



## Welcome

We are so glad that you found the time to join us this Christmas so that we can all concentrate on the Christ of Christmas. As a Church we want to encourage people to get to the heart of Christmas which means looking past the presents, the food, the family and the fatigue so that we can find Jesus. Thanks for giving us this hour and our prayer is that this will be a time where the *gifts* of Christmas might fade into the background and the *giver* of all good gifts, our great God might become front and centre for us all.



## For Your Prayer

- Praise God that people like us who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- Pray for the nations: Pray that nations living in darkness both morally and spiritually would have the light of Christ shine on them.
- Pray for God's kingdom to come: We long for the way when the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ.



## What's Happening?

### School Holidays

Our school children are on holidays this week so that means the normal activities of the church will close down for the Summer School Holidays and will only start back after Australia Day 2023. There will be a basic Kids' Church that will run each Sunday over that time. Over the summer we do hope that you are able to have a break from all your Church activities. Please come each Sunday but during the week we hope you take a well earned break from everything else. Many thanks to those who have given of themselves this year to make the ministries of the church run so well.

### TEAR Fund

During the Christmas services we will have a retiring offering for the work of TEAR Fund. As a Church we believe that Christmas is a great time to think about those less fortunate than ourselves. TEAR Fund is a practical expression of a Christian's love for the poor. Please support it as you are able.



## Our Church

Our church is made up of 3 distinct congregations

- Swansea – 8am is our traditional service. We meet each week to sing older hymns, hear God's word preached to us and enjoy warm fellowship.
- Charlestown – 9:45am is a more contemporary service. It still has God's word at its heart plus we add some contemporary songs and a message for the kids all done with a real desire to connect to people within our community.
- Sunday@6 is a mixture of teenagers, uni students, and some who are a little older who like more modern music, a more informal setting, and yet still desire to learn from God's word.

Our church also has programmes aimed at all ages

<i>Preschool</i>	Sparklers playgroup every Thursday morning Crèche during Charlestown AM services
<i>Primary School</i>	Kids' Church every Sunday Family socials once a month
<i>High School</i>	Year 7-8 Bible Study every Sunday AM IMPACT Youth on Friday nights Senior Youth Bible Study for Year 10 - 12
<i>Uni Students</i>	Young Adult Fellowship every Sunday night Tuesday Home Group
<i>Adults</i>	Home Groups most days Weekly prayer group Dedicated Women's and Men's events JOY (Just Older Youth) monthly get-togethers

On top of this we also run

- A short term mission to Vanuatu each January
  - Evangelistic events in men's, women's, and mixed environments
  - A weekend camp at Tahlee
  - A marriage course that runs for seven weeks
  - A gala concert supporting local and international missions
  - Active involvement in the Hunter Gospel Ministries' conferences
- We have a mission partnership network where we partner with five different groups
- Our four link missionaries – Webbs (Broome), Parsons (Japan), Applebys (Cambodia), Josh M (Power to Change, Melbourne)
  - Vanuatu communities of Hog Harbour, Santo, Wahala, and Ambae
  - Christian organisations working in the developing world in a wholistic way – TEAR, Compassion, Open Doors, Samaritan's Purse
  - A Rocha Australia – Christian Creation Care

## A Christmas Cracker

**Readings:** Isaiah 9:6-7, Revelation 12:1-6, Psalm 110:1-7

1. A riddle

2. A crown

3. A surprise gift

**Songs:** Joy to the World  
Angels From the Realms of Glory  
O Come O Come Emmanuel  
Hark the Herald Angels Sing



# Charlestown

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Gospel Truth. God's Love. Real Change.

## Christmas 2022



### A Christmas Cracker

#### Services

**Charlestown: 9:45am & 6pm**

**Swansea: 8am**

#### Contact Details

<b>Pastors</b>	Stephen Taylor	4947 0462	sktaylor1997@gmail.com
	Jon Brown	0435 456 701	jon8rown@gmail.com
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Ross Logan	4943 5995	rklogan@aapt.net.au
<b>Children's Worker</b>	Suzie Chesterfield	0435 828 511	aaronandsuzie@hotmail.com
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Jo Barlow	0408 003 579	jambarlow99@gmail.com
<b>Bulletin</b>	Felicity Wong	4023 8041	felicityehwong@outlook.com

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**<https://charlestownpresbyterian.elvanto.com.au>**

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December

**Welcome & Prayer**

**Song** Joy to the World

**Song** Angels From the Realms of Glory

**Bible reading** Luke 2:1-20

**Announcements**

**Video** There's a dragon in my nativity

**Bible reading** Revelation 12:1-6

**Song** O Come O Come Emmanuel

**Christmas Prayer**

**Bible reading** Psalm 110:1-7

**Sermon** A Christmas Cracker

1. A riddle

2. A crown

3. A surprise gift

**Song** Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Closing Prayer**



**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**



**A Christmas Cracker  
Services**

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