

THE LINK

***The Year Book of St Luke's Anglican Church, Modbury
December 2022***



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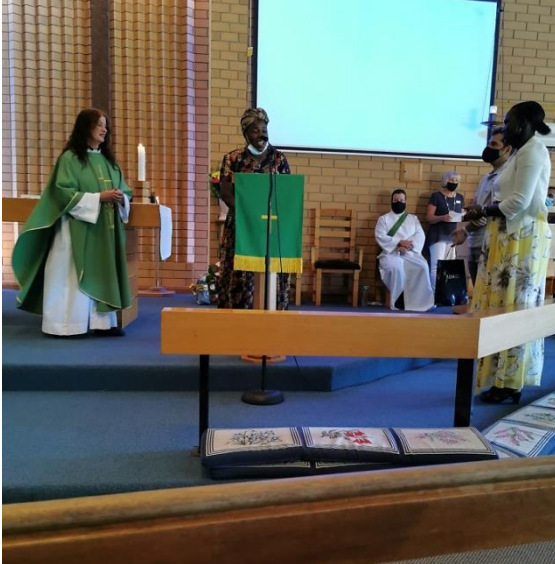
Our Vision: St Luke's will be an open community of faith which engages with the community and inspires and encourages people to know Jesus Christ.

REV'D JOAN'S LAST SERVICE



On 30th January 2022 Rev'd Dr Joan Riley celebrated her last service at St Luke's before taking up the position of Principal at St Barnabas Theological College, North Adelaide.

There were presentations from the Wardens on behalf of the Parish, as well as from the Bari congregation, Ali Karimi (below right) and Abbas Jebur (below left).



Rev'd Joan's contribution to St Luke's during her appointment was acknowledged. We wish her well in her new role.

SOME REFLECTIONS FROM THE REVEREND DR DON OWERS



acceptance of others is seen also in the ethnic diversity of our congregations which adds such a rich texture to our life together.

Interestingly, there is some evidence that people's journey to faith frequently begins with an experience of being accepted by a Christian friend or church community. This tends to stimulate them to think about

the faith of those who have befriended them. To put this another way, quite often, belonging precedes believing. I'm reminded of the story of Zacchaeus in Luke chapter 19. Zacchaeus was a chief tax-collector, someone who had defrauded ordinary people through the coercive schemes that passed for taxation in those days. He was despised by the crowds, but Jesus has dinner with him - a powerful sign, in those days, of acceptance. It's only after this that Zacchaeus is moved to repentance and faith.

Belonging then, more often than not, precedes believing. But we can't assume that people will automatically move from an experience of acceptance to a living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is an area in which I believe we could do better at St Luke's, and I think we might do well, next year, to have some conversations around how we might be more intentional about helping people to come to faith and to develop in faith.

The shortage of clergy in the Diocese has focused attention on the slow but steady decline and ageing of our congregations (a trend shared by most mainline denominations). While a number of cultural factors (there's quite a list!) are involved in this process, I do not think that decline is inevitable, things can be done to resist it and to reverse it. St Luke's has done better than most parishes in Adelaide in holding its ground but, nevertheless, we are on a similar trajectory, and we need to address what can be done, and how our resources can be harnessed, to provide for the future ministry of our church.

All that said, across the span of what has been a busy year, Elizabeth and I have been impressed and encouraged by the range of ministries offered by St Luke's and by the numbers of parishioners who are involved in them. We have also very much appreciated

It has been a privilege to serve as locum minister at St Luke's over the past nine months. Elizabeth and I have been warmly welcomed and now feel very much a part of the St Luke's community.

First impressions count for a lot. When we first arrived, Elizabeth and I were very encouraged by your ready acceptance of us - even though I undoubtedly did, and possibly continue to do, some things differently to what you're used to! Acceptance of others in the name of Jesus, especially those who are a bit different to us is, I think, a sign that God's Holy Spirit is at work in the church to produce the grace and humility that is the foundation for acceptance and appreciation of others. I think this quality of ready

all the support we have received, and have enjoyed being part of the St Luke's community. One way or another, God willing, we hope to continue our participation next year.

Grace and peace.

*Don Owers, Locum
November 2022*

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## Christian Meditation Group

**Helen Wright and Adrienne Wright**

St Luke's Christian Mediation Group is now firmly established and meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. Numbers fluctuate as people come as and when they can. We have chosen to meet in the evening in order to enable those who are working to also join us.

As we grow in our practice of this ancient form of silent prayer and worship, we also grow as a group: we meet at 6.45pm to share our week and any particular concerns, then at 7.00pm we briefly share spoken prayer for these concerns to help clear our minds and then we move into our meditation.

Christian Meditation is simply being silent before God, not asking anything, not expecting anything but like Mary [sister of Martha] just sitting, being close to God. The wonderful experience of this is indescribable but the impact of this closeness is clearly felt.

Meditation is found in many faith traditions and secular groups. We are looking at the Christian contemplative tradition started by the early Church and much later re-discovered by the Anglican Church, now practised worldwide including by a group at our own St Peter's Cathedral.

The simplicity of silence including, of course, inner silence is hard for humans, our lives and our minds are so full of rushing and things to do and it takes a while to achieve this discipline but the rewards are great.

We strongly commend it to everyone and even if you are just curious do just come one evening and give it a try, you would be very welcome.

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PICTURES FROM THE YEAR



The **Family Service** was held on Christmas Eve 2021

Rev'd Joan was **commissioned** as **Principal of St Barnabas College** on 23rd February 2022 ↓



We
celebrated
Epiphany
←



The **Biggest Morning Tea**
raised funds for cancer research
←

GREENING THE PARISH EVENT AT ST LUKE'S

Ann Inglis

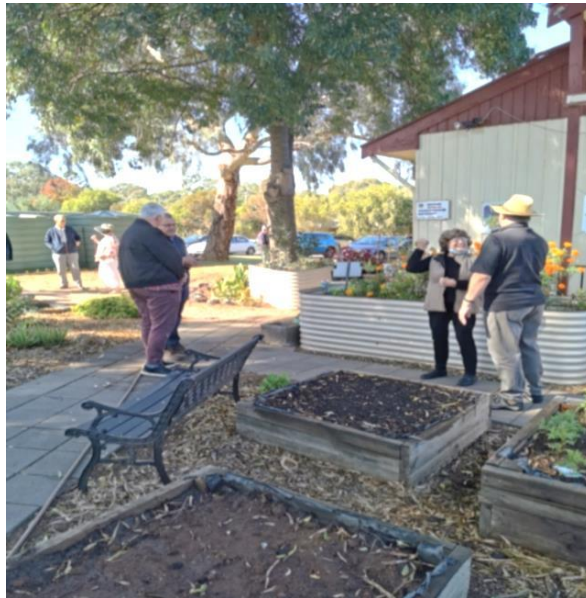
On a sparkling Autumn morning in April this year St Luke's hosted an event organised by the Anglican Creation Care Network (ACCN) and the Community Engagement Ministry Unit (CEMU).

Speakers included our own David Datson, Co-ordinator of the Community Garden, who spoke about the Parish's various measures of environmental care and



then led a tour of the Garden. Peter Burke from AnglicareSA (Convenor of ACCN and a member of CEMU) presented a summary of the voluntary environmental audit of six parishes (including St Luke's) conducted by ACCN.

Beth Walton, a member of ACCN, described the Adelaide City National Park initiative undertaken by the State Government which includes the parishes of the Adelaide Diocese and the Diocese of the Murray. Adelaide is only the second



The event ended with morning tea in the Balcony Room where Thelma Tyler and her team reinforced the Parish's catering reputation with a delicious and generous spread.

Each participant went home with a pot plant grown at St Luke's.

city in the world (after London) to be granted National Park City status by the International Park City Foundation.

All the presentations were thoughtful and thought-provoking and generated much discussion among the participants who came from nine parishes in the metropolitan area.

Subjects included community gardens, butterfly- and bird-friendly gardens, vegetable swaps, environmentally sustainable and conscious activities and initiatives such as recycling, re-use, repairing, water storage, walking instead of driving, local clean-ups, solar panels, spiritual gardens and quiet spaces.



FOODBANK SA at ST LUKE'S

Margaret Curd

On January 4 this year St Luke's commenced a hosting relationship with the SA Mobile Foodbank Hub. It was a pleasure to see the large purple and white service hub and the back-up truck roll into the carpark at the back of our church and watch the operation gear up to



receive customers. The SA Foodbank volunteers are a dedicated bunch of people (they number around 6 volunteers), they are very well organised,

setting up trestles for the free fruit and vegetables which is a feature of the charity, organizing signage and preparing the mobile food hub to serve customers.

Foodbank is a charity that promotes dignity and care to their clients, they supply around 88 million meals per year to more than 2,950 charities and to 2,890 schools around Australia. Food insecurity (not hunger) occurs when there is an inability to regularly and routinely put a meal on the table and this causes stigma and shame to many families.



As we anticipate the impact of our changing economic climate and a looming recession we can only assume that the need for sufficient and nutritious food will become greater for those who will experience economic stress.

In addition to the SA Foodbank volunteers there is also a group of volunteers from St. Luke's (above) in attendance to issue vouchers, assist the public and to provide the SA FB volunteers with a cheery cup of tea or coffee. Assistance to the public includes writing out vouchers, explaining the system (there is a minimum



card payment required for shopping).

Occasionally English is not the first language of the client, so additional care and listening is needed to make sure their needs are taken care of. This engagement with Foodbank SA is part of our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and our Outreach, and while we had intentions to offer a cuppa or food to the FB clients, we did not proceed with that this year but we may revisit the idea at a later date.

The mobile shop opens at 10.00 am on each alternate Wednesday, so that first hour is pretty busy, about 15 - 20 clients receive food assistance during that hour and the van then moves on at about 11.45 am to the next location.

In support of the food assistance offered from our Op Shop we have received donations from the Ingle Farm and Para Hills churches. This food is sorted and any surplus food is donated to Foodbank which they are always pleased to receive.

If I may reflect on a couple of incidents that have occurred during Wednesday morning FB sessions, one morning a young couple turned up and I assumed they wanted food assistance but I was surprised when they produced two large bags of food to donate to Foodbank. Blessing.

On another occasion I offered a cup of tea to a woman and sat and had a chat with her, she told me of the circumstances of her life which by any standards

were trying and tragic. However, she also spoke to me of her hope and faith in Jesus Christ, how that had sustained her, and I felt that I had received more than I gave that morning.

This has to be why we persist with our Mission Action Plan to offer some solace and hope to those in need, not simply food to sustain bodies but Christian hope that sustains Life.

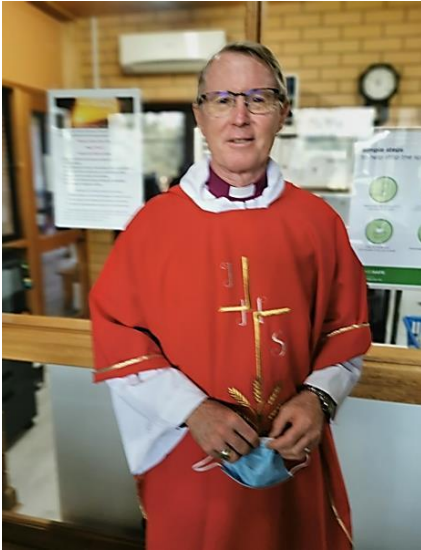
My sincere thanks to the St Luke's Foodbank volunteers, including Colin Fidock and Deb Travis who are not in the photograph. It has been a good year as we have taken some forward steps.

BAPTISMS 2022

24 April	-	Zuri Wantiku Dowling
22 May		Adelie Moe Bedford
29 May	-	Lola Mae Mudde
29 May	-	Presley Sjaan Mudde



PALM SUNDAY 2022



Don Owers, Locum Minister, was forced to isolate because his wife, Elizabeth, had tested positive for Coronavirus and Rev'd Cameron Burr was

scheduled to preach on Palm Sunday at St Mark's Golden Grove.

Thus the Archbishop was able to re-live his experience as a Parish Priest, celebrating at both services, leading the congregations in the Palm Sunday procession to begin a recital of the liturgy, and delivering a thought-provoking sermon on our duty as Christians to be non-judgmental.



During the 9.30 am service members of the Bari congregation contributed a hymn, accompanied by drummers, which filled the church with stirring music.

The Archbishop chatted with parishioners at morning tea following both services and eventually went home after what must have been for him a somewhat atypical Parish visit.

This year Palm Sunday held a few surprises for the congregation at St Luke's. First, we were informed two weeks before the event that the Very Reverend Geoffrey Smith, Archbishop of the Adelaide Anglican Diocese, would be visiting the Parish.

The day was probably a little unusual for the Archbishop as well. Late in the previous week Rev'd Dr



VALE TERRY STONEMAN

June Hindmarch

Terry Stoneman was my friend. We only knew each other for a short time but we discovered a shared love of poetry, music, books and history. Terry was such an 'interesting' man, who could always surprise you. He came to Bible study and during one session casually mentioned his time at University, just one of many instances when we discovered fresh depths in our friend! Sadly we only had him with us for a few years, messed up by Covid, but in that time he found a niche in our hearts.

Let me tell you how he came to join our family at St Luke's. Every Tuesday morning Terry and his trusty walking-frame would travel from his BUPA home to the coffee shop at the Modbury Triangle. He would order his coffee and newspaper and plant himself at one of the tables.

At another table were members of our Tuesday morning service and our dear Doris made a point of chatting with Terry and one day invited him to abandon his solitary state and join the group, he did so and the rest is history.

Terry took an interest in everything that went on, the Op Shop, our



Community Garden and Bible studies. During the Sunday sermon he could be seen jotting down notes and questions to ask the Clergy at the end of the service. He always joined us for a cuppa and a chat and we would hear about the latest book he was reading, the music he was listening to and he would often have a new poem to hand over to me for typing.

Terry had an enquiring mind and over the years had been interested in religion so that attending church gave him an opportunity to deepen his spirituality. This led to Terry being baptised and later confirmed as a member of the Anglican Church. We rejoiced with him on these

special occasions and he became a much loved friend and member of our St Luke's family.

We were honoured that his funeral took place at our Church and from the eulogy we learned from his family about the health issues that had an impact on his life and, above all, about his great love and devotion to his family. Terry will be remembered as a good man, loyal to family and friends, with a lifetime of friendships made in all the areas of life in which he had travelled.

I have to end with a few lines of poetry from *Ode: intimations of Immortality* by William Wordsworth:

*Our birth is but a sleep and
a forgetting:
The soul that rises with us,
our life's star,
Hath had elsewhere its
setting,
And Cometh from afar;
Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory
do we come
From God, who is our
home.*

St Luke's Church Bell

Harry Brown

On Sunday, 1st May 1966, The Rev'd Bill West held a special meeting of the congregation at the Rectory. At this meeting, he outlined the possibility of Modbury becoming a separate Church in the Mission District of Tea Tree Gully.

He pointed out, however, that in order for this to be achieved it was going to be necessary to have a church building at Modbury to be used for worship on a more permanent basis than the Rectory building used at that time and which was rented from Myers Ltd. It was decided at this meeting to purchase land and erect a church and a building committee was formed.

Fund raising was implemented and a search was made for a suitable site in the area. In 1968, land became available and was purchased from a resident, Mrs Williams, on the corner of Smart Road and Harrison Avenue, Modbury.

In 1970, a secret ballot was held and the name *St Luke* was chosen by the majority of the congregation. The proximity of the Church to the Modbury Hospital site was thought to be possibly the main reason for the choice.



On 12th July 1970, The Nurses' Chapel of the Royal Adelaide Hospital was purchased from the Public Buildings Department. This building was moved to the Smart Road site on 4th October 1970.

Following the tradition of Church of England church buildings, a bell tower was to be part of the building and this was suggested at a Building

Committee meeting held on 19th October 1970. A Church Bell in Christian architecture is a bell which is rung in a church for a variety of religious purposes. It is used to call worshippers to the church for a communal service and to announce the times of daily Christian prayer. The bell is also rung on special occasions such as a

wedding or a funeral service.

At the Parochial Council Meeting of the 31st October 1971, it was reported by Father Canon Gray that a Bell had been donated to the Church. The Bell was a gift from Sir Basil Parkes, the Chairman of the Boston Deep Sea Fisheries, Hull, England, through the Lord Mayor of Hull by Mrs J. W. Fincham. Mrs Nancy Fincham was a member of the congregation at St Luke's and she had contacted her family in England to see if they knew of a bell that might be available.



The bell came from the Grimsby Trawler named *BOSTON FURY* (see photograph above). The history of the trawler includes an outstanding sea rescue in 1950 when the Skipper, John Hobbs, answered an SOS from the ship *FRED BORCHARD* which had foundered off the coast of Norway.

This is an extract from the report from the Law Courts of London regarding the loss of the steamship *FRED BORCHARD*:

“During the Inquiry, tributes to the rescue work performed by the Master and crew of the steam trawler *BOSTON FURY* were paid by all parties, and the Court would like to place on record its opinion that the rescue of 27 out of 29 of the members of the crew of



the *FRED BORCHARD* was a highly commendable piece of work involving skilful seamanship and personal risk.”

I hope that you all enjoy this information as I did. To think a little bell hanging in our bell tower has come half way around the world and had such an interesting history.

SAMARITAN’S PURSE CHRISTMAS BOXES

A special thank you to all who filled a box for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child; 84 boxes in total were sent from St. Luke's. Receiving one of the boxes will be a joyous experience for these children, many of whom have never received a gift before. The first container of boxes has been sent to the Ukraine. It has not yet been decided to which countries the remaining containers will be allocated.

Denise Robinson and Yvonne Brumley



This year’s Shoeboxes waiting to be blessed

VALE EVERARD WALKER

Carren Walker



last over 40 years, joining Royal Insurance when he migrated to Australia in 1973 and eventually working his way to be the regional manager of National Marine Insurance, insuring transport of goods interstate and overseas.

Throughout his life, Everard was a faithful and regular

member of the Anglican Church, taking an active part in serving, choir and especially the youth fellowship where he met his wife, Caryl. Everard and Caryl were married in February 1968.

In 1973 they migrated to Adelaide, living first in Kilkenny and Croydon and then later in Ingle Farm and Wynn Vale.

Everard was an active Freemason, involved in several masonic lodges, including many years serving in Grand Lodge.

His love of family, friends, food, wine and his faith were recounted and remembered fondly at his funeral service in a eulogy given by his son, Pieter and his daughter, Carren.

For those of you who were unable to attend, a recording is available on the Harrison Funeral website for the next 12 months:

www.harrisonfunerals.com.au/live-streaming.html

Patrick Everard Walker (known to all as Everard) was born on 31st May 1943 in Dehiwala, Colombo in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). On completing his schooling, having shown a great aptitude for numbers, he was employed in the insurance division of Carsons Cumberbatch. His involvement in the insurance industry was to

VALE DOROTHY (DOT) POSSINGHAM 15.8.1925 – 2.2.2022

An article about Dot was published in The Link 2021.
Her gentle and faithful presence is greatly missed at St Luke's.



THE ART OF ENID LACKERSTEIN

Ann Inglis

There are a multitude of talents among the parishioners who attend St Luke's. One such person is Enid Lackerstein whose paintings were exhibited at the Tea Tree Gully Library during SALA in 2020 and 2021.

St Luke's. They led an active working and social life (Enid loves dancing) but after retirement, Enid finally had time to once again take up painting, while Arthur worked in his garden nurturing his precious orchids.

photograph accompanying this article and sold very well.



Enid is still living in the home she shared with Arthur in Fairview Park and while her social life is much less active these days, she still enjoys meeting friends for lunch and continues to paint occasionally.

On the 22nd of August this year Enid celebrated her 95th birthday with her family, some of whom came from interstate for an enjoyable day in McLaren Vale.

Enid was born in India and loved art all through her school days. After leaving school she trained as a hairdresser and when she married and had five children, art took a back seat. Enid and her late husband, Arthur, migrated to the UK in 1959 and there was little time for her favourite hobby.

The family moved to Adelaide in 1975 and Enid and Arthur eventually settled in Fairview Park, when they began attending

Arthur suffered several strokes and Enid looked after him at home for six years. He then spent another six years in a residential facility where Enid visited him every day.

After Arthur's death in 2016, Enid found comfort by immersing herself in painting, using acrylics. She attended art sessions run by ACH which led to the exhibitions in the TTG Library. Some of her paintings can be seen in the



THE VISIT TO ST LUKE'S OF ARCHBISHOP JUSTIN WELBY



The visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Caroline Welby, accompanied by Archbishop of Adelaide Geoff Smith and Mrs Lyn Smith and associates from Lambeth and General Synod, was a great honour for St Luke's.

The Balcony Room was a perfect setting for lunch.



Archbishop Justin and Caroline Welby chatted and had photos taken with members of Parish Council, volunteers and invited guests, and had a look around the Church.



AND MRS CAROLINE WELBY ON 8TH OCTOBER 2022

Lunch was followed by a tour of the Community Garden, where David Datson outlined the evolution of the Garden and future plans, and a visit to the Op Shop led by Colin Fidock.



Archbishop Justin blessed 60 Australian native seedlings to be distributed to parishes in the Adelaide Diocese, and presented Rev'd Don with a Canterbury cross which will eventually be displayed in St Luke's. The Parish presented them with a pair of coffee mugs printed with Australian flora.

Then it was time to say goodbye on what was indeed a momentous occasion for St Luke's.

**ADELAIDE DIOCESE 175TH
ANNIVERSARY DINNER AND
COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE
AT ST PETER'S
CATHEDRAL**



The Adelaide Anglican Diocese celebrated its 175th Anniversary at a dinner on 8th October 2022 held at the Entertainment Centre and attended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Caroline Welby. Several parishioners from St Luke's attended the Dinner.

Rev'd Cameron Burr assisted at the Service on the following day.



Helen's Bench

Harry Brown

I was thrilled when invited, as a member of the Community Garden, to attend a lunch with the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, and his wife Caroline. I was on carpark duties when a minibus arrived carrying the group. As they gathered in front of the Church I welcomed the Archbishop to Modbury and I found him to be very friendly, approachable and pleasant.

During the lunch I asked the Archbishop about his trip to Australia and mentioned that I had only recently returned from Queensland. He started asking many questions about how we travel, where we stay and many questions regarding the countryside: an amazing conversation!

After lunch, they were shown through the OpShop and around the Community Garden, where a lot of interest was shown by all the group. As I stood near the Cross, the Archbishop's wife, Caroline, noticed the plaque on the bench near me and asked me who Helen Mary Brown was. I replied, "my wife." Well, she told me to sit on the



seat, got the Archbishop to sit next to me and then she sat and organised a few photos to be taken. They asked about Helen and showed genuine compassion. So special and I was delighted to meet such an important person and all his entourage!

I must thank Rev'd Dr Don Owers for a photo of the three of us on the seat, which he printed and gave to me.



Three Stories about L. and T. leaving China

When I started writing this article about "L and T leaving China", I was constantly reminded of the afternoon when we walked into the Customs Hall at Shanghai Airport not knowing what fate had prepared for us but knowing that as long as we were both facing it together there was nothing that really scared me.

I am honoured to share our stories here and I hope that none of you will ever experience this fear in your lifetime.

Like a traditional Chinese fairytale our story has three parts: the Future, Love and Danger.

Future

This first story takes place in the summer of 2008 but relates to the future. I was not born into a Christian family – the only Christian in our family was my aunt. Every Summer I used to stay at my aunt's house which was a three-story building with a huge garden on the outskirts of a city. Along with my three cousins we spent our days playing in the water and our nights sneaking up an outside staircase onto the flat roof for a barbecue after the adults were asleep. On Sunday mornings we always piled

into a van and went to worship together at the largest church in the city. This church was founded in the early twentieth century at a time when many Christian missionaries came to China. From the age of six I went to Sunday School and learned bible stories written in English until I was fourteen when I then went to the church service.

In this church I felt for the first time that there was a lot of goodwill around me, that people helped each other, that there was no more social frenzy or competition for fame and fortune, that everyone in the church would be the first to be modest in their thinking and care for each other and that even if they were not family they called each other brothers and sisters. The church did not have much money and relied on small donations from the believers in order to provide a rectory for the ministers who came to preach and church members volunteered to clean and provide nourishing simple meals, usually vegetarian because meat was expensive. Despite not having much money this small home had adopted four or five children, some of whom were handicapped or chronically ill and this was

the first time I saw the power of non-government grass roots charity in China.

In the summer of 2008 when the distant capital of Beijing hosted the great Olympic Games our Sunday School teacher told us that the 21st century was China's century because God showed His care for China and let it host the Olympics. So I had no doubt at the time that his words were true and we all remembered the Summer of Fireworks and that this would be the beginning of an increasingly better future. Little did I know that while people's visions were so beautiful, the harsh reality would be very different. The summer of 2008 was the peak for China; from then on, it was a wild ride for China all the way down to Hell.

That summer of the Beijing Olympics I started to grow up and to read more and more widely and I realised that my country did not seem to be heading the right way. More and more websites were disappearing in China, our history textbooks kept deleting old content, the news I saw was often not followed up because the reporters disappeared when they were doing their jobs, even the crosses in various local churches were being forcibly removed, clergy

were arrested and sentenced to heavy prison terms and thoughts about the future changed in my mind.

Love

The year 2018, ten years after the end of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, is my second story, which also took place in the summer. Seeing and hearing all kinds of bad news every day I had mentally had enough of this country and decided to leave it and find my promised land. But during my preparations to leave I met T, with whom I fell in love and who at that time had no idea of leaving China, because for Chinese people the communist propaganda machine was really all pervasive and totally persuasive. It was the first time I felt that I couldn't leave China because there was finally someone here that I couldn't leave.

But I didn't give up. On my third date with her, she drove me home and I thought this might be my last chance to make her remember me. I don't know why, but my mind went blank - I had to say something, so I told her the story of a person who had a deep impact on me - Liu Xiaobo, the first Chinese to win the Nobel Peace Prize - the university professor who was sentenced to life in prison for protecting students during the

Tiananmen Square incident. He is a figure that the vast majority of people in China don't know, a figure whose name is forbidden to talk about and I decided to tell her the story of this most dangerous figure, this most dangerous story. I was surprised to find that T was touched by the story and asked many questions and expressed her astonishment about these stories that she had never heard about before and I think I succeeded because the stories brought us together. From that summer night on, I told my friends that if T didn't want to leave China, I wouldn't either, and that no matter how bad it was here, I couldn't be separated from T. This is my second story about love.

As you can see, in the end T was able to transform her view of China through her own efforts. So we resolved to leave China together: we worked together to learn English, save money, apply for visas, and then the global pandemic happened and pushed our plans back badly.

Danger

At the same time, the doors to China had been gradually closing and over the past three years the Chinese government had gradually shut down passport processing for ordinary people, permission for nationals to leave the

country was now very limited, being decided on a case by case basis. Even for those who are allowed to leave the country, there are reports that their passports will be destroyed by Customs officers and they will then be denied exit. All of the above information about leaving the country was not available in China and only those who planned to leave the country heard about it by word of mouth and then suddenly realised that it was too late. During this time we had an experience we will never forget that gave us a brief glimpse into the abyss: a hellish incident that didn't happen to us but just knowing about it is enough to make us break into a cold sweat every time we think about it. Forgive my timidity but I cannot confess to you here what this event really was.

Knowing all this we sensed that the gates of China's borders were slowly closing and that perhaps very soon we wouldn't be able to leave. So in September 2021 we decided to leave China as soon as possible. This, our third story: the Danger, started the day we left China.

Because China had closed most cities to international flights, we decided to take a taxi from the city we lived in to Shanghai to fly to Hong Kong, and then from Hong Kong to Dubai, where

we planned to stay for a while waiting for Australia to open its borders. Upon arrival at the Shanghai airport we went to the check-in counter where the airline employee at the counter double-checked all our departure documents and even checked them verbatim to try to find even the slightest mistake that would prevent us from leaving the country, but to her dismay, there was nothing wrong with the documents we had prepared. Just as we were breathing a sigh of relief, she said: "You still can't leave, I have to call a leader who has the authority to release you." She dialled the phone in front of us, she reported our situation, and then after a long wait (as long as a century) we clearly heard the voice of a middle-aged man inside the microphone, who sighed heavily and said: "Let them go." We silently cheered. When the employee hung up the phone she then told us that it didn't mean that the next set of customs officials would let us go and that we should be prepared for a stricter interrogation.

So we arrived at the next customs desk with some trepidation and T was questioned first, ahead of me. The officer asked questions about work in China: salary, reasons for leaving the country, work abroad, address abroad,

whether to return to China in the near future and everything else. We had expected all kinds of problems and had printed out all the information before coming to the airport.

When the customs officials sternly questioned T with all kinds of questions that were beyond the scope of their questioning she answered them very calmly and fluently which I had never seen her do before. I realised that she had prepared a lot of responses in order to get us out of China together. When it was my turn, I was asked my address: same as her, reason for going abroad: same as her, address abroad: same as her. OK, I made it through customs too!

Happy Ending?

According to the development of any beautiful fairy tale there is the third story: danger overcome and a happy ending. But in fact the danger continued as we had to fly from Shanghai to Hong Kong, which as you know over the past twenty years has gone from the Pearl of the Orient to an ordinary Chinese city and is not even a special administrative region, so the danger for us continued and we continued to hold our breath for the next stop in our journey. After a full night's flight from Hong

Kong we arrived in Dubai where we had to make plans for a long stay as no one knew when Australia would lift the travel ban and permit us to enter.

After six months in Dubai, we finally got the news that Australia was opening its borders, so we took the earliest flight to Adelaide. The second week after arriving I went to St. Luke's and by pure chance I walked into the Sunday morning service and heard the hymns and prayers again after so many years, it was like I was back in that summer of 2008, but this time truly standing in the land of God's favour.

It seems that the story about danger is not over yet. Reliable news sources have learned that there are also communist secret police from China in charge of surveillance in Australia, such as at the annual candlelight rally to commemorate the Tiananmen Square incident on June 4, where unidentified people record and take pictures at various rallies and march locations in Australia. Even this article may attract unnecessary trouble. But I still choose to tell these three stories of mine and I always believe that this part of the story [about danger] will end one day.

I am grateful to Helen and David for their kind offer of

I also want to thank Colin and Cameron and Samuel or helping me find a Bible on my first day at St. Luke's, to Gene and Carole (may she rest in peace and rise in glory!) for writing down their contact information

Finally, the most important thing is T's continuous support, without her I

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**Carolyn Datson**

reserved sacrament) and three hymns. A group of residents attends regularly, depending on their health on the day, and sometimes one or two others come along, with attendance generally being between 8 and 14. The residents all seem to appreciate the service and it is great to hear them participating in the prayers and in the singing of well-known hymns or songs. It is a

During December Tess organises a special Christmas service and a small gift for the residents. The service includes lots of familiar Christmas songs and sometimes one of the residents will sing a favourite Christmas song for the group.





## VALE EVONNE JELLETT

Adrienne Wright

My friend Evonne Jellett was a gentle, friendly, kind person whom I am very happy to call a good friend .

Evonne entered the world at the family home in Melbourne on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1929 during the Great Depression in Australia; possibly as a result of this she lived a frugal life. One of two daughters, she was brought up in a Christian family in Essendon, Victoria. Her parents made a special effort to enrol her in an Anglican school, despite economic hardship. She attended Lowther Hall for Girls and kept close ties with the school over the years.

Evonne was a gifted musician and studied piano and clarinet at the Conservatorium of Music in Melbourne. She then studied to become a librarian and worked as the medical librarian at the Eye and Ear Hospital in Melbourne for a number of years. Then followed a decision to join the Education Department and she graduated as a teacher librarian. She taught for many years at the Niddrie High School in Melbourne.

Another aspect of Evonne's life was her love of dogs. She spent many years

puppy-walking for Guide Dogs Victoria. She won an award for 10 years of puppy-walking for this worthy cause. She also encouraged high school students to raise money for the Guide Dogs. She loved labradors all her life and of course in Adelaide her beloved Lito and then Dulcie.

She was a caring person. She cared deeply about family and the wellbeing of her mother, father and sister, her nephews and nieces. Evonne was also brave. At the age of 47 years, she faced a serious health challenge when she contracted breast cancer and dealt courageously with the treatment. At the age of 84 in 2014 because of ill health she moved to South Australia to be closer to her sister Ruth.

Yvonne always enjoyed meeting new people and in Adelaide we used to go shopping and went regularly to a local social gathering which she greatly enjoyed. A woman of strong, private faith, she appreciated the traditional service at St Luke's and enjoyed the friendship of church life and always participated in Operation Christmas Child. Amongst her many friends was fellow communicant and



*Evonne Edith  
Robina Jellett*

24.11.1929 – 25.7.2022

neighbour Margaret  
Shillabeer.

More recently, Evonne moved to ACH Highercombe as dementia affected her life activities and while she could still travel, she continued to worship at St Luke's. Throughout her life she often faced serious health issues but bravely came through, living to the amazing age of 92 years. She was a true friend and I will always miss her.

## Schools Ministry Group TTG

Denise Robinson and Carolyn Datson

This year has been another challenging year for the Schools Ministry Group (SMG) and for our Pastoral Care Workers. The COVID pandemic has again brought many and different challenges which our PCWs have found ways of rising to meet and overcome, in order to support their school communities.



SMG TTG now supports PCWs at 15 local schools, although there are currently advertised vacancies at a couple of our schools.

During the first term holidays SMG TTG met with our new SMG district manager, Anna, and many of our PCWs at a shared morning tea. It was a real eye opener to hear the diversity of problems and issues confronting the PCWs, many of them an

indirect result of COVID school closures, and the various ways they have found to show God's love in action in their support of their students, teachers and school communities.

Amongst the challenges was the necessary cancellation of the annual November 'Transition Day' for Year 6 students which aims to help students with their transition from primary to secondary school. Transition Day is not a visit to their future school - it is a combined district gathering which aims to help the students develop self-confidence, resilience and personal strategies to help them deal with possible future issues. It also gives the students a chance to meet and work with some others going to their new school. This year our wonderful PCWs have found other ways to work with the Year 6 students in their individual schools to help them develop some of these skills and strategies.

COVID has also made fundraising difficult for SMG TTG this year, although we were able to run the BBQ for the TTG Uniting Church craft fair at the end of October. Thanks to Harry B and David O for their help with this.

We at St Luke's support the PCW at Fairview Pk Primary School. Hannah S, their new PCW, started at the school at the beginning of first term and has settled in well. Our Bible Study group provided items for Hanna's emergency recess cupboard, for which she was most grateful. November 2022, with the support of others from St Luke's, we helped Hannah provide a 'Thank You' morning tea for the staff at the school. This gave Hannah the opportunity to thank the staff for their support in helping her settle in to her new environment and to celebrate their combined work for the benefit of the whole school community.





## LUKE'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

David Datson

The last twelve months in the community garden have been quite exciting.

The garden has continued to flourish with a big crop of summer vegetables early in 2022 and successful plantings of winter vegetables. The crops' produce has been purchased by many of the people who visit the Op Shop. We have also been working hard on expanding the ornamental part of the garden. This spring the colour has been wonderful to see, and the reseeded lawn area has really lifted the garden.

Recently a pergola has been erected over part of the lawn area, plus we have expanded the pergola in front of the tool shed so that there is now space to use the BBQ under cover as well as increased space for seating. We are planning to put a shade cloth covering over the new pergola.

The highlight of the year was the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. After an enjoyable lunch Archbishop Justin and his party were given a tour of the garden. They were most interested and were surprised that it has only taken four years. One of



the Archbishop's party, Rev'd Tosin Oladip, was particularly interested as he had set up a community garden when at a parish in central London.

Each week there have been 10 or so gardeners from both within the Parish and from the general community. It is wonderful to see the interactions between all of us, with morning tea always being a highlight of the gardening session.

We have also continued to have a BBQ on the first Tuesday of the month. Now there is also a gardening session on Friday mornings.

During the year there has also been a slowly increasing number of people who work locally and come into the garden during their breaks to just sit and enjoy

the wonderful and peaceful surrounds.

Thank you to all of the gardeners and in particular Max Pontifex for his guidance, David Owen and Harry Brown for their construction expertise and Jean Rechner for her catering prowess.



New gardeners are always welcome, with no experience being necessary, or just come along to the BBQ or have a cuppa with us.



## VALE JEAN MALANDER

Denise Robinson

Jean Malander (née Hendricks) was born in Tarkastad, South Africa, on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1933. She attended the Tarkastad Primary School where her father was the Principal and then moved to Lilyvale, followed by high school at Livingstone. Jean trained as an upper primary teacher at Hewat Training College and then taught for four years.

Jean married “the love of her life” Edmund Malander (also a teacher) in 1956. They migrated to Australia in 1972 with their children Randall, Karen and Julianne, and moved to Modbury in 1973. Jean was much sought after as a relief teacher in many schools in the Tea Tree Gully/Modbury area.

Jean and Edmund and their family attended St Luke’s and shared many stories of St Luke’s “beginnings” with monthly barbecues, pancake days, picnics on the church land, stalls and dances to raise funds needed to establish a church on the property. Jean made one of the kneelers below the Communion rail. Jean and Edmund retired to Goolwa

in 1993 and were very involved with Holy Evangelist Church. They returned to Adelaide in 2013 and lived in the Lifestyle Retirement Village in Golden Grove.



Jean became a member of Mothers’ Union and was awarded her 25-year membership certificate from St John’s Salisbury MU at a service in the Chapel in 2021.

Family was very important to Jean. They were blessed with three grand-daughters and two great-grandsons. They constantly kept in touch with other families from South Africa and a joyous day is held each year at Goolwa in January, a very special day renewing

memories with long-time friends.

Jean lived a full Christian life which stemmed from her grandfather who was a minister in the Congregational Church. Whilst boarding from high school and teachers’ College she attended the Anglican church. Jean received the daily devotion *Upper Room* booklets sent to her by Faith Drodge over many years. She read her Bible daily and in past months was fulfilled with a copy of the sermon and intercessions each week.

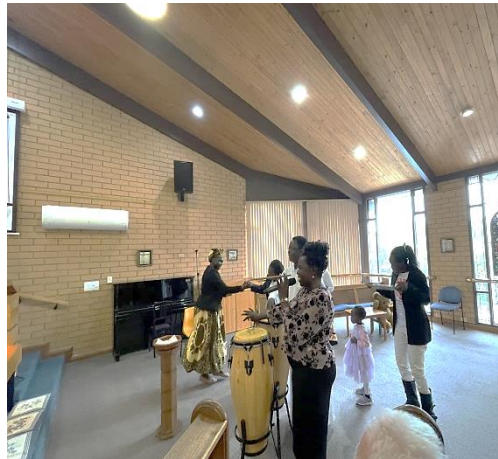
Jean received Communion in her home from Lyn Ho.

A quote from the eulogy at her funeral service: “Jean was the glue that held her family together.” Rest in peace, a special lady who will always be missed but never forgotten.

## ST LUKE'S DAY 2022

What a difference a year makes! After the restrictions of the last two Covid-burdened years, St Luke's Patronal Festival was celebrated in the best possible way.

We gathered together as one congregation and praised the Lord with hymns, we could take Communion in two parts, there were no masks and



The sermon was delivered

Following the service and after Rev'd Cameron said Grace, we enjoyed shared lunch with visitors to the church from a table loaded with delicious food brought by parishioners.



the Bari singers and drummers filled the church with joyful music.



by The Rt Rev'd Keith Dalby, Bishop of the Murray.



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## SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

We were delighted to hear that Ali Karimi had received his Permanent Resident visa.

Ali is a respected member of the 9.30 am congregation and it was a joy to celebrate as Margaret Curd presented Ali with an Aussie flag and a cork-rimmed hat.

## SACRED HEART CHURCH BEAGLE BAY

David Owen

In July 2022 Toni and I visited the Mission Church community at Beagle Bay in Western Australia about halfway between Broome and Derby.



Beagle Bay was once the centre of the Australian pearl shell industry, the world's biggest supplier to the button makers. That was truly the wild west!

In 1885 Fr. Duncan McNabb, 65 years old, accepted the challenge to begin a Mission to Aboriginal people in the Kimberly. With little training and no knowledge of local language, but with the hope that others would come after him to help spread the Good News, he travelled, observed and mixed with the local people.

He met a young aboriginal man, Nybe, who had worked on the luggers and knew English, and together they were able to communicate with the locals. Duncan began to write a dictionary of the Bardi language. In 1886 Fr.

William Treacey arrived and the three men built a bush timber church and residence with a bower of spinifex at Goodenough Bay. They established a garden and grew what they could and local people visited and learnt of the Son of God, Jesus, whose word is Spirit and Life.

Five months later, in Derby collecting supplies, Duncan heard that the gold miners at Halls Creek were dying in harsh conditions without the sacrament, so he with Nybe went the 800 kms to do what they could to help.

When they returned to Goodenough Bay, fatigued and ill, they found Treacey had returned to Perth with malaria, their church had been destroyed in a bushfire, and the garden was ruined. Ill and overcome with tribulation, Duncan left Goodenough Bay by ship. He died in Richmond Victoria in 1896.

Hardly a great success, yet stories of him remained, of kindness, sincerity and trust and the seeds of certainty that there was Good News in what he had proclaimed.

In May 1890 Bishop Matthew Gibney with two members of the French Trappist Order, the Very

Reverend Abbot Ambrose Jenny and Reverend Alphonse Romy Tachon, arrived in Derby looking for a site for their mission. The Aborigines Protection Board granted a 100,000 acre Mission Reserve and £350 a year subject to conditions. Bishop Gibney also purchased, for £500 another 100,000 acre property at Lombardina and was granted a further 2,002 acres near Disaster Bay.

The Trappist Fathers pledged their lives to the task "of civilisation, education and protection of the bush peoples of Dampierland." (William Dampier was the British privateer in the Roebuck whose names were given to many coastal features in the Kimberley.)

In their effort to make the mission self-supporting the Trappists embarked on the sale of cattle and pearl shell, guano and emu skins, although the latter were largely a failure. At Beagle Bay in about 1895 they built a dormitory and church with bush timber, bamboo and paperbark. In 1897 a wagon track was cut between Beagle Bay and Broome but it remained easier to travel in the mission lugger.



The 1898 Australian Catholic Directory reported that: "Around the Monastery at Beagle Bay some 250 Aborigines roam the bush as their proper domain, but most of them have been brought into such relations with the Mission that they are now fairly instructed and disposed to receive the chief sacraments. In all three centres of missionary endeavour (Beagle Bay, Disaster Bay and Broome) the Trappist Fathers last year baptised 60 Aborigines, celebrated 9 marriages and admitted 35 to their First Communion."

The French Monks learnt the local language and began to teach in Nyul Nyul, French and Latin but by 1900 they left the Kimberley feeling that their monastic lifestyle was not suited for such remote missions. The Pallottina Missionaries from Germany replaced them at Beagle Bay and continued to staff the mission for the next 100 years. In 1907 the Sisters of St John of God arrived from Ireland and dedicated themselves to teaching and nursing and care of children in need or placed by order of the Aborigines Act WA 1915.

In the early years cyclones, bush fires and white ants regularly destroyed the churches and buildings.



At the insistence of Fr Thomas Bachmair SAC and in a statement of faith and unity, the German priests and local people began to build the present church in 1915. It was opened on 15 August 1918, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In the style of a German country church it took two years to build and a year to decorate.

Sixty thousand clay bricks were made by hand and fired in local kilns. Thousands of loads of sand, clay, wood and shell were hauled by oxen to the site. Cement was unavailable so lime was made by burning shell, and used for mortar and plaster. Another 30,000 bricks were made for the 12 metre high tower, completed in 1920. The original ceiling of bush timber and plastered with lime painted dark blue and inlaid with pearl shell replicated the stars and constellations. White ants destroyed the original ceiling and it was replaced with metal sheets from flattened kerosene tins.

Major construction was completed in 1917 and Fr Wilhelm Droste SAC worked with a team of local women to make the shell decorations of the church. The work is a fusion of traditional Nyul Nyul, Nimanboor and Bardi materials, with Christian symbols and European mosaic techniques to create a unique Expression of art and faith.

The Stations of the Cross commissioned in 1949 by Bishop Otto Raible and painted in Germany by Sr Roswina Hermes ISSM in Munich. Bishop Raible directed the themes and symbols used so as to make the Stations meaningful to the indigenous people of the Kimberley.



The Stations are examples of German Expressionist paintings and are made on aluminium sheets to withstand the humidity.

Br Franz Hanke SAC made the frames and the works were hung in 1951.

The Bell Tower collapsed in 2001 after nearly 90 years of extremes of weather. It was rebuilt in 2002 and rededicated by Most Rev Christopher Saunders, Bishop of Broome, who thanked the many people who gave their time, effort and financial support.

This mission is a wonderful example of Christianity in a hard place. The pearl shell

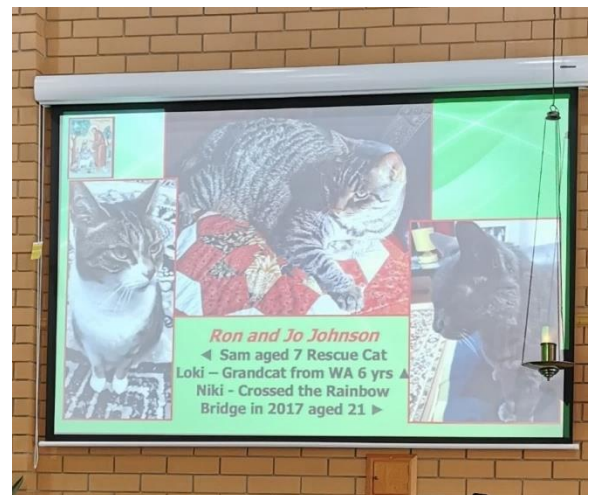
decorations are amazing and Toni and I were captivated by the Stations where, for example, the Destruction of Jerusalem is shown by the portrayal of the bombing of Dresden.

The road from Broome to Cape Leveque is now a broad bitumen highway so there is no excuse to miss these wonders when you are in the Kimberley.



## CREATION SUNDAY 2022

Creation Sunday was observed at St Luke's at the beginning of the Church's celebration of the Season of Creation. Parishioners sent in photographs of their pets, past and present, which were shown in a PowerPoint presentation to celebrate the companion animals in our lives.



We were visited by Adrienne Williams and her hearing dog, Merlin, and heard about the difference Merlin has made to Adrienne's quality of life.

Parishioners also brought donations of non-perishable food items for the emergency assistance program.



## THE ORDINATION AND REV'D CAMERON'S LAST SERVICE AT ST LUKE'S

On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022, at an Ordination Service in St Peter's Cathedral, Cameron Burr was ordained as a Priest and Samuel Yengi as a Deacon.



The following Sunday was a day of mixed emotions when Rev'd Cameron celebrated the Eucharist at a combined service before leaving to join the Parish of Gawler. There were presentations to both Samuel and Cameron from the Parish.

The Bari congregation's joyful music and dancing spanned all age-groups.



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2022**



### **SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**6.00 pm: Community Carols in the Garden. Enjoy a Sausage Sizzle and sing traditional Christmas Carols.**

### **SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**6.00 pm Family Service**

**11.00 pm Midnight Mass**

### **SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

**9.00 am Holy Communion**

