**

**25thDecember 2015**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**No Service on 27 December**A good excuse to catch up with each other?

**Summer Series**
***3 Jan - Matthew 9:14-17***
Out with the old and in with the new
André Wheeley
***10 Jan - Matthew 9:18-31***
The healing touch
Tim McIntosh
***17 Jan - Matthew 9:32-36***
The compassion of the king
Richard Wright
***24 Jan - Matthew 9:37-38***
Visionary prayer
Phil McMaster

**ROSTER:**http://stromlo.org/roster/
Password: Stromlo

**REGULAR EVENTS:** (during school terms)

**Life Groups** Contact Ben English 0438757745

**Women’s Life Groups** Contact Sarah Wheeley sarahwheeley@gmail.com 0421 345 153

**Ultimate youth** Friday nights 7:30-9:15pm, Stromlo Hub. Contact Andrew Buesnel 0417027346

**Next Sunday**:
We wont be meeting on 27 December but join us on Sunday 3 January

**Visiting?**

If you are visiting this morning, thanks for joining us. Please stick around for a cuppa and a chat!

**Communication**

For more news and events sign up to Stromlo Christian Church’s email list by filling out a feedback card and placing in the clear box on the information table. Communications from our Lead Pastor can be found at http://stromlo.org/news/

If you would like to listen to this week’s Bible talk, or missed a previous one, you can download them online at **stromlo.org**

* I would like to find out more about following Jesus
* I am new to Stromlo Christian Church
* New contact details
* I heard about Stromlo Christian Church from:
* I would like to get involved with a midweek Life Group
* Please add me to the Stromlo Christian Church email list
* I would like to talk to someone about serving

Please write comments, questions or prayer requests on the back

25 December 2015

Name:.…………………………………………………... m/f

Spouse: ………………….... Children (+ ages): ……..…...

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Address:………………………………………………………..………………………………………… Postcode:….……..

Ph.(h) ………………………… (m) .………………………..

Email:………………………………………………………….

**Lead Pastor:** Dave McDonald dave@stromlo.org 0419 557 775

**Pastor:** Ben English ben@stromlo.org 0438 757 745
**Office:** Julianne McMaster office@stromlo.org 0412 720 069

**Stromlo Kids:** Ben English kids@stromlo.org

**Ultimate (Youth):** Andrew Buesnel youth@stromlo.org

**Communications:** Hope Watson news@stromlo.org
**Stromlo Council:** secretary@stromlo.org

**Treasurer:** Ken Mansell treasurer@stromlo.org

**To support Stromlo Christian Church financially** grab an Investing in Eternity brochure from the information desk, or download one from: http://stromlo.org/investing-eternity/

**Bank Details:** Bank: Commonwealth, Account Name: Stromlo Christian Church Inc.

BSB: 062 912 Account Number: 10227783

**The Paradox of Christmas**

**Luke 2:1-20**

**Dave McDonald**

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**The Paradox of Christmas**

**Luke 2:1-20 New International Version**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register.

4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,

 and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.