

ANGLICAN NEWS

a magazine for the Anglican Community of Canberra & Goulburn Vol. 34 No. 1 January 2017

FOR A NEW YEAR



A summer challenge from Bishop Matt

page 2

EMBRACING MINISTRIES



A new ministry for those with special needs

page 3

NEWS FROM AIDF



January update from AIDF

page 4

WHAT'S COMING UP



Events and courses coming up in the Diocese

page 4

A Most Surprising Verse



As Christmas fades into the past and a new year begins, Reverend Jonathan Holt reminds us what it is that Jesus came to do.

When Jesus was in his thirties he said these words: "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them."

At this point we can imagine Jesus' disciples nodding their heads – they totally understood this, their lives were controlled by the power and cruelty of Gentile rulers. Whether by calling a census, or ordering taxes to be paid, or the ever present Roman soldiers on the roads, all of this was a reminder that the current king had to be honoured, leaders must be honoured – that's how life worked.

And in one sentence, the Lord Jesus is about to overturn hundreds of years of accepted leadership theory. Where everybody else thought that leadership was about subduing enemies and gaining honour, Jesus is about to move the goal posts. While the disciples are all nodding their heads in agreement about Gentile rules and their ways, Jesus slams them with a 'Not so with you'.

The Son of Man did not come to be served

Jesus makes jaws hit the floor with his astounding claim that honour and greatness come by serving. Servanthood, slaving for others' sake, leads to the highest honour. He says it again in slightly different words: "Whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all."

Even though Servant-Leadership is a familiar idea it is still hard to accept. It is hard to believe that it might really work the way Jesus says it does. How powerful it would be if we saw someone with superior leadership qualities come and serve – wouldn't that put flesh and blood on this crazy idea? Not mere lip service to a revolutionary idea, but actual sweat and blood in the act of serving.

And here I direct you to the most astounding Christmas verse ever: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

Jesus talks about himself (using his common phrase: 'the Son of Man'), and he says that he came to serve. If ever there was someone with undeniable leadership quali-

ties; if ever there was someone who deserved to be honoured and acknowledged and loved – this is the guy. But he's not sitting back in an easy chair, with one slave fanning him and another slave feeding him grapes. He's not here to have someone bring him a beer, lie by the pool and have a second helping of pudding. That's not why he came.

When Jesus makes his pitch for servant-leadership, he is putting his own flesh and blood on the line. Not even Jesus is exempt from the goal of servant-leadership. Greatness for Jesus will come by serving others. The shepherds may have rejoiced at his birth, wise men may have given him gifts and crowds may have

(Continued on page 3)

Sapphire Coast Anglican College



The New Year has already begun in a flurry of excitement with obvious developments in and around the campus. As many will be aware the college has been most fortunate to have been granted funds from the Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn to allow development of the college, including a major face-lift. To that end we have seen the whole school painted along with ongoing repairs to buildings, carpeting of parts of the Junior school, including public entry areas such as the reception and library entrance, and excellent preparation of the grounds by our maintenance staff and cleaners.

In addition the college has been awarded a BGA Federal Govern-

ment Grant to totally convert and upgrade our hospitality department working out of "Moo and Two" on-site cafe. This will be an industry standard facility allowing the on site TVET courses to be run at SCAC. This is a most exciting development and we await further work in the area as builders and trades-people return to work and attend to the exciting plans.

God has indeed been generous to us as a college. We give thanks for these blessings to us.

"What is impossible with man is possible with God."
(Luke 18:27, also Mark 10:27 and Matthew 19:26.)

(Continued on page 3.)



BISHOP MATT BRAIN WRITES

A New Year

Beginning a 'new year' provides us with a wonderful opportunity to ponder the trajectory of our lives and re-evaluate our plans and priorities for the coming year. I love the image of the tree planted beside streams of water at the beginning of Psalm 1. It reminds me of the trees I used to see when I'd escape from the bush town of Kalbarri 'up' the Murchison River. As long as there was water the trees flourished, even in the midst of drought.

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.
Ps 1:1-3, NIV

The Psalmist (King David in this case) wants us to be like a healthy, well watered tree. He has some advice for how this is to happen, which is good to ponder as we begin the New Year.



The first tip is to think carefully about who we habitually get our cues from. There is a negative and a positive here. Did you notice how the first sentence pictures someone walking, standing and sitting with those who scoff at God? There is a sense of this person being immersed in a certain way of viewing the world...a way that excludes God. Yet it is to our benefit if we take God's voice and his claim over all things seriously. That is why we are to ponder or meditate on his 'law' or Torah. To ponder God's word is the equivalent to walking, standing and sitting.

David's second tip is to make God's view of things our delight. So often our response to whatever life throws up before us is driven by what we expect to make us

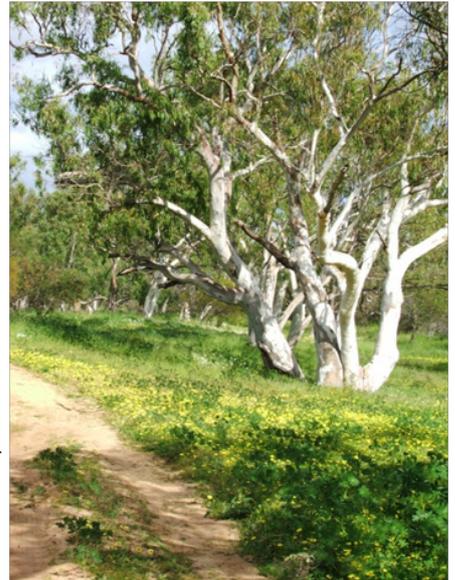
happy. We discover from other Psalms and parts of Scripture that David did not have an easy life. He was often on the run, usually under pressure and frequently having to deal with the fallout of his own mistakes. However, I am continually impressed with how upbeat and able to cope with life he was. Perhaps this is the secret that David found. He actually loved to see the world through God's spectacles. This meant that even when he had to eat humble pie, or fix up messes he had made, he could do so knowing that he was participating in something delightful.

To attend to the voices we listen to and the spectacles through which we see the world is important if we are to flourish. Just like the Murchison River provides the 'living water' to the gum trees out at Kalbarri, I pray that you will not only find, but also be, a spring of 'living water' for each other.

*Murchison River Trees
Kalbarri*

Here's a summer challenge:

1. Read a passage of Scripture each day;
2. Turn it over in your heart asking "What did it teach me about God and me. What is one thing that should I do about it?"; and
3. Find someone to tell how it has encouraged or spurred you on.



Anglicare Christmas Appeal Thank You



Lish from ABC Radio interviews St John's Care Director Stuart Davis-Meehan

This year Anglicare partnered with ABC Canberra's Giving Tree and with the help of individuals, parishes and other organisations received over 4000 food items and 200 bags of toys, which went to creating Christmas hampers for people in need and to their emergency relief pantries. They also received over \$50,000 through the financial appeal.

"Thank you for supporting people in need through Anglicare in the last year. Thousands of lives were impacted in 2016, and this wouldn't have been possible without the volunteer help, prayers and financial support we received from people just like you. Last year alone Anglicare supported over 25,000 people in our region. More than 7000 were assisted through emergency relief with food and essential living items. Nearly 700 people were assisted through Anglicare's crisis housing services in southern NSW, and 548 children and young people were cared for through foster care and residential care services in regional NSW."

– Jeremy Halcrow, Anglicare CEO

Clergy Moves

The Reverend Paul Baxter has been licensed as Deacon Assistant F5 & Congregational Leader F10.

The Reverend Robyn Baxter has been licensed as Deacon Assistant F5 & Congregational Leader F10.

The Reverend Peter Bertram has been licensed as Honorary Senior Associate Priest, West Goulburn with special responsibility for Windellama.

The Reverend Sally Cullen has been licensed as a Deacon to serve as Rural Chaplain, Districts of Binda and Bigga.

The Reverend Graeme Dunn has been licensed as Deacon Assistant West Goulburn & F5 Community.

The Reverend Sarah Gibson has been licensed as an Honorary Associate Priest, Ainslie.

The Reverend Joy Harris has resigned as Rector, Cobargo effective from Sunday 5 March 2017 to take up a position at Canowindra Parish, Diocese of Bathurst.

The Reverend Bob James has been licensed as Honorary Associate Priest, Kambah.

The Reverend Rick Lewis has been licensed as Honorary Senior Associate Priest Crookwell, with special responsibility for worship centres as directed by the Bishop and Regional

The Reverend Tony McLennan has been licensed as Honorary Evangelist, F5 Community.

The Reverend Alipate Tuineau has been licensed as Assistant Priest St Paul's Manuka.

The Reverend Erin Tuineau will begin her ministry at Radford College on the Chaplaincy Team from First Term.

AnglicanNews is a magazine for the Anglican community in Canberra and Goulburn.

Editor: Alison Payne
Address: GPO Box 1981, Canberra, ACT 2601
Phone: 02 6232 3610 Email: alison.payne@anglicands.org.au

A New Ministry for People with Special Needs



Penny Watts, Andrea de Vaal Horciu, Deborah Horscroft, Becc Morris

Going to church is something that many able-bodied people simply take for granted. We don't have to think about getting in the front door, finding a seat or following the service book.

It's not so simple for families with children who have special needs. Getting children out the door can be hard enough for many parents. For those caring for those with special needs, just parking the car can be difficult. Church doors are often too narrow and steps create an insurmountable barrier for those

in wheel chairs. The sounds of organs, singing and guitars can be overwhelming for those with autism.

On Friday 9 December an initiative designed to help such families grow in discipleship celebrated its first few months of operation in Canberra.

As the Revd Andrea de Vaal Horciu, the Coordinator of Embracing Ministries explained, 'what we're creating are spaces designed to support and nurture the spiritual life of families, youth and children with special needs.'

Andrea was inspired to develop Embracing Ministries at a time when she was helping a family whose young daughter was in palliative care. Working as a chaplain in a special needs school, Andrea became aware how many had few opportunities to connect with anything spiritual.

Embracing Ministries started in October with a holiday program for 12 young people with a variety of needs. The Spring program introduced many young people to the story of God's creation through tactile activities, music therapy or books they could touch and feel. Every part of the program was designed around the youths' capacity and needs.

A key feature of the program was the development of mentors or young adults who befriended and assisted participants with activities and the Gospel each day. Mentors came from a range of schools including Trinity Christian School, Canberra Girls Grammar School and Brindabel-

la College.

Penny, a parent, shared about the holiday program's significance to her daughter who has epilepsy and autism. 'Finding programs where the beauty of these kids is embraced is so important but so difficult to find. There can be so much talk about inclusion today but it doesn't always happen. As a mother, I was impressed by the commitment to get to know the children before they even stepped in the door. As a parent, it comforted me greatly knowing my child could settle easily with mentors who worked with them as friends.'

Embracing Ministries has secured some funding for 2017 but the ministry needs your help. Andrea's goal is to raise \$25,000 for the programs and a part-time ministry co-ordinator. To become a valued partner in Andrea's work, donate at www.gofundme.com/embracing-ministries or contact her directly by email at: horciu@btinternet.com.

by Ven Dr Wayne Brighton

What Jesus came to do (continued from pg 1)

flocked to hear him teach – but honour and greatness did not come that way for Jesus. The path to greatness and glory is paved with serving, slaving and giving up.

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom

A ransom is the payment to secure freedom. That's the image that Jesus now uses to explain the deepest and most profound service he renders us. This is the utter joy of Christmas: that Jesus' purpose in coming, his reason for Christmas, is to give everything he has to secure our freedom.

If fear is holding you captive; if guilt has you tied in knots; if anxiety keeps you trapped and self-hatred locks you up – then here is the ransom: Jesus. From the moment of his birth he is driving towards his death.

If feeling distant from God has kidnapped you; if worry about the future or family suffocates you; if envy keeps you captive and greed snatches your heart – then look at the ransom that Jesus offers. The infant in the manger comes to set you free.

That baby in Mary's arms is the ransom for many. This baby will be our key to freedom. And just like it feels surprising to think that greatness comes by serving, so it is surprising to imagine that Jesus offering himself

to die on a cross two thousand years ago has anything to do with your freedom – today.

Yet this surprising idea turns out to be a compelling reason why Jesus came, why we have Christmas at all – a bold assertion that you and I are trapped, kidnapped by all sorts of feelings and actions, fears and thoughts. And the freedom we need (the freedom we wish we could generate for ourselves, but never can), is handed to us in this baby. This man, fully God, offers to set us free, to pay the price that lets you walk away from slavery to selfish-sin, and walk into the secure arms of your heavenly Father.

This is an astounding truth: that one baby, born in some unremarkable town, two thousand years ago, has everything to do with our freedom and our security. You can find it in Jesus, and I would say that you can only find it in Jesus.

by Reverend Jonathan Holt

Sapphire Coast Anglican College (cont. from pg 1)



My first impressions of Sapphire Coast Anglican College, after meeting leaders within the Diocese, Board members, staff, parents and students, remain focused on the firm foundations observed at the college.

It is a college where individuals feel valued and supported. "Excellence in Academic and Personal Pursuits through Knowledge, Wisdom, Faith and Service" are obvious.

The community has created an environment where students are nurtured and supported, through pastoral care programmes and in-house-based mentoring, within a well-disciplined, caring college. The learning support programmes exist to give individualised attention to students who require additional help in literacy, numeracy and Life skills as they progress through the ranks.

The facilities we have, often taken for granted, are in most cases second-to-none, set within the idyllic hill-sides of the 60-acre property in close proximity to the township of Bega. It's placement in the wide expanses and beautiful God-given countryside makes it a place where students can learn, be nurtured and appreciate their world.

Almost 25% of students choose the agriculture elective within the school, using the available environment, substantial poultry and grazing areas as a source of experiential learning.

"Who wouldn't choose agriculture with a natural classroom like this on our door step?"

The year ended with the media-reported euphoria over the success of our Year 12 HSC 2016. It saw students excel beyond expectations in so many subjects, with individual success placing SCAC as the "Top of the Valley" in HSC with the top number of band 6 and a large percentage of band 5's, reflecting the wonderful support and nurturing of these students over the years. We have now been ranked at 165th in the state of NSW. A remarkable achievement!

I have enjoyed meeting our new enrolments, students and families as they have come to collect uniforms or make arrangements for the new year. I spent time at St John's Anglican Church in Bega and both Pambula and Candelo Shows and heard of the high esteem in which students, staff and the community of Sapphire Coast Anglican College are held. The college, with its wide transport networks, sees some students travelling for up to an hour-and-a-half to seek enrolment in this ever growing college.

We like to say that 'Every day is an open day' at the college and we would value visitors who wish to see what this college has achieved in its reasonably short history as a school.

by Principal Colin May

AIDF - January Update

The Anglican Investment & Development Fund (AIDF) was established in 1967 and this year we celebrate our 50th anniversary. Further details will be provided over 2017 to recognise the tremendous support of our investors and those who have committed so much in the development, oversight and success of the AIDF.

The AIDF has operated successfully since its inception by providing a means to:

- 1) Finance developments that promote, support and expand the mission of the Diocese; and
- 2) Allow Ministry Units, Parishioners, Diocesan agencies, Schools and others the opportunity to support missional activities across the Diocese through investing with the AIDF.

An investment in the AIDF is an ethical investment in the ministries of the Diocese. Every dollar invested enables the AIDF to facilitate the ministry of schools, Diocesan agencies, community service providers and the Parishes through loans and by providing high yielding accounts and

term deposits. Investors enjoy fee-free transactions and benefit from rates of return that are well above the alternative offerings from the banks. AIDF's investors are a fundamental reason the AIDF has been so successful over its long history.

During 2016 the Board considered and recently approved a change to our financial year end which will now be 31 December 2016. This aligns the AIDF with the other agencies of the Diocese and will have no impact on investors or borrowers.

Today the fund has grown to hold approximately \$100m in total assets. The AIDF's operations are guaranteed by the Diocese and its financial performance has continued to strengthen over 2016. This is evidenced by the initial financial results for 2016:

- 1) Investor funds growing significantly to reach \$60m (2015: \$39.7m);
- 2) The loans portfolio is \$82m (2015: \$85m);
- 3) Net assets have increased to \$8m (2015: \$7m); and
- 4) Distributions to Parishes as a

result of the Community Saver Account increased to \$58k (2015: \$47k).

The expertise and quality of the AIDF Board plays a key role in this success. Our Board members bring a wealth of experience across the areas of finance, legal,

business management, risk and governance.

The Board wishes to thank investors for their ongoing support and looks forward to supporting the mission of the Diocese and all our clients over 2017.

Trevor Ament, AIDF

ANGLICAN DIOCESAN SERVICES

Fleet Services

Did you know the Anglican Diocesan Services (ADS) offers Fleet Management Services? The ADS currently has a fleet of 165 motor vehicles being sourced by the Diocese, Anglicare, Parishes, Burgmann Anglican School, St Peter's Anglican College and the ADS.

The fleet management service covers the leasing of the vehicles including insurance, registration, servicing, tyres, roadside assistance and a fuel card (if required) for the life of the lease. We offer this service at a great price which is achieved through our buying-power and competitive discounts received.

This saves you time as the lessee fee is a set monthly amount making budgeting much easier. In addition Parishes, for example, would not need to outlay large sums of money to purchase a vehicle which loses value over time and will need to be replaced. When moving to a lease with the ADS an existing vehicle may be sold with the sale proceeds available to the parish.

If you would like any further information, have any questions or would like a reference from a current lessee, please email Josh Faith at Joshua.fait@anglicands.org.au.

Coming Up in the Diocese

Luke14/CBM in association with Embracing Ministries is running a workshop on inclusion in February: **Inclusion for Kids and Teens**

When: 26th February
Time: 12.30-4.30

Where: St Marks National Theological Centre, 15 Blackall St Barton
Children and teenagers with disabilities and their families look to church communities for acceptance and belonging. This workshop includes

teaching and discussion about welcoming children with autism spectrum disorders, managing challenging behaviours, supporting parents and siblings, promoting peer acceptance and adapting curriculum.

There will also be a series of bible studies, 'Church Bar None', during Lent. For more information contact Andrea de Vaal Horciu on 0404256714, horciu@btinternet.com.

Free training course to become an English as a Second Language (ESL) Program Leader

Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT is running a free training program for volunteers who are interested in leading informal ESL classes in their parish.

The training will be provided by Anglicare Sydney staff, who have successfully run this program in the Sydney Diocese. The training will equip volunteers to reach out to migrants and refugees with varying levels of English.

"ESL ministry is a practical way to

assist those needing to learn English and adjust to a new culture" says Rev'd Dr Ian Coutts.

The course will cover training in ESL methods, the practicalities of setting up and running classes, writing ESL resources, advertising and promotion.

The course will be held in Canberra on 3-5 March 2017. Lunches and refreshments will be provided. Assistance can also be provided to out-of-town volunteers who need to arrange accommodation.

For those interested in participating in this training, please email ESL@anglicare.com.au to register or to find out more.



EVERYDAY DISCIPLESHIP 18 March 2017

Lively disciples create vibrant churches. When engaged, disciples help turn a congregation into a community engaged with God's mission.

This one day workshop is an opportunity to learn, pray and dream about how you can lead others into ways of fruitful discipleship. The 3DM team will share how they have learned to use Huddles (a discipleship vehicle) and Missional Communities (a missional vehicle) to see discipleship and mission come alive in church com-

munities across Australia and New Zealand.

The workshop will be presented by Andy Goodacre, the coordinator for 3DM in Australia. It builds on the successful visit by Mike and Sally Breen in May 2016.

Location: Centre for Christianity and Culture, Pavilion.

Cost: \$55 + Eventbrite fee
Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/everyday-discipleship-tickets-31053828838>

THE GOOD BOOK
under the gum trees
The Bible in Australian Culture

Featuring Historian and Author Dr Meredith Lake

27 FEB | COMMENCEMENT SERVICE | 6:45pm | St Mark's Chapel
PUBLIC LECTURE | 7:30pm | Sulman Room, St Mark's

15 Blackall Street BARTON ACT 2600
02 6272 6252 | stmarks.edu.au

St Mark's
National Theological Centre