

NEWS LETTER

Otahuhu Community Baptist Church

Knowing Christ - Growing in Christ - Going with Christ

TAKE NOTE:

9th August 2020

MISSIONS SUNDAY

This Missions Sunday, we remember the Missionaries who are struggling during the pandemic. A special prayer towards their safety and their ministries

9th August 2020

Combined Service/ AGM

Our Church's Annual General Meeting will be held after the Combined Service on 9th August. Combined Service starts at 10am and AGM starts at 11:30am.

ALL SATURDAYS

Community Outreach @10am

8th & 22nd August

HAMILTON MINISTRY
 @5:30PM @ Discovery
 Christian Centre, Hamilton.
 This is a fortnightly ministry run by our Church at Hamilton.

**2020 TARGET: Praying for , 50
 Born Again Experiences, 200
 Witnessing's**

SELF DENIAL IS TRULY A CELEBRATION

There was a true "Sense of Purpose" in observing Self Denial as we remembered the mission workers and mission areas struggling during this pandemic. There was no doubt that our Church desires to give and give cheerfully. The Missions Team did a fantastic job of organising Self Denial for the last three weeks of July, but some members wanted that to be extended for one more week to raise more funds. That showed our Church's enthusiasm towards missions. Well done Church. Keep doing it and God will bless you - For God loves a cheerful giver - 2 Corinthians 9: 7. Check out the fundraising photos on the last page.

A NEW APPOINTMENT : Our long time serving Treasurer for the Tamil Congregation, John, moved to Australia with his family and a new Treasurer for the Tamil Congregation was needed soon. Surprisingly, both the leadership and the members of the Tamil Congregation did not find it hard to name one capable man for the job easily and that was - George Walter. He was appointed as the Treasurer on the 19th July Tamil Worship Service. Please do support George in this role and appreciate your prayers for him.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SELF DENIAL FUNDRAISING -
Sunday, 2nd August @ 10am,
Keith Hall

FASTING PRAYER MEETING :
Friday, 7th August, 8pm to 10pm
at Church.

AGM: Sunday, 9th August,
11:30am @ Church Auditorium

HAMILTON MINISTRY: Saturday's
- 8th & 22nd August.

PRAYER NEEDS

We need to repeat the same prayers as we did last month and lets pray fervently more than ever

- Pray for those who are infected by the Covid19 virus and for complete healing.
- Pray that NZ will not go into another lockdown
- Pray for NZ economy to stay strong
- Pray for those who have been made redundant and have lost jobs
- Pray for pastors, missionaries and evangelists working hard in the midst of this pandemic.
- Pray for people to trust in God at this time and depend on Him alone.

VERSE FOR THE MONTH

Psalm 68: 19

"Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens."

MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE: Rachel Jacob

Thanks to all the members of our Church for generously supporting **Self-Denial** last month. **Thanks heaps.** Looking forward to your inputs for missions and Missions Committee at our AGM. Thanks for your continued generous support towards missions. God Bless.

SELF DENIAL SUCCESS

The success of Self Denial can be attributed to all the children of our church. The kids did a fantastic job of taking the time to bake and raise funds for a worthy cause. Commendations to the Sunday School Teachers who inspired the kids to go the extra mile for the sake of missions. God bless the Children's Ministry Team and all the kids. The kids inturn inspired the adults to do something for Self Denial and the adults chose two Sundays to organise a Food Sale and raise funds for Self Denial. Well done all.

CELL GROUPS AND BIBLE STUDIES

The Cell Groups and Bible Studies are going well. The English meet for their Bible Studies at Mears Room on Wednesdays. Tamil Cell Group meets online on Zoom. There are wonderful testimonies flowing conitnuously out of these Cell Group Meetings. Please do tune in on Zoom if you are unable to go to a meeting physically.

CHURCH HEALTH:

Just a humble reminder once again that we are still in the midst of a world wide pandemic. We urge to obseve caution and look after yourself and your fellow members. If you have any flu like symptoms please do stay home.

QUESTION FOR MEMBERS:

HOW DID YOU SEE GOD IN THIS PANDEMIC? The best submissions will go into the next edition of our Church Newsletter . We encourage you to write about half a page of your reflections. Your writing should be a testimony to God and an inspiration and encouragement to your fellow members. Looking forward to hear from you.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Please do note that in this AGM, there is a proposal to amend some clauses in the Constitution. Members are requested to be present at the meeting. If you are unable to make it, please send in your apologies to the Church Secretary. Please do pray and give your valuable inputs at AGM.

PASTOR MIKE'S COLUMN:

Greetings Church family, how it has been such a blessing to be having fellowship and ministry together this past month! However, let us remain vigilant as we remind ourselves that the Covid-19 virus is still raging in other parts of the world, even not far from us in Australia.

The world certainly has gone through some sudden and dramatic changes in a very short space of time. But God be praised, that His word and Gospel message through the Lord Jesus Christ has not changed, nether has His commandments to us. We serve the Almighty God, in a fallen world and we have His faithful Word, to guide us, empower us and teach us, and for us to share it to others!

So what should I do with God's unchanging word, even on a daily basis?

1. Receive the Word of God

When Paul preached in Thessalonica, the people not only received his word but also accepted it. They did not reject it; rather, they embraced what he proclaimed as the word of God, not of man: ***And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. (1 Thess. 2:13)***

2. Pray over God's Word

The psalmist understood that God was the ultimate author of the Scriptures and that it would thus be most appropriate to solicit his aid in understanding it:

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. (Ps. 119:18; see Acts 6:4)

3. Feed on God's Word

The Bible figuratively describes Scripture as milk (1 Pet. 2:2), bread (Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4), meat (1 Cor. 3:2), and honey (Ps. 19:10) to nourish the soul. Job testified to the effectiveness of the spiritual menu:

I have not departed from the commandment of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food. (Job 23:12; see Jer. 15:16)

4. Study the Word of God

Ezra understood that he had to study God's word. But before he could speak, it was imperative that he first obey what he learned. This principle proves true for both the preacher and the congregation:

For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel. (Ezra 7:10)

5. Preach and Teach the Word of God

Everywhere Jesus went he taught and preached God's precious word:

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. (Matt. 4:23; see 2 Tim. 4:2)

Remember, that God did not give us His word for us to put it on a bookshelf and collect dust. It's not the bookshelf that needs a right relationship with God, it's people like you and I.

Instead, let us follow the instruction of the Apostle Paul to the Colossians Church: ***Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. - Colossians 3:16***

God bless,
Pastor Mike [Monthly Newsletter](#)

SELF DENIAL - 2020 - FUNDRAISING PHOTOS

