

November 2007 -
February 2008
Issue 25

The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)



Tina, Neil, Rachel (in front), Michelle, Katie and Belinda Evans

One Saturday night in January Vince and Dominica discovered their friends were not heading off first thing in the morning as they understood, but staying slightly longer. Would we be interested in them telling us a little about MAF during our service?

Belinda and Katie began the presentation by inviting us all to act out some of the jobs done by MAF staff – pilots, mechanics, computer people and admin workers – quite an effective attention grabbing workout.

Neil followed telling us more of the work and explaining he works with the MAF computers and is based in Cairns.

MAF assist churches and missionaries by providing transport in remote and hard to get to places. It operates in more countries than any other airline.

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**4th Annual
MULTICULTURAL CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday, 2 December 2007
5-00 pm

Campbell Primary School Hall
Chauvel Street, Campbell

*With Austral-Asian, Chinese, Fijian, Indonesian,
Korean, Papua New Guinean and Tongan choirs*

Refreshments after the service

ALL WELCOME

Organised by the **Canberra Christian Fellowship**
www.canberracf.org.au

Our 2007 Carol Service attracted similar numbers to 2006 (approximately 240) and was enjoyed by those who attended.

Rev. Abraham Tang delivered a challenging message and our guest choirs helped us share the joy of Christmas.

Refreshments plans were thrown into turmoil as a storm hit just as the carols were finishing. Instead of moving outside for our 'feast', chairs were cleared away, tables quickly brought inside and the food served in the hall.

Thank you to all who helped, took part or contributed in any way. All your efforts helped make the Carols a joyful time of praise to God.



Left

Top: Newspaper advertisement

Middle: Chinese Methodists

Bottom: Korean Uniting Choir

Right

Top: Fijian men

Middle: The Indonesian choir

Bottom: The Bible Reading – Aboriginal Church



^ The Tongan choir v The AustralAsian choir



^ The PNG group v Refreshments



Shoebox Lunch

Having been inspired to make up shoeboxes filled with goodies for distribution to children overseas in less fortunate circumstances, a number of our fellowship gathered to inspect the shoebox processing.

We saw the area where shoeboxes are accepted, counted and monetary donations removed from the boxes before they are sorted into the different age / sex categories.

The boxes are then moved to storage areas to await processing. It was quite humbling to open the door to a decent sized room and see shoeboxes packed floor to ceiling with hardly room for 1 more box in the room and this was just 1 of 8 age / sex category storage areas. The decision on which category to process next is often determined by the most imminent threat of shoebox avalanche.

Actual shoebox processing is necessary to ensure that each box will arrive at its destination unspoiled, with no inappropriate items and with unnecessary packaging removed. Experience has taught that liquids (shampoo, bubble mixtures, etc.) often leak and spoil everything in a box. Similarly, soft lollies and those that melt get through everything and really mess up what was a lovely box. War related toys are not allowed, dice or playing cards which can be used for gambling are frowned upon and cosmetics, which in many places are associated with prostitution, are also removed. We are used to everything being packaged, just binning the rubbish, but disposal of packaging materials is difficult in many places. The volume of removed packaging has to be seen to be believed. Imagine the frustration of a young child who has just received his or her very first gift and discovered an absolutely fantastic toy he or she can't get at because of the impenetrable plastic packaging that is so common nowadays.

Some things are replaced in boxes for practical reasons but the integrity of each box is retained to the greatest degree possible. What was originally put in the box stays in the box wherever possible. The goal is for each box to be the best it can be for the child who will receive it.

Once processed, the boxes are packed in cartons and despatched to Sydney ready for distribution.

Samaritan's Purse and the Operation Christmas Child volunteers do a marvellous job in working towards brightening the lives of so many children who are likely to only ever receive this 1 gift during their lives. All the shoebox work is completed with much prayer.

Having inspected the work being done, we sat down to lunch at the café run every Friday at St. Paul's Anglican Church Spence (which has provided the space used by Operation Christmas Child) and enjoyed a meal together.

It had been an interesting and educational visit.

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PS Norma reminds us it is not too early to start shopping for shoebox items for 2008 shoeboxes now while back to school items are cheap.

Yum – The Paul Dudley cake recipe

Paul Dudley's visits to us have been welcomed as we have discovered he is a good preacher and always has something worthwhile to say. As a result of his last visit we have discovered something more – if he brings something for supper, treat it with caution.

Paul decided to make a cake during his children's talk. He had all the ingredients he needed so got to work. Everyone knows you need flour, but have you tasted the stuff – not very tasty, so only use a small dash. Sugar tastes sweet so pile it in. Milk - well Paul likes Coca-Cola so maybe use that instead. Paul used the 'if you like it, use it' principle for additional additives. Curry powder, tomato sauce, mint jelly, pepper and numerous other ingredients that Paul enjoys were added to the mixture. Dogs wolf down dog food, so that must be good, so a spoonful went in.

For some reason, as yet unexplained, our normally cooperative and willing younger folk wouldn't help Paul when it came to a taste test.

After his cooking demonstration, Paul mentioned that to get good results you must follow the recipe. Life's recipe can be found in the Bible which contains plenty of guidance on how we should live.

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Coming Up

Bible Study

Tuesdays at 2-30 pm at the chapel, 17 Chauvel St., Campbell
All welcome - contact Joyce Hall (6241 2085) for more information

Discussion Group

Fridays at 2-00 pm at the chapel, 17 Chauvel St., Campbell
Currently discussing Ephesians
All welcome - contact Ted Dennis (62593487) for more information

Services

Sunday **10th February** at 5pm - **Rev. Campbell Egan**
Sunday **17th February** at 5pm - **Rev. Mark Warren**
Sunday **24th February** at 5pm - **Rev. Ron Peters**
Sunday **2nd March** at 5pm - **Rev. Mark Warren**
Sunday **9th March** at 5pm - **Rev. Malcolm Richards**
Sunday **16th March** at 5pm - **Rev. Paul Dudley**
Good Friday **21st March** - **to be advised**
Easter Day **23rd March** at 5pm - **to be advised**
Sunday **30th March** at 5pm - **Rev. Peter Nelson**

Contacts

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