

June 2016



Cherry Church

An Active Witness to Jesus Christ in Cherry Gardens

Newsletter

Welcome to the June 2016 edition of our Monthly Newsletter. It is our prayer that this publication will provide news of the Cherry Church along with information about the many activities and events in the life of the small but vibrant congregation of the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church.

This Church has been a place of constant Christian worship and witness since the first service took place back in March 1849. As current members of the congregation we are committed to maintaining a place of worship and an outreach within the local Cherry Gardens community.

From the Pastor:

In Psalm 133 we read: "*How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!.... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life for evermore.*"

For me, these verses embody the spirit of co-operation which has enabled the construction of our new building and the refurbishment of the Heritage Room.

From the beginning of this project, there has been a wonderful sense of working together among all those involved: paid and volunteer contractors and workers, large groups and individuals who have donated their time, money and practical gifts in so many ways.

The whole project has been (and still is), underpinned by prayer; and we give thanks and praise to God for His goodness and faithfulness to His people at Cherry Church and in the local community.

**With God's richest blessings,
Margaret**

Let Us Pray: We continue to pray for those in our congregation including Alan & Prim, Ralph, Alex, Lynette - and others we may know personally - who are facing health challenges. We pray they will know your promise to be with them in their time of trial. Lord, we are often weak when struggles confront us and sometimes forget that your love is constant, everlasting and ever present.

Especially as Australia heads towards a Federal Election, we pray for those who lead - or aspire to lead - our Country, state and community. Help them know your love as they undertake their responsibilities as leaders of our society. Give them your guidance and understanding.

In Your name Lord Jesus, we join together this month to celebrate the opening of the new and improved facilities to your church here at Cherry Gardens. We give thanks to you Lord, for the provision of time, money, inspiration and the prayers that you have made available by your grace through others. We are thankful that you have chosen us to follow those who since 1849 have worshipped in this place and have witnessed to others the wonder of Your love. We pray that you will continue to give us the inspiration, guidance and strength to do your will here in this place.

CHERRY GARDENS UNITING CHURCH - 87 HICKS HILL RD. CHERRY GARDENS

Postal Address: Cherry Gardens UCA, PO Box 488 BLACKWOOD SA 5051

Visit us at : www.cherrygardens.unitingchurchsa.org.au



The New Meeting Room

A Project Committee Update by Alan Dubé

Memorial Wall

Recent work continued on the construction of our Memorial Wall alongside the church. Without the dedication of Ron (Williamson) and his band of happy, willing workers we would not be able to achieve this quite significant task.

Our sincere thanks to Grant Williamson (left) (Ron & Phyllis' son) and Alistair Crooks who once again have recently given so generously of their time and expertise.



An Update from Di Dyson on behalf of the Organising Committee responsible for the Opening & Dedication of the Meeting Hall & Heritage Room

Organising Committee: Marg Seyfang, Alan Dube, Darryl and Di Dyson

The Guest List comprises

- 5 Uniting Church Ministers who support this Congregation
- Many of our visiting lay preachers
- All of our congregation with personal invitations sent to some who have had a high level of involvement in design and build
- Representatives from the Pioneer families
- Representatives from the Garden Club
- The Mayor and Councillor Darryl Parslow from The Onkaparinga Council
- Member for Fisher Ms Nat Cook
- Recent former members of our congregation
- Previous pastors of our church
- Musicians
- Representatives from the local churches

A Time for Reflection.

From the Scriptures

"Am I now seeking human approval, or God's approval? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of Christ." *Galatians 1:10*

For reflection...

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centred; **F**orgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; **B**e kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; **S**ucceed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; **B**e honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; **B**uild anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous; **B**e happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; **D**o good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; **G**ive the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; **I**t was never between you and them anyway.

Text found in Mother Teresa's home for children in Calcutta, India and often attributed to her. The original was written by Kent M. Keith in 1968 in a book published by Harvard Student Agencies.

About That Hymn

What A Friend We Have In Jesus



*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our Refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.*

Many hymns or "Songs of Praise" can be used to teach scripture, and I'm sure this one would fall into that category. It is based on Philippians 4, verses 6-7, "The peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Behind the words of this favourite song is the faith of a Christian who experienced not one but a series of life-changing personal tragedies. In 1845 when Joseph Scriven was 25 years of age his fiancée accidentally drowned in a lake the day before their planned wedding. This was the first of many misfortunes that led him to consecrate his life and property to Christ's service. He was so distressed that he decided to emigrate to escape his painful memories from his homeland in Ireland to Canada where he worked as a teacher.

Some 10 years later in 1855, his mother was experiencing a crisis in her own life. And, because Joseph could not go back home to Ireland to be with her, he wrote a poem called "What a friend we have in Jesus" and sent it to her in Ireland. A few years later Joseph experienced further tragedy when the girl he was about to marry in Canada contracted TB and died. He dedicated his life to his ministry - doing charity work and preaching.

Many years later, when Scriven himself was gravely ill, a friend who was sitting with him at his bedside read a poem from a manuscript. It was the poem that Joseph had written especially for his mother to comfort her in her time of need had written to his mother. Apparently his mother had passed the poem on to a friend, who published it without acknowledging the author.

So the origin and author of "What a friend we have in Jesus" was at last revealed.

Scriven said of the poem, that quickly became a well-loved hymn, "The Lord and I did it between us".

A remarkable man, who himself was faced with such adversity, has given so much support, care and understanding to so many through the simple words of his faith.

Contribution by Annetta DeBoo

CHERRY GARDENS UNITING CHURCH - AGM - SUNDAY 26th JUNE 2016

Please provide nominations for positions and notice of any general business items
to the Secretary, Dianne Dyson, prior to the meeting.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Sunday 5th June

We welcome back **John Howland** to lead our worship and share Holy Communion together.

Sunday 12th June

Our Pastor **Margaret Seyfang** will lead our worship.

Sunday 19th June

Uniting Church SA Moderator, **Dr Deidre Palmer** (a descendant of the Middleton family) will lead our worship and afterwards officially open our new building and also the Heritage Room. We welcome numerous VIPs and invited guests. A light lunch will be provided.

Sunday 19th June - Ironbank Faith Community

After a 6pm shared meal in the hall, **John Octoman** will speak at the 7pm service.

Sunday 26th June

Our own **Max Winter**, will share his faith and understanding as he leads us in worship. After our service, we will stay for the congregation's **Annual General Meeting** when reports will be presented and elections held. A shared brunch will follow.

THANK YOU

Prim & Alan Dubé wish to thank all those who offered their congratulations & best wishes on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary in May.



A **VERY BIG THANK YOU** to the members of the congregation, the garden club, and others, who came to help out at our recent Working Bee. A significant number of important jobs were completed which has resulted in the building and grounds looking in great shape.

We need to keep our buildings and grounds in a good, safe and pleasant condition and this requires a considerable ongoing effort. Indeed, we are so grateful for the many hours of work that happen in and around our church; and for the planning and presentation of our church services and special events. Often these things are done quietly and without anyone knowing. So thank you to all those who are able to help out in this way.



A Sunday School teacher decided to have her class of 7-year old children memorize Psalm 23, one of the most quoted passages in the Bible. She gave the children a month to learn the chapter.

One little boy was excited about the task, but he just couldn't memorize the Psalm. Although he practiced and practiced, he could hardly get past the first line. The day came for the children to recite Psalm 23 before the congregation. The little boy was nervous. When his turn came, he stepped up to the microphone and proudly said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I need to know!"

Contact Details

Pastor:

Margaret Seyfang,
Ph: 0404 008 372

Chairperson of Congregational Council:

Alan Dubé,
Ph: 8270 3264

Church Secretary:

Dianne Dyson,
Ph: 8278 6585

Items for the Newsletter to Trevor Fletcher at : tandlfletcher@bigpond.com