

October 2009  
Issue 37

# The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship  
(in the Methodist Tradition)

## In The Garden with Warren

Off and on for a number of weeks we have missed Warren as he attended a Permaculture Design course conducted at Purple Pear Organics near Maitland. The course involved weekend residentials so Warren stayed on the farm in the WOOFERS (Willing Workers On Organic Farms) hut.

On Saturday we had the chance to learn more of Warren's passion and see how his learning has been applied at home. Over a dozen of our fellowship took the opportunity to travel to Holt and stickybeak at Warren's handiwork.

The idea behind permaculture is to care for the earth, to care for people, to produce enough produce for yourself and distribute any surplus to others.

Warren explained that there are 6 zones in permaculture design, with the zones intended to assist in placement of different elements.

- Zone 0 is the house. Here permaculture ideas concentrate on efficient use of resources (e.g. energy and water) and creating a good environment in which to live.
- Zone 1 is an area close to the house that will be visited often. Warren's zone 1 is a glasshouse where he prepares seedlings and does other similar tasks.
- Zone 2 is what Warren described as a food forest. In his zone 2, Warren has plantings of vegetables, berrys and fruit trees. He also mentioned chooks could be part of zone 2. At the course he attended they had chooks with roosters so perhaps it is his early morning experiences there that have led to an absence of chickens at his place.
- Zone 3 is for the main crops. A suburban backyard doesn't lend itself to major crop plantings so a zone 3 is necessarily restricted. Perhaps some of the fruit trees might be considered zone 3.
- Zone 4 is a semi-wild area.
- Zone 5 is a wild area where you can observe nature at work and learn from it.

Warren has developed his interest in the garden over the last 3 years and has certainly made much progress in transforming his yard into a productive and sustainable area.

I'm sure all of us who visited, were interested to hear about what he has learned and how he has put his knowledge into practise. We also enjoyed the morning tea that Heather provided.



**Above:** Warren explaining permaculture design to us



**Right:** Inspecting the garden

A very interesting, educational and happy morning was spent at Warren and Heather's last Saturday. Warren told us about the recent course he had attended in Maitland for several weekends on sustainable gardening, and the advantages of pursuing of this type of gardening.

After describing to us the methods used, we moved into his garden where he explained what he had been doing. We were all interested in his work including his fertilising with "green manure". He has impressed us all with all the work he has done in his garden recently, particularly his espaliered fruit trees, and we look forward to seeing the progress at some later date.

Following our garden tour Heather gave us a delicious morning tea which we all greatly enjoyed. Our thanks to Heather and Warren for a very interesting and enjoyable morning.

RB



Ian, June, Howard, Warren, Vince, Dominica, Ted, Ken, Isobel, Judy (hidden), Maurine, Ken (hidden) after the garden tour. (Photographer - Ruth)

Opportunity may knock once,  
But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Peace starts with a smile.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

He who angers you, controls you!

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you

We don't change the message, the message changes us.

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain.

### **Racing News from Bob Prior**

There is some great news for praise, a christian jockey is moving to Moruya in a couple of weeks. We have been praying for someone there for a long time.

Another praise point is that an injured jockey who is now a paraplegic is recovering so well in his mind, extra positive, that they wrote an article on him in the Daily Telegraph. I thank God for opportunities to share with him and for his very positive response.

Please pray for me as I keep getting busier. I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him, but I need wisdom in use of my time.

### **Campbell High News – Chaplain Steve Lindner**

The last two weeks have been school holidays so no doubt Steve has been enjoying a well-earned rest from the school. From 21 September until 1 October he was on the Campbell High trip to central Australia.

## Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009 – Mr. Zane Edwards – Six Secrets of a Happy Relationship

The reading Zane used to preach on was 1 Corinthians 13. He began by telling us a little about Corinth to give some context to what Paul wrote. Corinth is located on an isthmus. The voyage by water between the two sides of the isthmus was considerable, so many ships were transported overland from one side to the other. During the few days this took, sailors lived it up in Corinth in the style sailors often adopt. Thus Corinth was a city with its fair share of problems resulting from wild living.

The six secrets Zane identified are :-

- Have the love of God in your heart and share it with those in your life. See 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8
- Choose appropriate right attitudes. See 1 Peter 2: 1
- Control your tongue / temper. See James 3: 9-12, Proverbs 10: 19, Proverbs 12: 18, Proverbs 21: 23
- Say you are sorry – problems need to be resolved. See Matthew 5: 23-24
- Choose happiness. Abraham Lincoln suggested that people are as happy as they choose to be. See Proverbs 17: 22
- Trust in the Lord. See Proverbs 3: 5-6, Proverbs 8: 34-35, Proverbs 16: 3



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**Julie, Rosalee and Zane sang 'Unfailing Love' for us in addition to Zane preaching.**

## Next Fellowship Meeting

Past Fellowship meetings have consisted of a meal followed by the meeting itself. Our next meeting on **Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 6-00pm at Bradbury's**, will stick to that formula.

So as to not get too set in our ways, we will make one slight modification to our normal routine. Instead of our popular staple food of pizza, we will try an alternative menu – platters of sandwiches from Subway.



## Operation Christmas Child box packing afternoon



For much of this year, people have been assembling items for inclusion in Operation Christmas Child boxes. At last it was time to make use of all those goodies and put together completed boxes each with something to love, something for school, something to wear, something special, something to play with and something for personal hygiene. Our packers spent an enjoyable but busy time packing a total of 56 boxes.

The reward for all those who contributed goods, money or time will be the joy 56 children get on receiving a box.

## Bible Society Bike for Bibles

The Bike for Bibles riders reached Yass on Wednesday, 16 September so Heather and Myra took a drive to Yass to cheer them on their way. Unfortunately, not knowing where the B4B team was staying, they didn't manage to locate them. It was a pleasant outing though. On the Friday Warren set off for his sustainable gardening course and as he headed towards Sydney passed the riders who appeared to have stopped for a breather or perhaps to mend a puncture.

In a telephone chat with Allan Melmoth the morning after the completion of the ride, Howard learned that the 16 riders (plus 8 support people) had received \$61,000-00 so far for the Bible Society. Both Allan and Luke managed to ride the full distance (4,030 km).

Well done to them all



**Bible Society**  
Making the Bible heard since 1817

## Can you hear me?

As age advances on each of us, a number of our congregation have been finding they have missed some of what is said from the pulpit. Consequently we have been looking into getting microphones and speakers to address this problem.

Zane and Rosalee Edwards have a business, Hillcrest AV, which hires out and sells AudioVisual equipment. They have offered advice and supplied us with some loan equipment to test out. We are very grateful for their assistance and their offer to supply our needs at their cost price.

Of course we need to consult with the Finnish Lutherans before proceeding, and it seems they are also looking into the issue of amplification. No decisions as to what we will do can be made yet.



## Mission Aviation Fellowship



On Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, we were glad to welcome Ian and Adele and Rene and Janika to our service. Ian and Rene are both attending Bible College this year (which is a Mission Aviation Fellowship requirement) before doing pilot training next year.

They briefly told us a little about MAF's work. MAF provide transport for missionaries and Bible College students in remote and less accessible areas. They also do some commercial work to subsidise their church support activities.

### **Ian, Adele, Janika and Rene.**

Ian and Rene are undergoing training to become pilots for the Mission Aviation Fellowship



## Sunday, 27 September 2009 – Rev. Dr. Murray Earl – Valiant For Truth

Murray pointed out that the 10<sup>th</sup> July this year marked the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of John Calvin in France.

Even if we don't fully agree with all Calvin taught (people with a Methodist background tend to emphasise free will as opposed to Calvin's predestination views) we must acknowledge the major role Calvin had in Protestant christianity. While Martin Luther triggered the Reformation causing a split from the Roman Catholic Church, John Calvin came a little later and documented much of the beliefs of the newly reformed church.

Born in Noyon, north east of Paris, in 1509, Calvin at first began to prepare for the priesthood, later changing to study law. In 1533 he experienced some form of conversion and from that time was enthusiastic for the reformers cause.

Feeling unsafe, Calvin moved from place to place, eventually arriving in Geneva. Although wanting to go on further, he was persuaded to stay by a fellow reformer who issued threats when requests failed to work. The reformers introduced changes in Geneva but within two years Calvin was ordered to leave the city. He moved to Strasburg where his fame continued to spread. Three years later in 1541 he reluctantly returned to Geneva where he spent the rest of his life, dying on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 1564.

Five main points of Calvinist belief are brought together in the acronym TULIP.

- **T**otal Depravity (The heart, emotions, will, mind, and body are all affected by sin)
- **U**nconditional Election (God chooses who to save [the elect] according to His will without any consideration of the merit of the individual)
- **L**imited Atonement (Jesus died only for the elect even though His sacrifice was sufficient for all)
- **I**rresistible Grace (When God chooses people for salvation, they cannot resist)
- **P**erseverance of the Saints (Once someone is saved they are always saved)

There are many things that Calvin's teachings and work have left as a legacy for us today. He introduced singing in church by the ordinary worshippers (although he didn't approve of organs in churches). He promoted the concept of the priesthood of all believers. He taught that all work is done to the glory of God. ID

Further reading: <http://www.tlogical.net/biocalvin.htm>

### Some quotes from John Calvin found on the internet

"God preordained, for his own glory and the display of His attributes of mercy and justice, a part of the human race, without any merit of their own, to eternal salvation, and another part, in just punishment of their sin, to eternal damnation."

"No man is excluded from calling upon God, the gate of salvation is set open unto all men: neither is there any other thing which keepeth us back from entering in, save only our own unbelief."

"I consider looseness with words no less of a defect than looseness of the bowels."

"Man with all his shrewdness is as stupid about understanding by himself the mysteries of God, as an ass is incapable of understanding musical harmony."

"For though we very truly hear that the kingdom of God will be filled with splendor, joy, happiness and glory, yet when these things are spoken of, they remain utterly remote from our perception, and as it were, wrapped in obscurities, until that day."

"A dog barks when his master is attacked. I would be a coward if I saw that God's truth is attacked and yet would remain silent."

from <http://www.calvin500.com/john-calvin/quotes-by-calvin/>



## Sunday, 4 October 2009 – Mr. Ron Dawes (Leprosy Mission) – Called to be Servants

Sometimes events that we experience in our lives get us down. It is easy to imagine the spate of very recent natural disasters (earthquake / tsunami in Samoa, earthquakes in Indonesia and West Papua) would cause great grief, distress and depression amongst those directly affected. In such circumstances it is easy to blame God or question His love for us.

Directly following the massive tsunami of a few years ago which killed many thousands of people, Ron was in Pondicherry, India. He was with the pastor of a church there. The church contained the dead bodies of 50% of the congregation. Out the back in the Sunday School rooms, all the children had drowned. The pastor asked how could he possibly preach about God's love under such circumstances. After a week that included burying hundreds of people, the pastor did preach and he delivered a great sermon emphasising God's love. God does love us and while natural disasters do occur and are hard to comprehend, God's love can be glimpsed in assistance and care that is provided and the regeneration that takes place.

The Bible Reading (James 2: 14-25) talks about faith without works being dead. Ron challenged us all to look for the opportunities God provides for us to serve Him and others in His name. In the words of a past Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop William Temple, "*The Church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.*" We are called to be servants.

We were pleased to give Ron a cheque for \$500-00 for The Leprosy Mission's work. I understand it will probably go towards a project in Nepal.

We will also give two \$500-00 donations to the Red Cross, one to assist the Samoan tsunami victims and the other for the Indonesian earthquake relief effort.

ID



Ron Dawes with Carolyn and Derek

### It makes a good story BUT ...

Judy Wallman, a professional genealogy researcher in southern California, was doing some personal work on her own family tree. She discovered that Senator Harry Reid's great-great uncle, Remus Reid, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889. Both Judy and Harry Reid share this common ancestor.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows in Montana territory.

On the back of the picture Judy obtained during her research is this inscription:

*'Remus Reid, horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889.'*

So Judy recently e-mailed Senator Harry Reid for information about their mutual great-great uncle.

Believe it or not, Harry Reid's staff sent back the following biographical sketch for her genealogy research:

*'Remus Reid was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honor when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed.'*

... **don't believe a word of it.** Apparently the cleaned up biographical sketch is an old piece of humorous writing designed to demonstrate how you can put "spin" on a negative story to make it sound positive. The story has falsely been associated with a number of different politicians and been circulated via e-mail.

## Carols, Carols and more Carols

As you might expect, December is a popular time for carol services. Our own **MultiCultural Carol Service is on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 5-00pm at Campbell Primary School.** Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December is the date for an **Indonesian Carol Service,** 2-00pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Forrest, to which we are invited, and on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> December the **Finnish Lutherans will hold their Carol Service** at 5-00pm. We will join with them in place of a service of our own on that date.

### Coming Up

#### Bible Study

**Tuesdays at 2-30 pm at Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church, Turner.**  
Currently studying 2 Kings  
All welcome - contact Joyce for more information

#### Discussion Group

**Fridays at 2-00 pm at Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church, Turner.**  
Currently studying Prayer  
All welcome - contact Ted for more information

#### Thursday Evening Group

**Thursdays at 6-00 pm at Vince and Dominica's, Campbell.**  
Currently studying John  
All welcome - contact Vince / Dominica for more information

#### Prayer Meeting

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Marie's. (The October meeting will be at Alec's)**  
Next meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2-00 pm  
All welcome - contact Alec for more information

#### Services

We meet at **Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church, Cnr. Gould and Watson Streets, Turner**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm – **Dr. Howard Bradbury**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm – **Rev. David McDonald**

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm – **Mrs. Joyce Hall**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 5pm – **Rev. Abraham Tang**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm – **Rev. Kevin Kim**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm – **Rev. Bob Prior**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 5pm – **Rev. Steve Prior**

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm – **Rev. Peter Nelson**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm **at Campbell Primary School Hall** – **Multicultural Carols Service**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm – **Rev. Mark Warren**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm – **Finnish Carols Service** (in place of our own service)

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm – details later



**Dr. Howard  
Bradbury**



**Rev. David  
McDonald**



**Mrs. Joyce  
Hall**



**Rev. Abraham  
Tang**



**Rev. Kevin  
Kim**



**Rev. Bob  
Prior**



**Rev. Steve  
Prior**



**Rev. Peter  
Nelson**



**Multicultural  
Carols**



**Rev. Mark  
Warren**



**Finnish  
Carols**



**Details later**

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