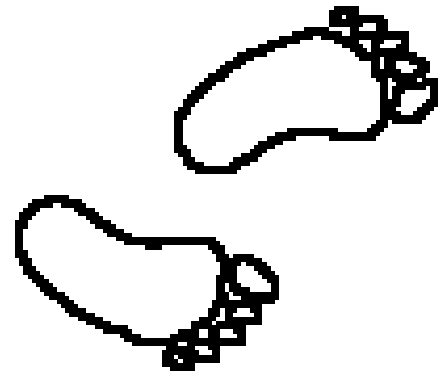


August, September 2010
Issue 45

The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

Synagogue Visit



Google Earth's view of Canberra Jewish Centre / Synagogue

Harry Opperman of the Canberra Jewish Centre gave about fifteen members of Canberra Christian Fellowship an informative and enlightening overview of Judaism in the Centre's Synagogue. Harry's instructive presentation, leavened with Jewish humour and insights, gave us an overview of a three thousand year old people, religion, nation and culture. We appreciated the time Harry took for us, as well as the bread Harry specially baked for the event, and the Israeli grape juice that we were given. These and other elements remind us of Christians and Jews' common origins. Harry surprised us with observations that, over its long history, Judaism has inherited traditions from other religions: Jews now divide the books of Scripture into chapters and verses adopted from Christian tradition; and, from their long membership of the Ottoman Empire during the *Diaspora*, Jews now follow Muslim practice in separating men and women in the Synagogue.

We are hoping to have another visit to the centre before the end of the year, so if anyone has any questions that they would particularly like to ask, please bring them along to the next visit.

VL

Sunday 8th August at 5pm – Dr. Howard Bradbury – Jesus Christ is Lord of All

Using Acts 11: 1-18 (Peter's explanation of his visit to Cornelius and Gentiles at Caesarea and a recounting of his vision) as his text, Howard reminded us that Jesus is Lord of All. In Isaiah 49: 6 we read God's words *"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."* Acts 1: 8 (*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*) also suggests that God's message is not restricted to the people in Jerusalem and the Jews, but is for everybody.



God's love knows no bounds. He has no favourites. He is Lord of ALL.

Howard's message included the thought that perhaps our fellowship should look into the possibilities of reaching out more to people of various cultural backgrounds as part of our mission as God's people. ID

Sunday 22nd August at 5pm – Mr. Michael Nott – God Doesn't Show Favouritism

Michael used the story of Peter and his visit to Cornelius as the basis of his sermon, just as Howard had two weeks earlier. I cannot summarise what he had to say as I was away and have not received a report, but I am told it was a complementary sermon to that delivered by Howard. ID

Sunday 5th September at 5pm – Rev. Kevin Kim – Ask Your Father!

Kevin posed the question 'What is most important?'. It is not goods, success or health but rather our relationship with God.

What is our relation with God? Do we love Him? Do we have fellowship with Him? Do we walk with Him?

People who pray have a good relationship with God. Attending church is not equal to prayer. Prayer should be a part of your life and routine. Like meals it is an indispensable part of life. Prayer is a way of starting and developing a relationship with God.

Our relationship with God is not a business arrangement or a political alliance. God is our Father and we are His children. We have been adopted as His children through belief and faith in Jesus.

We are able to enjoy a real closeness with God if we take the opportunity prayer offers. ID



The Koreans sang for us during the service

Sunday 12th September at 5pm – Mrs. Joyce Hall - Who is this Jesus?



Rev. Dr. Murray Earl was originally to have preached on this date, but his job demanded his attendance elsewhere. Joyce Hall filled the preaching plan gap admirably.

Jesus made many extraordinary claims: "*I am the light of the world*"; "*I am the bread of life*"; "*before Abraham was born, I am*"; "*I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved*"; "*I am the resurrection and the life*"; "*I am the way and the truth and the life*"; "*the Father is in me, and I in the Father*".

If those claims are not true, Jesus was deluded or a liar. If they are true, they demand we take notice of Jesus and what He had to say.

Jesus spoke with great authority. Thousands flocked to hear what He had to say. He healed people who were sick, He even restored dead people to life. He had authority over the winds and waves and He was able to walk on water.

We should not be surprised by His resurrection if He really is who He claimed.

We have a picture of Jesus, the 'son of man', on earth, from the gospels, however we are also able to glimpse Jesus in His glory from the book of Revelation. There we discover Jesus, the 'son of God'. He is seen as a warrior, victor over sin and death, pure and holy.

He is Lord of all, and He oversees the world today. He is in control.

ID

English Conversation

When Kevin Kim preached for us recently, two ladies were with him who had arrived from Korea only days previously. While they are able to read some English, their spoken English is somewhat lacking.

After the service as people chatted, the ladies said they would like to meet with us which would enable them to improve their English.

It has been decided to begin a small group where the ladies and others who choose to join in can improve their English skills. This is a joint initiative between our fellowship and the Korean congregation at Reid and the group will meet at Reid.

ID

Epicurean Adventures



A mid-week meal together seemed like a good idea, so 20 hungry CCFers gathered at the CIT at 6-30pm on Wednesday.

Past experience suggested we would enjoy an excellent meal and that proved to be the case.

I believe another CIT visit prior to Christmas is being thought about. Wednesday, 24th November seems likely.

If you'd like a very good, reasonably priced meal with great company, I'd suggest you put your name on the interested list. Talk to Dominica.

ID



Chatting between courses

Coming Up

Bible Study

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

Tuesday Evening Group

The study of Acts has finished and plans for the next study or activity are still being formulated.
All welcome - contact Vince / Dominica for more information

Prayer Meeting

3rd Monday of each month at Marie's.
Next meeting -20th September at 2-00pm
All welcome - contact Alec for more information

Services

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

Sunday **19th September** at 5pm – **Mr. Paul Avis**

Sunday **26th September** at 5pm – **Pastor Mark Warren**

Sunday **3rd October** at 5pm – **Rev. Ray Hughes**

Sunday **10th October** at 5pm – **Rev. Dr. Murray Earl**

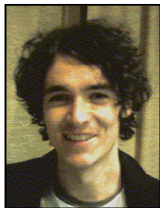
Sunday **17th October** at 5pm – **Pastor Steve Prior**

Sunday **24th October** at 5pm – **Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan**

Sunday **31st October** at 5pm – **Rev. Peter Nelson**

Sunday **7th November** at 5pm – **Rev. Bob Prior**

Sunday **14th November** at 5pm – **Mr. Zane Edwards**



Mr. Paul Avis



**Pastor Mark
Warren**



**Rev. Ray
Hughes**



**Rev. Dr.
Murray Earl**



**Pastor Steve
Prior**



**Rev. Dr.
Campbell
Egan**



**Rev. Peter
Nelson**



**Rev. Bob
Prior**



**Mr. Zane
Edwards**

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