



VINTAGE CHRISTMAS
AT ST PETERS

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:11

FUN CHRISTMAS EVENTS

1st Dec, 7:30pm Christmas with Lilly Million
2nd Dec, 3 - 4pm Kids Carols
9th Dec, 10:00am St Peters Nativity Play
16th Dec, 6:00pm Community Carols
23rd Dec, 6:00pm Classic Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY
All-age Family Services: 8am & 10am

December 2018

Saturday 1 at 7.30pm
Christmas with Lilly Million

Sunday 2
8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm
Advent Series: Presents
Carel Pienaar

Sunday 2 at 3pm Kid's Carols –
For 0 - 6-year old's & their families. Join us for snacks & refreshments after the service

4.30pm Confirmation Series

Monday 3
5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 4
10.00am Stay & Play

Friday 7
CoolClub 5.45pm – 7.15pm
Grade 1-4
7UP 5.45pm – 7.15pm
Grade 5-7
Hood 7.30pm – 9.00p
Grade 8-12

Sunday 9
8.00a: Chris Henrico
10.00am: Born is the King
6.00pm: Confirmation Service – Glen Lyons

Monday 10
5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Tuesday 11: Hiking
8.00am Silvermine Dam: entrance fee necessary (R51). Meet at Vallyland, bring a jacket, strong shoes, water & something for tea. Contact Carole 0812356809 with any questions.

10.00am Stay & Play

Wednesday 12 END OF SCHOOL TERM

Crossword Youth Camp 14-19 December

Sunday 16
8.00am 10.00am
Advent series: Holiday
Carel Pienaar

7.00pm: Community Carols

Monday 17
5.50pm Prayer meeting at church

Sunday 23
8.00am 10.00am
Advent series: Food
Carel Pienaar

7.00pm Classic Carols

Tuesday 25 Christmas Day
8am & 10am
All-age Family Services

Sunday 30 (NO EVENING SERVICE)
8.00am 10.00am
Sean Savides

January 2019

Sunday 6 (NO EVENING SERVICE)
8.00am 10.00am
Sean Savides

Wednesday 9 SCHOOL TERM

Sunday 13
8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm
Summer series 1
Why is the world so messed up?

Wednesday 16
7.30pm Prayer and Praise

Friday 18 - ONRAMP

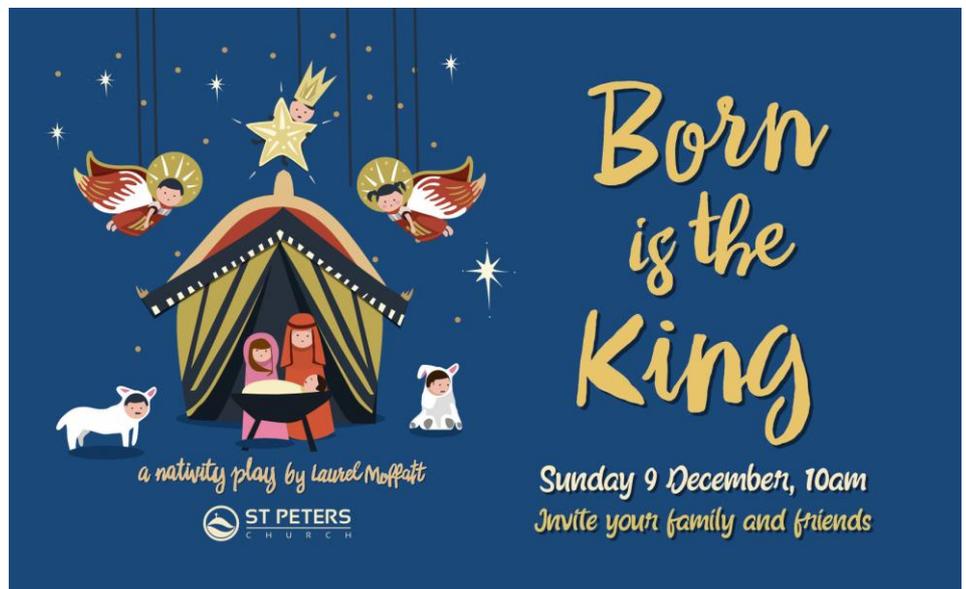
Sunday 20
8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm
Summer series 2
Why is my life so hard?

Fellowship Group Social Week

Sunday 27
8.00am 10.00am 6.00pm
Summer series 3
Why don't you make yourself clearer?

Tuesday 29
Fellowship Groups
We are family 1

Wednesday 30
Fellowship Groups
We are family 1



Born is the King

a nativity play by Laurel Moffatt

ST PETERS CHURCH

Sunday 9 December, 10am
Invite your family and friends

What should you give the pastor for Christmas?

Yes, I really am going to use the monthly newsletter to write about that. But bear with me, it's not quite what you think...

What church leaders need the most (at any time of year) and the thing which encourages them the most is a congregation who are keen to serve in ministries and willing to be equipped for more and more ministry responsibility in the local church.

The reason this is so encouraging is because this is actually just God's plan for what the church is meant to be: a community of people who have been saved by His grace, who are now living for Him and growing in Him. It's straight from the book of Ephesians....

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10

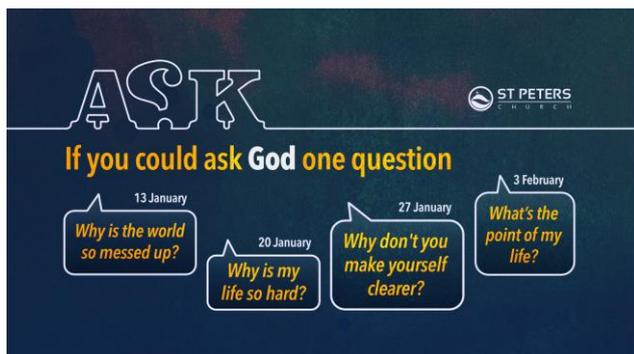
This passage teaches that we have been saved by grace through faith. What a great thing to be reminded of in the run-up to Christmas: in Christ, we have been given the gift of salvation, and it was all by God's grace. We did nothing to deserve it or earn it! (In the same way, the gifts we give children at Christmas are borne out of our love (and our wallets!) and not, as Father Christmas suggests, their worthiness.)

But verse 10 emphasizes that with this gift of salvation comes responsibility: we are now new creations, we are now God's "workmanship", and He has planned things for each and every one of us to take part in and to do. He has saved us from something, but he's also saved us **for** something.

Our lives are now lived in the service of this God of grace. What's more, God has set aside some people to play a role in the training and equipping of church members. Paul goes on to speak about this in Ephesians 4:11-12, *"And He personally gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastor-teachers, for the training of the saints in the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ.."*

God did not intend for his church to be a community with a gifted staff - but to be a community of diversely gifted **people**. It's been said: *"If the pastor is a superstar, the church is an audience, not a body."* What a terrible thing for a church to be centered on one leader's gifts and personality! It'll only serve to grow his ego and shrink the church

A church grows and remains healthy when we put these New Testament principles into practice. The good news is: by God's



grace this is really starting to happen at St Peters! 2018 has been our best year yet in terms of seeing new people step up to serve and lead ministries:

- We've heard the most amazing stories of teenagers being mentored to start leading in our Kids ministry.
- We've seen overworked fathers stepping up, at the end of an exhausting week, to serve at our Friday night kids clubs.
- We've seen music teams, welcoming teams and fellowship group leaders grow – in number and depth.
- We currently have over 200 people serving at St Peters and 55 of those are leading a team a group or a class of some kind.

I can't say enough how encouraging it is to be leading a church where this happens....it's a real gift to reflect on that at the end of the year! And your gift is first and foremost for God - you're doing it for Jesus and his Kingdom.

If we are to keep reaching and discipling more people, this is what we need to do more and more.

"Training"... "equipping"... "developing"... "leading". Going forward, you can expect to hear those words often. Early in 2019 we're going to invite everyone who is serving or leading in some capacity to a special start-of-year evening, called **"ONRAMP"**. We'll be reminded of our mission. There'll be teaching from God's word to encourage us to grow as servant leaders and volunteers at St Peters. We'll also hear some stories from people who have experienced the joy of leading others, for the first time. This will all happen on the evening of Friday 18th January (before the Friday Night kids program begins for the year).

Off the back of this central training session all our different ministry areas will then do their own specific training sessions to get the year going.

So enjoy the holidays (when they finally arrive!) Rest well. Relax. Recharge. And get ready to experience more of God's grace in 2019.

"To God be the glory, great things He hath done, So loved He the world that He gave us His Son!"

Murray Anderson

St Peters Finance Update		
	3 months to 31st Oct 2018	Month of Oct 2018
Income	1 219 001	491 035
Budget	1 069 617	356 539
Expenditure	1 238 847	409 928
Budget	1 091 236	363 745
Surplus / (Shortfall)	-19 846	81 107
Budget	-21 619	-7 206
Included in Expenditure:		
Giving to REACH SA	100 295	41 818
Giving to Missions	69 615	24 765