

November 2016



# Cherry Church

An Active Witness to Jesus Christ in Cherry Gardens

# Newsletter

Welcome to the November 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:

At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns on the Western Front fell silent. This day became known as Armistice Day, and two minute's silence was instituted to remember those who had given their lives in the bloody conflict that was World War 1. After World War 2, the Australian and British Governments changed the name of the day to Remembrance Day as a more appropriate title to commemorate all those who died or suffered in war.

John McCrae was a Canadian doctor and teacher who started writing poetry at an early age. "In Flanders Fields", his second last poem, was composed at the battlefield on May 3rd 1915, during the second battle of Ypres, in a region called Flanders. There were actually poppies growing in the fields among the unmarked graves of the war dead. The poem was written following the death of a friend and former student of McCrae's, and is said to have vividly portrayed the scene before McCrae as he wrote.

## **LEST WE FORGET.**

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

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

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

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Visit us at : [www.cherrygardens.unitingchurchsa.org.au](http://www.cherrygardens.unitingchurchsa.org.au)



# Around our church & grounds

Apart from being a wonderful place for worship our church buildings and grounds are a place of local heritage. It takes many hours of loving care and attention to maintain the property that has been nurtured by previous generations but ultimately provided by God. Those of us currently at 'Cherry' give praise to God for his provision here over the 167+ years the church has been continuously open for worship. We give thanks to God for all those past, present and in the future who have or will maintain the property so it can continue to be a "Light" for all to see. With God's help - through many volunteers and supporters - the current congregation has been able to "grow" the facilities to include a modern, well equipped meeting room which is suitable for congregational, community and visitor use. We believe the use of our facilities is an important way God calls us to reach out to our community and beyond.

Thank you God for providing volunteers.



## *Some of God's people at work*



Photos courtesy of Cherry Gardens Uniting Church website & Facebook page

**THANK  
YOU**

The *Every Generation Onkaparinga* concert at the Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall on Sunday afternoon 30th October was a great success with about 60 people in attendance. Although the weather was cold and windy outside the appreciative audience enjoyed the music provided by the Cornish Association of SA Choir which was ably supported by local guest artist Rebekah Nelson. Thanks to all those who helped with the organising and afternoon tea.

## A Time for Prayer

### Let Us Pray:

Gracious and ever-present Lord, we bring before you those members of our congregation who are facing health and other challenges at this moment in their lives. We especially bring to you at this time our thoughts and prayers for the Chairman of our congregation, Alan Dubé as he recovers from time in hospital. We pray for healing, comfort and guidance for the Alan, Prim and the Dubé family.

We pray not only for members of our church family here at Cherry Gardens but also for those who we know personally that are uncertain about the future. We pray that they may know of your ever present love surrounding them in all that they do - and especially in their special time of need.

Lord, as we move toward the Christmas season, help us to remember that it is not the commercial 'trappings' of Christmas - such as bon-bons, Christmas trees, Santa Claus, tinsel and presents that should be foremost in our minds, but the celebration and joy of your gift to the world - a baby born humbly in a stable. Help us to be wise - like the wise men who gave you gifts; enthusiastic - like the shepherds who left their work (in the fields) to worship you; and like the angels - who sang praises and glorified your Holy name. Remind us, Lord, that you call us to tell the world about your special gift born for each and every person on earth.

We pray that you will continue to give us the people of the Cherry Gardens Uniting Church the inspiration, guidance and strength to do your will here in this place - and beyond.

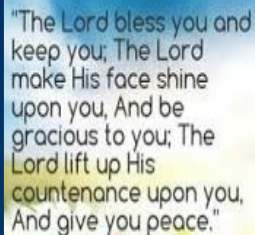
# About That Hymn

## The Lord Bless You and Keep You

**The Lord bless you and keep you.**

**The Lord lift his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.**

**The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you. Amen.**



"The Lord bless you and  
keep you; The Lord  
make His face shine  
upon you, And be  
gracious to you; The  
Lord lift up His  
countenance upon you,  
And give you peace."

-Numbers 6:24-26

Until recently the Dead Sea scrolls were the oldest copies of Biblical text. In 1979 Professor Judith Hadley was working with archaeologist Gabriel Barkay on a site in Jerusalem's Hinnom Valley and found some objects that looked like the metal cap of a pencil. They were tiny silver scrolls of great antiquity that dated back to the Hebrew monarchy, seven centuries before Christ. They were so small and fragile that it took several years to painstakingly clean and open them. When they were finally opened and unrolled, the world's oldest extant copy of a Biblical text was revealed, the words were Numbers 6:24-26. "*The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and give you peace*".

These words are from 1,400 years before Christ. They were given by God to the Israelites when he commanded the priests to bless them with this three-fold blessing when they were wandering in the wilderness.

These ancient lyrics have often been set to music, but many regard the music written in 1900 by Peter Christian Lutkin with his beautiful tune "Benediction" as one of the most loved. It was written during the Fanny Crosby /Ira Sankey time when so much easy Gospel music was written for congregations to sing.

Lutkin was born in Wisconsin in 1888, and loved Christian music and devoted his life to it, studying the masters in Europe. He became a widely respected organist and was instrumental in starting the American Guild of Organists. He was a well respected music educator and is recognised for starting the 'a cappella' style of choral singing in America. Lutkin died in 1931.

*Contribution by Annetta DeBoo*

**Remember this: God created you as a unique and wonderful person. A one-off gift to the world. Being so special, do you think he would give up on you? No. He cares for you today and everyday. He is always with you.**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Our own Pastor **Margaret Seyfang** will lead our worship service and we will share Holy Communion together.

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November

We welcome **John Howland**, back to lead us in our worship. John comes to us from the Coromandel Valley Uniting Church and has over 40 years experience as a lay-preacher. After the service we will share together in a barbecue at the church.

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November

**Max Winter** shares his faith and insight in our worship.

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November - Ironbank Faith Community

We share a meal at 6pm and afterwards, **Dr Neil McIntosh** will speak at the 7pm service.

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November

Fresh from his recent tour of Israel, **Geoff Russell**, a member of the Coromandel Valley Baptist Church, will lead our worship.

## *Upcoming Important Dates to Put in Your Diary*

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December** - Cherry Gardens Community Association Christmas BBQ at the Recreation Ground, Cherry Gardens, 4pm.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** - The Cherry Gardens Uniting Church will again organise and host the **Cherry Gardens Community Christmas Carols** at the Memorial Hall. Old McDonald farm animals at 6.30pm, carols commence 7.30pm.

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

### The Birthday of the King

A teacher asked the children in her Sunday School class, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?"

"NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the church lawns, and kept everything around the church neat and tidy, would I get into heaven?"

Again, the answer was "NO!"

"Well," she continued, "then how can I get to heaven?"

In the back of the room, a five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"



## *Contact Details*

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