SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH South New Zealand

SOUTH News

17 DECEMBER 2016

Offerings (unless otherwise specified in your local church)

Today	Education NZ
Next Sabbath	Local

Sunset times

Today	NEL	8.57	CHC	9.08	INV	9.37
Next Friday	NEL	9.01	CHC	9.11	INV	9.40

Administration

Christian Greetings

It seems as though it was just yesterday that we welcomed 2016. Shortly, 2016 will be history. Our children have survived another academic year, facebook is filled with happy pictures of graduations and prize giving services. It's also a time when folk endeavor to slow down, reflect, put our feet up, spend time with loved ones, and recharge the batteries in readiness for another year. We remember those who have lost loved ones this year, or faced difficulty or illness. I reflect on the goals I set out to accomplish in 2016. Whilst I've been able to achieve many of them, some of them will now be prioritized for 2017 and that's fine.

Roman's 8:28 tells us "that in all things God works together for the good of those who love Him". The world around us is celebrating Christmas. As Adventists we reflect on the love of God who chose to come down to our level. He firstly sought out our first parents and made a way then came in the form of Baby Jesus. This is the season of giving gifts. I however reflect on the times my wife and I weren't able to give our children gifts. What we each can be thankful of is that God gave each of us the most important gift we can want in life. Scripture reminds us that the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23) Jesus came, lived and willingly took our place. What a gift, especially when we don't deserve it. Our Heavenly Father gave the best in order that we could be family again someday soon. My prayer is that we remember, accept and appreciate this gift. It's there for the taking. Further that we be like Jesus and consider those around us in the process.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Pr Mike Sikuri
SNZ President

OFFERING THIS SABBATH - Education NZ

Adventist schools promote excellence, nurture growth and inspire a life of service. When the church, school and family acknowledge and nurture the spiritual growth and development of young people; when praising God is as second nature as breathing; when service to God and others in our community is encouraged, we can look forward to fully fledged disciples of Christ.

Your contribution today will promote Adventist Education, but your words today can encourage a young person in the Christian walk.

Other

GARDEN CITY FELLOWSHIP

Garden City Fellowship will be holding a combined campus Christmas service on 24 December at St Ambrose, 309 Breezes Road, Aranui. The west side (Hei Hei Community Centre) and Tongan (Avonside Girls High) campuses will be closed for the day. Regular services will commence again at all campuses on 21 January 2016 following camp meeting.

ADRA - Grant a Wish this Christmas

What's on the top of your wish list this year?
For families around the world, the gift of a goat, a chicken or even a glass of clean water has been on the top of their Christmas wish lists for years. Today, you can grant somebody their wish. To purchase go online www.adra.org.nz/christmas

FUN RUN AT CAMP -Register Now

On Thursday 12th January, during camp, there will be a fun run held at Hagley Park. The funds raised will go to ADRA for a healthy eating programme here in Christchurch.
Register Now online at adra.org.nz/hagleyhungerrun

DEPRESSION RECOVERY TRAINING AT CAMP

Any one interested in training to run the Depression and Anxiety Recovery program will have an opportunity at camp on Sunday 8th January 9-4 pm. It is very important that you register your interest in doing so with Katie Snyder 0272 911 994. Cost is $295 to become a facilitator and $695 to become a Director. A minimum of 1 Director and 2 Facilitators is required to run the program.

DR NEIL NEDLEY - 10 and 11 February 2017

Exciting news!!! Dr Neil Nedley is coming to Christchurch on the 10 February, and will be speaking at the Cardboard Cathedral. He will also be speaking at Ilam church on 11 February. Dr Nedley's Depression and Anxiety Recovery program has been run here in New Zealand with great results. Watch for more information.

NEW MILLENNIUM BOOKS

We wish to thank all our customers for their support this year. Tomorrow, Sunday 18th is our final Open Day between 1.00pm and 4.00pm. Our last day of trading this year is Friday 23 December.
We look forward to seeing our regular customers at Camp.
Wishing all a Happy Christmas and successful New Year.

Location: 6H Sir William Pickering Drive, Russley, Christchurch 8053 | **Postal:** PO Box 5186, Papanui, Christchurch 8542
Phone: 03 365 1020 | **Email:** snzconf@adventist.org.nz | **Website:** snz.adventist.org.nz | **Facebook:** facebook.com/snzconf | facebook.com/snzyouth