

May - September 2008
Issue 27

The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

Kenya Kids



After the Service: Howard, Kirra and Mandi with Peter Nduati

Earlier this year we were visited by Peter (OP) Nduati from Nairobi, Kenya. In addition to preaching for us, he told us a little about the work he is part of with street kids in Nairobi.

There are an estimated 30,000 – 60,000 (depending on which estimates you believe) street kids in Nairobi alone, most with addictions to glue or petrol sniffing or other substances. Most have horrific backgrounds of poverty, violence, mistreatment, and families torn apart and have little education and

few social skills.

Peter and his brother run a rescue centre for boys from the streets, helping them deal with all they have been through, enabling them to get some education and to become productive members of the community. The boys they are able to help are just a drop in the ocean of need, but it is a start. They refer girls to other groups set up to help them.

OP's stories helped us realise again just how fortunate we are living in our 'lucky country'. ID

5th MultiCultural Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 7th December 2008 at 5pm

Campbell Primary School hall



Rev. Dr. Murray Earl, the Principal Air Force Chaplain, preached for us earlier this year. He is pictured here with ex-airforce personel. L to R : Warren, Keith, Ken, Alec, Claudia and Murray.

Bible Studies

Both Bible Studies (Tuesday and Friday) had winter breaks resulting from health and holidays. Both have resumed in the last few weeks. The Tuesday study has started looking into Kings and Friday's has finished Ephesians and begun delving into Romans.

Joy, an assistant Pastor to Kevin Kim in the Korean church, has been part of the Friday study this year. Some months ago he went back to Korea for a visit and on his return to Australia brought small gifts for the Bible Study members. His thoughtful generosity was much appreciated.

Scripture Union

On August 10 we were visited by Craig Webber, Director of Scripture Union, Michael Clancy, Chaplaincy Coordinator, and Steve Lindner who is the chaplain at Campbell High. There are 28 schools with chaplains in the ACT funded by the Federal Government and Scripture Union.

Michael interviewed Steve who, as a husband and parent of three girls, former motor mechanic for 13 years and now a pastor, has lots of experience. Much of Steve's work as a chaplain is on a 1 to 1 basis and he hears what is going on in the lives of students. God has opened up opportunities over this year. Steve made an appeal for us to pray for him and the chaplaincy work at Campbell High.

HB

PS Subsequently Ian and Warren have made an appointment to meet with Steve at Campbell High to learn more of his work there and see how our fellowship can offer some practical support in addition to prayer.

Visit of Austral-Asian Choir and Aboriginal Congregation

August 24 was a very special service at which Rev. Peter Nelson preached. Peter brought with him a choir from the Austral-Asian Church in Isaacs and they sang for us. Also present were members of the Aboriginal Congregation who meet at Lyons Church of Christ. Their leader, Chris Sloane was interviewed by Ian Denton

We learned that the Aboriginal Church is a relatively small group that has been meeting together for quite a few years. Chris mentioned that she is very grateful for white missionaries who regularly came to the mission where she was and helped her to find her faith. It became apparent that God is using the Aboriginal Church to effectively witness for Him in the community.

Peter Nelson preached on Luke 7: 36-50 about Simon the Pharisee who asked Jesus to a meal, but gave him no welcome or hospitality. Peter contrasted the attitude of Simon (cool, detached, interested) with that of the woman who washed Jesus's feet with her tears, dried them with her hair and poured perfume on them. Although having sinned greatly, she gave Jesus her love and devotion. We can respond like Simon did with coolness and detachment or pour out our lives to Jesus.

After our service the back room was really buzzing as 47 people had a great fellowship meal together.

HB & ID



The Austral-Asian Choir

The Bible Society and Archaeology

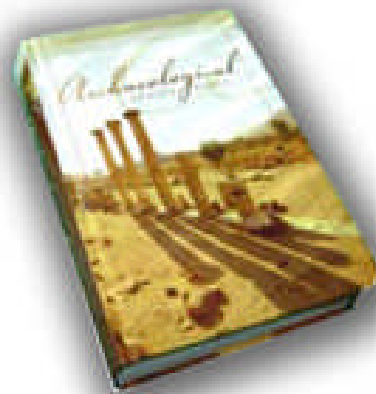
On Saturday, 20th September, The Bible Society held a seminar 'Archaeology vs The Bible' at the Hellenic Club in Canberra.

The society's mission is "**Providing the Word of God to people In a language they can understand, in a format they can use and at a price they can afford and helping them to have meaningful engagement with the Word of God.**" The seminar was organised to promote "**meaningful engagement with the Word of God.**"

Zane Edwards was the presenter and his interest in archaeology was readily apparent. He touched on a number of topics that have scholars debating and seeking archaeological answers to questions arising from Biblical history, for example, which Pharaoh was the Pharaoh associated with the exodus from Egypt? He also mentioned some facts evident in archaeological research that are consistent with what God said would happen recorded in the Old Testament.

Although necessarily only a superficial glimpse at the parallel stories told by The Bible, the archaeological record and non-Biblical records, it was an interesting evening filled with information and stories resulting from Zane's visits to the Middle East.

For those with a wetted appetite for things Biblical and Archaeological, The Bible Society had copies of "The Archaeology Bible" on sale. This NIV Bible is packed with Archaeological notes that relate to the Biblical stories.



ID



Zane enjoying a cuppa with us after one of our services at which he preached.
L to R: Marie, guest, Rosalee (Zane's wife), Zane, Norma and Laurie.

Mid-week Meeting

Over time a few matters accumulate which need consideration by the members of our fellowship, and so on Wednesday, 8th August, we met together for a Pizza tea and to consider fellowship business.

The pizzas proved popular as they were tasty, filling and involved little preparation.

Dinner over, the meeting began and we were pleased to confirm and welcome Denis and Coral as members.

Over a few weeks preceding the meeting, there was some negative publicity on television concerning *Christian Fellowships* in other places that until they were mentioned on TV we were unaware of. A number of our members were concerned at the possibility that we might be regarded warily by potential attendees due to the similarity of our name to theirs. After some discussion we decided to take no action on our name for the moment.

We have found there is already some confusion as to our identity in the community and the meeting decided to ask the Gospel Chapel members if we could erect a sign outside the chapel as is done at many churches these days. This, it was hoped, would more clearly establish our separate identity as a tenant of the chapel and make us a little more visible in the local community. Unfortunately we have since learned this will not be possible.

A few people from outside our fellowship have asked why we don't consider using the facilities at Reid. It became quickly apparent that if such a move did take place, several people would feel particularly uncomfortable returning there.

We had a short prayer time and the meeting closed.

ID

Meetings, Meetings and more Meetings

Despite the title above, our fellowship is very economical when it comes to business meetings, although our constitution requires us to hold certain meetings.

One such required meeting is the Annual General Meeting.

Canberra Christian Fellowship Annual General Meeting

Monday, 13th October 2008 at 6-00pm

at Bradbury's
Vasey Crescent, Campbell

Pizza tea followed by the AGM

Will include planning for this year's Multi-Cultural Carol Service



Do we ever stop eating?

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 Romans
All welcome - contact Ted Dennis (62593487) for more information

Services



Sunday **5th October** at 5pm – **Rev. Mark Warren**

Sunday **12th October** at 5pm – **Mr. Tim Omrod**

Sunday **19th October** at 5pm – **Mrs. Joyce Hall**



Sunday **26th October** at 5pm – **Rev. Dr. Murray Earl (Principal Air Force Chaplain)**

Sunday **2nd November** at 5pm – **Pastors Dan Muwanguzi and Andrew Kiwanuka (from Uganda)**

Sunday **9th November** at 5pm – **Rev. Abraham Tang**

Sunday **16th November** at 5pm – **Mr. Adrian Milne**

Sunday **23rd November** at 5pm – **To be arranged**

Sunday **30th November** at 5pm – **Rev. Peter Nelson**

Sunday **7th December** at 5pm (in Campbell Primary School Hall) –
5th MultiCultural Christmas Carol Service

Sunday **14th December** at 5pm – **Rev. Kevin Kim**

Sunday **21st December** at 5pm – **Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan**



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