

SOUL FOOD

February 2010



I the Lord your God will hold your right hand, saying to you , "fear not I will help you"

10 years☺**AURORA NEW CHURCH CIRCLE**

*This year in January marked 10 years since the inception of the General Church here in Perth. We thank the Lord for the growth of this precious group which became a **circle** in July 2001, and has progressed from a beginning of 4 members to 21 baptised or confirmed members (two of which are now deceased.) and three baptised children.*

Beginning in the "dungeon" (downstairs) at 10 Broome street we now enjoy the upstairs facilities which are roomy and well appointed.

We progressed from having a service every 2 weeks to weekly services under the leadership of Richard Hart, and have enjoyed organised worship every week (except January) under the leadership of John Frost, Richard Hart and Alex Benjko.

Lay leaders also included John Dwyer and Tony Phan; and lately lay led worship has taken on a community style sharing of readings and preparation by anyone interested.

Our gratitude goes out to all those stalwart people who attend every Sunday and help set up and clear away. You are the backbone of the Circle and we thank the Lord for your commitment and hard work☺



LIVING
COURAGEOUSLY

Welcome to our Current Spiritual Growth Program (online go to the link below)

Have you lost direction in your life? Need to re-center yourself? Would you like to work towards becoming a more spiritually evolved human being?

One of the most courageous things we can do in life is look within, discipline our mind, and strengthen our connection with the Lord so that we can serve others.

"Living Courageously" is a seven (7) week program designed to assist you in applying God's teachings to your everyday life. Living Courageously explores the Elijah story of the Old Testament, an ancient tale of heroism and adventure. Again and again, Elijah stands against evil when his

downfall seems certain – and yet again and again, the Lord pulls him through and helps him re-establish the worship of Jehovah in Israel. Elijah's story is our own. His strengths are ours, and so are his weaknesses. Each time the Lord gives Elijah a miracle, it tells of a miracle He performs in our lives, allowing us to turn from selfishness and find the courage to transform our spiritual lives and prepare for heaven. You may use this program either with your group, your friends, or individually, to discover new spiritual insights about your life which will help you feel closer to the Lord. **Sign up at the web site given below** to participate by receiving daily emails with inspiration, explanation <http://www.newchurch.org/materials/programs/living-courageously/index.html>

Each week explores a new topic: **Week 1:** Becoming Aware: Identify your motives **Week 2:** Serving God First: Practice Genuine Kindness
Week 3: Finding New Truth: Seek inspiration – Pray
Week 4: Making a Choice: Determine your higher purpose and live it with passion **Week 5:** Finding Courage: Listen for the still, small voice
Week 6: Convicted by Conscience: Flex your spiritual muscle
Week 7: Living Courageously: Go Forward Living Courageously with Strength and Purpose

There is a **DVD by Peter Buss** on the introduction to this course available for viewing. (perhaps before church one day at 9.00am) The audio sermons are available on the same site as listed above. on, reflections, and tasks.

Next Spiritual Growth Campaign Dear Leaders,

We are happy to introduce the Spiritual Growth Campaign topic for 2010/2011: **Pause. Make Space for God.** In this program, participants will have an opportunity to slow down and make their spiritual lives a priority. We will explore messages from sacred scripture regarding how God communicates with us, why He created us, how He relates to us, how He works in our life, what He wants from us, how we can follow Him, and how we can serve Him and people.

We are developing a workbook which will be the basis for this campaign. It includes a Bible story every week that we recommend leaders feature in Sunday worship and Sunday school material developed by the Office of Education. The workbook also includes daily readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Writings of Emanuel Swedenborg on the weekly topics.

As always, this program provides a structure to support church health and growth as well as healthy habits of individuals: daily reading, participating in a small group, and attending worship. Through this program, we hope to offer new ways for an individual to continue to explore God's Word, follow His teachings, and find support from community.

We appreciate your patience, as this program is a work in progress. We want to take time to share with you some additional information about the program. In the attachment is a brief description of the content, a more detailed review of each week's emphasis, and answers to questions that may arise regarding the logistics of implementing this program.

As always, we invite you to contact us directly with any questions or comments. We look forward to working with you.

With gratitude,

Spiritual Growth Campaign Planning Staff

Anna Woofenden, David Lindrooth, Bronwen Henry, Mac Frazier, Burgandy Smith and Vivienne Riley

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SUNDAY SCHOOL *As advised by Alfred Acton when our group began in 2000 (10 years ago) a priority should be a Sunday School. This seems to be the year most appropriate to consider this priority.*

(1) Nurture and feed our own children within the church circle

(2) Extend outwards to share with others by inviting friends

(3) Advertise to the greater community

This brings us to the point where we need consistency of church times for advertising purposes. Even if we have no response to adverts we can at least prepare a platform that others can easily enter by having all the services held on a Sunday morning with Sunday school sandwiched in after the readings and before the chancel close.

Early morning Study class There is some interest in studying before church on a Sunday WE have a set of CD's on "**Systematic Theology** " by **Prescott Rogers** which will provide a good backbone to people's knowledge especially young people. Perhaps meeting at Broome street at 9am before worship will suit people's weekly programme. **Library** The church library has been re-located to Aubin Grove. Contact Mary on 0407448405 to obtain copies that she will bring to church for loaning out to you.

Worship in January Five services of worship were held during January in Atwell with preparation by Mary, Alex, Bernice and Val. Thank you one and all for your participation.

February CALENDAR

<i>Sun</i> <i>7th</i>	<i>Study 9.00am</i> <i>Rev Prescott Rogers</i> <i>Systematic theology</i>	Worship 10:30am <i>Followed by shared meal</i>	<i>10 Broome St</i>
<i>Fri</i> <i>12th</i>		<i>Heaven & hell</i> Study group 10:30am	<i>Val's</i>
<i>Sun</i> <i>14th</i>	<i>Study 9.00am</i> <i>Rev Prescott Rogers</i> <i>Systematic theology</i>	Worship 10:30am <i>Followed by shared meal</i>	<i>10 Broome St</i>
<i>Sun</i> <i>21st</i>	<i>Study 9.00am</i> <i>Rev Prescott Rogers</i> <i>Systematic theology</i>	Worship 10:30am <i>Followed by shared meal</i>	<i>10 Broome St</i>
<i>Fri</i> <i>26th</i>		<i>Heaven & hell</i> Study group 10:30am	<i>10 Broome St</i>
<i>Sun</i> <i>28th</i>	<i>Study 9.00am</i> <i>Rev Prescott Rogers</i> <i>Systematic theology</i>	Worship 10.30am <i>Followed by shared meal</i>	<i>10 Broome St</i>

General Church of the New Jerusalem in Perth

*Worship Services are held weekly at
10 Broome Street, South Perth (off Douglas Street)
the first and third Sunday's services at 5.30pm
the second and fourth at 10.30am
5th Sunday TBA*

www.newchurch.org

*Based on the Holy Bible, The New Church gains further inspiration and understanding through the Revelation of 18th century scientist and theologian **Emanuel Swedenborg**. In his 35 volumes of theology, Swedenborg helps set forth the Lord's plan for a rebirth of Christianity, a clear vision of God in His own Word, and what that means in our lives.*

For ordering books see

www.swedenborg.com.au
tel Alex 0410 092 960
alexander.benjko@gmail.com

*We sponsor "**The Loving Arms Mission**" in Nepal, a home for orphaned children. Donations gladly accepted.*

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