

ST TOM'S

# JUNE NEWS





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**Cover Art: Lorraine Granites**

Language: Warlpiri

Community: Yuendumu

**Title: Creation Story**

In the first few days of God creating the world He separated things - darkness and light, water and sky, land and sea. He was also thinking about making people for Himself. That story from the beginning is on the left side of the painting. On the right side we see what is happening today- people are coming together and praising Him before the cross.

## JUNE SERMON SERIES

In June we will continue our sermon series Gentle and Lowly, covering chapters 8-12 from Dane Ortlund’s book.

We will also have our third Mission Sunday for 2023. For the first time, our mission partner Nungalinya College will be joining us. We will hear from the principal of Nungalinya College, Ben Van Geldren (via video). Nungalinya College equips and empowers Indigenous Christian men and women for leadership roles in their churches and communities.

We’re also really looking forward to having Peter Adam speak to us on the topic of Raising up gospel workers. Have you ever considered different forms of ministry? Come and hear what Peter Adam has to say!

SERIES	DATE	TITLE / INFO	SCRIPTURE	PREACHER ST TOM'S	PREACHER ST ED'S
Gentle and Lowly	4 Jun	To the Uttermost	Hebrews 7:21-26	8.15: Ros 10.30: Denise	Ros
Mission Sunday	11 Jun	Nungalinya College	Acts 17:16-29	Ben Van Geldren (All services)	Ben Van Geldren
Raising up Gospel Workers	18 Jun	Raising up Gospel Workers	Revelation 5	Peter Adam (English services)	Peter Adam
Gentle and Lowly	25 Jun	The Beauty of the Heart of Christ	Matthew 11:19	8.15: Ros 10.30: John	Ros

For additional readings see [2023 Planner & Sermon Series](#) on Elvanto or request a copy by emailing [admin@sttoms.org](mailto:admin@sttoms.org)

## REFLECTION - DENISE CLARKE



What did you make of the Coronation of King Charles III four weeks ago? The Age's Europe correspondent described it as 'superb and absurd. Sublime and ridiculous. Majestic and outrageous. And, in parts, just plain weird'. Another commentator found it anachronistic because it was 'based on the lie' that Britain is a Christian, specifically Anglican nation. One letter to The Age said it was 'mind-numbing, full of empty platitudes, and soporific in the extreme'. Most agreed the music and costumes were spectacular, but found aspects of the ceremony, which is composed of a series of ancient rituals, somewhat puzzling, to say the least.

These reactions are not surprising. The ceremony was thoroughly saturated with biblical quotations and Christian symbols. It also included a service of Holy Communion. Christians are very familiar with all this, but others may well have found them puzzling or 'weird'.

At the very start of the service, King Charles was welcomed by a young boy 'in the name of the King of Kings'. And the King replied, 'In His name and after His example, I come not to be served but to serve.'; Two clear references to Jesus from Scripture (Revelation 19:16 and Mark 10:45). There were two readings from the New Testament: Colossians 1:9-17 (I wonder how the British Prime Minister, a Hindu, felt about reading that?) and Luke 4:16-21. In addition, all the hymns, songs and prayers were based on biblical texts. The Bible Society has compiled a complete list of the many biblical

references in the service.

So far, so good. But there were aspects to the service that I did find odd, even discordant and disturbing.

There was an emphasis on 'modernising' the service, but the Bible readings were taken from the King James Bible, the liturgy from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, and the prayers mostly in archaic language. The impression was of the Church and Christianity as quaint and outdated.

King Charles was anointed with oil as the choir sang the magnificent Zadok the Priest, a clear reference to the anointing of King Solomon (1 Kings 1:32-39). But Charles is not a king of Israel. The promises relating to a future King or Messiah (both the Hebrew 'Messiah' and Greek 'Christ' mean 'anointed one) were fulfilled in Jesus.

Among other 'regalia' presented to the King was the Sovereign's Scepter and the Sovereign's Orb, and he was crowned with the St. Edward's Crown. All these carry the symbol of the cross, but it is a cross encrusted with jewels, set in gold. How good then that Archbishop Welby reminded us in his sermon that Jesus' 'throne was a Cross. His crown was made of thorns. His regalia were the wounds that pierced his body'.

*Denise*

## BOOK & PODCAST RECOMMENDATIONS

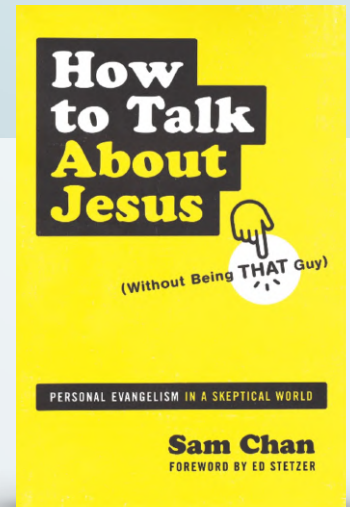
### ***How to Talk about Jesus***

Sam Chan

Recommended by Karen Morris:

This short book is packed full of good ideas about sharing your faith with your friends. Sam is an Australian who is mad-keen on evangelism and helping people actually do it. I love the practical suggestions and the warmth with which Sam views people who don't know Jesus. Reading this will encourage and enthuse you in your desire to share the great news of Jesus with your friends.

PS I did write a letter to Sam suggesting that 'women also do evangelism' and he understood my beef!



### ***Fight Hustle End Hurry***

John Mark Comer & Jefferson Bethke

Listen in as author and pastor John Mark Comer and author Jefferson Bethke discuss hustle and hurry, the detriment of them to our spiritual lives, and what we can do about it as acts of resistance.

10 episodes - 30min each, on topics such as Sabbath, Silence, and Saying No.



[Spotify](#) or [Apple Podcasts](#)

John Mark Comer is author of *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*

Jefferson Bethke is author of *To Hell With the Hustle: Reclaiming Your Life in An Overworked, Overspent, and Overconnected World*.

Both books can be found in our St Tom's Library!

## MISSION NEWS

### TEARFUND

# tearfund

#### Be a voice for generations

The referendum on a First Nations Voice to parliament provides a significant opportunity to stand with First Nations people in pursuing a more just and equitable shared future.

Advocacy for systemic change plays a critical part in our pursuit of justice for all peoples. When we come together to say "Yes" to a better future, we're responding to First Nations Christian elders who have encouraged us to live out our mission as Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation.

Saying "Yes" to the Voice is an important step we can take towards justice for First Nations people and to help create momentum for even greater change.

#### National Reconciliation Week, 27 May - 3 June 2023

Join us in prayer and action during National Reconciliation Week, the beginning of which marks the 65th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum. This week is a time for all Australians to learn about and reflect on our history and take steps towards a more reconciled and just future.

This year's National Reconciliation Week theme, "Be a Voice for Generations," encourages all Australians to actively promote reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives - where we live, work, and socialise. In the lead up to the Voice referendum, let's take this opportunity to

reflect on the part we can play as Christ's "ambassadors of reconciliation."

**Mark Kickett: The church and the 1967 Referendum - watch video [here](#).**



#### Churches

First Nations leaders have invited us all to work with them to be ambassadors of reconciliation. As Professor Anne Pattel-Gray has said, First Nations people have been "wanting to... have a relationship that's based on restorative justice, that recognises what's been taken from us, and what needs to be given back in order to be reconciled."

We've created a [discussion guide](#) for churches shaped by the voices of First Nations Christian leaders for your church to reflect on as we engage in conversation on how the church can contribute to further justice and reconciliation today. The upcoming referendum provides us with an opportunity to stand with the First People of Australia and pursue reconciliation like we have in the past.

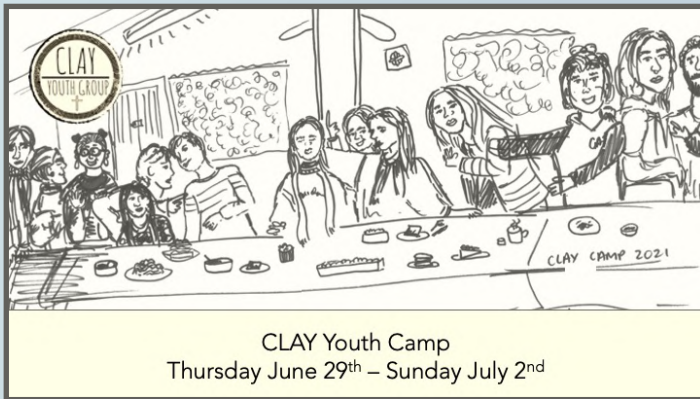
## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CLAY YOUTH CAMP 2023

Our Clay Youth Camp will be 29th June - 2nd July at CEBS Camp Bindaree. Our theme this year is *Joy*. For more information contact Joshua Millard [joshuam@sttoms.org](mailto:joshuam@sttoms.org).

### SAVE THE DATE - ST TOM'S RETREAT!

Our first ever St Tom's retreat will be happening this year! Save the date for the second weekend of September, Friday 8th - Sunday 10th. We will be heading down to Phillip Island for a weekend of community, learning and worshiping together. More information will be provided in Sunday services and via our weekly emails, so keep an eye out!



## EUCALYPTS



Eucalypts will be meeting on Thursday 8th of June at 1pm at St Tom's. We will welcome Neil and Sil Sim who will talk about their upcoming ministry in Africa with SIM International! Contact Ros: [rosa@sttoms.org](mailto:rosa@sttoms.org).

## OPERA

Susan Breen Clarke is running Opera Lessons in preparation for a performance at the end of the year. She would like to extend an invitation to St Tom's if anyone would like to join the rehearsals and the performance. The Opera is 'Amahl and the Night Visitors'. You can contact Susan at [sbreenclarke@gmail.com](mailto:sbreenclarke@gmail.com) for more information. Rehearsals are Saturday afternoons, between 2pm and 4pm, at St Tom's. For a full rehearsal schedule, see [here](#).

## SELAH ST TOM'S HOLY LAND TOUR 2024

**29 October - 15 November 2024**

Join John Carrick on a trip of a lifetime to the Holy Lands of Israel, Palestine & Jordan. Following roughly in the lifetime of Jesus's ministry, travel through Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee, Jerusalem and Jordan.

See where Jesus preached, healed and proclaimed that the Kingdom of God is here. The tour concludes with a visit to Petra, one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

Each day will be like walking through Scriptures – with a mixture of both Old & New testament sites. We will sing, pray, read our Bible and walk the very streets that Jesus, his disciples and saints of old all tread.

Join us on what will be a transformative discipleship experience that will forever change how you read the Bible!



### Information Session

An information session will be held on Thursday 29 June  
7.30pm at St Tom's.

To book, scan the QR code or click [here](#).



# END OF FINANCIAL YEAR APPEALS

## Medical Mission Aid EOFY Appeal

Disabled and Helpless Rehabilitation Service  
Centre (DHERSEC) Nepal  
Caring for People with Disabilities

To find our more, chat to Brenton,  
Amanda or William.



Donate

**Will you help CMS Victoria send more missionaries to places like Timor-Leste?**

Donate now at [lastinghope.cms.org.au/vic](http://lastinghope.cms.org.au/vic) or call (03) 9894 4722

**LASTING HOPE APPEAL 2023**  
\$350K GOAL BY JUNE 30

**Donate**

# FEEDBACK

**St Thomas' FEEDBACK FORM**

This form is for providing feedback, asking a question, requesting prayer or a pastoral visit. Please do provide your name so that a staff member might follow up with you. Feedback may be affirming, encouraging or offering a constructive comment.

What happens once I submit this form?  
It will be reviewed by the appropriate member of staff or at the next Staff Meeting (held Mondays) or by Parish Council.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_ My feedback is for:  Staff  Parish Council

Feedback: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have a question: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please pray for: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check boxes if you would appreciate a pastoral call and/or visit  
 Call  Visit

3 Mar 2018 1 of 1

Have you got feedback for St Tom's? For the Ministry Team or Parish Council? You can access and submit our feedback form via elvanto or obtain a hardcopy outside the Admin Office.

# FINANCES



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV

If you consider St Tom's your church then please prayerfully consider giving financially to its ministry. The running of St Tom's relies upon the generosity of its members. Below you can see the amounts which are required on a monthly basis for running our church. Most people find giving either by Direct Debit, or online, the most convenient way and setting their giving to reoccur monthly or weekly.

There are many ways to give financially, such as:



Direct Debit  
(see account details below)



Online with a Credit / Debit Card - go to [sttoms.org/give](http://sttoms.org/give) or via tithe scan



Cash or Cheque, into the offering taken up during our services

St Tom's encourage giving electronically:

	Account Name	BSB	Account No.	Monthly Required
General Account	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1039 7091	\$ 38,200
Building Fund	St Thomas ADF Building Fund	703-122	0500 5091	\$ 3,800
Necessitous Circumstances (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Thomas Burwood	063-112	1054 9390	
St Tom's Hope (TAX-DEDUCTIBLE)	St Toms Hope LTD	633-000	159591023	\$ 1,000

## CONTACT DETAILS

	Coordinator	Email	Mobile
Small Groups	Denise Clarke	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
Meals	Lyndie Gebert	meals@sttoms.org	0417 304 894
Handy Help	Peter Crandle	handyhelp@sttoms.org	
Pastoral Care	Annette Ward	pastoralcare@sttoms.org	0411 624 573
Prayer Circle (prayer requests)	Yvonne Edwards	prayer@sttoms.org	0432 477 766
Women's Mentoring	Position vacant		

### CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS

Catherine Hallyburton and Ming Lau are our Child Safety Officers. Contact details back page.

### FAMILY SAFETY CHAMPION

Lyndie Gebert	gebertll@gmail.com	0417 304 894
Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438

### WARDENS

Ida Mak 麥趙淑貞	idascmak@gmail.com	0488 332 438
Ruth Kernebone	ruthk@ozemail.com.au	0408 345 136
Steve Tong	tongsyc@gmail.com	0459 453 847

### ST TOM'S HOPE

Josephine Armstrong	English Class Coordinator	josephinea@sttomshope.org	0488 022 103
Melinda van der Westhuizen	Kids Hope Coordinator	mva66253@gmail.com	0403 182 654
Paula Adams- Grant	Coach Coordinator   Hope Filled Bags	paulaa@sttomshope.org	0438 899 630



**STAFF & MINISTRY TEAM**

John Carrick	Lead Minister	johnc@sttoms.org	0412 438 021
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN</b>			
Ros Armstrong	Assistant Minister	rosa@sttoms.org	0438 706 815
<b>WORK DAYS: MON (ST), WED (SE), THU (SE), SUN</b>			
Joshua Millard	Assistant Minister	joshuam@sttoms.org	0450 638 890
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SUN</b>			
Rachel Gijbers Hayman	Children & Families Coordinator	rachelgh@sttoms.org	0413 158 010
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, SUN</b>			
Joey Chan	Assistant Chinese Minister	joeyc@sttoms.org	0481 238 631
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN</b>			
Karen Morris	Evangelistic Ministries Coordinator	<u>karenm@sttoms.org</u>	0417 765 210
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE</b>			
Tracy Chen	Pastoral Care Intern	tracyc@sttoms.org	0430 656 456
<b>WORK DAYS: MON, TUE, THU</b>			
Denise Clarke	Small Groups Ministry	denisec@sttoms.org	0438 595 527
<b>WORK DAYS: NO PARTICULAR DAY</b>			
Catherine Hallyburton	Admin Assistant / Child Safe Officer	admin@sttoms.org	9808 3250 0481 830 261 SMS
<b>MON, TUE, WED, THU</b>			
Ming Lau	Chinese Admin / Child Safe Officer	ch.admin@sttoms.org	0402 581 838
<b>MON, THU (THU - IN THE OFFICE 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM)</b>			