

Ministers Blog

For whatever reason, I watched ABC Q&A again this week. Half way through the program, a young woman asked a question about the value of religion clearly intimating that the church is responsible for much wrongdoing. When asked to expand, she listed a catalogue of complaint including **pedophile priests and church cover ups, and what she believes the church's** repressing stance on a number of social/moral issues. This garnered considerable applause from the audience.

Two of the panel who responded to her question identified themselves as Christians. In particular, one politician said he was a practicing Roman Catholic. This announcement was greeted with jeering and boo-ing. I was shocked.

I wasn't aware a person's faith could be so disrespected in such a public manner without comment. Christianity is out of favour with many. In **addition to the woman's list, I hear of Christians who are even unkind to their own.** People report unloving things said and done to others who bear **the same name, Christian. Even within a congregation it's known that people hurt their brothers and sisters in Christ.**

The church has a PR crisis on its hands bigger than the Titanic. The way forward is in showing each other and the wider community, how much we love one another; how compassionate we can really be.

While the church will not meet the same fate as the Titanic, without taking **seriously Jesus' mandate to love in his way, we could soon be in the Dark Ages, again.**

To celebrate the year of Mark, after Easter, the Sunday night 6.00 pm service will begin a series of sermons looking at Jesus in the Gospel of Mark and what it means for us today. All are welcome to attend.

Rev Douglas Monaghan.

Centenary of the Torrensville Methodist/Uniting Church.

On May 6 at 2.00 pm there will be a celebration/reunion here at Adelaide West to mark the centenary of the official opening of the Hayward Avenue church on May 11, 1912. A short church service will be followed by afternoon tea (supplied), and a visit to the former church building. All welcome.

PASTY BAKE Starts 4th May (2 weeks away!) Prices this year are Pasties \$3.00 each and Plates \$8.00 each, please place your orders with Pam Young by phoning 8352 5230.

Small Group feature of the week

Greg and Kylie's Group	Thursday Evenings fortnightly
Who are we: Young people from the 6pm service	
What we do: Discuss topics of interest, prayer, hang out, keen to do out-reach projects to help the wider community	

If you would like a full list of small groups at AWUC or like any other information, contact Brett (0407 250 609) or Ruth (0450 694 844)

Film Evening: 2 May at 7.30 pm, Brooklyn Park Church of Christ, **3 Allen Avenue, Brooklyn Park.** Film **"Soul Surfer"**, rated PG Entrance—Gold Coin. Supper (a plate would be appreciated). Fresh popcorn and drinks will be available for purchase. Proceeds go towards the Zimbabwe Short Term mission Trip. All welcome.



Next Week

29th April, 2012

Easter 4

9.15 am Worship for Today

10.45 am Family Worship

6.00 pm Young Adults

Friday May 4th : 7.00 pm Youth

Readings for Easter 4
Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24,
John 10:11-18

For pastoral or administrative matters phone the Church Office on 8234 1199 as the first point of contact.

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April 22nd, 2012

9.15 am Phil Carr

10.45am Phil Carr

6.00 pm Douglas Monaghan

Wednesday 25th : NO Healing
service (Anzac Day Public Holiday)

Friday 27th : 7.00 pm Youth



Readings for Easter 3
Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7,
Luke 24:36b-48

Luke 24:36-48 Jesus Appears to His Disciples
36 While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, **'Peace be with you.'**³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ **He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'** ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, **he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?'** ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.
44 Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, **'Thus it is written, that the Messiah^{*} is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses^{*} of these things.'**