak & Andrew DeBomford
New People	Murray & Grace Poke
Prime Lifers	Mike Boskell
Sound	Murray Poke
Message CDs	Murray Poke
The Mag	Murray Poke
Web	Heather Jones; Barbara Murphy; Vicki Frearson
Women's Ministry	Chris & Julie Swain
Young Adults	Sheldon & Julie Townsend
Youth Group	

Burnie Christian Centre

54 Wilmot St. Burnie, 7320

03 6431 9190 0418 140 810

www.burniecc.com



Growing a Relevant, Life Changing, Influential, Local Christian Community



**Burnie
Christian Centre**

Jan - Feb 2012



Welcome Baby Seven Billion

A few seconds after midnight on 31st October 2011 a baby emerged from the womb of its mother, drew its first breath, and announced its arrival into the world with a tiny cry.

This is Baby Seven Billion. The day that our planet became home to seven billion human beings marked an important milestone. But is it a milestone that we should celebrate, or a warning of impending catastrophe over which we should despair? For the population controllers at the UN Population Fund and Planned Parenthood the answer is clear: They would have preferred that Baby Seven Billion had never been born. We, on the other hand, celebrate the birth of Baby Seven Billion.

This little child has been born into a world that is more prosperous than our forebears could ever have imagined. As our numbers have grown, incomes have soared. In 1800, when there were only 1 billion of us, per capita income worldwide was a mere \$100. By 1927 our numbers had doubled, but incomes had increased five times to \$500. By the time we reached 3 billion in 1960, income had tripled again to \$1500. Today, as we pass

the 7 billion mark, per capita income has soared to \$9,000. Driving the so-called "population explosion" has been a real explosion in health and longevity.

As we recently celebrated Christmas and the birth of Jesus let's focus on the greatest birth of all. Have you ever wondered why the angel first talked to shepherds, a job considered lowest on the social ladder?

Let's think about it.

- If he had talked to church leaders they would have had to consult their doctrinal textbooks and denominational boards.
- If he'd appeared to celebrities, they'd have had to check to see who was watching.
- If he'd appeared to chief executives they'd have had to consult their diaries and spread-sheets.

So he gave the greatest news story in history to those with

- no axe to grind
- no reputation to protect
- no ladder to climb
- people with humble hearts and open minds;



Hi to everyone and welcome to the best time of the year. Summer! We love it all. There's something great about good weather and Bar-B's; the beach etc. that's so good.

Hey; well done to all who serve in some way in this great church. We've got cooks and cleaners and givers and builders and teachers and creative people and kid's people and senior people and music people and caring people and preaching people and praying people and printing people and organising people and heaps of giving people. Its great to be a part of a big team working together to serve God and people, to make a difference. Well done!

And well done to David and Helen Cox and family who have led the Kid's Church for many years and have been an incredible blessing to so many children and families. You have done an awesome job. Your work and ministry has been so appreciated.

Also to Leicester and the Community Garden team; Mike and Dianne, Peter and Annie, Christine, Kellie and many others; well done guys. Our two year contract with the City Council and their land has sadly come to a close. What a blessing the great food provided has been to so many. Well done team.

Also to Peter and Annie, to Peter and Barb and others who made up the bread run team. What a fantastic job you have done in serving so many needy people in the community, week after week. This too has come to a close this year. What a great ministry you've all been. Well done.

Well done too to all involved in our ongoing renos downstairs. Bit by bit we will continue to make a difference in the new year, hopefully in our building and also in our lives, our marriages, our families, our relationships and our great community that needs our very best love and encouragement to make their way to Jesus Christ and their God given hope and future. Glory!!

God bless you. Have a great New Year.

Love, Greg, Heather and family.



In Genesis chapter twelve God's promise to Abraham was to make his name great and all the peoples of the earth will be blessed because of him.

We are all blessed because many of our present inventions come from the Jewish race. We think of Salk - he discovered the polio vaccine ; think of the common Aspro - it came from a Jew; think of Albert Einstein - another Jew. We could go on and on.

God also promised Abraham a land for an everlasting possession. For thousands of years theologians thought this wouldn't happen. The Jews had been exiled twice - by the Babylonians in 722 BC and by the Syrians in 587 BC.

From the year 587 BC to 1948 there was no nation of Israel and no people known as The Jews.

In Ezekiel 11:17 God gave the Jews a prophecy while they were still in exile - He would bring them back to their land.

In May 1948 something happened that had never happened before. A new nation was born in a day. God had fulfilled His promise and drew the Jews back into their land from all over the earth.

Israel was recognised by the UN. It had 650,00 inhabitants and was surrounded by 40,000,000 hostile Arabs who said that they would destroy them; they would drive them into the sea.

The USA was the first nation to recognise the

Jews and immediately war broke out. They were out-numbered in vehicles; in troops 40 to 1; in population 100 to 1; in military equipment 1,000 to 1.

The Jews have defeated the Arab world three times since becoming a nation again. It is now one of the most powerful armies in the world.

Their population has grown to 7,000,000 with immigrants from some 100 nations.

In 60 years, a land of deserts is now one of the most productive in agriculture. It is also one of the most technologically advanced countries in the world.

Israel is one of the leading countries in the field of biotech research, standing side by side with the European nations and the US. This phenomenon is strange for a country that is in an area which isn't leading the field of academic research, and most of its population hasn't achieved more than basic education.

So how did Israel become a technological oasis? Maybe it's the fulfilment of God's promise to Abraham 4,000 years ago.

Another miracle is that the ancient language of Hebrew has been restored - another first. As of now, there are two official languages in Israel - Hebrew and Arabic. The language Hebrew, which became extinct for centuries, as it was not spoken after the biblical times, has been revived in the late 19th century. The language now is the most widely spoken language in Israel.

So in conclusion, let us keep our eyes on the Middle East and in particular the country of Israel. Israel is undoubtedly 'God's chosen people'.

Let's pray for the land of Israel and the Jewish people. Psalms 122:6 says "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love you."

Murray Poke

The Middle East in the News every day. Why?

“All things are immortal but the Jews - what is the secret of their immortality?” - Mark Twain

Why do we hear something about the Middle East almost on a daily basis?

Is it because God has a plan and a purpose for that area?

It all started some 4,000 years ago when God made a promise to a man called Abraham. Did you know that he is the father of the Jews as well as the inhabitants of all the surrounding countries?

God's promise to Abraham was that He would bless him and he would be the father of many nations. God also said that he would bless those who blessed him and curse those who cursed him. That promise and warning still holds firm today.

God also promised to give Abraham and his descendants all the land of Canaan [present day Israel] as an everlasting possession. Abraham and his wife Sarah were too old to have children at this time and so doubted God.

They thought they should put another plan into action. Sarah suggested that Abraham should sleep with Hagar [their Egyptian maid] and have a child with her. This happened and later Ishmael was born.

This is where all the Middle East conflict stems from as Ishmael is the father of many nations in the area. Right from the start, the Ishmaelite's couldn't get along well with their own family.

This is still happening today. Muslim terrorists blow up other Muslims; the Arabs are against the Jews; the Jews are against the Arabs; the Muslims are against Christians; Muslims are against Muslims

So where did the Ishmaelites go to? According to Genesis 25:18 they went to what's now called the Arabian Peninsular. This

includes Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Yemen, UAE, Parts of Jordan, Syria, Oman etc.

God also knows the answer to the problems in the Middle East.

So where did the Muslims come from? Arabic tradition has it that Ishmael migrated to Mecca.

Let's move forward to the year 610 AD. According to some commentators, an illiterate man called Muhammad befriended some Jewish people who taught him the old Testament. After some time he came to the conclusion that they were all brothers—descendants of Abraham.

One day as Muhammad was sitting in a cave he got a vision from an angel [he assumed that he was Gabriel]. The angel is supposed to have wanted him to be God's prophet to the Arab people. He wasn't trying to start a new religion. All he wanted to do was to turn his people back to believing in a single God.

As he and his followers began to pray, they would kneel towards Jerusalem [not Mecca]. He believed that there was only one true religion and one true way to God. The Jews - they go through Abraham; the Christians - they go through Jesus and the Arabs—they go through Muhammad

The Jews and the Christians didn't buy into this idea and so in 624 AD Muhammad instructed his followers to pray facing towards Mecca. From then on he said that they would consider themselves as the one true religion.

About this time he forms an army and in 630 AD he marches into Mecca and takes the city. He then establishes Islam as the religion of the Arab world. And for 1400 years their cry has been, 'there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.'

There has been hatred and enmity ever since that time. That's how the problem began and **God knows all about it. He understands. And God keeps His promise.**

[Cont. from front]

- People with simple, child-like faith.

Getting the idea?

- Outside Bethlehem there is a church marking Jesus' birth-place.
- Behind the alter is a cave with a symbolic star embedded in the floor. You can enter the cave, but with one requirement - you must kneel. The door is too low to get in standing up!
- God still operates that way.

You too will find Him among the commonplace. But to experience Him, you must get down on your knees.

We can also think of another man that we read of in Luke ch. 2. The story of Simeon teaches us some important truths.

- No matter how long it takes, if you seek the Lord you will find Him.

- God, not you, chooses the time and the manner in which He will come to you. Simeon didn't get to see Christ's amazing ministry; he only saw the newborn baby in Mary's arms. But he saw God and that was enough for him.
- Even though he was 'very devout', Simeon realised that he was only ready to die when he met the Lord and embraced Him.
- Some of us don't want to die until we have seen the world. Simeon didn't want to die until he saw the redeemer of the world.
- So the question we must answer is - have I met the Lord? Is He my personal Saviour? Only when we have the right answer, are we ready to die.

Source - Intercessors Network
The Word for Today

Want a Happy and Successful 2012 ?

It's up to you.

The choices you make determine your future.

Make this your daily prayer.

“Fill my heart with your love and overflow me with compassion today.”

Nothing is too Hard for God

Hi I am Jill, I am 37 years old, wife to Mark. We have been happily married for 17 years and have two amazing children, Caleb who is 15 and Hannah 14.

I grew up in a loving non-Christian family and although my mother came to know the Lord as a child herself, like many she went into adulthood without God. Thankfully she sent both my brother and I to Acton Chapel Sunday School, where the first seeds of Christianity were sown.

I loved Sunday school but dropped out within a year or so because it wasn't cool to go and none of my friends went. A couple of years passed before I made a friend who went to the Salvation Army Sunday School where I also attended for a short-time.

The first time I can actually remember asking Jesus into my heart was when I was at Acton Primary School. A group from Acton Chapel came to the school to run a lunch-time program. When I was in grade six I became very close to my scripture teacher and I used to ask her lots of questions but didn't understand much. One thing I do know is she left a lasting (God) impression on my life.

I then started High School where I met a life-long friend and her family; they were an integral part of my life, a beautiful Christian family. Thankfully they took me along to their Church Sunday school picnic where I met some other people. From that time on they picked me up each Sunday to go to Sunday School at Monnington Street Gospel Hall in Upper Burnie. Finally I was consistently in church, learning and growing as a Christian.

The last fifteen years has been a journey towards health. I started to become discontent with what I will call my lack of 'normal' and 'consistent'. I asked God continually to



'make me normal'. I would classify myself to be a woman of extremes; experiencing regular bouts of depression as well as manic episodes. Overall, I coped with God, most of the time... but I found myself getting increasingly worse. I believe God was showing me that there was in fact a quite serious problem. In order to bring about change one has to first acknowledge the problem.

Anyway...

I got to an all time low. Upon waking one morning and feeling so depressed, it was only my motherly responsibilities that dragged me from my bed. I got the kids to school and then walked to the Romaine Reserve where thankfully I met a friend who, long story short, got me to see that I needed help. I started seeing a psychologist and was diagnosed with Bipolar disorder and started medication. This was huge for me because up until this point I actually did not believe in mental illness and I put any such thing in the spiritual warfare basket. For a while I was really well, having no highs or lows... but after a time I became emotionally void. I couldn't cry or laugh. I simply functioned robotically. I remember at this point crying out to God, "If this is life to the full, I want nothing to do with it". I actually begged God to take me as I honestly be-

Zone B areas are under shared Palestinian and Israeli control, where all people and faiths are tolerated, with mosques, synagogues and churches all operating freely. Zone C is controlled by Israel, which is also open to all.



Ancient olive trees of Gethsemane

One of the highlights of the tour was a talk by David Silver, a Messianic Jew from New Zealand, who has returned to Israel to live with his wife and adult sons. He shared his vision of reaching the Jews for Christ, but also of stirring the church into recognising again the importance of Israel and Jerusalem in God's redemptive plan,

and to alert it to once more pray for the land of Israel and its people. (Romans 11) We came home almost overwhelmed with our memories, thoughts and the deluge of information and impressions we received. It was a marvelous experience, but a very challenging one as well in that we now feel called to inform others of God's eternal covenant with Israel.

Wayne & Pat Blazely

PS - UCB are hosting another trip to Israel in March / April 2012. For more info see www.ucb.com.au

The Marriage Course

This is a candle-lit dinner for two; followed by a presentation and then a time for couples to share with each other about their lives together, however, there is no group sharing.

The seven week course is for every marriage -

- It aims to enhance
- It aims to refresh
- It aims to revitalise
- It aims to restore marriages
- It is conducted in a non-threatening, supportive environment

Commences on Tuesday, February 14
7.00 - 9.30 pm
Limited spaces available

Cost is \$180 per couple - it includes meals and materials

Contact Wayne or Pat Blazely for more information and application forms

In the Footsteps of Jesus

Our recent trip to Israel with UCB (Word for Today), was a multi-faceted experience for both of us.

Personally, we thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of the 57 other Australians who travelled with us, ranging in age from 16 to 86. The unity of the Spirit was so evident, even though we had begun the journey as strangers. Lives were shared, help was offered in many ways, difficulties dealt with and much laughter brightening the full and tiring days.



Re-baptised in Jordan River

Spiritually, we were often stretched as we spent time around the Sea of Galilee, Jesus' main area of ministry; visited Bethlehem & Nazareth, were rebaptised in the Jordan River and took communion in the 2000 year old garden beside Golgotha, after some time amongst the ancient olive trees of Gethsemane.



On the Sea of Galilee

Intellectually, we were fascinated by the layers and layers of history found in Israel. Every place we explored had ruins dating from Solomon's time or before, covered by Byzantine ruins, covered by Roman ruins, covered by Crusader ruins, covered by Muslim ruins and now excavated to reveal all. Amazing!

Politically, we were challenged to understand the tension between Israel & her neighbours, particularly after visiting a military post on the Golan Heights and seeing the nearby Syrian countryside separated by 'no man's land' and rolls of razor wire.

We were doubly challenged to understand the Zones within Israel itself. Zone A areas are under Palestinian control and no Israeli is welcome – even our Jewish Tour Guide, Boaz, had to leave the coach as we passed the checkpoints.



Pat in Solomon's Porch

lied I would have some accident or something. That is what I wanted and I actually believed my family would be better off without me (the devil's lies). I felt huge guilt for continually putting my family through the trauma of my illness.

It was at this point that I felt clearly led to cease my medication, which I did. I believed God was going to heal me and that was my prayer; overnight healing!

It was not long before this we began worshipping at the Burnie Christian Centre. Attending BCC has been an integral part of my healing journey. I had yearned for years for more of God. I am very thankful for my brethren roots but felt I was missing something. I had an amazing bunch of friends (Praise God) who all attended BCC and I could see they had something more and I wanted it; I wanted it for Caleb and Hannah. I wanted them to grow up experiencing the whole of God and His awesome power.

Overnight healing was my plan but God had other ideas. He has taken me through many amazing twists and turns and provided for me on countless occasions. Bit by bit I am being healed. I have now been off medication and on vitamins for four years. It has not always been easy, but God didn't promise easy.

He does promise:

- I will never fail you. I will never abandon you – Hebrews 13: 5
- My grace is all you need – 2 Corinthians 12: 9.
- By His stripes you are healed – 1 Peter 2: 24.

Throughout this time I was doing voluntary work at the Acton school for about eighteen months before Chaplaincy was introduced. Amazing how God works, this led to my



appointment as school Chaplain. After about four years and many quality relationships I applied for and was given a new job as a Pharmacy Assistant. I started my job with fear and trepidation and lots of doubt...was I doing the right thing walking away from Chaplaincy? I didn't know - I wanted to be obedient. I have now been in Pharmacy for nearly two years and although I really didn't understand at the time why my position as Chaplain ended I now know that it was God's provision for me.

I feel like He has put me in a safe place, with some of the most amazing people where I am able to heal. I still have many chats to many of my Chaplaincy relationships ... mmm, funny how God works! I still have a few ups and downs but with God's healing power I am thankful to say I am being healed bit by bit through His power and revelation.

I feel like my life is like one gigantic puzzle and pieces are spread far and wide and it is an arduous task to complete and will literally take my life time. I know with God I will make it and my prayer is that along the way He will use me to grow His Kingdom and show others that nothing is too hard for God and life is not life without Him! Praise God! He is good

Jill Spurr

BCC Youth 2011

Can't believe it, 2011 is almost over; where did it go? Leading into Christmas was a little strange - no Youth Group!

Actually, come to think of it, most Friday nights are a little strange, but in a good way.

Our last couple of nights are testament to that. Firstly, a survivor night, miles from civilisation, with only the clothes on our backs and our instincts for survival. OK, a little dramatic maybe, but no mobiles. It was all good fun, well as much fun as sleeping on the grass under a piece of black plastic with ten other guys can be. So much condensation, just stop breathing, PLEASE!



Our last night for the year has become a bit of a tradition, well it will be when we do it next year. Dress as your favourite movie or TV character. Alice in Wonderland was a popular choice, including the Queen of Hearts and one hot rabbit, an amazing Captain Jack Sparrow, Murray the Wiggle (Oh My Gosh), Superman, Robin from the Hood, Cindi Lauper (again Oh My Gosh, this is for Cassie's benefit), Dorothy, clearly not in Kansas anymore Toto, Audrey Hepburn with little black dress but without break-



fast, Morticia, Sabrina + cat and Velma + Scooby Doo. WOW! Hope we didn't miss anyone.

We have had a great year, not necessarily an easy one.

There are always challenges.

Challenges, believe it or not, challenge us.

It gives us, as leaders, the opportunity to look at how and why we do things, to lose what doesn't work and to embrace what does, for this week anyway. Having a great team will determine how well we come through those challenges and our young leaders have really stepped up to the plate. Extending themselves into areas where they previously were not comfortable, making youth a priority when there were other options.



BCC Young Adults 2011

Young adults is about a group of young adults meeting together and hopefully being an effective outreach in the community.

Over the past year I have caught up with some of my friends who run youth groups and the ones who run young adult groups all talk about how hard it is to run this group. We all seem to have the same issues.

This age group is often busy with college, uni, work, forming lasting relationships with each other, or other activities in the church. Then there is also the problem of so many options on a Friday or Saturday night and young adults is usually at the bottom of the list.

There are some however, a small core group, who have got a glimpse of the big picture. They like each others company and are committed to the group; they also realise that it isn't all about them.

It's not, 'What am I doing Saturday night?' but, 'What is the group doing?' and I'm doing that.

The potential that is in a young adult is limitless and the ones who break out of the stereotype move on to be a positive influence on the next generation and in the process bring about change (for the better) in peoples lives.

What is our purpose, why are we here, what sort of group are we going to be?

We are an outreach, we are here to encourage.

We need to get to know each other.

We need to make friends, building relationships.

We need to have fun, try something new.

We need to learn from each other.

Basically the great commission is

"Go into all the world etc..."

What are we going to look/sound like?

- Genuine - not being fake, being honest, real, no double standards.
- Gracious - don't judge, cut some slack.
- Exciting - passionate
- Accepting - selfless.
- Mature behaviour - being wise, remember who we represent.
- Positive - supporting and encouraging others ideas.
- Friendly - welcoming.
- Inviting - welcoming.
- Christian moral values - base it on the word.
- Fun - enjoying it.
- Encouraging - interested in other worlds, radar on.

Chris and Julie Swain

Kidz Biz and Kidz Care 2011

This year in Kidz Biz, the kids have all had a great time learning more about God, His word and how to apply it to their lives.

We have been using a curriculum from Scripture Union that is based around learning the whole Bible. This programme has been used in both Kidz Biz and Kidz Care all year which creates unity within children's ministry in our church and is beneficial to all leaders and teachers.

Our vision has been (Col 1:9-10)

1. *That they grow in the knowledge of God.*
To build a strong foundation of the word of God in their life.
2. *To live a life worthy of the Lord.*
That they put into practice what they have learned.
3. *Bear fruit in all good works.*
That the fantastic gift of salvation can radically change the future of all their family and friends.

We are stepping down from the leadership this year and will miss being with the kids every week. We both feel that it is time to see what God can do through new leaders and a new vision in this awesome ministry. It's time for us to sit still, recharge and see what God has for our future.

We thank our church family, our various teams and the church leadership for their support and prayers during our time in Kidz Biz. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for us next year.

David and Helen Cox

Think about it!

"It all depends on the person on your left and the person on your right!"

That is the motto that armed forces personnel live by.

Their life depends on it.

If everyone looks out for their mate on the left and also on their right they are more likely to survive the problems of life.

Life is absolutely a team effort.



It is such a privilege to watch young people mature and grow and this year has been no different in that regard. There is a great foundation in this group, qualities, gifts, talents and leadership that would blow your mind.

Our church is a great place to develop those qualities and the need to continue to encourage and support our young people is something we can all play a part in.

Every year the pressure to conform grows, the pressure to try something different, to be someone you are not.

We want to encourage you to pray, to connect and to pray, did we mention pray? You all have such an important



role in the development of our young people

and we want to thank you all again for your incredible encouragement, prayer and support this year.

Can't wait to see what God has planned for 2012.

Strap yourselves in - woo-hoo!

Sheldon, Julie, Kelly, Cassie,
Emma and Cameron.



Kidz Biz Celebration 2011

