

Cell Groups at Penshurst Anglican Church

Our church calls itself a 'cell church', built upon the Biblical idea that the primary way that God's people can truly live out the Gospel is through small, intentional communities (called 'cells'). It is here where Jesus is given a far more intimate opportunity to do His work of transformation.

English-Speaking Cell Groups/	Day/time/frequency
Bart & Kim VandenHengel	Tuesday/ 7:30pm/weekly
Gaye Bishop	Tuesday/ 7:30pm/ fortnightly
Marilyn Mayhew	Tuesday / 7:30pm/ weekly
Megan & Jeff Powys	Thursday/ 7:30pm/ weekly
ReCharge! (University+ group)	Wednesday/ 8:00pm/ weekly
PAC Youth Group	Friday/ 7:30-9:30 pm/ weekly
'The Quiet Place' prayer meeting	Sunday/7pm/weekly

If you are interested in joining one of these cells, you can either talk directly to one of the group leaders or to Bart for more guidance on which cell will fit you best. You may even want to start your own!

Sunday School:

Our Sunday School program runs during the 10:30am services, and only during school term. There are four classes available, based roughly on a child's age:

- Ages 3-5 Coordinators: Selina Kwok (in upper hall classroom 1)
- Ages 6-7 Coordinator: Hua (Nancy) Feng (in basement of hall)
- Ages 8-10 Coordinator: Bart VandenHengel (in library)
- Years 11-12+ Coordinator: George Chan (in upper hall classroom 2)



Penshurst Anglican Church

2 Carrington St, Penshurst, NSW 2222

Pastors: Bart VandenHengel (English speaking congregations)
Aisen Ju (Mandarin speaking congregations)

Sunday Services: (8am) Prayer Book Service w/ Holy Communion
(10:30am) Bi-lingual Celebration service in English and Mandarin
(6pm) Bi-lingual Celebration service in English and Mandarin

Contact details:

Bart: 9580-1217 or 0400-282-848
Aisen: 9585-2943 or 0433-315-745
Website: www.penshurstanglican.org

Internet Banking details: Westpac
Penshurst Anglican Parish St Johns
Acct BSB- 704998
Acct No- 100008296

Penshurst Anglican Church

We welcome you to our celebrations this morning! If you are a visitor here today, we pray that the Triune God of grace will richly meet you where you are, in the fellowship of His people here at PAC. We also invite you to make yourself known to us through the visitor forms found in the pew holders.

What is

Advent?

"Advent as re-orientation"

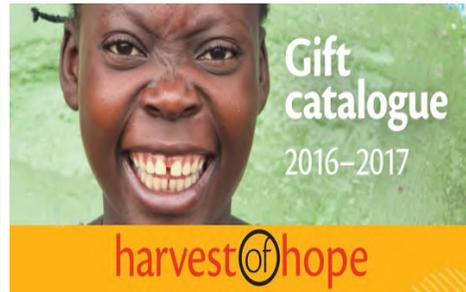


Sunday, 20 November, 2016

What is Advent?

The weeks leading up to Christmas are known as **Advent** (literally, 'the coming') marking the time for Christians to prepare themselves for the coming of Jesus into the world on Christmas morning. **But could it mean even more than this?**

Nov. 27	Advent as re-orientation	Malachi 4:1-6 Luke 1:5-25, 67-80
Dec. 4	Advent as Scandal	Isaiah 7:10-14 Luke 1:26-38
Dec. 11	Advent as a New Imagination	Luke 1:39-45



Next Sunday (December 4th), our church will be amongst thousands of churches throughout Australia that complete the 2016 **National Church Life Survey (NCLS)**.

The purpose of the NCLS is to help churches to be more vital and effective. Through the survey our churchgoers will be able to give their thoughts, opinions and experiences of church life. It will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Date	Welcome	Music Team	Prayer	Bible Reader	Counters
Nov-27	Tina, Steve	Team 5— Brian, Byron, Aisen, Bart, Li Sun, Gaye, Amy		Merilyn	Doris, Cliff
Dec-04	Peter, Andrew U	Team 1- Joy , Bing, Sam, Ruevern, Lucy, Zoey, Millie	Holy Communion	Andrew	Cliff, Merilyn
Dec-11	Andrew C., Kim	Team 3- Rueves & Kat , Gordon, Josh, Sarah, Zoey, Karen, Amy		Bing	Merilyn, Geoff

Sun., Dec. 4	National Church Life Survey (all services)
Sun., Dec. 18	Sunday School performance and Christmas party
Sat., Dec. 24	Christmas Carolling (8pm) followed by Christmas Eve service (9pm)
Sun., Dec 25	Christmas Day - one combined church service (9am)

Pray for the spirit of discipleship to cover our Church

There are thousands of Christian believers around the world who are not necessarily disciples. They live off other people's spirituality (e.g. worship teams, sermons, Christian radio and podcasts) and do not intentionally cultivate their own personal relationship with Jesus. They invest very little of their time in trying to "work out (their) own salvation with fear and trembling".

Ask yourself:

- Can a person be a Christian without being a disciple who makes daily, intentional choices to follow Jesus and remain/abide with Him?
- Can a nominal Christian who has a severely undeveloped relationship with Jesus still be a Christian?
- Can a person whose life reflects the first three soils in the parable of the Sower—where Scripture has been choked by the devil, pressure, and the desire for other things—be a Christian?
- Can a Christian who settles for showing up at church without bearing any fruit for Christ still be a Christian?

Of course, only God knows whether a person has been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and born from above. And fortunately, He will be more gracious in the final judgment, I imagine, than most of us. But I am sure of one thing:

The global mission of the church to change the world through the living Jesus cannot be sustained or expanded by nominal Christians.

The kingdom of God is a mustard seed that grows very slowly. What makes us think we can take short-cuts in the process to bring about true and long-term changes for God's kingdom? The people of Israel were freed from the slavery of Pharaoh by sheer grace. Yet their journey to actually break 400 years of generational sins that lived in their bones was a slow, difficult process that took 40 years. What makes us think we can become the new family of Jesus any more quickly—even with the Holy Spirit?