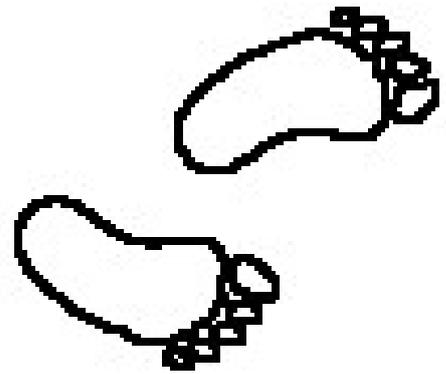


# The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship  
(in the Methodist Tradition)

## FIRES !

Bushfires are not uncommon in Australia, however the extent, ferocity and duration of the fires this season have been exceptional.

Lives, homes, livelihoods and property have been lost and many, many square kilometres of bushland burnt out and large populations of wildlife killed.

Our fellowship has made a donation to Red Cross to assist those effected by the fires.

Vince is a member of his local Rural Fire Service group and in addition to his duties in the area they service, he has also made at least two trips further afield to help fight fires.



He has suggested that one way of helping communities recover from the devastation wrought by fires is to go and stay in or visit effected towns or localities. The fires will have driven away much of the custom and traffic that feed the economies of such places, so visits will help reestablish cash flows and let people help themselves to some extent.

While we in Canberra have been relatively safe from the fires threatening and burning so much of the countryside, we have by no means been untouched by the turmoil.

The smoke from fires has blanketed the city so much so that Canberra has gone from having good, clean, fresh air to the worst air quality in the world on some days.

Many Canberrans have property or family or friends living in the expected path of the fires or where the fires have passed through so have a very personal interest in what has been happening. I certainly know people who know others who have lost homes and one person who recently had dealings with a man who lost his life.

We have been concerned for Roy and his family south of Ulladulla and Peter and Lea at Bateman's Bay. Fortunately the danger has passed for them although the flames came VERY close to Roy's place.

Road closures have meant that movement is restricted, stopping Roy and Peter coming to preach for us on prearranged dates and preventing Ashley from returning from Sydney to play piano for us.

God has been good to us. He has been close to us, looked after us and enabled us to overcome disruption to our plans. We have found preachers to fill fire related gaps in our preaching plan.

Even if things hadn't gone so uneventfully for us, we know God would still have been close. We can rely on Him whatever the circumstances, joys or sorrows that confront us.

ID

## 16th Multicultural Carols - 2019

In 2019 we held our Carols Service on 1 December and once again were glad to welcome a church filling congregation.

Mr. Peter Wright, from Adelaide, was our speaker and he explained he "Can't wait for Christmas!".



**The congregation before the service while others were still arriving.**



**Warren welcoming everyone to the Carols**



Above: "Hark the herald angels sing" announced by Joyce

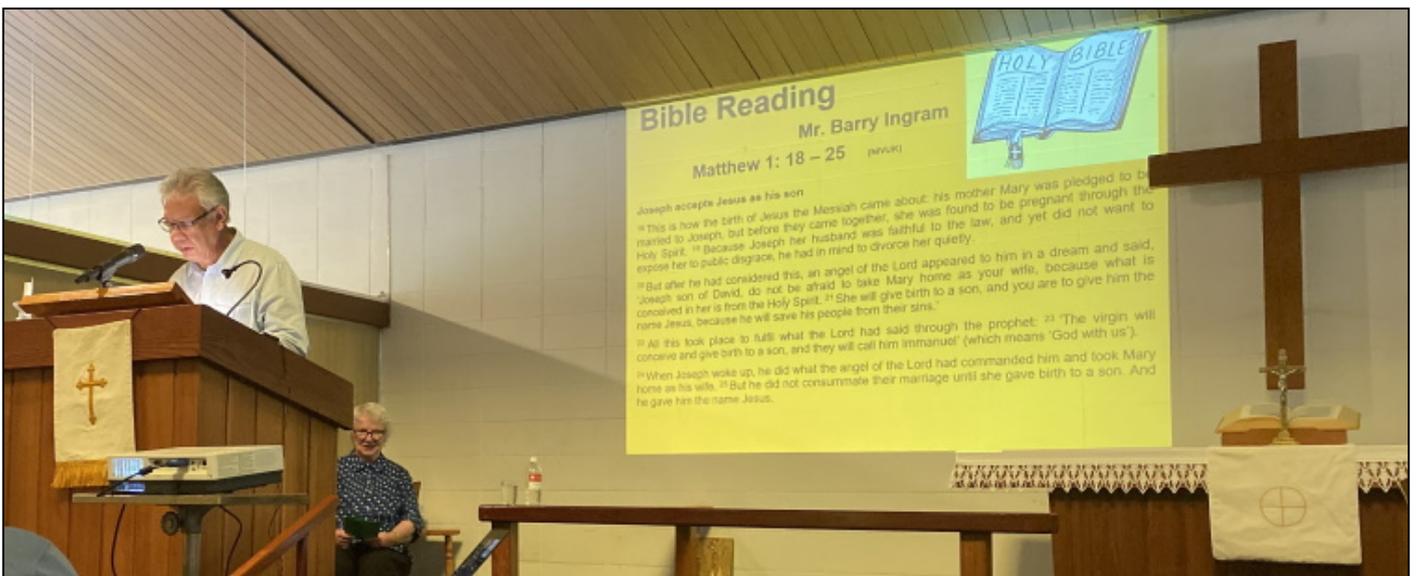
Below: Caleb reading the first Bible reading - Micah 5: 2



The Indonesian choir



**The Indonesian choir**



**Barry (from the Aboriginal Church) reading the second Bible reading - Matthew 1: 18-25**



**Above: The Chinese Methodists' choir**



**Left: Kelly reading the third Bible reading -  
Luke 2: 4-21**



**The Canberra Korean Uniting Church choir**



**Above and below: The congregation**



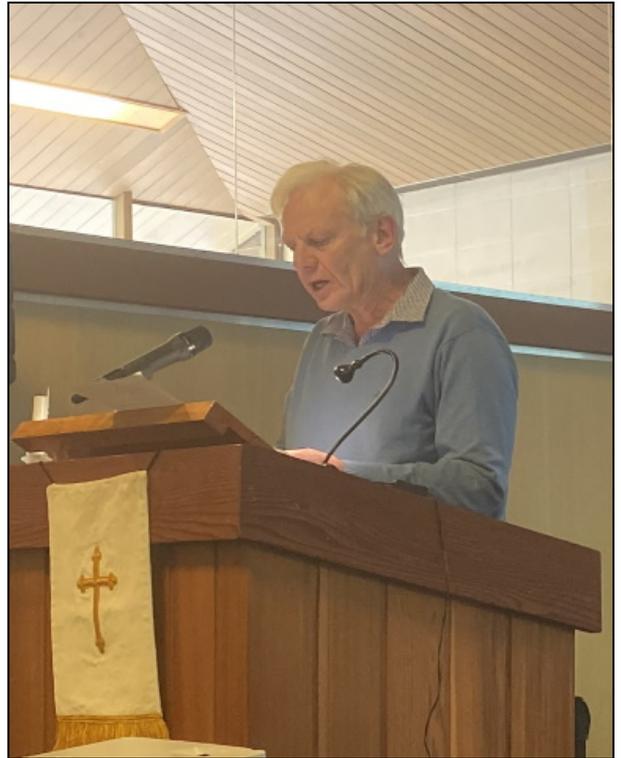


**Mr. Peter Wright telling us he "Can't wait for Christmas !"**



**Our musicians led by Matthew Foster (at left)**

**Right: Ian pronouncing the Blessing**



**Above and right:  
Refreshments and fellowship after  
most of the crowd had cleared**



# THE BIBLE

*"THIS BOOK contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practise it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveller's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here Heaven is opened and the gates of Hell are disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the Judgment and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labour, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents."*

passed on to us by Marie. (originally from a pre-WWII Gideons Testament.)

## Wisdom

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

## Mission Aviation Fellowship - Madagascar



Ian and Adele Purdey and their family of now four boys have been living in Arnhem Land for seven years while Ian has served as an MAF pilot.

Prior to their move to Madagascar to serve there, we hoped they might be able to come to one of our services, however their schedule prevented that.

They were in Canberra briefly and had lunch with family and a few friends. They leave Australia for Madagascar on Tuesday, 14 January.



**Around the table from the left: Ned, Adele, Ruth, Vivien, Ian, Graham, Theo, Ian, Josiah and Jimmy.**

### Sunday, 27th October - Mr. Mark Warren - The Resurrection changes everything

1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 5:11 was the passage on which Mark based his sermon.

We have great hope because of the resurrection. It transforms how we look at death. Death is no longer the end, but a sleep before our new day.

We can have confidence in our resurrection because we have seen it - Jesus rose from the dead.

God will raise from the dead those who have fallen asleep in Jesus - they will be raised up first.

This gives us real, exciting, comforting, satisfying hope.

We have a new day in a new creation to look forward to.

We should be alert and ready for our Lord's return but not speculating when that will be. He will come unexpectedly but we should be prepared and not surprised.

Clothing ourselves in faith and love and protecting ourselves with the hope of salvation will assist our readiness.

God does not want us to suffer His wrath, but to receive the salvation Jesus died to make possible.

Jesus suffered God's wrath for us.



ID

## Sunday, 10th November - Mr. Ian Denton - Hope



Sometimes it is possible for people of faith who have gone before us, to witness to that faith to those of us in this day and age.

Using Bible verses and other inscriptions from gravestones and knowledge of the lives of some of those interred at the historic Walkerville cemetery in Adelaide, we were able to learn in whom they placed their faith and how they lived out that faith.

It was not so much a sermon as a collection of testimonies from committed Christian people of the past.

Mrs. Lee McMullan, chaplain at Campbell High School, was with us for this service. She encouraged us to participate in the latest attempt to retain chaplains in A.C.T. public schools and thanked us for our support.

Anxiety is a problem for many students and she told us of the 'Shine Girl' program she has run to help girls develop confidence.



## AGM

Back in November we held our Annual General Meeting.

Ruth was kind enough to invite us to her home where we had a pizza tea prior to the meeting.

Office bearers for the year elected at the meeting are:

President - Ian

Vice President - Mark

Treasurer - Laurie

Secretary - Wendy

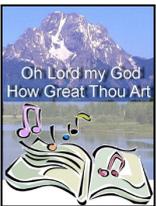
Committee members - Joyce, Ruth, Warren

Public Officer - Warren

Reportable Conduct Scheme 'Head of Entity' - Warren

We discussed and dealt with the business on our agenda and were off home fairly promptly

## Sunday, 17th November - Recorded Hymns and Pictures



As we know Rev. Paul Tabulutu travels extensively around the country ministering to Fijian congregations. On this Sunday he was scheduled to preach for us but found himself out of town and unable to do so.

Joyce had a DVD of inspirational hymns to which she had added illustrations made up of some of her own photographs and other pictures.

It was a pleasant way to concentrate our minds on God, His creation and all He has done for us. While the message was presented differently we were still able to bring our praises and worship to Him and be drawn closer to our God.



speaker  
**David McDonald**



# 4 March 2020

**WHERE:** The Dinner will be held at the Hellenic Club, 1 Matilda Street, Phillip, ACT

**WHEN:** 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. The formal part of the evening will finish at 9:30 pm.

## Indonesian Carols

A week after our Carols, the Indonesians held theirs. It was a joy to join with them.

The children sang early in the service.

The adult choir and congregation continued singing a number of carols during the service.

Robert McMullan delivered the message.

One innovation was a 'time machine' which they used to transport historical figures to the service in order to interview them concerning Jesus and His coming.



**The children's choir**

**The adult choir**



**A shepherd telling of the Angels' message and finding the baby Messiah**

**Selfies with a self-important King Herod**





**Talking with Martha**

**Robert McMullan**



**Chatting with High Priest Caiaphas**



**Preparing the meal as speeches are about to commence. The crowd is outside still.**



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



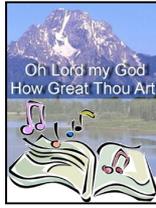
**Mr. Mark Warren**



**Mr. Alec Wallis**



**Mr. Ian Denton**



**Recorded Hymns and pictures**



**Rev. Phil Anderson**



**Mr. Peter Wright**



**Mr. Mark Warren**



**Mr. Owen Chadwick**



**Mr. Ian Denton**



**Rev. Paul Tabulutu**

**Sunday 27th October – Mr. Mark Warren - The Resurrection Changes Everything**

**Sunday 3rd November – Mr. Alec Wallis (Bible Society)**

**Sunday 10th November at 5pm – Mr. Ian Denton - Hope**

**Sunday 17th November – Recorded Hymns and Pictures**

**Sunday 24th November – Rev. Phil Anderson - The lost path to the world's greatest treasure**

**Sunday 1st December – Mr. Peter Wright (Carols) - Can't wait for Christmas!**

**Sunday 8th December – Mr. Mark Warren - Top Tips for Passionate Christians**

**Sunday 15th December – Mr. Owen Chadwick**

Sunday 22nd December – no service of our own

**Sunday 29th December – Mr. Ian Denton - Love and Hate 2020**

**Sunday 5th January – Rev. Paul Tabulutu - Crossing our Jordan**

**Coming Services**

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



**Mr. George Huang**



**Mr. Jude Simion**



**Rev. Paul Tabulutu**



**Mr. Mark Warren**



**Mr. Roy Dallos**

**Sunday 12th January at 5pm - Mr. George Huang**

**Sunday 19th January at 5pm - Mr. Jude Simion (Barnabas Fund)**

**Sunday 26th January at 5pm - Rev. Paul Tabulutu**

**Sunday 2nd February at 5pm - Mr. Mark Warren**

**Sunday 9th February at 5pm - Mr. Roy Dallos**

**Coming Up**

**Tuesday Bible Study**

**Tuesdays at 2-30 pm at the church.**

All welcome - contact Joyce for more information

**Prayer Meeting**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 2-30 pm, usually at Marie's.**

All welcome

**Contacts**

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