

ANGLICANNEWS

a magazine for the Anglican Community of Canberra & Goulburn Vol. 34 No. 11 November 2017

FROM BISHOP TREVOR



Bishop Trevor writes on Love being in the Air

page 3

ANGLICAN LEADERSHIP



Brian Champness reports on the Anglican Leadership Institute

page 3

FLOWER SHOWS IN WEST



Gundagai and Holbrook recently hosted their annual flower shows

page 3

PELICAN FOUNDATION



An update from the Pelican Foundation Project at Kaleen

page 4

From the Western Edge



Someone said of mission that it is "getting somewhere and finding that God has got there before you". So it has been here in Temora, where Mainly Music, Saturday Church (S.urch) and the beginning of the Springdale Community Church are all signs of God at work, bringing refreshment and hope to His people.

Mainly Music is the beginning and energy of all of this movement. Carol came to Temora having wanted to do something like Mainly Music for many years. And waiting in Temora was a church with a similar passion and a group of people ready to have a go. God was at work long before us!

Each mainly music session has been designed for enjoyment in the context of Christian community. Weekly sessions during the school year are full of fun, educational mu-

sic and musical activity, followed by something to eat and something to play with, plus time to eat and chat!

Saturday Church (S.urch) is the bridge that has developed between Mainly Music and traditional church. It is a casual worship gathering once a month that provides a space for families to gather and to explore faith together. There is no formal start time, a meal at the end and a mix of games, craft, bible story and prayer on the way through. Again, for some time, John has had a vision for a casual service like this, and here were a group of people ready to have a go! God at work before us!



Our October meeting was 'Church in the Park' and provided a wonderful venue for "churched" and "unchurched" people to meet and enjoy one another's company.

Springdale is a small village ten minutes out of Temora which

has had no church presence for the last seven years, but over that time new people have come to the village and now there is a growing spirit of optimism. In response to requests we restarted services twelve months ago under the banner of the Springdale Community Church. Now each month more than 40 people gather for worship and fellowship! It was a great joy to have four local boys confirmed at Springdale this year and we are planning centenary celebrations for July 2018. God at work before us!

All this movement and growing discipleship is only possible if people are growing in their own experience of grace ... God's love. Mission comes out of a strong, quiet centre which has a deep trust in the goodness of God. And again, God was there before us. For many years John has considered using the Freedom in Christ discipleship course, but it never seemed the right time. The Freedom In Christ approach to discipleship is focused on firstly establishing every Christian in the sure foundation of their identity in Jesus. It then gives them the tools to break



free and stay free from all that holds them back, and gives a strategy for ongoing transformation. This year, we ran three sessions in the first half of the year and are currently running one more. In total, 45 members of the parish have participated in the course this year and for many it has transformed their daily walk with Jesus.

In all, we are grateful to our Heavenly father for calling us to be a small part in the journey of so many as we live out as best we can the belief that a life transformed by Jesus will lead to a community transformed by love.

The Reverend John and Carol Jenner, Temora

Links

<https://www.mainlymusic.org>
<http://www.ficm.org.uk>



Bishop Trevor writes ...

Love is in the Air

It is springtime, indeed almost summer, the traditional time for love and weddings, although I do remember many spring brides in horse and carriages where spring showers rather dampened the romantic celebration.

Certainly the idea of romantic love has been dominant in how the media has portrayed the same-sex marriage issue, with picturesque wedding scenes and much talk of love and equality. Yet both of these terms need to be considered more deeply.

Can I ask you to ponder three examples?

- Is it loving to continually agree to your child's or grandchild's requests for lollies and ice-creams?
- Would it be loving to give money repeatedly to someone that you know will use it on drugs or gambling?
- Is it equitable and loving to give exactly the same financial support or social welfare benefit to two unemployed people, one of whom has a caring, safe home while the other is couch surfing, having run from an abusive family?

The very fact that readers may argue about the right responses

to such questions, indicates that love is a complicated idea and it is not always straightforward to decide on loving action.

Of course, love is central to Christianity. The Bible teaches us that God is love and that love is required of Jesus' followers. But acting in love needs to be informed by the teaching of Jesus, not the definitions of secular journalists and commentators.

Jesus not only talked about love, telling his disciples to give sacrificially to the needy, to forgive beyond the limits, to be merciful, to submit to each other and to show love to him by obedience, but Jesus also lived love. Jesus said, *no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends* (John 15:13) but He did more than that by giving his life for his **enemies**, for those who did not respect him or obey him. As Paul put it in Romans 5:8: *God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us*. In other words Jesus loves and saves people who act wrongly.

Moreover Jesus made a very significant distinction between the person and their actions. He has shown us that we can love



people while not condoning their sinful actions. This runs counter to contemporary thinking in which disagreement is invariably interpreted as hating the person. Today Christians need to clearly and frequently talk about the difference between the person and their actions. We can dislike the actions while still treating the person with care and respect.

The example of Jesus calls Christians to act lovingly and caringly towards those whom

we feel act wrongly. Can we do that in the aftermath of same sex marriage debate? Can we do it with family members who let us down? Can we do it with those in our congregations with whom we disagree? Remember we are all sinners dependent on God's undeserved love to belong to his people and his church.

Recently, as part of the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, I preached on the well-known text *by grace we have been saved through faith and this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God*. (Ephesians 2:8). If we have experienced the saving grace and love of God in Christ, we really should show love, mercy and kindness to those around us.

by Bishop Trevor Edwards

Mothers Union Assemble Birthing Kits



Jane Robinson, Alison Hathway, Julie Gear and Julie Agnew

Sixty-two women recently came together to assemble 200 birthing kits for women in developing countries. They were from churches in Goulburn, Crookwell, Queanbeyan and Canberra and the event was organised by the Mothers Union at Christchurch Anglican, West Goulburn.

The Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) supplied the contents, which included soap, a sterile scalpel blade and a plastic sheet for mother and baby to lie on.

They distribute the small

kits to partners overseas, and also provide training in their use.

The BKFA (website www.bkfa.org.au) is dedicated to providing a clean and safe environment for women in developing countries, to reduce the incidence of infant morbidity and mortality. There was enthusiasm to hold a similar event in 2018.

by Alison Hathway



Clergy Moves

The Reverend Dr Grant Melville Bell has been licensed as Head, St Martin's College, Charles Sturt University from 17.10.2017.

The Reverend Brian Champness will move from the F5 Team, Goulburn (Pastor, Rocky Hill Church) to Locum – Ginninderra from Dec 2017.

The Reverend Linda Chapman has been licensed as Chaplain at St Peter's College Broulee from Nov 2017 in addition to her responsibilities as Rector Moruya Parish.

The Reverend Tracey Matthews has been licensed as University of Canberra Chaplain with the Parish of Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson (part time) from 1.10.2017.

The Reverend Doug Newman will be inducted into his new role as Rector Batemans Bay on Thursday 14.12.2017 by Bishop Trevor. ALL WELCOME.

The Reverend David Willsher was appointed Chaplain Canberra Girls' Grammar Schools and will be licensed accordingly.

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

Editor: Alison Payne

Address: GPO Box 1981, Canberra, ACT 2601

Phone: 02 6245 7154

Email: alison.payne@anglicands.org.au

Advertising: enquiries to the editor.

ISSN 2207-6484

Anglican Leadership Institute Report



All participants at the ALI - photograph by Joy Hunter

For most of September The Reverend Brian Champness was blessed to spend time in community with a group of Bishops, Archbishops and Rectors from different parts of the world to learn about and discuss important topics of 'Leadership for the Next Generation of Anglican Leaders'.

The Reverend Brian Champness, Director of Children's and Families Ministry for the F5 Network and leader of the Rocky Hill Church plant, attended the Anglican Leadership Institute (ALI). The ALI, based in South Carolina in the USA, hosted its fourth institute on

Martha's Vineyard near Boston for three weeks during this past September. The aim of the ALI is to guide future Anglican leaders towards their full potential. The director of ALI, The Very Reverend Dr Peter C. Moore, says "We offer men and women with a proven track record of ministry a chance to spend a month in community under the guidance of expert leaders who have exercised faithful and effective ministry in their own contexts".

During this Institute Brian was blessed to spend time studying and living in community with Anglican clergy from many parts of the world including Bishops

and Archbishops from Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, Ghana, Kenya, South Sudan, Northern Ireland, India and the United States of America. Hearing from other participants about both the challenges they face and the lessons they've learned from their experiences regarding ministry and leadership in their different contexts brought a rich and eye-opening understanding of the diversity of the Anglican Church worldwide and provided many opportunities to pray for and encourage each other.

There were also guest lecturers who shared their wisdom and experience from many years both in ministry in the church and in secular business contexts. Morning devotions were led by a number of leaders including retired Archbishop Eliud Wabukala (of Kenya) and lectures were given on subjects including 'Religious Freedoms' by Dr Paul Marshall, 'Living Your Faith in the Public Square' by Jamie Bush (George W. Bush's cousin), 'Leadership in Mission' by Julian Linnell, 'Stress and Building Resilient Leaders' by Bishop Ken Clarke (of Northern Ireland), 'Christian Leader-

ship in the Secular World' by Gary DiCamillo (former COO of Polaroid Corporation and Black and Decker Co.), 'Leadership in the Bible' by Peter C. Moore.

The month was an encouraging time for Brian who formed many friendships with both the participants and lecturers and looks forward to continuing to pray with and for the beloved brothers and sisters as they each continue their leadership callings in their different contexts. Brian said 'Through the lovely community feel of the ALI I have been able to form deep friendships that will bear much fruit for years to come'. Brian now looks to explore ways he can pass on what he learned from the ALI in various ways among our wonderful diocese.

by Reverend Brian Champness



Blooming in the South-West



Gundagai

The Parish of Gundagai held a spectacular Annual Spring Flower Show on 27th October. This activity has been held for over 60 years and is an unmissable part of Gundagai's event calendar.

This year the function room at the Gundagai Services club was filled with a magnificent display and the perfume was divine.

Peter Cash, one of the judges, said that 'Gundagai is definitely one of the better shows around the district, some of the entries

were beautiful, of an excellent and high standard, and the show is always one I look forward to judging each year'.

As part of the renowned event a delicious luncheon was catered for by the Anglican Parish, and 106 people attended. A well-catered stall operated all day and provided cakes, craft, produce, homemade sweets for the children and much more.

Parish Priest, Reverend Yvonne Gunning, opened the Flower Show and presented the prizes later in the afternoon.

The Flower Show gives Gundagai parish an opportunity to connect and share with their local community.

by Maree Lindley,
Gundagai

Holbrook

Holbrook also held their 96th annual Flower Show, which is the major annual fund-raising event for the parish.

It was well supported by the community with many volun-

teers, both churchgoers and non-churchgoers, putting in hours of work to make it happen.

Members of Holbrook parish

Numbers served approximately 90 meals and delivered another 60 around town.

by Reverend James Coats

Each day we live here, we live here.



ST DAVID'S CLOSE
RED HILL, ACT



BRINDABELLA COURT
DOWNER, ACT

Anglicare's ACT Retirement Villages are now selling apartments and units in the conveniently-situated and highly-sought-after suburbs of Red Hill and Downer.

Call us today to book an inspection.

FOR SALE | Call 1800 457 255



Pelican Foundation Grant – Missional Discipleship



Over the last six months, a group from St Simon's Kaleen/Giralang/Lawson have journeyed together toward a missional spirituality. The Reverend Tracey Matthews designed a program that provided theological and practical reflection on what it means to join up with God's mission of healing and restoration in the world; to live out the great commandments to love God and neighbour as one's self.

The program drew on Elaine Heath's summation of contemplative mission 'We show up, pay attention, co-operate with the Holy Spirit and release the outcome'. This attentive presence to God, self and others was cultivated through a range of contemplative practices, meditative reading and reflective action. The group met together monthly and were then sent out to reflect and engage in a missional practice. This included: presence; watching and listening; hospitality; neighbourhood exegesis; blessing others; and connecting with neighbours.

The journey and experience was unique for each person, however there was a common sense of deeper presence to God, self and others. This has allowed participants to become more aware of the Spirit's work in, through and around them. A number of ideas have been generated that build on existing initiatives at St Simon's and utilise the passions and gifts of the community.

At a recent combined service, participants described how their willingness to be available and attentive to God and others had empowered them to be ambassadors for Christ. This was a great encouragement to others and a

sign of God's work among us.

Some quotes from participants: 'The most surprising thing for me has been that in a strange way I have not had to 'do' anything in response. I did not have to learn any answers to have ready for people I would meet. What has changed is my awareness of listening to and observing those people.'

'I have been challenged in my contact with those around me, to purposefully give my attention to them in listening and sharing with them in their situation – to be generous with my time and presence with them, so through God's grace His love can touch the other and open up ways for them to seek God.'

'First night I was deeply moved by meditation and coming from the mountain down to city lights. I was overcome because instead

of finding a symbol of Christianity I found Jesus waiting for me and he put his arms around me and blessed me.'

'I was looking in all the wrong places for what I was supposed to be doing in my faith and for God. Turns out he was here all along – right here, in our neighbourhood, in our neighbours and in us – just waiting for me to slow down and look. Paying attention, listening, getting out of the road and letting God give through us.'

'It has motivated me to take the time to see and value what is happening around me. I am now more intentional about speaking with and listening to people I come in contact with, to try to treat each interaction as worthwhile and each person as valuable regardless of the place they have in society. I'm now sharing more of myself and my vulnerabilities.'

By Reverend Tracey Matthews

St Luke's Preschool celebrates 60 years and receives a government grant to double in size



This week the parish of Wagga Wagga celebrated 60 years of operating St Luke's preschool. In perfect timing for the birthday celebration they received a grant from the NSW Government of \$450,000. This grant will enable the parish to double the size of the preschool from 30 places to 60 by the start of 2019.

Archdeacon David Ruthven says: 'I'm just so excited. The word I use is ecstatic because our goal is to serve the commu-

nity, and now we will offer a new component for additional needs children.'

The redevelopment plans will renovate and expand the current church hall, joining it to the preschool. St Luke's Church will be dismantled and a new chapel incorporated into the preschool.

A birthday celebration was hosted by the Preschool with guests including former student Wagga City Councillor Tim Koschel.

REDEEMING INNOCENTS

2017 CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Photo: IOCC/Paul Jeffrey. Used with permission of IOCC.

After the revelation of Jesus to the Wise Men, Joseph and Mary flee to Egypt with Jesus, to avoid the 'Massacre of the Innocents'.

Today, many are fleeing danger in places such as Syria (see photo), Myanmar and South Sudan. In other circumstances, there is no option to flee, and parents have to protect their children in different ways. This Christmas, we invite you to support our partners as they help to protect vulnerable children.

DONATE: 1800 249 880 or anglicanoverseasaid.org.au

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible | Anglicord: ABN 39 116 072 050

Anglican Overseas Aid is a member of

actalliance



ANGLICAN OVERSEAS AID

ANGLICORD