



## What is Prayer?

We all have a sense that prayer is important, but few of us are actually taught to pray. What does it mean to pray? How does one do it?

We tend to make it something mysterious or something you could spend your whole life developing but prayer is simply communication between God and the people He created.

From beginning to end in Scripture, prayer is simply assumed. It's like no one thought to call attention to the concept that it's possible, desirable, and important for human beings to be in conversation with God.

The Bible is a book of stories of how God has worked with people. It's a collection of prayers and songs and letters to and from people who are wrestling to be near to God. And it's a documentary encapsulating all of the stunning and creative ways that God speaks to us and manoeuvres to be near to us.

So if we want to learn to pray, we should start by doing what we find people throughout Scripture doing: simply talking to God. One of the most beautiful prayers in Scripture—Psalm 139—continuously asserts that God is absolutely everywhere. He can't be escaped. So He's right here now, with you. Don't overthink it, at least not for today.

Talk to Him. He is listening.

## The Pastor Is In



Pastor Judi is just a phone call away should you need someone to talk to, whether it be your faith direction; personal issues or just to have a cuppa with. You can make a time to see her at the Church or as a home visit.

## Latest News

**Ideas for Homeless Week August 6-12th** Pastor Judi is keen to hear from anyone who may have ideas for this year's homelessness week. Last year we secured a large number of donations of food which kept our pantry going for at least 4 months. What are your ideas?

**Evening Service update** although the weather was chilly a brave 12 people attended. We explored Jesus' parable of the Farmer and the Seed.

**Student Minister Fiona** is taking some time away to discern her Ministry direction. Her expected return 8th October.

**God's Lounge** is going well. Prayers are held in the room prior to Sunday's service; the NEXT generation (Ryan, Sarah, Lily and Hannah) meet under the guidance of Amber and Brad to explore what following Jesus is all about.

**Next After church lunch:** planned for Sunday 29th. Members are invited to bring food to share. We are also planning to set up the table tennis table for anyone keen to 'have a go.'

**Generosity from Members:** After the lack of success with a grant for the pantry and loss of a good paying tenant—we have received two anonymous donations \$2000 for the church and \$2500 for the pantry to keep us solvent. We are humbled by this generosity.

# Chelsea Community Church of Christ Services

## CHURCH SERVICES 10AM SUNDAY

### Changes to how we do Pastoral Prayer

To help you seek prayer support, we will be handing out cards as you arrive to enable you to record your prayers. Those you wish to remain private and those you are happy to be shared during pastoral prayer time. This will also include if you wish a pastoral visit. This ensures privacy is maintained for all.

### MISSION PROGRAMS

#### YOUR PANTRY

Wednesdays 7-1pm. This service provides free non-perishable foods and toiletries to anyone who may be struggling or just short of funds in between pensions. Each guest is provided with a 10 minute slot to provide opportunities to talk over their situations should they desire to and/or to be referred to other community support agencies.

#### COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Wednesdays 7.30—9.45am This service provides a 3 course hot breakfast to anyone who is finding it tough. A healthy breakfast can be enjoyed amongst others with the hope that new friends may be found.

#### GOD'S LOUNGE

Our newly formed lounge is open for anyone who wishes to sit quietly, read the Bible, pray; light a candle.

Fridays 10-10:30am Prayers for the world, the church and ourselves. All are welcome to participate.

#### NEXT GENERATION

**What is this?** The children of our church are inviting any adults to share their testimony. The children will prepare 3 questions to ask. We encourage this intergenerational sharing.

### Sermon Series for Month of July

1st July P Judi R 2 Sam 1:1 & 17-27 (Marg)  
2 Cor 8:7-15 (Jan)

8th July P Fay sharing her recent journey to Russian Jewish people R to be determined  
**NIGHT SERVICE** 6-7pm

15th July P Judi R 2 Sam 6:1-5, 12-19 (Noel)  
Ephesians 1:3-14 (Terry)

22nd July P Amber R 2 Sam 7:1-14 (Bob)  
Ephesians 2:11-12 (Val)  
**NIGHT SERVICE** 6-7pm

29th July P Amber R 2 Sam 11:1-15 (Jan)  
Ephesians 3:14-21 (Ethel)

### Church and Mission Office

3-5 Blantyre Ave Chelsea

**Office:** 03 9773 0301

**Minister:** Judi Turnham 0423 375 714

See phone list for contact details

**Website:** [www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au](http://www.chelseachurchofchrist.org.au)

