

AUSTRALASIAN
GOOD
TIDINGS

E-NEWS

29 MARCH 2011

Maranatha Church Building Project

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Due to the growth in membership our brethren in Melbourne are working towards establishing a second house of worship in Victoria. Having already organised as the Maranatha Church, they recently purchased a block of land on which to build. The land is in a prime location, just off the Hume Freeway north of Melbourne.

By God’s grace most of the money to purchase the property was raised in local donations, and a loan was taken for the remainder. The church has appointed a building committee to consider proposals and draw up plans for approval by the membership. This work is currently being done, with a view to submitting plans to Council as soon as possible.



In October this year, Sabbath school members from around the world will collect a special offering for the Maranatha church building project. Members across our own Union are encouraged to give generously. You may donate immediately through your local church to help pay down the property loan, and you will also have the opportunity to give sacrificially when the special Sabbath school offering is collected.

Let us unite to rise and build another lighthouse for the Lord in the city of Melbourne.

Testimony Reading Plan - Highlights

For those that may not be yet aware, at the AUC Delegation Session, 27-29 December 2010, a “Testimony Reading Plan” was recommended to be promoted across the Australasian Union. You can find out more information, plus download a calendar of the plan in PDF or for your electronic calendaring software at <http://www.sdarm.org.au/readingplan> Highlights from your readings can be shared on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TestimonyReadingPlan>

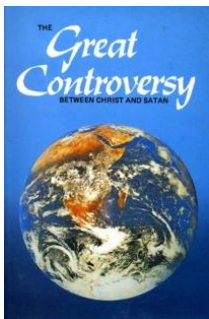
Here are a few excerpts from the Facebook page’s Wall:

Noted From the reading for March 23: "God is bringing out a people and preparing them to stand as one, united, to speak the same things, and thus carry out the prayer of Christ for His disciples." [1T 417]

Facebook Member: "We are really enjoying reading through the Testimonies! I encourage everyone to start following the plan. It really doesn't take long to read 5 pages a day, and the best thing is that it has been such a great blessing to us so far! We are really learning a lot as we read it everyday. Thank you for putting the plan together! It's also encouraging that so many of us are reading it together... its really nice to share different things that we found interesting with others and vice versa :)"

Noted From the reading for March 16: "The reason why there is so little of the Spirit of God manifested is that ministers learn to do without it." [1T 383]

“Great Controversy” Book Campaign – QLD Update



Our local church members in Woombye, on the Sunshine Coast, QLD, report a very encouraging response to the “The Great Controversy” Free Book offer. Last month 2800 flyers offering the book to those interested in current events in the light of Bible prophecy were distributed throughout the surrounding suburbs of our church community. So far the brethren report 17 requests for the book. This is a response rate of 1 for every 165 flyers that were delivered. This is also a 30% increase in response rate over a similar campaign in a nearby area last year. No doubt recent world events are heightening the interest in Biblical prophecy.

The books have now all been delivered (23/03/11), most of them in person, to good reception. We pray that our follow up efforts in this current campaign will result in requests for personal Bible Studies. As a result of last years’ effort, Br Paul Chapman commenced personal Bible Studies with one very interested married couple. After eight months of studies this couple are now on the verge of making their decision for the Sabbath truth. Please pray for this work.

“Fly and Build” Vanuatu – June to July 2011

Plans are well underway in the Vanuatu Mission Field for the establishment of permanent places of worship. Mission Projects Oceania, a ministry of the SDARM AUC Welfare Department, is looking for willing and able volunteers to help out in their next “Fly-and-Build” project. See below Calendar of Events for locations, dates and contact details.

Obituaries – Maria Korchynsky

We have been saddened in recent weeks with the death of three of our beloved brethren: Sis. Esther Southwell, Sis. Maria Korchynsky and Bro. Bruce Gordon.

They were all dearly loved by their families and friends. While we will miss them greatly, we take comfort in the promise that they now rest in Christ awaiting the blessed hope of the resurrection. Last issue we reflected on the life of Sis. Esther Southwell (nee McMahon). This issue we remember Sr Maria Korchynsky (nee Kovacik) as told by her family.

“Maria Kovacik was born on the 19th December, 1925 in Zrenjanin Serbia, former Yugoslavia to Maria (originally from Slovakia) & Konrad (from Russia). Due to the First World War turmoil, her parents had fled from their respective countries and settled in Zrenjanin where there was greater opportunity for work. Maria was the only child to survive of five. She grew up there with her extended family, three aunties and an uncle. Life was hard growing up. She left school to help her family work in the sugar and corn fields. There was a church at the other end of her street which her grandmother had started attending and to which she took Maria, then around 13 years old. Maria felt at peace when she attended this church. It was called the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement church. She continued attending this church with her grandmother, and in time her mother and the rest of the aunties followed. She was baptized at about 16 years of age. As they didn’t have transport, she and her young church friends spent a lot of time walking while doing missionary work. Like many others in those days, as they tried to go to different towns doing missionary work they encountered difficulties with the authorities. But this did not deter them.

“In 1957 Maria made a difficult decision to leave everything and come to Australia for a better life. She left home for Austria, and while there she put in papers with the authorities to say she wasn’t returning home. She was kept in a camp until she was allowed to come to Australia. After traveling by ship for 3 months she arrived in Australia in January 1958. Here she discovered there were jobs for live-in house keepers. She soon found employment with a Polish/Jewish husband and wife in Elizabeth Bay. She enjoyed her new found life in Australia and ended up working for this family for five years. While there, she went looking for her church people and eventually found them worshipping at Summer Hill.

“She later met Lew Korchynsky, a Ukrainian man who had migrated to Australia for a better future. They married on the 20th November 1962, and built a house in Regents Park where they lived for the rest of their married life.

“On 14th January 1965 they had their only child—a daughter Anne.

“Maria was a stay-at-home mum until Anne started school. She then found a series of part-time jobs and later secured a full time job working at a handbag factory, where she made many close friends. She worked there till her retirement at the age of 67.

“On the 22nd July, 1990 her daughter married Ivan Ilic.

“Her husband Lew, after working for the State Rail for 44 years, retired in 1993 and they looked forward to retired life together. However, not long after, he began to suffer back pain. Within Four months he was diagnosed with cancer. He died 7 weeks later. This was a very difficult and hard experience for Maria to come to terms with. However, not long after this, Anne and Ivan told her she would be a grandmother. Then on the 25th February 1994 her first grand-child—a girl—was born (Lusinda). This event gave her a whole new outlook and happiness in life and kept her very busy. Her 2nd grandchild was born a boy (Luis Dillan) on the 23rd April 1998. She was a very happy, helpful, and dedicated grandmother who did everything to make us happy.

“She enjoyed her home, her family, spending time with her grandchildren, gardening, cooking, trying out new recipes that Ivan had to test for her; reading; shopping; being independent and being faithful to the Lord. She was a helpful, considerate, hard working and quiet achiever.

“During November 2010 she cleaned her blinds and curtains by herself. Two days later she started to have back pain. The pain got worse over the next couple of days and eventually she was admitted to hospital. She grew weaker as time went by.

“On Friday 14th January 2011 Maria quietly went to sleep in Jesus.”

Coming Events Calendar

22-24 April 2011

South Australian Spiritual Conference

VENUE: Mt Gambier Golf Club

For additional information, contact cmatyas@sdarm.org.au. Alternatively, see this webpage for details: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/events/sa/> or download the invitation brochure in PDF format at

<http://www.sdarm.org.au/events/sa/SA-Camp-Invite-2011-Web.pdf>

22-25 April 2011

New Zealand Spiritual Conference

For details please contact nzfield@sdarm.org.au

10-13 June 2011

New South Wales Spiritual Conference

VENUE: Elim Heights Youth Camp

Official invitation brochure in PDF format can be downloaded here:

http://www.sdarm.org.au/files/2011-NSW-Camp%20Invite_WEB.pdf

For further information contact nsw@sdarm.org.au

16 June – 15 July 2011

Mission Projects Oceania: Fly & Build – Vanuatu

Malekula Island, Vanuatu: 16-29 June 2011

Port Vila, Vanuatu: 3 – 15 July 2011

For additional details contact Br John Lausevic

welfare@sdarm.org.au

+61 8 9731 6037

5-7 August 2011

Queensland Spiritual Conference

VENUE: Ewen Maddock Dam Recreation Centre – Sunshine Coast

Additional details will be available on the website soon; for further information contact pchapman@sdarm.org.au

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