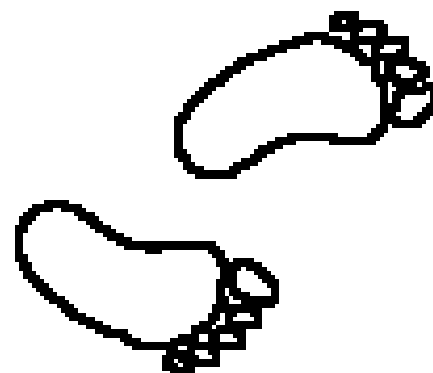


September 2013  
Issue 68

# The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship  
(in the Methodist Tradition)

## Operation Christmas Child boxes

This year A.C.T. boxes are being processed early due to availability of the processing centre. Consequently our 80 boxes were delivered to the processing centre on Monday, 26th August following the dedication on Sunday night.



Norma, June, Anna (Operation Christmas Child), Ken and some of our boxes are pictured outside the processing centre at Downer.

## Holidays are over

We currently have two active Bible Study groups, however studies together have been lacking for the last couple of months.

A combination of migration to warmer climes for the winter and sickness has meant both Bible Studies have been in recess for a number of weeks.

Spring and the warmer weather it brings plus improved health has given our study leaders the opportunity to delve back into God's Word in company with others of us who are able to participate in the studies.

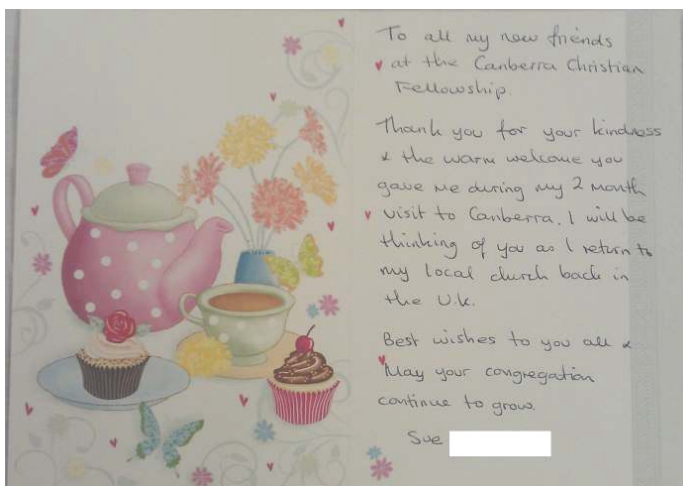
If you would like to discuss God's Word with others and learn more of what He says to us through the Bible, please join in the group that suits you best.



We have been pleased to have Sue, from England, join us for several weeks while visiting Australia with her husband.



Sue with husband Neville



**To all my new friends  
at the Canberra Christian  
Fellowship.**

**Thank you for your kindness  
& the warm welcome you  
gave me during my 2 month  
visit to Canberra. I will be  
thinking of you as I return to  
my local church back in  
the U.K.**

**Best wishes to you &  
may your congregation  
continue to grow.**

Sue

### **Sunday 1st September – Pastor Dave Irving - 1 Peter 1: 1-12**

Dave mentioned the Festival of Dangerous Ideas, set up to showcase and explore ideas that could potentially change society dramatically. One keynote speaker labelled Christianity a dangerous, and in his eyes, negative idea.

Peter in his letter discusses a reality that did shape the world. God has given us a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus. Hope is essential for living. People who lose all hope lose all reason to live.

Some people put their hope in possessions. Possessions are not bad but they decay, crumble, perish, spoil and fade over time.

Peter suggests we have hope for a heavenly inheritance that we can be certain of and that is permanent. We may face trials now, but now is a very small time in comparison to eternity.

Suffering helps purify faith and prove faith is genuine. Dave recounted a discussion between some students on this subject. They expressed reservations about suffering and its relationship to faith. A girl from Kazakhstan, where Christians really are actively persecuted for their faith, had no such doubts. She was certain that the persecution she had seen and experienced had strengthened and confirmed people's faith.

Hope, based on Jesus' resurrection and looking towards a heavenly inheritance, changes our attitude to life. It gives us "*an inexpressible and glorious joy*" and results in "*the salvation of your souls*". ID



## Sunday 8th September – Rev. Ray Hughes - Lift Up Your Hearts



God should be approached with reverence and worship.

We have lots of choices concerning the way we live, however worshipping God should not be considered an elective option. It is an imperative for us as Christians.

In Zechariah 7 the question of fasting is raised. God asks if the people are fasting for Him when undertaking fasts or are they forgetting Him and doing it for their own reasons.

That passage reminds us that we should attend worship for the right reasons. Habit, just meeting up with friends or other reasons of our own miss the true purpose of worship services which is to bring our praise and worship to God.

Often we can end up doing the right thing for the wrong reasons. It is better to be intentional in honouring God.

Worship is an expression of our everyday faith and can be seen in our actions.

If we honour God, He will bless us abundantly.

ID

## Sing Song

Audrey and John recently hosted an evening of singing at their home. Hymns sung included some that became well known through use at Billy Graham crusades.

A potluck meal contributed to the success of the evening and the opportunity was taken to celebrate two wedding anniversaries that fell close to the date.





## Sunday 15th September – Pastor Dan Muwanguzi - Loving God and Loving People



Back in November 2008 we first met pastors Dan Muwanguzi and Andrew Kiwanuka from Uganda when Andrew preached for us and told us something of their work.

This time Dan brought the message to us.

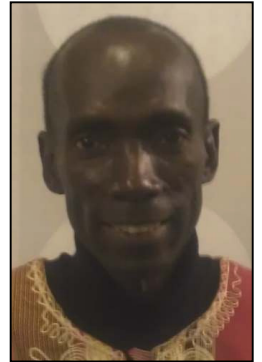
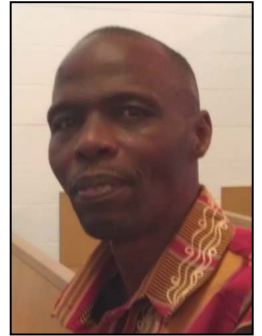
Uganda is a land that has experienced problems in the past and still has challenges to face. It has a population over 34,000,000, half of which is under age 14. Over 40 different languages are spoken, there are tribal wars and corruption is prevalent.

Dan and Andrew are involved in training pastors and people for God's work in Uganda and surrounding countries. Some training is conducted at Jinja but visits are also made to villages and other locations when those needing training are unable to travel from their homes.

They encourage Christians to apply their knowledge of God's love and care and put that knowledge into practice within their communities. Christians are used by God as His hands and feet.

In addition to their training ministry, some practical assistance is provided to people in the community.

Later in the week we were glad to welcome Dan and Andrew to both our Tuesday and Wednesday Bible Studies.



**Top left: Dan**  
**Bottom left: Howard and Dan**

**Top right: Andrew**  
**Bottom right: Dan**



In the past we have welcomed Rev. Don Purdey to our pulpit and benefitted from his preaching.

We have been praying for him for some time as he has battled Motor Neurone Disease.

Recently his family have recorded a CD together.

The sleeve notes tell us

*"This album is an expression of a family's faith in God. ...*

*We know the CD is not musically 'perfect' - that was never the point. The album is an expression of faith. Faith that God will heal, and faith that God will continue to use us mightily whenever we are ill. The family prays that you will be inspired to follow Jesus Christ, our God of love, grace, healing and peace - whatever your circumstances."*

For anyone interested in hearing or getting a copy of the CD, talk to Howard or Ruth.

## Sunday 22nd September – Mrs. Joyce Hall - Favourite Hymns

Mrs. Joyce Hall led our worship tonight, using pictures and hymns to focus our thoughts on God.

As we listened to recordings of several hymns, we saw a collection of Joyce's photos of natural scenes, flowers, and churches. The presentation was effective in helping us concentrate on the truths proclaimed by the hymns.



## Mission Aviation Fellowship

Back in May we were visited by Ian Purdey who has trained for ministry as an MAF pilot. At that time he and his family were preparing to move and for him to take up that role.

Our Fellowship made a contribution to support them in that work.

As you can see from the notes below, Ian, Adele (and their two boys) have embarked on this new adventure God has for them.

### **We've arrived in Arnhem Land!**

This is just a short update to let you know we have arrived safely and to thank you all for your prayers, thoughts and encouragement as we prepared to leave and while we were on the way.

Our trip took us from Adelaide through Coober Pedy, Alice Springs, Threeways and Katherine, before finally arriving in Nhulunbuy on Friday evening. Seven days and 3370km took us through some amazing desert scenery, starry skies, quirky outback towns and a lot of red dust! ...

For these first few months we will be based in Nhulunbuy (the mining town on the Gove Peninsula), ... before most likely heading out to the community of Elcho Island (Galiwinku) in December.

Praise God with us ... for our welcome to Arnhem Land, and for the sense of peace we both have about being where God wants us.

Thankyou for being part of this ministry with us.

Love and God bless, Ian & Adele



### **Services over recent weeks have included the following:**



**Mr. Zane  
Edwards**



**Mr. Paul  
Ahn**



**Rev. Dr.  
Campbell  
Egan**



**Pastor Dave  
Irving**



**Rev. Ray  
Hughes**



**Pastor Dan  
Muwanguzi**



**Mrs. Joyce  
Hall**

**Sunday 11th August – Mr. Zane Edwards - Reflections on a journey**

**Sunday 18th August – Mr. Paul Ahn - Beatitudes**

**Sunday 25th August – Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan - One Sabbath Day**

**Sunday 1st September – Pastor Dave Irving**

**Sunday 8th September – Rev. Ray Hughes - Lift up your hearts**

**Sunday 15th September – Pastor Dan Muwanguzi - Loving God and Loving People**

**Sunday 22nd September – Mrs. Joyce Hall - Favourite Hymns**



## **Janelle and Dale**

Some time ago we learned of the engagement of Janelle and Dale. Their big day has gradually drawn closer and it finally arrived last Saturday.

The wedding took place in Cobargo, a substantial drive from Canberra, which meant several of our people who would like to have shared their special day with them were unable to attend. (age + ailments + distance = travelling problems)

Col, a friend of Dale's family delivered the address and Rev. Dr. David Oliphant performed the marriage in Cobargo Uniting Church.

Several inches of rain earlier in the week meant the marquee planned for the reception was impractical due to soggy ground so the reception was moved inside. A good time was had by everyone celebrating with the bride and groom in the 'cosy' environment.



**Waiting for the Bride**



**Signing the register**



**Mr. & Mrs. J.**



**Bridesmaid  
and Bride**



**Family**



**Cutting the Cake**



Campbell High School chaplaincy – Rev. Steve Lindner  
 Racing Industry chaplaincy - Rev. Bob Prior  
 Institute of Sport chaplaincy – Rev. Peter Nelson  
 UniLodge chaplaincy – Rev. Owen Chadwick  
 Army & A.C.T. Emergency Services chaplaincies - Rev. Phil Anderson



Please remember Steve, Bob, Peter, Owen and Phil and their chaplaincy work in your prayers.

## Coming Up

### Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesdays at 2-30 pm.  
 All welcome - contact Joyce for more information

### Wednesday Study Group

Wednesdays at 5-00 pm, 4-30 pm for a cuppa.  
 All welcome - contact John or Howard for more information

### Prayer Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, at Marie's.  
 Next meeting 21st October at 2-00 pm.  
 All welcome

**Contacts**

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## Services

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

- Sunday 29th September at 5pm – Rev. Peter Nelson (Communion)
  - Sunday 6th October at 5pm – Mr. Adrian Summers
  - Sunday 13th October at 5pm – Mr. Peter Bentley (Assembly of Confessing Congregations)
  - Sunday 20th October at 5pm – Mr. Mark Warren
  - Sunday 27th October at 5pm – Mr. George Huang
  - Sunday 3rd November at 5pm – Rev. Bob Prior (and Tongan choir) (Communion)
  - Sunday 10th November at 5pm – Mr. Nick Cole (Bible Society)
  - Sunday 17th November at 5pm – Rev. Owen Chadwick
  - Sunday 24th November at 5pm – Mr. Ben Lattimore
  - Sunday 1st December at 5pm – **10th Annual Multicultural Carols (at Campbell Primary School hall)**
  - Sunday 8th December at 5pm – Pastor Steve Prior
  - Sunday 15th December at 5pm – Rev. Paul Tabulutu
  - Sunday 22nd December – We will join the Finnish Lutherans for their **Finnish Carols**
  - Sunday 29th December at 5pm – Rev. Peter Nelson
- 2014**
- Sunday 5th January at 5pm – Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan



Rev. Peter Nelson



Mr. Adrian Summers



Mr. Peter Bentley



Mr. Mark Warren



Mr. George Huang



Rev. Bob Prior



Mr. Nick Cole



Rev. Owen Chadwick



Mr. Ben Lattimore



Multicultural Carols



Pastor Steve Prior



Rev. Paul Tabulutu



Finnish Carols



Rev. Peter Nelson

**2014**



Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan