

The Next Step



Canberra Aboriginal Church

Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)



Canberra Christian Fellowship (in the Methodist Tradition) and Canberra Aboriginal Church
Worship Services SUSPENDED due to COVID-19 coronavirus threat

Susanna Wesley



Rereading what I wrote last time about the potential stressfulness of isolation in your home with the rest of the family, I was reminded of Susanna Wesley, John and Charles's mother.

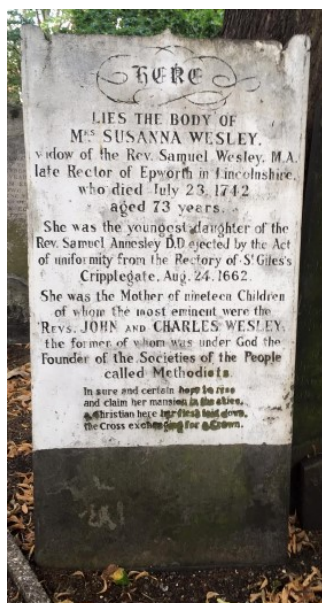
She would have been used to a crowded house, being the youngest of twenty-five children of Rev. Samuel Annesley, with his second wife Mary. Susanna and her husband, Rev. Samuel Wesley, had nineteen children of their own although only ten survived past their childhood.

With the house full, it was difficult for her to find a quiet place where she could be alone with her thoughts and with God. Her solution was to lift her apron up and over her head so she was screened from what was going on about her. Her family knew that when they saw her with the draped apron, she was not to be disturbed.

A "lack of money was a continual struggle for Susanna. Their house was burned down twice; during one of the fires, her son, John, nearly died and had to be rescued from the second storey window. She was the primary source of her children's education. ...

"Under no circumstances were the children permitted to have any lessons until they had reached their fifth year, but the day after their fifth birthday their formal education began. They attended classes for six hours and on the very first day they were supposed to learn the whole of the alphabet." ... "The children got a good education. Daughters included, they all learnt Latin and Greek and were well tutored in the classical studies".

... The lack of diverse spiritual teaching [when her husband was away] caused Susanna to assemble her children Sunday afternoon for family services. They would sing a psalm and then Susanna would read a sermon from either her husband's or father's sermon file followed by another psalm. The local people began to ask if they could attend. At one point there were over 200 people who would attend Susanna's Sunday afternoon service while the Sunday morning service dwindled to nearly nothing.



HERE
LIES THE BODY OF
Mrs. SUSANNA WESLEY.
widow of the Rev. Samuel Wesley. M.A.
late Rector of Epworth in Lincolnshire
who died July 23, 1742
aged 73 years.
She was the youngest daughter of the
Rev. Samuel Annesley D.D. ejected by
the Act
of uniformity from the Rectory of St.
Giles's
Cripplegate, Aug. 24, 1662.
She was the Mother of nineteen Children
of whom the most eminent were the
Revs. JOHN and CHARLES WESLEY,
the former of whom was under God the
Founder of the Societies of the People
called Methodists.
In sure and certain hope to rise
and claim her mansion in the skies,
a Christian here the flesh laid down,
the Cross exchanging for a Crown.

Wesley practised daily devotions throughout her life"

Susanna Wesley was a strong willed, devout and prayerful woman who although 'She never preached a sermon, published a book, or founded a church, yet Susanna Wesley is known as the Mother of Methodism. The example of faith and religious reverence she set for her children John and Charles inspired them to become powerful spiritual leaders, and to launch the Methodist movement.'

Among many words of wisdom for her children, she wrote to son Samuel "A Christian ought, and in general does, converse with the world like a stranger in an inn; he will use what is necessary for him, and cheerfully enjoy what he innocently can; but at the same time he knows it is but an inn, and he will be but little concerned with what he meets with there, because he takes it not for his home."

After Susanna Wesley died on July 23, 1742, she was buried at Bunhill Fields. John Wesley conducted the services. Charles Wesley wrote the epitaph for her

tombstone. Later a new stone was set up, bearing a different inscription.

the information above was found in Wikipedia - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susanna_Wesley and at <http://gcch.org/resources/susanna-wesley>

It is a Small World

After writing about Jimmy Little and the song Royal Telephone, I discovered that some of those people who used to attend Reid Methodist Church knew Jimmy's sister Betty. She went along to Reid Church for a while and I'm told was particularly friendly with Elva Russell.

Chaplains

Please pray that the chaplains we particularly support can adapt their ministries to the conditions we all currently face. - Mr. Owen Chadwick - Universities chaplaincy, Rev. Bob Prior - Racecourse chaplaincy, Rev. Paul Tabulutu - N.S.W. / A.C.T. Fijian churches



Devotional material



Prayer



Contacts

Canberra Christian Fellowship
P.O. Box 184
Campbell 2612
A.C.T.

E-mail: canberracf@yahoo.com.au
Website: <http://www.canberracf.org.au/>

TNS editor: Ian Denton - e-mail: iancd@yahoo.com

Bible Reading



Fellowship by Phone

In the car repair shop:

Customer: "Can you save my car?"

Repair man: "I believe we could, by screwing a new car in between the licence plates."

Jesus loves me

William Bradbury wrote the original, and probably best known, tune for 'Just as I am', but he is also known for writing the music and chorus for 'Jesus loves me'.

"Anna Bartlett Warner ... wrote this text [in 1860] along with her sister Susan as part of one of the best-selling novels of the day titled "Seal and Say" which Susana authored. The novel is not well remembered but the poem by one of the characters Mrs. Linden as she comforts Johnny Fax who is dying has become a favorite around the world." Most of us will know 'Jesus loves me', if only the first verse.

Anna and Susan were highly educated and deeply devoted Christian young women ... and for a number of years they gave Sunday School classes to young cadets [from West Point Academy].

Bradbury's 'Golden Shower of Sabbath School Melodies' (1862) had this note above the song: This little gem of a hymn was sent by a devoted Sunday School worker to the author of the Golden Shower, accompanied by the following note:

"I enclose a hymn for which I am very anxious to have a tune as beautiful as its words and thoughts ... There is but one thing wanting: give us a good tune, and we will make everything ring with its music; and the echo of that song will be felt in many hearts when you and I can no longer lead them."

Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died
Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in.

Refrain:

Jesus loves me! He will stay
Close beside me all the way;
Thou hast bled and died for me,
I will henceforth live for Thee.

Yes, I love Jesus.
Yes, I love Jesus.
Yes, I love Jesus.
In prayer I tell Him so.

Another original verse more specific to the book is:

Jesus loves me—loves me still,
Though I'm very weak and ill;
From his shining throne on high,
Comes to watch me where I lie.

Once when asked to summarize the essential truths of the Christian faith, the great Swiss theologian Karl Barth gave this simple answer: "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

information from website <https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/c/51> and comments there

He: "When I see a stupid face I have to laugh."

She: "Doesn't that make shaving yourself kind of difficult?"

Prayer Points

Please pray

- for Aboriginal communities all over Australia
- for Aboriginal pastors across the nation
- for the Aboriginal community in the A.C.T. and Queanbeyan
- for the homeless.
- for all those feeling isolated, scared or lost.

