



DANDENONG  
**Bible  
Education  
Centre**

# Newsletter Jan/Feb 2006

## New Year's Resolutions

Now is the time of the year when many people decide to try to change things in their lives. It may be that you want to lose some weight, spend more time with your children, try cooking new recipes or go for walks more often. Many resolutions are good, but so often we quickly forget them and go back to the way we were before! The Bible talks a lot about change. God wants us to copy the example of Jesus, and follow him more closely. This can take place at any time through the year, but sometimes starting a new year reminds us to think about the direction of our life. So when you are busy making resolutions about going to the gym twice a week, or eating healthy food, spare a thought for God, and how he would like to see you using your time. We read in Philippians 4:8:

*"...whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."*

## Christmas barbecue and concert



*The younger children at the concert happily singing "Away in a manger".*



*Mary cuddling baby Jesus at the concert.*

Although rain meant we could not hold our barbecue and concert at the park in Dandenong, a bus transported those who wanted to come to our alternate venue. We held the concert at the Clayton Christadelphian Hall. Those doing the cooking of the meat sheltered outside under umbrellas, and the rest of us stayed warm and dry inside! After a delicious tea, we enjoyed an evening with a variety of plays, Bible readings and songs. The young children performed a play about the birth of Jesus. They then sang "Away in a manger" with gusto. Who can resist watching young children dressing up and telling of the birth of Jesus? The other plays for the evening showed that although the story of the birth of Jesus was in the past, the Jesus shown in the Bible is alive and waiting to return to this earth. The Bible teaches us how to be ready for the events leading to his return and the setting up of his wonderful kingdom. For those who enjoy singing, there was time to join in singing some favourite Christmas carols. A great night was shared by all.

Dandenong Christadelphians

PO Box 2076, Dandenong East 3175

46 Walker St, Dandenong 3175

Ph: (03) 9791 1699

[www.dandenongbec.org.au](http://www.dandenongbec.org.au)

ABN: 89253204275

## Term one courses

A new leaflet lists various courses being run during the first term of 2006. Your copy comes with this newsletter or is available from the shop. Which course (or courses) would suit you? Don't forget to book in!

## The New Life class

Each Sunday from 11.30-12.30 we hold a class covering a variety of Bible topics. All who attend are invited to stay to share lunch with us. The topics from now until the end of first term are:

- Jan 22 Discipleship – suffering
- 29 Great prophecies – Isaiah 2
- Feb 5 Great prophecies – Isaiah 53
- 12 Great prophecies – Daniel 2
- 19 Great prophecies – Daniel 11
- 26 Great prophecies – Ezekiel 37
- Mar 5 Great prophecies – Ezekiel 38
- 12 Great prophecies – Ezekiel 39

## New series for Bible Explorers

At Bible Explorers in terms 1 and 2, we plan to cover some of the stories in the Bible books of Joshua and Judges. You may have heard some of these interesting stories yourself – such as Joshua and the battle of Jericho. Others are a little less familiar to some – such as what happened with Joshua at the city of Ai. The stories are full of life and excitement and will be of great interest to Primary School aged children. Looking further ahead, our planned theme for terms 3 and 4 is “The Life of Jesus”. This will include the parables, miracles and other events in Jesus' life, with many good lessons for children's lives today. Contact us to book your child in.

## Fresh topic for ladies' class

Our Thursday morning class for ladies is starting a study based around the book of Romans. This should spark interesting discussion, as there are so many themes in this New Testament book. So if you are looking for a friendly group of ladies who are interested in discussing the Bible, and sharing refreshments together, this is the place to be! The class runs from 11.00 –12.30.

## Answers to the Christmas quiz

Did you know or find out all the answers in last month's quiz? Here are the answers found in Matthew 1 & 2 and Luke 2.

1. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. (Matthew 2:1)
2. Mary and Joseph usually lived in Nazareth. (Luke 2:4)
3. Jesus was born in a different place from his parents' family home because the Romans decreed that all the Jews had to go back to their family town. For Joseph, this was Bethlehem, and it happened just when Mary's baby was due. (Luke 2:4-7)
4. An angel told Joseph what to call this new baby. (Matthew 1:20-21)
5. Mary was Jesus' mother. (Matthew 1:20-21)
6. God was Jesus' father. (Luke 1:35)
7. Some shepherds visited Jesus after he was born. (Luke 2:8-20)
8. Some angels told the shepherds where to find Jesus (Luke 2:10-12)
9. Wise men also came to see Jesus. (Matthew 2:1-12)
10. Neither Matthew nor Luke records how many wise men there were – people have guessed there were 3 wise men because 3 presents were given. (Matthew 2:1-12)
11. The wise men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)
12. When King Herod heard that Jesus was born to be king he wanted to kill him. (Matthew 2:13)
13. Mary and Joseph knew to leave Bethlehem because an angel spoke to Joseph in a dream and told him to escape to Egypt immediately. (Matthew 2:13)
14. Mary and Joseph were poor. The sacrifice they offered after Jesus was born was for poor people to give. (Leviticus 12:8)
15. “Jesus” means “Saviour”. (see Matthew 1:21 and a concordance)

## Did you know?

God is so powerful, that he knows minute details about everybody on earth. For example, Jesus says that God even knows how many hairs are on your head!

See Matthew 10:30