



Reformed Church

BOX HILL

Grace Alone • Christ Alone • Faith Alone • Scripture Alone • Glory to God Alone

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A congregation of the
Christian Reformed
Churches of Australia

Statement of Purpose

In response to God's call, it is the purpose of the Reformed Church of Box Hill to be a community of believers committed to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, filled with the Holy Spirit, proclaiming in word and deed the Word of God by worship, fellowship and care, diaconal service, and evangelism and outreach.

Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to all who have come to worship today.

Worship services are recorded and sermons are available on our web site — rcbh.org.au.

You can listen to them online or download and listen offline.

Minister of the Word & Pastor:

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Meditation – ***Sufferers make strong believers***

By Charles H. Spurgeon, and excerpt from "Faith's Checkbook." Courtesy of Christian Classics Ethereal Library. For the full book, see: <https://www.ccel.org/ccel/s/spurgeon/checkbook/cache/checkbook.pdf>

"It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth" Lam. 3:27

This is as good as a promise. It has been good, it is good, and it will be good for me to

bear the yoke. Early in life I had to feel the weight of conviction, and ever since it has proved a soul-enriching burden. Should I have loved the gospel so well had I not learned by deep experience the need of salvation by grace? Jabez was more honorable than his brethren because his mother bare him with sorrow, and those who suffer much in being born unto God make strong believers in sovereign grace.

The yoke of censure is an irksome one, but it prepares a man for future honor. He is

not fit to be a leader who has not run the gauntlet of contempt. Praise intoxicates if it be not preceded by abuse. Men who rise to eminence without a struggle usually fall into dishonor. The yoke of affliction, disappointment, and excessive labor is by no means to be sought for; but when the Lord lays it on us in our youth it frequently develops a character which glorifies God and blesses the Church.

Come, my soul, bow thy neck; take up thy cross. It was good for thee when young, it

will not harm thee now. For Jesus' sake, shoulder it cheerfully.

March 24th, 2024

10AM Morning Worship

Preacher
Isaac Overton

Duty Elder
Ronald Paoa

Children's Catechism
Ronald Paoa

Music Group - Kathy Dean
Simon Wang

Offerings
1. Ministry of the Church
2. Diaconate

Morning Tea
Weichang Yu & Carolyn Lo

Slides & Audio
Janice Lim
Jeremy Lim

5PM Evening Worship

Preacher
Isaac Overton

Duty Elder
Ronald Paoa

Pianist
Ernest Law

Weekly Church Cleaning
Si Ning Chua & Si Wei Chua

Slides & Audio
Janice Lim
Jeremy Lim

Memory Verse of the Week

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Matthew 5:12

Sunday School Memory Work

Q. 117. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?

A. That God would give us all that we need for our bodies and souls.

Parking at RCBH

It is great to see the church filled for worship services, but that also means the church car park is often crammed full. So where should you park, particularly on Sunday mornings?

If you are able-bodied and prepared to walk the short distance from a parking place on Watts Street or in the council car park at the end of the rear lane way (also accessed from Court Street), please leave spaces in the church car park for those who need them more – particularly our elderly brothers and sisters, and young families with prams and strollers.

See the poster on the Notice Board about nearby parking locations and other parking arrangements.

Box Hill Prayer and Praise Points

Lord's Day Worship – Pray that the Lord will bless our worship, and that He will use the testimony of our public worship to bring others into His kingdom. Pray that the Lord will increase our zeal and love for Christ, and that our joy in the Lord would abound as we worship him.

Zeal – Pray that the Lord may increase our zeal for Him, our hunger for His Word, and our love for Christ. Pray that the fruit of the Spirit may be growing and abounding in our lives – at home, at church, and in the work place. Give thanks for the growth in zeal that he has given in answer to our prayers!

Gospel outreach - pray that the Lord will lead and equip us in bringing the gospel to our neighbours, both in Box Hill and at our places of residence. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel, courage to take those opportunities, and that we may see many unbelievers come to Christ and join in worshipping the Lord.

Newborns, babies, and weddings – Please continue to pray for our recent newborns and their parents settling into a new season of life, as well as for Anche as she prepares to give birth to a new little one – this week! (DV). Please pray also for Braydon and Dorothy as they prepare and plan for their marriage in May this year. Jonathan and Yumi are expecting the arrival of a new addition to their family! Thanks be to God!! Please pray also that any of our single folk desiring the gift of marriage may receive it, and that those who are married would be able to live as a faithful portrait of Christ and his Church in their marriages.

Sick & grieving – continue to pray for comfort, recovery, and confidence in God for those who have health concerns. Pray too for those struggling with mental health, anxiety, fear, and depression, that the Lord will minister to and help them, and enable us to care for them. Please continue to especially pray for good healing and recovery for our sisters Linda and Kitty. Pray also for those in a time of grief over the loss of loved ones, that the Lord may abundantly comfort them.

Church Camp – please pray for our upcoming Church Camp, for our committee as they finalise arrangements, for our speaker Dr Bill Berends as he prepares and travels with his wife Henny, that the camp would be a great blessing to all of us, for a blessing to be upon our regular service back at RCBH, and also that the remaining spaces in our camp would be filled up! (please see one of our elders if you are keen!).

Food-Aid Hampers – don't forget the collection trolley in the church foyer. The deacons will collect, sort and distribute your gifts of non-perishable, packaged food as part of our ministry of mercy to people in our community. Any items you give will be put to good use! Please talk to the deacons if you want to know more about this activity, and especially if you know people in need who they might reach out to and help.

Australian and World-wide Praise & Prayer

More Pastors to serve in the CRCA – Continue to remember South Barwon Reformed Church, Casey Reformed Church, Canberra Reformed Church, and other CRCA churches as they seek to call a pastor. Give thanks to God for answering our prayers in the provision of Pastor Chris Shannon to serve at Leongatha Reformed Church.

Synod 2024 – Our denominational Synod will be meeting in May this year, please pray for our churches and Classes as they consider the reports before Synod this year, and pray that wisdom and humility may prevail at Synod – to the glory of God! Please pray that our office bearers would be able to manage the extra workload required with properly examining all the synodical reports that are now before our churches. Give thanks to God for Oasis Church in Queensland who is extending hospitality to all our churches in hosting this year's Synod.

Victoria – pray for our state, our government, and for the protection and freedom of liberty that we may live quiet, godly lives, free to worship and share the gospel. Pray for the conversion of our elected representatives, and for revival in our city.

War in Ukraine – After two years of conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the fighting continues. Please pray for peace in this troubled region.

Pray for the persecuted church in Iran (report courtesy of Global Christian Relief) - What does Christian persecution in Iran look like? Religious freedom is severely curtailed for everyone other than Farsi speaking Shi'a. For Armenian and Assyrian Christians, being restricted to use of ethnic languages is limiting, as is the state-imposed obligation to ensure that only people of the 'right' ethnicity participate in worship. [Emigration of Christians](#) in Iran is a long-standing challenge, with an estimated 10,000 leaving each year. For those of Muslim heritage, the pattern of [Christian persecution](#) in Iran varies by location. In major cities, the state is the persecutor. Some are arrested, some imprisoned; others are simply excluded from their place of study or work. Some choose to leave the country; a few are obliged to due to intense pressure and threats of imprisonment. In rural areas, the persecutor is the family and community. For all, there is denial of the right to open, public worship with fellow disciples.

Praise & Prayer:

- **LAHORE, PAKISTAN** - Give thanks for the opportunities for churches to wisely share the gospel of God's grace in Christ with neighbours. Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Bible Literacy Programme teaching illiterate people God's Holy Word.
- **INDONESIA** - Give thanks for the growing number of Indonesian Christians spending time brainstorming and praying to prepare for outreach to open-minded Muslims in their communities. Pray for love, wisdom and protection.
- **EGYPT** - Praise God for his blessing on MERF's Arabic literature publications. After studying "The Old Testament Explained and Applied" by Dr Gareth Crossley, two young pastors enthusiastically contacted Pastor Victor Atallah to express gratitude. One said: "Now I can approach the Old Testament as a compilation of gospel messages." The other said: "This work has transformed my preparation of sermons and Bible studies, with joyful Christ-centred messages."

Please join us in praying for a revival among spiritual leaders in Arab and Muslim lands. Believers need much teaching and a deeper understanding of the centrality of Christ in Scriptures and his sovereignty in world history.

- **GAZA** - Pray for the Arabic gospel radio messages of hope in Christ to reach Palestinian families facing starvation, homelessness, death and destruction in months of bombing and armed conflict throughout their communities. All Arabs and Jews desperately need to recognize Jesus, as the true Messiah of God, and embrace his self-giving love.

RCBH Banking Details

Main Account:

Reformed Church of Box Hill Inc
BSB: 013 284 / Account No: 309 733 026

Deacon's Account:

Reformed Church of Box Hill
BSB: 013 259 / Account No: 196 788 337



Bible Reading Plan

The translation/version of the Bible used in our worship services & which is recommended for personal use is the English Standard Version (ESV).

Easy 3 Years Plan Medium 2 Years Plan

25-Mar	Ex 27	25-Mar	Ex 36	John 15
26-Mar	Ex 28	26-Mar	Ex 37	John 16
27-Mar	Ex 29	27-Mar	Ex 38	John 17
28-Mar	Ex 30	28-Mar	Ex 39	John 18
29-Mar	Ex 31	29-Mar	Ex 40	John 19
30-Mar	Ex 32	30-Mar	Lev 1	John 20
31-Mar	Ex 33	31-Mar	Lev 2,3	John 21

Advanced 1 Year Plan

25-Mar	Ex 36	John 15	Prov 12	Eph 5
26-Mar	Ex 37	John 16	Prov 13	Eph 6
27-Mar	Ex 38	John 17	Prov 14	Phil 1
28-Mar	Ex 39	John 18	Prov 15	Phil 2
29-Mar	Ex 40	John 19	Prov 16	Phil 3
30-Mar	Lev 1	John 20	Prov 17	Phil 4
31-Mar	Lev 2,3	John 21	Prov 18	Col 1

Reminders for the week and next Sunday

Today 10:00 **Morning Worship**

17:00 **Evening Worship**

Tue 26th Mar 10:00 **Youth of Yesteryear**

Thurs 28th Mar 19:30 **Prayer Meeting**

Fri 29th Mar 10:00 **Good Friday Worship**
12:00 **Barbeque Picnic**

Sun 31st Mar 10:00 **Morning Worship**
Preacher – Isaac Overton
Duty Elder – David Luy
Children's Catechism – Isaac Overton
Pianist – Kathy Dean
Offerings 1. Ministry of Church
2. RTC

Morning Tea:

Johnny Oo & Cheri Oo

Slides&Audio: Samantha Lu

Ethan Lu

17:00 **Evening Worship**

Preacher – Isaac Overton

Duty Elder – David Luy

Pianist – Michael Pamphilon

Weekly Church Cleaning:

Justin Li & Kelly Li

Slides&Audio: Weichang Yu

Notices

Ladies Bible Study

Bible study books have arrived and are on the shelf below the switchboard. We will be taking a brief break for Easter and church camp, reconvening 27th April.

Good Friday Service – Please note that our Good Friday Service will be on at 10am Friday 29th March, to be followed by a BBQ Church Picnic at Box Hill gardens. Our organising team want to let you know that you NO LONGER need to bring your own meat – all meat will be provided. But please do bring something/a plate to share (e.g fruit, snack, salad). We will STILL provide drinks, bread, and ice-cream. Hope to see you there! It will be a good day to invite non-Christian friends to hear the gospel and connect with our Church at the BBQ!

Synod Reports – As Synod prepares to meet in May this year, Session notes that there are a number of weighty issues to be considered this year. These matters include: proposed changes to our forms for baptism, proposed changes to our membership structure as churches, consideration of whether or not credo-baptist men should be permitted to serve as elders in our churches, and one church overture raising the possibility of allowing both men and women to preach in our churches. Please do be praying about these matters, that God's will will be done in our churches. Note also that the reports and overtures, which are public documents, can be viewed on the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14vE5UvgaAGmo5OzBsJm88XSJRMvFWE5X?usp=drive_link

Jubilate choir – Concert of the Jubilate Choir on Sunday the 24th of March at 6 pm. It is An Easter Cantate "Because He Lives", At Dandenong Christian Reformed Church, Cnr Outlook Dve & Gladstone Road Dandenong North. All welcome! - Corrie Deerbon.

Word and Prayer email list – as well as our newsletter mail out list, please note that Ps Isaac has an email list for members and regular attendees sending out occasional congregational updates. It's not always easy to keep track of everyone's email on the list, so if you're not on this email list and would like to be, please send an email to Isaac at isaac.t.overton@outlook.com and he will add you to the list. Thanks!

Sermon texts for next week: Lord willing, our sermon text for the AM sermon next week will be Matthew 5:13-16, and our text for the PM service will be Prov 10:8-9.

Families with small children – with the blessing of more children in our church comes the need to take care of them in our worship! Session would like to kindly request that we seek to keep the edges of our seating rows towards the back of the sanctuary free for the use of parents with prams and small children. This will allow them greater freedom when a quick exit is necessary, and greater ease for seeking to bring our children into the sanctuary to train them to worship the Lord with us. Thank you for your understanding!

Sermon notes are available for those with English as a second language. Contact Isaac (isaac.t.overton@outlook.com) if you want to be on the distribution list. There is normally a translation of the sermon notes into Chinese included as well.

Links & details for joining meetings online:

- *Worship Services*

(Every Lord's Day 10:00 & 17:00)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6cH9C5hGhqornk2IrvHs0g>

- *Morning Prayer*

(Every day 06:30–06:50)

<https://meet.google.com/tfd-bwku-mex>

- *Tuesday Bible Studies*

(Every first and third Tuesday 10:00) <https://meet.google.com/tfd-bwku-mex> – see Albert E for more details.

- *Wednesday Evening Bible Studies*

(Every first and third Wednesday) usually in-person only, please see Ken for more details and to get on the email list to join in.

- *Prayer Meetings*

(Every second & fourth Thursday 19:30) <https://meet.google.com/tfd-bwku-mex>