



The Anglican Parish of Modbury, St Luke's Church

NEWSLETTER 5

October 2019

What a busy time of the year we are heading into. St Luke's has been very active this year and we have achieved much in our mission planning activities. In October we will celebrate the festival of our patron Saint Luke. We will welcome Bishop Chris McLeod, the national indigenous bishop and his wife Susan. We have been lucky to have a bishop celebrate our patronal festival with us each year for the past four years. A lot of work goes into this special day with people who prepare the music, the data for the service, the service booklets, the arrangements for lunch, the flowers and all the other necessary details to make us proud of our church.

The early Church Fathers ascribed to St Luke the authorship of the canonical Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, which is why we name him 'Evangelist.' Luke's style of writing was fluent and he was clearly a well educated man. He is the patron saint of artists, physicians, bachelors, surgeons, students and butchers. Traditionally he is known as 'the beloved physician' after Colossians 4.14 where he sends greetings to the Colossian church. Our St Luke's church is named after him because of the nearness to Modbury Hospital and Luke's affiliation with doctors.

What about the ox? Love it or hate it, the winged ox is an ancient symbol of St Luke which was anticipated by Ezekiel (cc1-2). The ox was an animal of sacrifice and Luke's gospel emphasises the atonement made by Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

The four evangelists from the illuminated manuscript known as the Book of Kells. Luke is depicted as a winged ox (bottom left).



TRIPLE TREAT

Ngairé Stichbury

On the 16th of September fifteen people, including two from the wider community, visited the Spring Gully outlet and Quality Always both at Cavan Road, Dry Creek. Spring Gully outlet, a fourth generation family owned business, manufactures an ever increasing range of pickles, sauces, relishes, chutneys, honey, jams and fruit spreads. All were on display in the small factory outlet room at very reasonable prices and available for tasting in a small adjoining room. All ingredients are sourced locally other than two not available at times. There was no doubt about the success of this visit as evidenced by the amounts purchased and carried away by the visitors.

Quality Always, situated next door to Spring Gully, are textile wholesalers. A selection of their produce was available for purchase. On display were mattress covers, Doggie beds, warm slippers etc. I did not buy Tom a woollen bed! After a talk we were able to visit the large factory where we saw the huge rolls of wool, which is washed and prepared elsewhere, polyester and cotton which is locally grown. All waiting to be made into the various products. Substantial purchases were made by the visitors before we took off for Coopers Ale house and lunch.

The general feeling was that this was an interesting and enjoyable morning.



*Some
happy
customers!*





What's coming up at St Luke's?

Patronal Festival 13 October (transferred from 18 October)

Synod 18-20 October. Your synod reps are Lyn Ho, Tess Richmond and Helen Wright.

All Saints/Souls 3 November (transferred from 1 November)

Community Garden Opening 12 November 11 am

'Christians like us' discussion evenings (date to be announced)

Advent Sunday 1 December

Christmas Party and Mission Action Planning Presentation (date to be announced)

Did you know that on the last Thursday of the month the Thursday congregation go to have lunch at the Modbury Hotel? You are welcome to come and join us! Please let Rev'd Joan know by 10 am on the last Thursday. In October we will have lunch together on 31 October. (You may dress up all spooky if you like!)

A REPORT ON ICONS

Jan Walton

“Where are you and Colin going every Thursday?”

This question was asked of me by a parishioner one Thursday morning when I pulled up in the carpark to pick up Colin to go to our icon classes. When I said we go to icon writing I was asked, “what is that?” The word ‘iconography’ is derived from the Greek word *eikon* meaning ‘image’ and the word *graphos* meaning ‘to write.’

St Luke is generally recognised as the first of the iconic writers, hence the name of our group - The Icon School of St Luke.

Our day starts with prayer, and while we work there is a background of meditative music and Jessie (our reader) will read an appropriate reading of a spiritual nature (such as the life of a saint).

The first step is to prepare the boards which must be carefully done. These are covered with used linen (such as altar linen) and then gesso (a mixture of rabbit skin glue and whiting). This is applied to the linen to build a base on which the icon is copied. The board is then polished with a dampened chamois until the board is as smooth as glass. The icon is then traced on to the board, using a photocopy of the icon.



We then prepare the tempera by separating the egg yolk from the egg white and removing the skin of the egg. The yolk is diluted with an equal amount of white vinegar. This is known as egg tempera. We are now ready to use our pigment to write the icon. A small amount of pigment is placed in our palette, together with several drops of the egg tempera and mixed well until all grains of pigment have disappeared.

We all choose different icons to copy. I enjoy writing Coptic icons which have a cartoon like appearance. The Flight into Egypt is very symbolic. The four fishes at the bottom represent Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in the River Jordan. Christ Jesus is wrapped in a shroud representing his coming death, the pomegranates hanging from the trees represents plenty and the crocuses symbolise spring, eternal love and the expression "I am glad you are in my life."

We then commence writing our icon going from dark colours first to the light colours, symbolising the coming out of darkness into light. Iconography is the art of paying attention to the Holy Spirit. The process is a discipline. We need to pay attention to what is going on at each stage of the process. It is very relaxing and as Colin says "it teaches us patience!"

I try to use as much gold as possible on my icons. GOLD is the symbol of the light of the glory of God. BLUE is the colour of Transcendence. It is the most spiritual colour of Truth and is used on the outer robe of Christ Pantocrator as well as the Nativity and Transfiguration icons. RED is the symbol of God's loving activity in creation and is the symbol of blood and life. GREEN is the symbol of immortality, of Epiphany, of nature and the environment and denotes the transition from death to life.



When the icon is completed, it is stored for about six months before waxing. They are then left to stand for two days to absorb the wax and then polished with a nylon stocking after which the icons are collectively blessed on the Patronal Festival of Sain Luke, where possible at different churches around the city.

Maranatha. Come Lord, at this very hour, and send your Holy angel to guide the hands of yours servants in this ministry of love. Maranatha.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

During September and in the lead up to 13 October celebrations of our patron St Luke, seven people have been preparing for confirmation. These people are: Mercy, Patience, Gloria, Kenedi, Joseph, Christine and Terry. We have followed a six week programme which has moved through the following themes: Remembering Baptism, God the Creator, Jesus Christ the Son, The Holy Spirit, The Holy Communion and the Christian life.

We looked at passages of scripture, we had discussions and we did an activity.

Rev'd Joan and Samuel Yengi, with assistance from June Hindmarch and Carolyn Datson, worked with the candidates. It has been a wonderful journey, which is only one step along the way for these people in their lifelong relationship with God. We look forward with anticipation for the day of confirmation to share their joy and celebrate together.



Here is the group with their creation of a mandala. This is a circular artwork representing creation made of natural items including sea shells, flowers, bark, leaves and herbs. (From left: Kenedi, Christine, Joseph, Mercy, Robina (Mercy's Mum), Patience, Gloria and Terry.)



A close up of the fresh mandala.

The joy of celebration began on 6 October with a wonderful occasion of Holy Baptism and communion in the Bari service. Nine babies and children were baptised with the witness of a quite full church, with people from the Bari and morning services coming together to celebrate.

The young ones baptised were: Naomi, Joshua, Matthew, Saviour, Gladys, Samuel, Jonathan, Roseline and Grace.

Cake and fellowship followed the service. What a wonderful day! With sincere thanks to all who came to support these families and join together as the body of Christ at St Luke's.

Drums in the Church

Have you been wondering about the set of drums in the church which have recently appeared? 9.30 am congregation member Kirk Skelton has been practising several days a week to sharpen his music skills. Kirk has previously played in bands and has a real love of music. He is hoping to record his drumming sessions and put it all together on an album.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN DAY

What better thing to do than hit up the beach on a beautiful spring day! Jhanelle, Summer and Rev'd Joan went out for a lovely school holiday fun day. We wanted to go to Bounce (a fun place with trampolines and rock climbing) but didn't book and we couldn't get it. So instead we went to Henley Beach and walked along the sand to the jetty. Then we went to West Lakes shopping mall to have lunch and catch some bargains.

