

ACC E-News February 2010

Greetings for 2010,

This is an edited version of the e-news sent to members. From 2010, the newsletter has been discontinued. The ACC Magazine ACCatalyst will be published every second month, and will incorporate news items as well.

1. The National Council will be holding a face to face meeting with Commission convenors in Sydney March 15-16 to plan together, and seek God's wisdom for the direction of the ACC.

If you have any matters for consideration please provide these to the ACC Council secretary, Revd Walter Abetz.

2. ACCatalyst - thank you to all those members who sent comments about the December edition of ACCatalyst. It has been well-received, and about 100 extra copies sent out.

You can also download a copy from the website. The February 2010 edition is at the printer this week. The theme is Marriage.

3. Bible Study on James - make 2010 the Year of James: Faith that Works

The Study on James has been very well received by those members who have bought copies. I am aware that advising of the publication just before Christmas was not a good time for consideration, so I encourage you to see if your church would like to use the study during the year. It would even lend itself as a Lenten study if you have not organised this yet, and I am able to express post all bulk copies. See the order form on the news section. Direct Deposit is available if you would like to pay over the internet.

SPECIAL PRICE at the Mt Waverley Victorian Seminar on 27th February.

For all members attending the Seminar on 27th February there will be a special offer on the James Study on the day, especially if buying in bulk.

4. Prayer Diary - Please note the prayer diary is listed on the website each month:

http://www.confessingcongregations.com/uploads/acc_prayer_janfeb_2010.pdf

and if you have new requests please contact the prayer network.

5. Significant comment on UCA on prominent blog site. A brief is below:

A UCA minister who provided comment in *Journey* (Queensland Synod paper) has a further comment at:

<http://faith-theology.blogspot.com/2010/02/lowest-common-denomination-lament.html>

by Scott Stephens (Scott is a pastor and theological educator in the Uniting Church in Australia, one of the country's largest mainline denominations. In this piece, Scott discusses the Church's founding confessional document, the Basis of Union.)
Over thirty years ago, the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) embarked on what could have been a remarkable journey, but it deviated from its original course with devastating consequences. It is now a shell of its former self, like so much Liberal Protestantism throughout the West, having gone whoring after the strange gods of impotent theology, liturgical gimmickry, inert bureaucracy and social respectability

6. Tour Opportunity - Turkey in September 2010

After the 2010 ACC conference (2-4 September), which is being held at Camden UC, Revd Colin Seymour will be leading a tour to Turkey. ACC members may like to consider this opportunity. A link with full details will be provided in the future.

Following the Spread of Grace: Exploring highlights of the work of St Paul and St John in Turkey

24 Sept - 10 Oct 2010

Cost \$5490 twin share including return airfare 15 nights accommodation and all meals

For information- contact Rev Colin Seymour
home - 0246559303; Mobile 0408201973

7. Updates from Revd Rod James.

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Revelation 22:13

As I intimated in my last letter I officially retired at the end of 2009. I am still working through what that means. I have some ministry occasions in the diary for the next few months, and have set them out in the itinerary. However my main objective is to get my health onto a better plain so that I can be of more use to my family and others as well.

In my last letter I spoke of the following two objectives for this year. I would appreciate your prayers for these.

- ♣ Setting up a Grace Abounding website that contains most of my leaflets, arranged in subject categories.

- ♣ Further developing my email list of interested people involved in Christian ministry to whom I can send useful resources.

May the Lord bless you richly throughout this year, that you may be able to 'stand against the schemes of the devil' (Ephesians 6:11), 'holding fast to the word of life' (Philippians 2:16), and 'may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

With love in the Lord, Rod

Note - there will be a report in the February ACCatalyst about the bushfires, but for your information; Rod and Shirley have been in Strathewen the last few days as the community commemorated the first anniversary of Black Saturday. Your prayers are appreciated. Rod indicates that there will be some work party activity continuing this year in the fire recovery area, however the pastoral work is winding down, apart from an occasional visit, perhaps every four to six months.

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