



43 Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD. Psalm 107:43 (NIV)

From The Pen of Pastor Judi

Psalm 13:1-2. O Lord, how long will You forget me? Forever? How long will You look the other way? How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand?

Read aloud the first two verses. Four times King David cries out, “How long...? How long....? How long....? How long....?. Honestly, haven’t we all had times when we cried out – How Long?

Like David, we often feel impatient with God. ***Why hasn’t He acted yet? Has He even heard my prayer?*** Though David claimed that God was slow to act, even in his lowest moments he affirmed his abiding trust in God.

Turn to verses 5-6 in this Psalm. David shares a wonderful affirmation. ***“But I trust in Your unfailing love. I will rejoice because You have rescued me. I will to the Lord because He is good to me.***

How could David’s thoughts change so quickly? The answer lies in David’s steadfast faith in God, even at his lowest points. In turning outward to God, David didn’t focus inward and allow self-pity or negativity to spiral out of control. Rather, he told God what he was feeling and gained a new perspective on suffering.

More than a thousand years after this, his descendant Jesus experienced God’s abandonment like no one else ever had as He hung on the cross. ***“My God, My God, why have You abandoned me? (Matt 27:46).*** Even so, Jesus maintained His confidence in God to the end. His last words were:

“Father, I entrust My spirit into your hands.”

From both David and Jesus we can learn to maintain our confidence in God in the midst of our struggles.

Thought Provoking Words.

Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way.

(Native American proverb)



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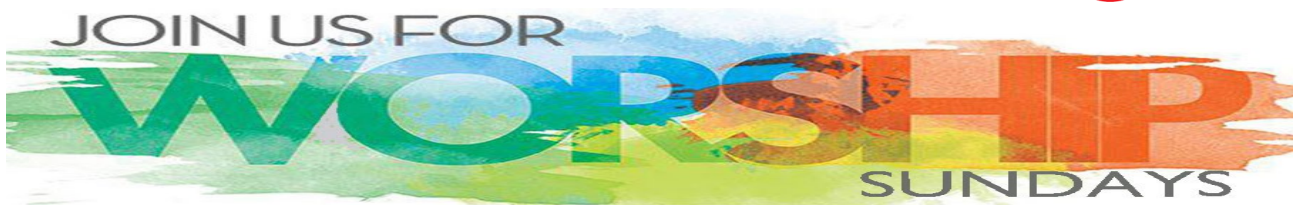
www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au

The Pastor Is In:

Pastor Judi provides pastoral care to all who attend the church and overall site throughout the week. She is able to meet on or off site, depending on your preferences. Best contact 0423 375 714.

Please note: Pastor Judi is in the office all day Mondays, and half a day on Wednesdays and Fridays only. Pastor Judi does not work Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays. However she will return your call if it is an emergency.

Please have your mobile phone on silent



Sunday Services:

<u>November 17th</u>	<u>Subject:</u>	The End	Preacher:	Judy
Readings:	Mark 14:53-65	Tony	Mark 15:1-34	Marg
Helpers:	Tony & Marg		Communion	Noel
<u>November 24th</u>	<u>Subject:</u>		Preacher:	Judi
Readings:	Mark	Mark	Communion	Judy
Helpers:				



THINK GOD

Church Happenings

Donations:

We wish to sincerely thank a number of our members who have made substantial donations to the Church to assist with installation of our blinds in the hall and possible costs of the construction of a grease trap.

New Kitchen table with drawers:

We are grateful to the Cove Hotel for the provision of a Grant to enable us to upgrade the kitchen table which will enable more storage space for our Breakfast. This means we can maintain a separation between the items. It is expected the table to be completed by the end of the year.

Church Happenings

Church Surveys:

A church survey form was distributed. The results will assist the Church and its members to determine where we wish to be in the future given the changes happening in the surrounding community. Please ensure you give completed survey forms to Len. All comments are welcome.

Church Address Book Update:

There is a draft copy of the new Church directory on the table in the hall. Please check that your details are correct and make any corrections if needed. Please be sure that you print when making any corrections.

Cards and items created by Barbara:

You may recall the lovely cards; sticky note pads and tea light candles in boxes that we are selling to assist with funds for our pantry. Well Barbara has donated more items which will be on display in the hall at morning tea. These make excellent Christmas gifts. Barbara donates all of the funds to the Pantry.

Pantry Items:

Thanks to all those who continue to provide pantry items to help out. We do need to point out however, that items must be within their use by and best buy date – otherwise we cannot use them. Packages must be unopened also. Please note we are not permitted to keep any medications, such as Panadol so please do not provide these.

Blinds:

Installed on Friday and they look great.

Board Meeting:

A worthwhile Board meeting was held last Sunday after church with the main aim to consider our financial position. This has resulted in a small increase in rental for our tenants, including the Men's Shed. This will help to offset the increase in the cost of utilities.

The Board will meet again on Sunday 12th of January for an extended planning meeting. All members will be informed of the proposed plan as we move forward, including survey results.

For information – we will be running another Alpha course next year starting in February. Days/times to be determined by interest from those wishing to attend.

Men's Bible Study: Pastor Judi is willing to commence a Men's Bible Study next year with the view to handing it over to one of the attendees after some training.