

## COMMUNITY FORMATION

### Community Lunches

Join us on Monday and Tuesday for our Community Lunches. Sit next to someone you don't know!

## TUESDAY CHAPEL

Melissa Mazengarb is our speaker in Chapel this week and she will be sharing on "What helps me worship God"

Melissa is studying a Graduate Diploma of Applied Theology and hopes this year of study will transform her mind, but equally so, her heart.

Come and be blessed!

*Selah*  
stop | pause | think



## WEDNESDAY PRAYER

Have you heard Siong ringing the bell on Wednesday's? Do you know why? This is the bell for Wednesday prayers when students and Carey staff come together in the Chapel every Wednesday to pray for the Carey community, the wider community, our country and our world.

This week we will be praying for One-another led by Phil Halstead.



## STEWART MEMORIAL TRUST SCHOLARSHIP (Particularly for Open Brethren students)

Applications are still open for this scholarship that is awarded to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Applied Theology programme. Priority will be given to Open Brethren students but this is not a pre-requisite.

Check out the information at [carey.ac.nz/prospective-students/application-fees/scholarships/](http://carey.ac.nz/prospective-students/application-fees/scholarships/) and get your application in!

# The Lord gives strength to his people PSALM 29

If you missed Chapel this week we had the privilege of hearing Jonny Weir preach on Psalm 29. Open your bible and read the Psalm (again perhaps) and read a snippet of Jonny's teaching.

I find Psalm 29 fascinating because it is so different from many. The Hebrew title for what we call the book of Psalms > *tehilim*, lit. means "praises" and pretty much every Psalm has some element of praise. This is one of a select few however that is different in that it is nothing but praise!! It is from beginning to end a song of praise to God!

Notice that there are no general prayers, no laments, no confessions of sin. No one here is asking God for help, raising questions of justice or wrestling with the problem of sin...we are just worshipping and praising God.

Not to say that other psalms aren't praising but as we have seen this year Psalms often are filled with the Psalmist personal mood, problems, distresses, national crisis, and then they will usually lead to an encounter with God that causes the writer to rise above and declare gratefulness and adoration; praise in the midst of life's troubles.

But Psalm 29 has none of that. It is in the strictest sense pure praise! It is as if the Psalmist steps aside takes themselves right out of the picture and says let's just adore God.

Let's just worship God WITH PRAISE!!!

But then the key to understanding the Psalm is to recognise that in the heart of the Psalm (verses 3-9) where the Psalmist cleverly develops a metaphor to help us enter into our praise and worship. It is the metaphor of a Storm!

In verses 3-9 the Psalmist recreates this terrifying, rolling rumble and crackling explosion of thunder and lightning and uses it as a metaphor to help us understand the awesome power and majesty of God.

Seven times the 'voice of the Lord' thunders. Seven times the voice of the Lord is terrifying and awesome in power and glory.

Let's jump to Verse 11. Now that the storm has passed, now in the quietness of the aftermath we see that our glorious God is enthroned over the flood. Our majestic God is enthroned as King over all that is in heaven, all that

is on the earth and in fact (verse 11), enthroned over all that is in my life—all that is in your life, right now.

The Lord of the Storm gives strength to his people blesses his people with peace.

The same powerful, terrifying voice of God that thunders and shatters and quakes. that same majestic voice speaks strength and peace to you and me.

The full force of God's power is available for God's people: even right now is immanent to minister to your needs and to mine.

When you worship God today, right now, and lay face down before your King with your trembling palms out saying, "I Ascribe all glory and all strength to you alone!"

The Lord in turn takes your humble trembling worship and says "I give you strength. I give you peace."

**Jonny Weir**  
Director of Ministry Training