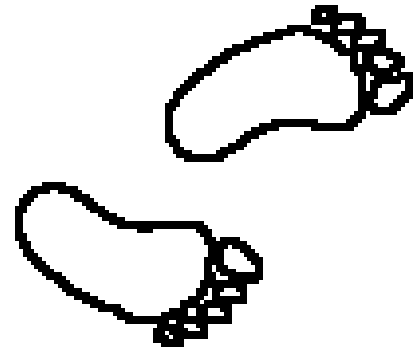


March 2014
Issue 71

The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

Honey and Harvest



harvested.

Our thanks go to Ailsa for having us all at her home, Ruth & June for the tasty desserts and Warren for entertaining us with the secrets of bees and beekeeping.

For the last few years our fellowship has celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving as many churches once used to do. Plenty of produce was contributed for the occasion and Joyce and helpers transformed boxes of fruit and vegetables into an eye catching display.

After a weekend at the Royal Canberra Show telling all-comers about bees and beekeeping, Warren was good enough to share his knowledge with us at Ailsa's after we had enjoyed some delicious desserts. We know Warren is an expert on beekeeping as he brought proof in the form of a Royal Canberra Show second prize for a frame of honeycomb. All of us found his talk fascinating and we went away much better informed about the insects that produce honey and how it is



Rev. Bob Prior took the service and spoke on "Fruit that never dies". He observed that the display looked wonderful with plenty of healthy fresh fruit and vegetables, however if it was just left there in place for several weeks, it would very soon go off, decay and become most unappealing. He contrasted that with fruit of the spirit that God provides that never goes off.

The produce was not left there, but distributed to the needy by the Salvation Army at Dickson.

ID

More about Bees

Listening to Warren, we learned a lot about bees. For those who weren't able to be there, here are some bee facts.

Honey bee hives average 50,000 to 60,000 bees.

The Queen Bee lays around 500,000 eggs during her 5 year lifetime. (Worker Bees live around 6 weeks). *Those who are having trouble keeping track of great grandchildren - you don't have it that bad!*

About 40,000 bees are involved in collecting nectar to make an equivalent volume of honey to a 250 gram butter square.

A Worker Bee's job is determined by age (although older bees can return to earlier tasks in special circumstances)

- 1 - 2 days: cleaning cells
- 3 - 6 days: feeding pollen
- 7 - 21 days: feeding royal jelly
- 12 - 15 days: making wax cells
- 16 - 19 days: receiving and distributing food in the hive
- 20 days: guarding the hive
- 21 days - death: gathering food



Sunday, 2nd March – Rev. Bob Prior

Bob has, on occasions, mentioned people with whom he has contact through his work so that we can pray for the work and them.

One woman he had mentioned, without giving her name, has recently made a decision for Christ and given Bob permission to use her name and tell her story.

Janna is a lady who has had some sporting success. She has also suffered from substance addiction and become involved in activities that often accompany addictions. She ended up in gaol where Bob visited her.

They would often discuss spiritual matters and read the Bible.

She didn't know what was stopping her from committing herself to Christ and then was unsure how to go about it. Eventually she did pray for God to come into her life and take control.

Bob asked did she pray that prayer? "Yes". Did she mean it? "Yes". Where is Jesus now? "In me".

Bob assured her that was right and God would prove it to her.

On leaving that meeting with Bob, she saw a fellow prisoner who was upset. She spoke to her and found she had the right things to say to help the other lady.

The next day other prisoners started to have a go at her about this new faith she had. She started to leave the area but turned and told them that it worked for her and that they should try it. As she left them a guard congratulated her saying she had been a Christian for many years and couldn't have handled that situation any better than she did.

That evening she heard that a place in a rehab centre had been found for her. She would have to wait for some weeks before her next appearance in court when the judge could approve the move. Unexpectedly next morning she was told to get ready to go to court. It turned out a clerical error meant that a court date that should have been deleted had been left on the books. She went off to court with no representation because no one was aware of it. The judge was surprised to see her and mentioned that there was nothing to be done until a rehab place was available. "A rehab place is available!" Providing her family and legal representatives attended the court that afternoon, the judge agreed to her move to rehab. That happened and Bob received the job of escorting her to the new location.

On that trip she told him of what the Holy Spirit was doing in her life and the peace she now experienced.

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Scripture Union Regeneration Dinner - Thursday, 20th March



For each of the last few years Warren has organised tables for us at this fund-raising dinner. For this 7th dinner, we had 3 tables. Altogether there were approximately 350 people present.

The meal was first class as it has been in previous years and I found the speakers particularly interesting.

Jessica Fields (SU ACT's Ministry Development Officer who took up that position at the start of this year) spoke on her role and what SU ACT is doing. She told us of an occasion when she was asking herself if her new job was what God wanted her to be doing. As she pondered the question, she looked up to see a white van drive past with the word "Absolutely" clearly printed on the side of the van in pink letters. That question was answered!

Another lady spoke enthusiastically about the operation and value of SUPA (Scripture Union Primary Age) clubs operating in a number of A.C.T. Primary Schools. She also mentioned camps and beach missions. She talked about volunteers giving up their time to run these clubs and camps, observing that many parents of participants were greatly impressed by the willingness of the club / camp leaders and staff to sacrifice their time and own activities to invest their time and effort in the children who came along.

Next we heard about chaplaincy. Two girls, formerly from Melba High, told us how they were able to talk to their chaplain about whatever they wished. That contact was obviously of great importance to them as now they have moved to Gungahlin College, where there is no chaplain, they still contact their former chaplain from time to time. (Gungahlin College is wanting a chaplain but is yet to get one.)

The School Chaplaincy ACT Director informed us that chaplaincy was again subject to a High Court challenge. She said that the complainants have a lot of determination and money to back themselves up with, but we have God.

Glenn Coombs, a consultant to SU International and Camps Director SU NSW was the guest speaker. Glenn was once a young contract cleaner and while cleaning a science block at a christian school he reached a point in his life where he decided he had either to forget about the Christianity he had been vaguely thinking about or do something about it. He acted. That same night, about 10-30pm, he turned up at a local pastor's house with the desire to find out about God. Understandably he was told to come back the following day, which he did. He did find out about God and committed his life to Jesus. Now he is Camps Director for SU NSW and is thrilled to see young people's lives changed as they learn about Jesus and commit themselves to Him.



One camp SU NSW run is the Boys Ag Camp. Boys travel to rural areas where they voluntarily help out doing some of the many chores that are always waiting to be done on rural properties. They also spend time considering the christian message. Towards the end of the camp they usually build a large bonfire, but instead of partying on they are told to gather around the fire and remain completely silent for 30 minutes while considering what they have learned during the camp (the code of silence). Glenn recounted asking a group of young men how they had come to faith. "The code of silence, 2010 (or whichever year)" answer that he often received points to the value of such camps.

Glenn's message was that **God changes lives** and the work of Scripture Union in helping young people come to know Him is a valuable part of the mission of the Church.

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A music review from an obviously discerning music critic

Except for knowing that when you've heard one, you've heard them all, I'm not really an authority on violin solos, so cannot state definitely whether La Pulbrook's was or was not a credit to the accomplices who had taught her the use of the instrument. It was loud in spots and less loud in other spots, and it had that quality which I have noticed in all violin solos, of seeming to last much longer than it actually did.

Wodehouse, P. G., The Mating Season, Arrow, London, 2008. p. 208.

30th ANNIVERSARY FETE

CANBERRA KOREAN UNITING CHURCH



Unfortunately the invitation was not received in time to add it to our weekly notices. Fortunately many of our people saw the fete email and a sprinkling of us were able to attend.

It was a particularly pleasant day for a fete, not too hot, not too cold - just right to relax at a table and enjoy some of the Korean food that was on offer.

There was a jumping castle for youngsters and some goods for sale for those who like a bargain.

A lady played some tunes on a Korean instrument, a bit like a violin. A Haegum is a two stringed Korean instrument played with a bow and I suspect that is what it was.

Our welcome was warm and friendly and it was good to chat with some of the Koreans we already knew.

The fete was raising fund for a Cambodian project.



HORSING AROUND!

Within hours of the news that Xstore's 'all beef hamburgers' contained 30% horse meat, these quips arrived in an email from family in the U.K. :-

"I'm so hungry, I could eat a horse..... I guess Xstore just listened!

Anyone want a burger from Xstore? Yay or neigh?

Not entirely sure how Xstore are going to get over this hurdle.

Waitress in Xstore asked if I wanted anything on my Burger. So I had £5 each way!

Had some burgers from Xstore for my tea last night ...I still have a bit between my teeth.

A woman has been taken into hospital after eating horse meat burgers from Xstore. Her condition is said to be stable.

Xstore are now testing all their vegetarian burgers for traces of unicorn.

I've just checked the Xstore burgers in my freezer ... AND THEY'RE OFF!

Xstore now forced to deny presence of zebra in burgers, as shoppers confused barcodes for serving suggestions.

Said to the missus, these Xstore burgers give me the trots....

"To beef or not to beef, that is equestrian".....

A cow walks into a bar. Barman says, "Why the long face?"

Cow says "Darn illegal ingredients coming over here stealing our jobs!"

I hear the smaller version of those Xstore burgers make great horse d'oeuvres.

These Xstore burger jokes are going on a bit....Talk about flogging a dead horse!

Found while searching the internet for something completely different.

30 Years

Many of us had an association with Reid Church before we came together in our Fellowship.

Remembering back to more youthful days while still at Reid, we can recall a fledgeling Korean congregation commence worship services using the Reid Church and property. That was 30 years ago and they will be holding their 30th Anniversary service on 15th June.

Keep that date free if you are able as we are invited to their celebrations.

Combined Service

Recently the Finnish Lutherans called a meeting of representatives of the groups that use the church. Among other things discussed was a combined service.

The church is used by the Finnish Lutherans themselves, a Finnish language school, us, the Koreans who meet before us and a group of Samoan Seventh Day Adventists. Details of the service are not yet decided however the date is likely to be 6th July.

Sunday, 9th March – Mrs. Joyce Hall – Jesus Gave



Everyone seems to like getting their own way in things.

Jesus was different. He could have had things all his own way, but he didn't take advantage of his Godship. He gave of himself.

Jesus became man as man was meant to be without the failings of the rest of humanity. His life was devoted to doing His Father's will, in His Father's way, in His Father's time.

God approved of Jesus' life saying "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased".

Jesus is no longer giving to us restricted by the limitations of man but from the power and majesty of His place in heaven.

We can and should give of ourselves as Jesus did.

Count Nicolaus Von Zinzendorf was a Godly man who visited a Dusseldorf gallery in 1719 where he saw a painting of the crucifixion by Stenberg. The painting and the words on it's frame "All this I did for thee, what hast thou done for Me?" captivated him. He resolved to live even more wholly for his Lord. He gave of himself, founding the Moravian Missions which helped take the Gospel to many parts of the world (and of course influenced the Wesleys).

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Campbell High chaplaincy support

It was in August 2008 that we first met Steve Lindner. He had come to our service with other Scripture Union people to tell us about school chaplaincy.

We believed his chaplaincy was worth supporting so offered our prayer support and whatever practical support we could provide as needed. Representatives of our congregation met with him every few weeks to maintain our contact and for prayer.

Unfortunately, while our prayer support has continued, our regular meetings have not.

Steve now has contacts with several local churches and has organised a chaplaincy support group that will meet regularly for information updates and prayer. We will participate in that group.

Sunday, 23rd March – Pastor Steve Prior – One God, One World, One Direction

Steve began by stressing the importance of good directions if you want to get to a particular place. Just as driving directions help us get from place to place, religious directions need to be right if we are to reach our spiritual destination.



Paul entered Athens and was distressed by the many idols he saw and the apparent lack of spiritual direction about him. He began to talk to whoever he could about Jesus. Athens was a place of ideas and learning where the people wanted to keep abreast of new ideas. Although Paul was regarded as a babler talking about foreign gods, he was able to speak in the public forum, the Areopagus. He quickly turned a defence of what he believed into a challenge against what Athenians believed. The God he spoke about was not a foreign god but a god the Athenians worshipped without knowing Him - the "unknown God" honoured with an altar with that description. Paul's God was in fact the God of everyone. This God made all there is and is in no way dependent on people. The gods the Athenians knew were merely images made from stone, gold or silver that were created using human artistic talent and skill. This real and powerful God Paul described demands everyone turn from their evil ways and Paul told the Athenians God has set a day for judgement. The proof is in a man God raised from the dead.

At this point some of his listeners made fun of him while others said they wanted to hear more later. Paul left but some people went with him and believed.

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Services over recent weeks have included the following:



Rev. Phil Anderson



Rev. Bob Prior



Mrs. Joyce Hall



Rev. Ray Hughes



Pastor Steve Prior

Sunday 23rd February – Rev. Phil Anderson - All things are yours

Sunday 2nd March – Rev. Bob Prior - Fruit that never dies

Sunday 9th March – Mrs. Joyce Hall - Jesus Gave

Sunday 16th March – Rev. Ray Hughes - A time of comfort

Sunday 23rd March – Pastor Steve Prior - One God, One World, One Direction

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, 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

Studying Jeremiah

Friday Study Group

Fridays at 2-00 pm.

All welcome - contact John for more information

Studying Isaiah

Prayer Meeting

3rd Monday of each month, usually at Marie's.

Next meeting – 2pm, 19th May. (No meeting in April)

All welcome

Contacts

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Services

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

Sunday 30th March at 5pm – Rev. Peter Nelson

Sunday 6th April at 5pm – Rev. Paul Tabulutu

Sunday 13th April at 5pm – Mr. George Huang

Sunday 20th April at 5pm – Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan (Easter)

Sunday 27th April at 5pm – Rev. Jangwon Seo

Sunday 4th May at 5pm – Rev. Ron Reeson

Sunday 11th May at 5pm – Mr. Paul Ahn

Sunday 18th May at 5pm – Rev. David McDonald (10th Anniversary)

Sunday 25th May at 5pm – Mr. Mark Warren



Rev. Peter Nelson



Rev. Paul Tabulutu



Mr. George Huang



Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan



Rev. Jangwon Seo



Rev. Ron Reeson



Mr. Paul Ahn



Rev. David McDonald



Mr. Mark Warren