

16th Jan

*Rend your heart
and not your garments.
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending calamity.
Joel 2:13 NIV*

Dear Church Family,

It has struck me as I read through the prophet Joel, how easy it is to go through the motions of repentance without a true change of heart. Certainly as a teenager, I had the 'sorry' routine down pat! ...I had everybody fooled except God Himself.

That's why I'm so thankful that God himself moved in my heart and gave me true repentance all those years ago, and so I'm saved. But is that all the repenting I need to do? Not by a long shot! Someone wise once told me, we don't as Christians visit the cross once and then move on to bigger and better things—but we visit the cross and then circle it, seeing and admiring it from every possible angle, in an ongoing attitude of repentance.

My prayer is that I, and we as a church, wouldn't ever grow tired of adopting this kind of repentant attitude, and so continue coming to God for his gracious forgiveness and healing found in the finished work of Christ at the cross.

Blessings in Christ,
Dan

Keep reading for some important information below:

Three services continuing over January period

Ordinarily over the January period we would hold a single combined service at 9:30 AM. This year we will be continuing to hold our regular 8:30AM, 10:30AM and 6:30PM services.

As of this Sunday, the 10:30AM service and the 8:30AM service will be made available over Zoom.

Please connect to a service via Zoom by clicking [this link](#).

CMS Summer Conference (sad news)

This from CMS SA/NT:

"It is with sadness that we are emailing you to let you know that Summer Conference 2022 has been cancelled due to COVID-19."

However! CMS have made the decision to make the content of the conference, "Heart of Mission", available as a short podcast series! As I'm informed of the details of this series, I will pass on to our church family. If you would like to access this content, but aren't sure what a podcast is, or how to access it, let me know and I would be glad to help.

COVID-19 Information and Guidelines

We continue to operate under the same guidelines under Level 1 restrictions.

Church capacity limited to 3 people per 4 square metres

Singing remains permitted, while wearing a mask

A single song-leader may be unmasked when singing

Gathering at Home Cap remains at 10 people

Please be mindful to maintain 1.5m social distance from members of another household

If you have needed to self isolate, but would like to participate in the service over Zoom, be in touch with Dan (dan@stgeorgesmagill.org).

Please do be in touch with Dan, or Richard in our office (office@stgeorgesmagill.org) if you have contracted COVID-19 or need to isolate for any reason. This is helpful for a variety of reasons. First, we would love to be mindful of you in prayer as a staff team. Second, depending on the timing of contact or contraction we may need to make swift changes to the way we gather together as a church family and so the sooner we know, the better.

Weekly Prayer Meeting

Do consider logging in to the weekly prayer meeting, this Saturday. We meet every Saturday at 11AM over Zoom and we'd love for you to join us! Here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/544859603>.

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