

Are these dates in your diary?

Sunday 1st November

Rev. David Houston was due to lead us in worship this morning, however an unexpected family commitment has meant he is unable to be with us. We thank Annetta for filling in for David at short notice and Margaret will serve Holy Communion. We will farewell Joan Button with a shared luncheon.

Sunday 8th November

We welcome Scott and Rachel Litchfield back to Cherry Gardens as they take our service that day. They will talk about their mission-work and, as usual, their message will be inspiring. Their visit shouldn't be missed. After the service we will share lunch together - so don't forget to bring a plate.

Friday 18th December

The annual Cherry Gardens Community Carols night. Our church hosts this major outreach event which continues to be well attended by locals, their families, friends and visitors alike. What a great opportunity to celebrate the Birth of Jesus with our community.

Held at the Memorial Hall, the children can come along at 6.30 pm to pat and hold the animals from "Old Mac Donald's small animal farm". Then at 7.30pm we step up the pace when we sing some of our favourite carols together. Headlining this year's Carols are the highly acclaimed Country and Gospel group "*The Sherrahs*". This local group continue to receive rave reviews here and interstate; and we are indeed very fortunate they will be joining us on this special night. Annual crowd favourites, the Cherry Gardens Men's Poetry group, will perform along with members of our church. City of Onkaparinga Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg will give a Christmas greeting along with Margaret, our own Pastor. Everyone looks forward to this free, family fun night - which includes our famous country-style supper. So share this special community event with family, friends & neighbours to make this year's Carols another great night to remember. Don't miss it it's going to be fun! BUT please don't forget we need your help to make sure it all goes to plan.

November 2015



Cherry Church

An Active Witness to Jesus Christ in Cherry Gardens

Newsletter

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our new 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 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:

Recently I have had the privilege of being involved in two significant gatherings of different communities.

The first was the Hills Family Fair at the local recreation ground, where over 400 people gathered to spend time in various activities, meet new and old friends, and learn more about their community and its history.

The second was the baptism of our grand-daughter, Maddison at Cherry Church - slightly less numbers (40!), but again a wonderful time of family and friends gathering for a special occasion. For some, it was their first visit to the church and there was great interest in the history of the church and churchyard.

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.*" Gathering with others strengthens our ties with the community and blesses us and those with whom we have contact.

This is one of the meanings of "community" - social interaction with others. Before the end of the year, there are two opportunities to engage in community events - the Cherry Chatter Christmas BBQ at the recreation ground on Sunday December 6th at 4pm, and the annual Community Carols at the Memorial Hall on Friday 18th December [see the details on the back page]. I encourage you all to engage in "community" whenever you can; many of us will have varying opportunities in the time leading up to Christmas with friends and family where we can show God's love for us all.

Blessings, Margaret

Please pray for: Jim Richardson who has had a slight stroke and is currently in rehabilitation; Bill Bennett is not well and Margaret recovers from her second knee operation; Jim Ward recovers from cataract surgery; Michael Wilson who is home recovering from surgery and the complications from it - and now has a 6 to 8 week recovery before being able to work.

We pray that these people, their families and any others that are known to us, have an acute sense of God's ever-present love in their lives.

A boss asked one of his employees, "Do you believe in life after death?"

"Yes Sir" replied the new employee.

"I thought you would." Said the boss. "Yesterday, after you said you were leaving early to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"

Contact Details

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

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

Floor Covering

The Project Committee has finished reviewing various options for the floor covering and has researched three alternative coverings - ceramic tiles, broad loom carpet and carpet tiles. For a range of reasons including price, longevity, sound absorption and durability we have chosen carpet tiles. The carpet tiles we have chosen are stain resistant, low fire risk, solution dyed (that is the colour does not wear off) and can be taken up, switched around, cleaned and replaced by spare tiles. They are made to resist impact wear such from castors etc and are guaranteed for 15 years against wear. The tiles are Eco modular and made in SA of recycled plastic bottles and are recyclable when worn out as well! Following our "buy local" philosophy we will purchase them from Choices Flooring, Blackwood.

We plan to install the same tiles in the Vestry/History Room and therefore will need urgent help to move items out of that room when the carpet layer is ready to lay the carpet tiles. Measurements have been taken and the final quote will be in soon.

Retaining Wall

The "Williamson Team" (comprising Ron & Phyllis, and their son Grant, and Lyle Seyfang) recently poured the next section in the retaining wall. Thanks team.

DON'T FORGET THIS
PUT IT IN YOUR DIARY
BRING YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Community Christmas Carols
Cherry Gardens Memorial Hall
7:30pm Friday Dec 18th 2015
Everybody Welcome

At 6:30pm the animals from Old McDonald's Farm will be waiting for the children.
Join your neighbours to sing carols and have supper together.
Children are invited to dress up as angels, shepherds, etc to join in as part of the nativity tableau during the evening.

A Cherry Gardens Uniting Church Community Event
CHERRY GARDENS UNITING CHURCH
HICKS HILL RD. CHERRY GARDENS
ONKERRING

See the back page
for more information

About That Hymn



Beneath the Cross of Jesus

*Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat,
and the burden of the day.*

The words for this wonderful old hymn were written by Elizabeth Cecilia Douglas Clephane, a frail, Scottish Presbyterian woman who was born in 1830 in Edinburgh, Scotland. She wrote this beautiful hymn in 1868, when she was 38 and just a year before she died. One of just a few women hymn writers of Scotland, she grew up in Melrose, near Abbotsford. The youngest of three sisters her father was a county sheriff and her mother was a descendent of the famous Douglas family. Elizabeth suffered from poor health most of her life and was known as the delicate, retiring member of the family, but that didn't keep her from serving others. Within the failing limits of her own strength and health, she served the poor and sick of her community, and gave to charity all that she did not actually require for her daily needs. She regularly helped the poor and those with disabilities, even selling a horse and carriage to give more money. Despite her physical frailties, Elizabeth was well loved and known throughout her community for her helpful, cheery nature and selfless spirit. Her constant and unreserved love and care for others earned her the nickname, "The Little Sunbeam."

Elizabeth did not live to see her hymns (and poetry), which include "The Ninety and Nine" published, as this only happened about 3 years after her death.

Her life though, despite her poor health, was a life dedicated to giving and caring for others who were poor or with disability. She was a wonderful example of witness and puts a whole new meaning to the words of the old Sunday School song "Jesus Wants Me For a Sunbeam".

Just for the Record! It was 50 years ago Prim Dube created history! She was the second woman in South Australia to graduate with a degree in Agricultural Science. Well done and congratulations, Prim.

Did you know ?? As of Sunday 1st November there are **less** than 8 weeks to Christmas Day!!

Some Jobs to be done around our Church Property.

We need to keep our buildings and grounds in a good, safe and pleasant condition. Are you up for a working Bee or can you do a job in your own time? My list of jobs to be done are listed below. You may have others.

- . Weeding in and around the Donnell grave.
- . Cut low branches off the Cotoneasters.
- . Cut growth of olive behind the old toilet and paint stumps with Glyphosate.
- . Stones on the paving below the deck to be placed under the deck.
- . Paving in that area to be repaired.
- . Clean out the barn.
- . Clean leaf litter from gutters.
- . Remove soil touching the base of the fence of the Jacob's grave.
- . Chairs to be put in the loft.
- . Paint the out-door setting.
- . Unclutter the history room.
- . Finish the retaining wall and install the new gate.

by Alan Dubé

Give Thanks

Thanks also to all those who quietly do the often unseen jobs around our church. Whether its cleaning, preparing morning tea, taking part in worship or gardening - these are all important jobs. You are all very much appreciated.

Have you checked when you are on the roster?