



THEREFORE THE LORD LONGS TO BE GRACIOUS
TO YOU, AND THEREFORE HE WAITS ON HIGH TO
HAVE COMPASSION ON YOU, FOR THE LORD
IS A GOD OF JUSTICE. HOW BLESSED ARE
ALL THOSE WHO LONG FOR HIM



ISAIAH 30:18

**24TH OCTOBER
2021**

Today

10am - Worship

Speaker : Tony Burgum

Series: The Gospel Message of Romans

Study 35: God Glorifying Harmony – Romans 15:1-13

Service can be viewed on the Church Website ftgbc.org.au

We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, leading to edification. Romans 15:1-2

A Word From Tony

Not Just Pleasing Ourselves

As we turn to Romans 15 today, we find Paul continues writing to the early church about how those he describes as "strong" in their faith ought to treat those who are comparatively "weak" in their faith (Romans 14:1).

This is in the context of those issues where the Bible is not explicitly clear, such as eating meat, drinking alcohol, or observing certain holidays (Romans 14:2; 14:21). Those who are more legalistic on such matters Paul has described as "weak in faith," not recognizing their freedom in Christ. But we need to note, Paul has made it clear that both groups are Christians. Both are trusting in Christ for their salvation.

The difference between the weak and the strong, as Paul has defined it, is that the strong are fully convinced that in Christ they have been freed from the restrictions of the law, including the dietary restrictions about food and drink. Their strong faith that Christ has fully satisfied all the requirements of the law allows them to feel comfortable with eating or drinking anything.

However, to those strong in their faith, Paul has written that they must be willing to set aside their freedom in certain situations in order to avoid leading their less strong brothers and sisters into that sin (Romans 14:13).

In short, those strong in the faith must put a low priority on pleasing themselves, placing it below their obligation to serve weaker Christians. And this remains a challenge for us all today, as Paul has previously encouraged us in Romans 12:10 *“Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honour giving preference to one another.”*

Ongoing FTG Church Fellowship/Ministry

As we exit lockdown and 70% and 80% vaccinated targets are met, restrictions on being able to meet together on the Church property and in homes is being revised. We will keep you informed how these restrictions impact FTG Church as they ease further. At this current time, we will continue to record services and provide viewing through the Church website and delivery of DVD's. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Tony.

What's On This Week

Due to the continuing COVID lockdown, all ministry and meetings continue to be suspended and currently, no home groups can be held together in private homes or at the Church unless on Zoom.

Next Sunday

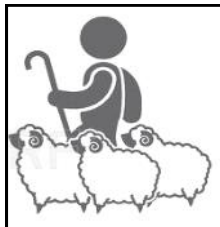
31st October Worship

Speaker: Tony Burgum

What Should We Do With Halloween?

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Tony is no longer restricted in visiting however Will still be taken to ensure health of all. Tony can be contacted on 0406 686715.



If you wish to do a bank transfer into the Church bank Account the details are:

ANZ - Ferntree Gully
Baptist Church

BSB: 013278

Account: 296710027

Treasurers Report

Income: September \$8,633.54 YTD \$24,896.74
YTD Wkly offering \$1,915.13

Expenditure: September \$17,224.19 YTD \$39,339.69
YTD Wkly expenditure \$3026.13

Proposed Budgeted average weekly offering for 2021/22
- \$1,925.00 Budgeted figure projected \$25,025.00

Income YTD \$9.87 less per week.

Cheque account: \$48,103.35

Major once off expenditures for September included: Insurance \$4,963.98 &
BUV Ministry \$3,113.09



BUV Gathering

Following are some of the things discussed and voted on at the BUV Gathering on Friday 15th October:

It was agreed that the fulltime Pastoral Stipend be increased in line with the average change in CPI and WPI, resulting in an increase of \$19 per week in 2022 to \$1669.

It was agreed that the weekly superannuation contribution be moved from \$206.98 to \$208 in 2022.

Jo-Anne Bradshaw and Fiona Hall were accepted to continue service on the Union Council of the Baptist Union of Victoria.

Paul Holdway was appointed as BUV Honorary Legal Advisor for a period of 12 months from 15th October 2021. Graham Dangerfield was reappointed as CEO of Baptcare.

The following Churches were received into membership at Constituted Churches of the BUV:

Fallam (Burmese) Baptist Church Werribee
Karen (Burmese) Werribee Baptist Church
Melbourne Siyin (Burmese) Baptist Church Essendon
Melbourne Agape Baptist Church Boronia (Burmese)
Shepperton Chinese Christian Fellowship

Daniel Bullock, Director of Mission and Ministry, gave an update on the BUV's strategic focus for 2022, especially in light of Melbourne Metropolitan and statewide COVID lockdowns being removed into the future.

Reporting was provided on Homelessness in Victoria and ongoing Baptist Church Involvement.

FERNTREE GULLY BAPTIST CHURCH

Series: The Gospel Message of Romans

Study 35: God Glorifying Harmony - Romans 15:1-13

Introduction

ACTION TO TAKE

. Bear With One Another - Romans 15:1

. Please One Another – Romans 15:2

. Receive One Another – Romans 15:7

EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW – Romans 15:3-4&7

Conclusion – Romans 15:8-13



Our prayers do not inform God of needs of which He is unaware but declare our trust in Him as Our Provider.

Praise the Lord that Alan Sullivan is recovering well from COVID-19 and does not require oxygen now. Alan is still in Box Hill Hospital and could be there for at least another week. Alan had his first COVID vaccination shot about 5 weeks ago.

Please pray for Maureen, Alan's friend and part time carer, as she also recovers for COVID-19. Maureen is able to continue isolating at home.

Please pray for Ben deJong that new carers can be found as some he had were unvaccinated and therefore unable to continue providing care.

Please pray for Bill Morrison and his wife Pauline, as Bill takes up the role of Interim pastor at FTG early in December.

Please pray for Frank Schlag as he oversees maintenance work required on the Church manse prior to Bill and Pauline Morrison moving in.

Prayer for Stephen Barrington and the team at Foothills Community Care as they continue providing meals and care for locals through venues at Upwey Baptist Church and FTG Guide Hall. Prayer for wisdom and further opportunities as lockdown restrictions are released.

Continue to uphold citizens of Myanmar as they continue under military rule. Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Myanmar as they are experiencing hardship and persecution. Pray also for the 40 BUV Churches which have links to Myanmar/Burma as they seek to support family and fellow Christians.

Jonathan and Michelle Ullrich give thanks for a recent time of rest and ongoing ministry opportunities God has provided to share life and Jesus with people. Please pray for them as they plan a National Training Event to be held in Port Campbell hopefully late November early December and for Uni students being able to gather around God's Word.

Along with Jonathan and Michelle, we also encourage the Church family at FTG to pray for grace, understanding, unity and the gospel to remain central as we all navigate the complexities surrounding restrictions, vaccinations and government

FTG Interim Pastor

We would like to announce that the Leadership and Pastoral Search Committee have accepted Bill Morrison as our Interim Pastor. You may recall Bill presented a message in our on-line church service three weeks ago. Bill and his wife Pauline will move into the manse after some maintenance and minor renovations have been completed. Bill and Heather recently served with Global Interaction over a 12year period with remote indigenous communities in the Northern Territory

Bill is prepared to be our Interim Pastor while we continue the search for and appointment of a new Pastor. Let us give thanks to the Lord that He has provided for His flock a shepherd that can help us over this period.

We encourage all in the Church family to continue praying that the Lord will provide a permanent shepherd of His choice for the ongoing ministry of His Church at Ferntree Gully Baptist.

Rainer Luppa, Secretary

Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child

We have recently heard that Samaritan Purse is still going ahead with Operation Christmas Child, collecting shoe boxes in Victoria in 2021, even if in a scaled down fashion.

Operation Christmas Child is a hands-on way to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts. The boxes are collected and distributed in the name of Jesus Christ to children living in vulnerable situations.



If you would like to be involved, you could put together a shoe box yourself, provide some money toward filling a box or provide postage costs, which is \$10 per box. Boxes and more information is available from Lorraine Gray on 0421366430.

If you would like to be involved this needs to be done by late October early November.

THERE IS A REDEEMER

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One

Jesus my redeemer, Name above all names
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Oh, for sinners slain

Thank you, oh my father for giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit 'Til the work on Earth is done

When I stand in Glory I will see His face
And there I'll serve my King forever In that Holy Place

Thank you, oh my father for giving us Your Son
And leaving Your Spirit 'Til the work on Earth is done

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One

Thank you, oh my father for giving us Your Son
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Songwriter: Melody Green

Pastor: Rev. Tony Burgum

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(Property)

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