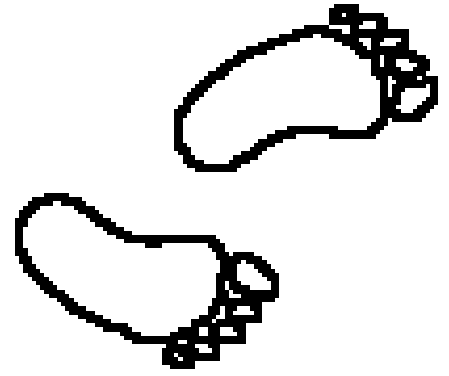


May 2021  
Issue 144

# The Next Step

Canberra Christian Fellowship  
(in the Methodist Tradition)



Also distributed to

Canberra Aboriginal Church

# 4 pm

**start during colder, less  
daylight months**

**commencing Sunday, 9th May**

**Cold weather but WARM fellowship.**

---

## EASTER

**Easter 2021 has now passed into history (although someone forgot to tell Woolworths as Hot Cross Buns are still on sale in their stores - or perhaps they are waiting until after Orthodox Easter (2 May) to remove them from sale).**

**I may be late with the following information for 2021, but you could also argue I am getting in early for 2022.**

**My brother compiled this for a group of his friends. I trust he has researched the subject and got his facts right. I'm willing to believe it anyway.**

**While discussing the weather, Easter and the phases of the moon came up. All who have had a Christian upbringing through Sunday School and Church should have an inkling of memory that Jesus was crucified on Good Friday, the day before Passover in that year. Which begged the question. why do celebrations of Passover and Easter not always coincide?**

### How the Passover date is set

The calendar by which the Jewish Biblical feasts are given their dates is very different from the Western calendar. It's not a straightforward lunar calendar, but every time there is a new moon it indicates a new Jewish month. Passover is always the 15<sup>th</sup> of the Jewish month of Nisan. The Jewish year is different in that there are leap months (7 every 19 years) to keep the years in step with the seasons.

More than that, the process of accurately fixing the dates according to the moon is not a simple one. Sometimes Jewish holidays are celebrated twice when there is a discrepancy about the precise day, just to be on the safe side! In ancient times, the sky would be carefully watched, and then the message of when the holiday was to be observed was sent to the Jewish communities far and wide by beacons and messengers. But this was not a foolproof method, with some Samaritan scoundrels lighting fires at the wrong time to deliberately confuse and aggravate the Jewish people.

### How the split occurred

In the first centuries, the early disciples naturally remembered his death and resurrection every Passover, which was when it happened. As the years went by, the Christian community became more and more gentile, and the leaders grew weary of liaising with, and depending upon the rabbinic authorities for the right date on which to commemorate this important event.

The Council of Nicaea in 325 established that Easter would be celebrated on Sunday.

In the Western Church Easter is calculated as the first Sunday after the paschal full moon that occurs on or after the vernal equinox. If the full moon falls on a Sunday, then Easter is the following Sunday. The holiday can occur anywhere between March 22 and April 25.

The Western church does not use the actual, or astronomically correct date for the vernal equinox, but a fixed date (March 21). And by full moon it does not mean the astronomical full moon but the "ecclesiastical moon," which is based on tables created by the church. These constructs allow the date of Easter to be calculated in advance rather than determined by actual astronomical observances, which are naturally less predictable.

The Orthodox Church is less pragmatic and use the actual vernal equinox and base their calculations on the Julian calendar not the Gregorian.

**Sunday, April 4 2021 - **Easter** - Sunday, 17 April 2022**

**Sunday, 2 May 2021 - **Orthodox Easter** - Sunday, 24 April 2022**

**Sunday, 28 March 2021 - **Passover Meal** - Saturday, 16 April 2022**

## Hot Cross Buns

Ever since COVID disrupted our normal practices, we have refrained from enjoying a light meal after our services in order to comply with distancing requirements and COVID precautions.

This time of fellowship has been missed so for Easter we returned to our former practice in as much as we shared a light supper of Hot Cross Buns in as COVID safe a way as we were able.

Easter Eggs may also have been on the menu had not all shops run out of stock just prior to Easter.



Clockwise around table from closest left:  
Ruth, Marie, Norma, Laurie, John, Joan, Ann,  
Joyce and Wendy.

Unfortunately some had already left before  
the buns were hot.



**Rev. Kevin Kim** was the minister at the Canberra Korean Uniting Church (Reid) for some years and preached for us a number of times.

15/4/2021 Thu. 5:54 pm

Dear Ian, how have you been? It's been a long time since we met in Canberra. My family and I are all good here in Melbourne. (Wesley is now 14, taller than his dad and Angie is 12.5.) How's everybody at CCF? Is Ruth doing well? It's been almost 9 years since we left Canberra, but we still miss our life in the capital. Take care and God bless.

Kevin

Thanks for your update Ian. Since 2017, we've been here at Trinity UCA in Brighton (the affluent suburb famous for the Bathing Boxes). Kay now works as a counsellor (used to be an interpreter/ translator).



## Sunday 25th April - Mr. Mark Warren - The God of all comfort

ANZAC Day is a day when our community remembers and honours the many who strived to protect our values and way of life. It is a day when difficult times and distressing memories can easily come to mind, a day when comfort is appreciated. It is a time when 2 Corinthians 1: 3,4 (Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.) reminds us where our true comfort lies.



Jesus preached and practised taking the load from people. He stands with us in our troubles.

We receive grace, forgiveness and comfort from God and we can give grace, forgiveness and comfort.

Even in the midst of distress of our own we are able to be a comfort to others through a smile, 'thankyou' or some other small way by drawing on what we have received from God.

Whatever happens, we can rely on God and place our hope in Him.

Helplessness can assist finding faith as we recognise all strength is in God, the God to whom we can pray.

ID



Ashley and Daniel have made another fleeting visit to Canberra (for Daniel's graduation) and as they had no time to see anyone, rang to say hello and ask after us all.



Chris and Siew Wong are now in Western Australia and they too have been in contact, passing on Easter greetings and asking after us.



David and Fiona McDonald have written  
"... Wondering how the saints are at the church. Whether you've managed to get preachers now you can meet back together.

We're well  
Love & prayers  
Fiona & David McDonald"



"If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one?"

Abraham Lincoln

The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits."

Albert Einstein

"At every party there are two kinds of people - those who want to go home and those who don't. The trouble is, they are usually married to each other."

Ann Landers

"I don't believe in astrology; I'm a Sagittarius and we're skeptical."

Arthur C. Clarke

"My opinions may have changed, but not the fact that I'm right."

Ashleigh Brilliant

Colouring in Page

**Jesus loves the children.**

Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17



Services over recent weeks have included the following:



**Rev. Paul  
Tabulutu**



**Mrs. Joyce  
Hall**



**Mr. Owen  
Chadwick**



**Mr. Mark  
Warren**

Sunday 4th April – **Rev. Paul Tabulutu** (EASTER) - The message of the Grave Cloth

Sunday 11th April – **Mrs. Joyce Hall** -

Sunday 18th April – **Mr. Owen Chadwick** - The glory of our speaking God

Sunday 25th April – **Mr. Mark Warren** - The God of all comfort

**Coming Services**

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



**Pastor Steve  
Prior**



**Mr. David  
Turner**



**Mr. Roy  
Dallos**



**Rev. Phil  
Anderson**



**Mr. Phillip  
Ng**



**Rev. Dr.  
Campbell  
Egan**



**Mrs. Joyce  
Hall**



**Mr. Etienne  
Pieterse**



**Rev. Bob  
Prior**



**Mr. Revin  
Blanchard**

Sunday 2nd May at 5pm – **Pastor Steve Prior**

Sunday 9th May at 4pm – **Mr. David Turner** (Mission Without Borders)

Sunday 16th May at 4pm – **Mr. Roy Dallos**

Sunday 23rd May at 4pm – **Rev. Phil Anderson**

Sunday 30th May at 4pm – **Mr. Phil Ng**

Sunday 6th June at 4pm – **Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan**

Sunday 13th June at 4pm – **Mrs. Joyce Hall**

Sunday 20th June at 4pm – **Mr. Etienne Pieterse** (Leprosy Mission)

Sunday 27th June at 4pm – **Rev. Bob Prior**

Sunday 4th July at 4pm – **Mr. Revin Blanchard**

**Chaplains**

**Rev. Phil Anderson** - Australian Federal Police chaplaincy

**Mr. Owen Chadwick** - Universities chaplaincy

**Rev. Bob Prior** - Racecourse chaplaincy

**Rev. Paul Tabulutu** - N.S.W. / A.C.T. Fijian churches

Please remember Phil, Owen, Bob, Paul and their work in your prayers.

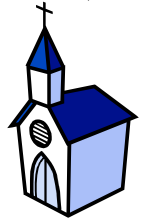


---

## Canberra Aboriginal Church

The church gathers physically at Lyons Church of Christ ONCE A MONTH on the first Sunday at 5PM

Following these services a meal together and time of fellowship takes place at a nearby club. Normal fellowship teas will hopefully resume sometime soon.



On other Sundays church gatherings take place over the internet using ZOOM.

Christine thanks all those who have been praying for her. She has had an operation and is now still waiting to commence dialysis.



Around 90 people attended Koen's christening on the 10th April.

He is a very happy little chap.

Koen is experiencing some kidney problems and has had tests to determine the best treatment. Please pray for him and the treatment he receives.

Give thanks to God for bringing a lady to worship with the church.



---

Please pray for the Aboriginal Church just as they are praying for us.



There is a reliable rumour going around that Sharon recently attended the graduation ceremony that marked the completion of her Nutrition Degree.

CONGRATULATIONS Sharon !!!!!

---

"People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day."

A.A.Milne

