

May 2016



Cherry Church

An Active Witness to Jesus Christ in Cherry Gardens

Newsletter

Welcome to the May 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:

May is the month when we traditionally celebrate Mother's Day, remembering special people in our lives. It is also important to acknowledge that for some people, this day may hold memories that are not always happy ones.

Unfortunately, as with other special days of remembering, the commercialism surrounding Mother's Day often masks one of the significant aspects of such days: our relationships with others.

Relationships, whether between family members, friends, work colleagues or casual acquaintances, need to be worked on continuously in order to succeed and become fruitful, a source of joy and delight. The same applies to our relationship with God.

However, because of human frailty, relationships sometimes fracture and sever, to the point where nothing we do can save them.

Many years ago, my piano teacher wrote these words in my autograph book: "The loss of gold is much, the loss of time is more; The loss of God is such that no man can restore."

While it is true that we cannot always restore our relationships with others, God is always there to help us as we try, and also to restore our relationship with Him if that has suffered.

May God bless your memories this Mother's Day.

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



Let Us Pray: We continue to pray for the health of Alan & Prim, Ralph, Alex, Lynette and the others from our congregation who continue to face health challenges. We pray that you will show them the strength that only you can provide. We know Lord, that throughout our lives we face many challenges. We pray you will give us the confidence and peace of mind to face every new challenge in the assurance that your love is constant, everlasting and ever present. We pray for those people around the world (including our own area) who are homeless. Teach us how to give love and compassion to those who need us the most. Show us how to extend ourselves beyond our comfort zone so that we can reach out to your people in their time of need.

We pray for your church here in this place - give us the guidance and strength to do your will.

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

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



The New Meeting Room

A Project Committee Update by Alan Dubé

Vestry/History/Heritage Room

Painting of the Vestry/History/Heritage Room will soon be complete. Most of the furniture has been purchased and will be installed after the painting is finished. We are always pleased to have donations of memorabilia to add to our collection. Our thanks to the painter, Rob Bain.



Do you know the history of why Chrysanthemums on Mother's Day?

In Australia, you will see Mother's Day chrysanthemums everywhere for sale. But this is not the norm in other parts of the world. It is said the Australian tradition of giving flowers to mothers on Mother's Day was started by Sydney resident Mrs Janet Heyden in 1924 when she took flowers with her to visit a patient she knew at the Newington State Home for Women. While there she met many lonely and forgotten mothers and saw how the flowers cheered them up. So she gathered support from members of her local community and with the help of the local school children she organised to take flowers to all the women. As to why Chrysanthemums? Well, it's most likely the tradition of giving these particular flowers began as a marketing gimmick, because of how the word chrysanthemum ends in the Australian spelling of the affectionate shortening of the name mother to 'mum'.

Some Jobs to be done around our Church Property.

We need to keep our buildings and grounds in a good, safe and pleasant condition. So we have planned a working bee at the church on Saturday 14th May; there is a job for everyone! A list is on the table in the meeting room - please add your name alongside a job you are able to do. And please don't forget a small plate of morning tea to share! So come along, enjoy the fellowship and do some of these "must be done" jobs.



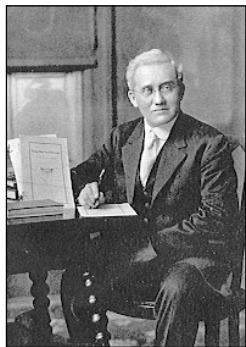
REMEMBER TO PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY 14th MAY 2016

From 9:00am onwards

About That Hymn

The Love of God



The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell.
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His son to win;
His erring child He reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

Refrain:

*O love of God, how rich and pure, How measureless and strong!
It shall for evermore endure – the saints and angels song.*

When hoary time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race - the saint's and angel's song.

This is one of the songs which Billy Graham brought to our notice. The words express feelings with which we can identify. We think, "yes, yes, I agree with you who wrote it. I love God just the same as you, and I want to sing the words with you!"

This hymn, based on Psalm 100 vs1 "*Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD for He is good! For His mercy endures forever*", was written by a German-born Christian, named Frederick M. Lehman. Born in 1868, Frederick and his family immigrated to America when he was aged 4 and settled in Iowa. He was converted to Christ at age 11 while walking through an apple orchard. Growing up to become a successful businessman, he continued to develop his great love for gospel music.

In 1917, his finances ran out and he found himself working in a local packing factory, moving 30 tons of lemons and oranges daily. One morning as he arrived at work, a song was forming in his mind. He had been thinking of the limitlessness of God's love. During a work break he wrote the words of the first two verses. When he got home that night, sitting at his old piano he put notes to the words. But he needed the words for a third verse. He thought of words he had recently heard in a sermon – "*Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made*". They were perfect, but who wrote them? He discovered that the words had been written on the wall of an insane asylum by an inmate. Further research revealed that the words were written by an 11th century Jewish poet named Meir Ben Isaac Hehoras.

These are the words which became his third verse—

*Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the skies of parchment made;
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.*

Frederick eventually entered the ministry and was a pastor at churches in the Midwest of USA, but his greatest love was gospel music. During his life he compiled five song books and published hundreds of songs - one of which was the "The Royal Telephone". Frederick Lehman died in California in 1953.

Contribution by Annetta DeBoo

CONGRATULATIONS - HIP HIP HOORAY !!

We heard a whisper to say that Prim & Alan Dubé will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 24th May. Congratulations. Well done.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

Sunday 1st May

Our own pastor **Margaret Seyfang** will lead our worship and will be preaching on "God's Promises". We will share Holy Communion together.

Sunday 8th May - MOTHER'S DAY

We welcome **Geoff Russell** a lay-preacher from Coromandel Baptist Church to lead us in worship today. Geoff has an Associate Degree in Theology (Bible College of South Australia) and various other degrees and qualifications in engineering; he lectures at Flinders University.

Saturday 14th May

Join us for our Spring - oops Autumn! - clean up and working bee. See inside for more details.

Sunday 15th May

Rev Cheryl Wilson, a qualified GP and now Uniting Church chaplain joins us again to lead us in worship. We thank her for her ongoing support and mentoring of our Pastor Margaret.

Sunday 15th April - Ironbank Faith Community

After a 6pm shared meal in the hall, some of the **Meadows Youth** will share their faith stories at the 7pm service.

Sunday 22nd May

Annetta Deboo of our own congregation will lead our worship. Her theme is "A Bird's Eye View of Mark". We look forward to Annetta sharing her faith & understanding of the Gospel with us.

Sunday 29th May

We welcome back lay-preacher **Malcolm Uren** from Seeds Church, to lead our worship.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD - PUT THESE IN YOUR DIARY

Sunday 19th June. Uniting Church SA Moderator, **Dr Deidre Palmer** (a descendant of the Middleton family) will preach and officially open our new building and also the Heritage Room. A light lunch will be provided. A small committee has been working behind the scenes to plan this event, and invitations have been issued.

Sunday 26th June. The **Cherry Church AGM** will be held. Followed by a shared brunch.



The Lone Ranger and Tonto were camping in the desert. After they got into their tent together, both men fell sound asleep.

Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says, "Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?" The Lone Ranger replies, "I see millions of stars."

"What that tell you?" asked Tonto. The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, "Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically speaking, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically speaking, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and

insignificant. And, Meteorologically speaking, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, Tonto?" asks the Lone Ranger.

"You dumber than a buffalo, Kemo Sabe. It means someone stole our tent!"

Contact Details

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