

PASTOR'S REPORT TO CHERRY GARDENS UNITING CHURCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 28th June 2015

It is my privilege to present this report, which covers the period March to June 2015, to the Annual General Meeting.

The last four months have been an exciting time at Cherry Gardens Uniting Church as we have journeyed together as God's people.

Along the way, there have been challenges and joys, and we have shared together in the preaching of God's Word and the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. We have reached out in love to the local community, both to individual members in times of need, and collectively, as we observed the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing on Anzac Day.

We have also ministered to those within our congregation in a variety of ways in which I believe we have seen God's hand at work, and people's needs met.

It has been inspiring to hear from the number of different people who have brought God's Word to us each Sunday, and I give thanks to God for those people who are so willing to share with us.

In a small Church such as Cherry, everyone has a part to play in the life of the Church, and again I give thanks to God for all those who are so willing to help in a large number of ways, in both "up-front" and "behind the scenes" roles, all of which are equally important.

An important part of any Church's role is mission and outreach and at Cherry we seek to do this by participation in the life of some of the small churches near us, by involvement in community events, by opening our church building for use by others, eg the Vines Uniting Church, by contributing to disaster relief funds, and by our contribution to the life and outreach of the wider Church through the Mission and Service Fund. All of these things help us as we seek to obey Jesus' command in Matthew 28, vs 18-20 (The Great Commission).

I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him at Cherry Gardens Church and in the wider community, and I am grateful for the love and support shown to myself and Lyle over the last four months. I pray that, as God's people at Cherry, we would be conscious of His love and mercy as we seek to do His will and continue to serve and obey Him.

Margaret Seyfang

