

St. Andrew's Uniting

August 2014

Mission Statement:

**To bring the Gospel of Christ to
The People of the Hawkesbury.**

Pastoral Leaders' Team (PLT)

Rev Je-Kon Oh 4578 3820 (Office, Bus. Hrs.)

After Hours: 0410 596 991 or 4578 3421.

Email: minister@richmonduniting.org.au

Lester Vincent (4575 1507), **Justin Dacey** (4574 1312)

Audrey Morgan (4578 4421) **Beryl Hedges** (4571 2087)

Margaret Bailey (4776 1487) **Sandi Herbert** (4573 1517)

Margaret Wesmore (4578 0179)



Sunday Service Times

8:30am Church

Traditional worship followed by morning tea & fellowship.

10:00am Church

In conjunction with our Kids' Sunday program.

A family celebration including programs from three years old to Secondary Year 9.

Morning tea and fellowship follows.

6:00pm *Sundays@Six;*

In the Auditorium.

Modern worship with singers, drama and band, plus supper to follow.

Our Value to Angels

“What woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?

When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.’

In the same way, I tell you there is joy in the presence of the angels of God, over one sinner who repents.”

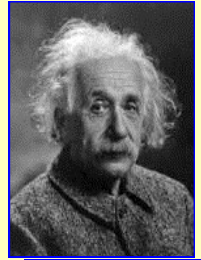
Luke chap. 15 verses 8—10

Adult Fellowship

By Audrey Morgan

YES, we do raise money and we do support the work of our congregation, missions and community organisations but **NO** that is not all we do! You may have read in the yearly report that we have a devotional time taken by various fellowship members.

The last two meetings have been taken by members who have never taken it before and we give thanks to our loving heavenly Father that they have stepped forward in this way. I would like to share with you some thoughts from our July devotions taken by Judith Dennis the title of which was “Blessed are the Generous”.



Albert Einstein

Judith used some quotes from various people – St. Francis of Assisi, Albert Einstein, Joyce Meyer (a well known Christian author) and of course the Bible – and she began by quoting several lines from the Peace Prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi. “Lord make me an instrument of your peace, where there is hatred let me sow love -----For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned. Judith continued with her own thoughts ‘**For it is in giving that we receive**’ – “This is the phrase that caught my attention. I am sure we all know some generous people – they could be the ones who would pay for your coffee or lunch. Perhaps they do not have a lot of money but they say ‘I’ll get it. Let me pay’. They know a little secret: **it is more blessed to give than to receive** and surely this is one of the parenting standard phrases from anyone’s childhood but more importantly they are words in the Bible – God’s word – Acts 20:35 Paul’s instructions to the church at Ephesus were ‘remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive’. God established a system of giving that calls for volunteer co-operation. It is true that He expects us to support His kingdom, BUT God also wants us to do it willingly! There are so many opportunities for giving – we can give of our time, a phone call or a visit, make a cake or a meal for someone who is unwell or struggling to find the time to do that in their busy lives. It does not always have to be financially costly.

Physicist Albert Einstein said “The value of a man resides in what He gives and not in what He is capable of receiving”. Judith continued with her own words – Your value and character are shown in how you give, how you react to adversity, how your attitude is when you have the choice to give or not to give, how you react when someone needs something ----we should genuinely give with a happy heart--“

Joyce Meyer talks about the two seas in Palestine – the Jordan river flows into both the Sea of Galilee which receives and then gives outdrop for drop. The other sea is the Dead Sea, it hoards its water, every drop it receives it keeps’

There are two kinds of people in this world, just as different as these two Palestinian seas.

Like the Sea of Galilee, some give freely, bringing love & joy & hope. Others like the Dead Sea strangle themselves with selfishness & greed.”

Judith finished with the following – We are fortunate indeed that our God is a loving God who gave us the greatest gift of all – His son Jesus Christ. Bringing Joy & hope to all who follow Him. Judith then read the Peace Prayer and prayed –Lord, help me to be a joyful giver. May I offer all that is in me and all that I have to accomplish your work in my world which is your world.

No, we don’t just raise money – we are a group of people who enjoy fellowship with and seek to encourage & support each other in our living for Jesus.

Worship Planner for August 2014

Date	8:30am	10am	6pm	Remarks
3 August	Je-Kon Oh (HC)	Je-Kon Oh	Je-Kon Oh	
10 August	Peter Bentley from ACC	Peter Bentley from ACC	Café Church	
17August	Je-Kon Oh	Je-Kon Oh (HC)	Je-Kon Oh	
24August	Je-Kon Oh	Je-Kon Oh	Je-Kon Oh	
31 August	Rev. Noreen Towers	Rev. Noreen Towers	Je-Kon Oh (HC)	

** Note: This worship plan can be changed at any time.*

Kids’ Sunday Texts

3August:Genesis 32:22-31 (Deepened Relationship)

10August:Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 (Broken Relationships)

17August:Genesis 45:1-15 (Offering Forgiveness)

24August:Exodus 1:8-2:10 (Take Action)

31August:Exodus 3:1-15 (Here I am)

Congregational Meeting

By *Sandi Herbert,*
Chairperson of the Congregation



Sandi Herbert and Irene Milne

Thankyou to the 53 folk who took time out to attend the 2x meetings on the 13th July 2014, it was wonderful to see so many.

The AGM Election of the Office Bearers took more time than we thought, though we had noted the time would be hard to keep to. Je-Kon and Justin both left early for the 10 am Service and we will review this for next year - maybe one meeting one week and then follow the next Sunday.

A big thank you for the many years Irene Milne has served as Secretary for the congregation with joy and we all wish her well. We welcome Margaret Wesmore as Secretary and also Radiance and Ted Potgieter to replace Merrin Mangan as Communion Stewards. Thank you to Merrin for her many years of service as well. Beryl Hedges will be a Lay Representative to Presbytery to alternate with Greg Inskip and Sandi Herbert. The next AGM for Congregational Meeting will be ? July 2014.

The Congregational Meeting started late. There were some concerns regarding the rush and some folk felt they were not given a chance to be informed fully as to what was occurring in the church. I am sorry some felt that way and we will try to address some of those concerns.

Concern was made as to whether we can afford Messy church and possibly Youth Project. If we don't step out in faith to grow our younger families we run the risk of becoming a dying church. Money often follows mission and either are not expensive.

Time is often the problem but we have a small group who are committed to a Messy Church once a term - the last one brought 4 new families, folk who don't generally come to church. The Youth Project report is being processed now and Jerry Crammer will present that soon. Another concern was the wider Uniting Church and I did say there is a problem and while we have been to meetings of the Presbytery, there are folk trying to sort out directions.

Please ask Greg, Je-Kon or myself any questions - however the next meeting is September when 'something' will be presented after the talkfest of the last meeting. Thoughts were gathered and hopefully we will have something to say then after these have been processed, because at the moment there is not much to comment upon. We are the only Uniting Church in the Hawkesbury with a full time minister and we give thanks to our God.

We have a wonderful faith community here at St Andrew's and under Je-Kon's leadership we are doing better than O.K. The Presbytery Consultation Team will present their findings and recommendations on the 3rd August 2014, at 2pm - I hope many of you will come and if any need a lift ,please ask me.

God Bless and pray for God to take us on a new journey to grow and serve His Church.

Sandi, Chairperson of the Congregation.

Time Out For Mums

Last week at TOFMs we had a presentation by Katrine Cassese from LINC'S (Living IN Communities volunteer scheme) It was a most informative morning where Katrine outlined the great work the LINC'S volunteers do in the Hawkesbury. Below is a description of LINC'S taken from their website:



LINC'S is a free early intervention, volunteer home visiting support service for parents/carers/families that live in the Hawkesbury who have at least one family member from 0-12 years of age and require assistance with such things as:

Geographic or Social Isolation

Post Natal Depression or mental illness

Having a child, or being a parent, with a disability

Sole parenting - both female and male

Having limited/no family or friend support

Being a young or first time parent

Having had a multiple birth, e.g. twins

At TOFMS we like to have a variety of events such as DVDs, Guest speakers and craft and we are grateful to Katrine for her valuable presentation to our group.

Kerryn Johnson

August 2014 Church Activities, Services — SeePage 1

Fri	1	10:15	IDA Service	Mon	18	9:30	Playtime
Mon	4	9:30	Playtime	Thu	21	12:00	Seniors' Lunch
Tue	5	7:30	PLT meeting (AGM)	Fri	22	7:00	Youth Group
Thu	7	9:30	Fellowship Meeting	Sat	23		Newsletter Items
Fri	8	7:00	Youth Group	Mon	25	9:30	Playtime
Sat	9	7:30	Blokes Breakfast	Mon	25	9:30	St. Andrew's Singers
Mon	11	9:30	Playtime	Wed	27	9:45	T.O. F.M.S
Wed	13	9:45	T.O.F.M.S	Thu	28	10:00	Fellowship Fashion Pde.
Thu	14	10:00	Seniors' get-together	Fri	29	7:00	Youth Group
Fri	15	7:00	Youth Group				

Advance Notices - Announced on 20 July and still current :

- Special Congregation Meeting: 2pm Sunday 3rd August; the Presbytery Consultations Team will bring its findings and recommendations. All church people are urged to attend and hear firsthand what Presbytery says to our church.
- ACC (Assembly of Confessing Congregations) Visit: The National Director, Peter Bentley, will preach in the morning services on 10th August. After the 10am service (about 11:30am there will be a Q & A session with him. All church people are invited to come and hear about the Uniting Church situation from a different perspective.
- Messy Church Seminar— in the Auditorium at 2pm on Saturday 30th August. Kids' Sunday teachers and those who have interest are invited. Details are on the notice board in the foyer.

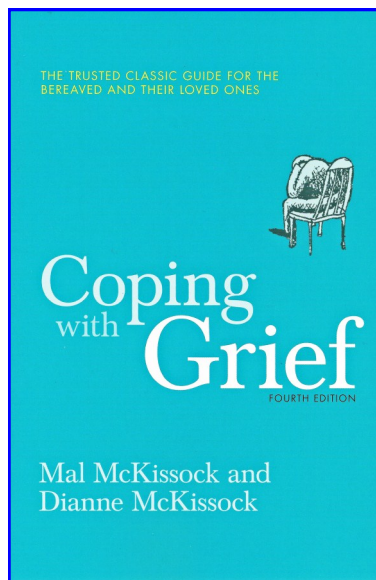
Book Review

This book is in our Church Library.

'COPING WITH GRIEF' is a very accurate description of the advice it offers—advice that is worth reading to allow you to be ready for a time when you need it urgently.

Not only does the advice apply to a time when a loved one has passed away, it is helpful in understanding the grief of a person who is grieving and thus knowing how to sympathise with care.

It is a book loaned frequently from the church and at a bookshop price of about \$15 it is good value.



A Prayer when Grieving

Lord, sometimes it's hard to look at tomorrow, and I just don't know how I will get through the day without my loved one in my life. Lord, I just ask for you to be here for me. I pray for you to give me strength to take another step. I need you to help me cope with the loneliness and to move forward in my life. I know I will never stop missing my loved one, but please, Lord, help make each day a little easier and continue to provide me with hope for tomorrow. Thank you, Lord for always being here for me.

In Your Name, I pray. Amen.

Blokes Breakfast

9th August 2014, 7.30am

Guest Speaker, **Peter Miller**

Presents:

The History of the iconic Hercules C—130

+

**Our Fantastic Breakfast of
Sausages, Eggs, Bacon, Cereals' etc.**

(As usual, to assist with catering, please add your name to the list of persons intending to attend) cost, \$5. Will be enjoyed by all.)



A Visit from Peter Bentley

By Lester Vincent

On Sunday, 10th August, we will be privileged to have Peter Bentley as guest preacher at both the 8.30am and 10.00am services. In addition, Peter will be available after the services for a question and answer session, and will be joining us for a light lunch in the Auditorium.



Peter Bentley

Peter is the National Director of ACC, which is the short name for the Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church of Australia (UCA). He is also a regular contributor to “ACCatalyst”, the quarterly magazine for ACC. St Andrews is a financial member of ACC, and has adopted ACC’s principles as its core values. Several of us are individual members of ACC as well. Bruce Fairhall is now its National Treasurer, and before that he was the National Secretary of ACC.

It is a critical time to give our support to ACC, as it upholds the Divinity and teachings of Christ, and takes a strong stand against current attempts within UCA to water down the basic tenets of the Gospel Story under the guise of greater tolerance of diversity of views on such matters. It is quite clear that if a strong stand is not taken in support of matters such as upholding Marriage as between a man and a woman, some UCA congregations will go elsewhere to worship the Lord. ACC has produced a beautiful DVD with the title, “Marriage – the Profound Mystery”, and this has been added to St Andrews’ Library.

I do hope that you will come and hear Peter Bentley on Sunday, 10th August.

If you’d like to know more about ACC, you could take and read a copy of “ACCatalyst” (copies are available in the Foyer), or visit www.confessingcongregations.com

Lester Vincent (ACC member) 0416 081 260

The “Thank You” Page — **THANK YOU ! ! ! ! !**

- Thank you. Rev. Je-Kon Oh and your family — our leading Christian Family; ogroups, committees and individuals work well under your leadership.
- To those who have special responsibilities in various ministries.,committees, organising activities, preaching, teaching, financial affairs, church grounds, all rosters, Thank you.
- Music—playing organ, piano and other instruments, singing. Small groups, youth activities, blokes’ and ladies’ breakfasts, emergency food supplies, adult fellowship, church library, Flowers, Playtime, Time off for mothers and Seniors’ Lunch, Thank you.
- And the workers who go into action as necessary - setting up the auditorium before a function and replacing after a function, those who work in the kitchen and other places without being asked, Thank you
- Pastoral work, visiting, listening and offering asked-for advice, praying for and with persons who suffer a worrying problem, writing letters of thanks and encouragement. Thank you.
- There must be others who deserve to be thanked. But this can never be a complete list.As this list is in our newsletter, those who contribute the articles for the newsletter should be thanked here. The newsletter could not exist without the regular supply of articles, So please remember that your work is recognised and essential. The large list of articles for the World War One booklet allowed the booklet to be a big success and re-prints were required.

Is the Pay Good ?

**No pay in \$\$\$,
But the Dividends are
Out of this World !**



And of course we work and spend our time doing the things we like best!!

A 'Mackerel Sky' over Sydney, Monday 28th July 2014



PSALM 19

The heavens are telling of the Glory of God and their expanse is declaring the work of his hands. Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard.

Their sound has gone out through all the earth

And their words to the ends of the world .

Photography by Lucille Tobin
(Granddaughter of Cicely and John)

WHAT'S HAPPENING DURING THE WEEK



SUNDAYS

- Paddlers** – Age 3 to Kinder 9:45 -11:00am (Sandra House 4578 2064)
Tweenies – Years 1 to 5 9:45 -11.00am (Robyn Duignan 4577 8732)
GWU – Junior High Youth Years 7 to 9 9:45 -11.00am (Robin Duignan 4577 8732)

MONDAYS

- Playtime – 9:30 - 11:30am – Parents and preschoolers (Sarah Jones 4577 5353)
Andy's Hands-on-Help 9:00 - 1 pm , Maintenance & Fellowship. (Bob Thuaux 4578 2309)

TUESDAYS

- Church Council** – 7:30pm 1st Tuesday odd number month. Greg Inskip (4573 1002)
Pastoral Leaders Team – 7:30pm 1st Tuesday even number month. (Je-Kon Oh)

WEDNESDAYS

- Time Out For Mums.**– 9:45 -11:15am Fortnightly in school terms
for Mums and preschoolers. (Sandra Brown 4576 6689)

THURSDAYS

- 1st Thursday: Adult Fellowship 9:30am** (Irene Milne 4578 1482)
2nd & 3rd Thursday: Seniors All Together 10:00am – 12 noon (Crafts)
4th Thursday: Seniors' Lunch 12 noon – 1:45pm
Senior's Bible Study – 12 noon -1:30pm (except 4th Thursday)
For information on Thursday seniors' activities contact Sandi Herbert (4573 1517)

FRIDAYS

SMALL/HOME GROUPS are a valuable and integral part of St Andrew's ministry.

We encourage all members to join a group. For further information please speak to our Minister Rev. Je-Kon Oh - Phone 4578 3421 (Home)

CHURCH OFFICE

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Centre Manager: Derek Scott: 4578 6015

*Please send the editor your news
and views and other articles for the
newsletter.*

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Ph. 4567 1301*

St. Andrew's Uniting Church

25 West Market Street, Richmond, NSW

A congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia.

St. Andrew's is a member of the Assembly of Confessing Congregations.

