HAWKER LUNCH

For the 4th and final Quarterly Men's Luncheon Forum for 2019, we are delighted to announce that we will have Ric Small (a practising architect for 28 years here in the ACT, founding Director of SQC Architecture, an active Christian locally, and the architect of our own Ministry Centre here at Christ Church) speaking on "Better by design". The luncheon will be at the **Birrigai Café, Kangara Waters** (close to Belconnen Town Centre), 11.45am-2pm **Monday 4 November,** at $27 a head for a 2-course meal plus tea/coffee.
RSVPs to Bruce Hooley(62517124 brucehooley.1@bigpond.com)
by **Thursday 31 October** - See notice board for more details

TUESDAY LUNCHTIME MEDITATION

Lunchtime meditation has started again at 12:30pm on Tuesdays in the Chapel, all are welcome.

The Tuesday meditation time is a practice in the John Main tradition of meditation and the group is part of the ACT Meditators.

We read a reading from the World Community for Christian Meditation and then meditate for 20 minutes.

For more information contact Sybilla Kovacs 6278 5783 or Merri Bacon 6251 1110, or email merri.bacon@bigpond.com

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

⇒ We pray for the peoples of every land: for all who face starvation or disease, for the homeless and the destitute; for all in positions of authority and for those who work for justice and peace.

IN AUSTRALIA

⇒ For all who are caught up in crime or addiction, for all who are giving their allegiance to wrong things or feel trapped in circumstances beyond their control.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

⇒ Diocese of Riverina.
⇒ Cootamundra.
⇒ Temora.
⇒ Junee.
⇒ Junee Correctional Centre.
⇒ Those who work in the justice system.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

⇒ For all members of our parish family including Wayne, Meg, Darcy and Iona Brighton; Richard, Mel and Matthew Browning; Barry and Sandra Button; and Shirley Campbell.
⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Dorothy Parsonage, Elizabeth Grant, John Sullivan, Andrew Hill, James Collier, Joh Sheehan, Phil Bloomfield, Darcy Brighton and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Wednesday: James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord (d. c. 62)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Wednesday: Mary Lynn Mather
Thursday: Wendy Ward
Saturday: Harris Boulton

COLLECT FOR 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

O Lord,
tireless guardian of your people,
teach us to rely, day and night, on your care.
Drive us to seek your justice and your help,
and support our prayer lest we grow weary,
for in you alone is our strength.
We make our prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

HYMNS 8 AM	READINGS
560(i)	Jeremiah 31:27-34
428(619)	Psalm 119:97-104
464	2 Timothy 3:10 to 4:5
160	Luke 18: 1-14

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker
children@holycovenant.org.au

Youth Leader
Jerry Platt
0466 661 860; youth@holycovenant.org.au

Wardens
Paul Shelley 6251 1568
Joh Sheehan 6251 7151

Resources
Phil Trigge
6257 7220; p.trigge@gmail.com

Prayer Vine
Rosemary Kennemore
6251 2009; rkmore@grapevine.com.au

Belonging and Caring
Joh Sheehan
6251 7151; Johann@sheehan.id.au

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries Program Manager
Rhonda Thorpe
0487 945 615 ; nurse@holycovenant.org.au

Holistic Care Nursing Ministries Program Director and Chaplain
Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
0406 379 599; anne.ranse@gmail.com

Honorary Priests
Reverend Anne Dudzinski
0413 994 739; annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

Reverend Connie Gerrity
0429 423 725; connie@gerrity.id.au

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 2019
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TODAY IN THE PARISH

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Communion
Celebrant:	The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
Preacher:	Kylie Butler
4.30pm	Twilight Conversation

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER

8am	Holy Communion
10am	Holy Communion
Celebrant:	The Venerable Dr Wayne Brighton
Preacher:	Brad Brathwaite
4.30pm	Twilight Conversation

COMING EVENTS

Saturday 2 November
Parish Fete

Friday 8 November, 7pm
Men's Dinner

Sunday 10 November
Open House Potluck Lunch @ the Brighton's

Bank Details for Direct Debit are:

Bank:	Commonwealth Bank
Branch:	Jamison Centre, ACT
BSB:	062 907
A/C No:	802 588
Name:	Holy Covenant Anglican Church

CULTIVATING GRATITUDE

Gratitude encompasses a variety of responses including rejoicing, praise and thankfulness. It is an appropriate response to God for God's love, care, deliverance and provisioning – for new life. More than appropriate, it is also nurturing and nourishing, reminding us of where we have been and where we are now: "…*We give thanks for the fruits of the struggling soul, The bitter and the sweet; For that which has grown in adversity And for that which has flourished in warmth and grace*;…" (Michael Leunig).

The Deuteronomy reading plunges us into the cultic practice of first fruits offerings. This response of gratitude to God was rooted in the adversity of their ancestors in Egypt. The crux of that gratitude was that God had heard their cries and seen their misery, toil and oppression (26:7). God had indeed been near and responded, delivering them through miracles and signs out of Egypt to a well provisioned land God had promised them. From badly exploited, despised aliens, they became a new people in land, their own. They were not to forget their history of adversity, nor their deliverance. Remembrance was an important foundation for their gratitude. Their remembrance was encapsulated in a simple creed beginning: "My father was a wandering Aramean" (v5). But gratitude did not stop with the historical deliverance of their forebears. They were called to rejoice in their own particular circumstances, for all the good things God had given them (v11). They were called to cultivate an ongoing attitude of gratitude.

In the Philippians reading, Paul reminds his communities of faith that God is near them (v5) and exhorts them to live a life of gratitude: 'Rejoice in the Lord always' (4:4) and be thankful (v6). Note: they are to rejoice **always**, not only in comfortable times.

Similarly, our creeds remind us of who Jesus is, and his saving works, which are at the crux of our own gratitude. Also, we should each remember with gratitude God being with us and providing for us. Cultivating gratitude draws God's peace deep into our beings. Thanks be to God indeed.

Merilyn Clark

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE BY VOLUNTEERING

Each year on my birthday I review my year and look to the next year. Fortunately, I have my own bed, food and friends. Volunteering at St John's Care each week reminds me just how blessed I am. Sure I have hurts and disappointments, but I have a wealth of support.

In the past, as a volunteer, I have heard clients who visit the Centre recall how they try to make ends meet. They mention stories like when the only meat on the table was a "lamb" shoulder that a neighbour was going to feed his dogs. It was roasted, made into moussaka from the scraps and then stretched for a week.

Most people who come into SJC are so thankful for a simple cuppa, a nibble and to be heard without being judged. If they need food we like to offer them choices where we can which gives them more control over what they are receiving.

One teenager with sensitive skin asked if we had a sensitive body wash. Her mother said not to worry as the groceries meant that she could now buy some, but I remembered that someone had donated some body butter - the daughter wept. Such small things can make a huge impact on people's lives, adding care and value for them.

So, I am turning my thoughts to what I can make for our Christmas gift room to ensure that children can sparkle too.

Kind regards from a St John's Care Volunteer

We are starting to prepare for Christmas and are looking forward to such a beautiful time of year. We have also started to prepare a list of items we will need for our Christmas Hampers and Christmas Present Room.

If you are able to give, please feel free to call or email SJC and we can provide you with a list of required items.

St John's Care contact details: (02) 6248 7771 or email Jason at Programs@stjohnscare.org.au or Sarah at Executive.Officer@stjohnscare.org.au.

Current Required Items: Sugar, 1kg flour, children's tooth brushes and paste, long life milk, shampoo and conditioner.

Kind Regards, Sarah Murdoch , Executive Officer

October ***Anglican News*** on the bookcase at the back.

The ***lost property*** basket is overflowing – please check to see if any of it is yours. It will all be donated to Anglicare soon.

MEDITATION ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

There is an opportunity to meditate on Wednesday evenings. We meet at 6 pm and finish promptly at 7pm. Each week a different member of the group leads us into a period of silent Meditation. It is an oasis of peace in the middle of the week. We end the session with prayers for those we know who need prayer, finishing with saying the Grace.

We are always happy to welcome anyone who wishes to join us.

Anne Calver: anne@scma.info. 0421 606655, or
Heather Boyd: hj.boyd@bigpond.com 6253 9650

PARISH FETE

SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER

9.30am – 1pm

Our fete is rapidly approaching – it's in just under two weeks. I hope your homes are getting decluttered as you put aside white elephant things, books and collectables and grow potted plants.

The best opportunity to bring all these things to Holy Covenant will be between 1pm and 5pm on Friday 1 November. The stalls are being set up at that time. If this is really not possible, please bring them during the week before the Fete and leave them neatly in the area next to the sound system.

Please consider signing up to help on Fete day, there is a sheet at the back. Also making cakes and slices would be appreciated by the Café and the Cake stall. You can sign up for that too.

I would still like a volunteer to put out signs around the close neighbourhood to advertise the Fete, please contact me as below. The working bee fixed a lot of these last weekend, thank you!

Please take some Fete fliers to distribute, or put on notice boards at work or in your car window. They are on the table near the kitchen hutch, in various sizes to suit your imaginative uses!

Lastly, come and enjoy a great community morning, with time to enjoy a coffee in the Café or invest in some good books to read! Check out the White Elephant stall and purchase a plant. And don't forget to have a sausage before you go home.

Libby Warren; lib@warren.com.au; 0419 603 228

SUNDAY SING-ALONG OCTOBER 27TH

Are you enjoying our newer songs but wish you knew them a bit better? Would like a sneak preview of a new song or two we'll be singing over the next months? Do you just like to sing? If the answer is yes to any of these then please join me after church on Sunday 27th October from 11:30 for about half an hour to have a good sing of a couple of the new songs that we're including in the 10am service. All very welcome, irrespective of your personal views on the quality of your voice! I'll send the music and YouTube links out in advance so you can have a look and hear them, so email me if you'd like to join in at anjoali@hotmail.com

PLAYING ON THE GRASS

Many might wonder at what is going on inside the Anglican Church judging from the headlines made this week by the Archbishop of Sydney. I found myself asking something similar when I attended a colloquium in Melbourne about disruptive ideas and dangerous questions sponsored by General Synod's Mission and Ministry Commission.

Leaders from far flung places like the Northern Territory, far north Queensland, outback South Australia and country Tasmania gathered to consider the future of parish life. Listening carefully, I heard a mixture of hope and worry in many conversations that followed.

I heard rural dioceses worry about their future. Congregations are diminishing in many country towns who are suffering from drought once again. These leaders grow frustrated as the bills continue to grow while attendance slowly shrinks and too few children take the place of their elders.

I heard city dioceses worry about their future too. Their best efforts at evangelism are producing ever diminishing returns. Their biggest congregations are more ambivalent about being Anglican than ever before. Many leaders sound like old men who only yell at the young un's to get off their grass and go elsewhere.

In the midst of this worry, a leader from Wangaratta Diocese called attention to our hope which is so easily missed saying, 'we affirm our belief in a God who includes and not excludes; a God who reaches out to others and who does not chase them away; a God who blesses and does not curse; a God who welcomes the wayward child and who prepares a feast for their homecoming.'

We need not to feel helpless as a little suburban church in the midst of these troubles. Holy Covenant believes in being a place for everyone. This is why we are hopeful and committed to becoming the best church in our corner of Belconnen by exploring new ways of demonstrating God's hospitality, like:

- telling our stories of hope and change (with special thanks to David and Mary Lynn)
- revitalising the men's dinners (thanks Quentin and team)
- building the community garden (awesome work Joh, James and Allison)
- encouraging drummers to bring energy to our 10am music team (go Jodie)
- valuing our guests by raising the quality of our hospitality after worship (thanks Merri and Libby)
- learning more about spiritual care
- having a church camp that will help us see how God changes the world through us
- opening up our doors to the world with a fete and
- taking on an assistant minister to help grow initiatives for kids and young adults

All of this is only possible when God's people work together. In November, our parish will think more about how we might grow and flourish in 2020. Parish Council is planning a stewardship challenge as an opportunity for us to turn more of our dreams into reality.

Wayne Brighton

'Have a Good Yarn'

Have a Good Yarn group is a chat and knitting group and that we have received lots and lots of wool.

Meeting on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month 11.15am to 1 pm in the worship centre. The next two are 22 October and 12 November.

Any queries to Sandra Ross 0408438770

sandraross@ozemail.com.au

UPCOMING VACANCIES

In November, the parish will be asking for nominations for a range of positions that will help our parish grow. These include:

* wardens, who help by working through important issues with the rector;
* parish council, who help deliver the vision of the parish by ensuring important goals are met and achieved;
* synod representatives, who help keep us connected with the diocese, its parishes and agencies; and clergy appointments board, who help with our recruitment needs as they arise.

If you are interested in playing such a role or know someone who would be great but is too shy to ask, contact Wayne for more information.

SHOVEL– COMMUNITY GARDEN

The community garden is flourishing. We now have 5 members from our local area renting plots. We gather on the second Sunday of each month at 12:00 to share a meal, swap gardening and tend the community beds. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us to learn more. The next gathering will be on 10 November.

If you haven't seen the garden, why not wander over and have a look behind the Rainbow Centre? You will be surprised by the transformation.

STEPPING DOWN

It was with great sadness that James Collier has decided to step down as chair of parish council and rector's warden for the remainder of the year due to health reasons. James has served with passion and energy, steering the council and helping the rector sort through priorities and needs. Please be sure to pass on your thanks.