

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 3 JULY 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

To join us on Zoom, please use the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUcja05YTXFCN0N4MGRISFVIRlOZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

Children's, Youth and Twilight services are having a break over the school holidays. Programs will resume on 24 July

SUNDAY 3 JULY

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant:

The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
Preacher: The Revd Wendy
Robertson

3.30pm Colours of God

WEDNESDAY 6 JULY

12 Midday Communion Service
and lunch

SUNDAY 10 JULY

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

COMING UP

Community lunch: 7 July
Parish Dinner: 30 July

Recognising and responding to the prophetic word

Dangerous floodwaters were rising. In succession, a neighbour in a car, man in a boat and passing helicopter pilot offered Tim rescue. He declined each, saying "I am a man of faith. God will rescue me." Finally Tim drowned. In heaven he complained: "I had faith in You but You did not rescue me." God replied: "I sent a car, boat and helicopter. What more did you want?"

This joke is close to the bone. Often we ignore rescue agents and opportunities, or deny the validity of God's word to us because it does not conform to what we expect or want to hear. We complain when further disaster occurs. Such problems plagued prophets whose prophetic words were often ignored, ridiculed or wrathfully dismissed. No wonder God often lamented "What more could I have done?"

In July we will plumb a little of the agency, content and working of prophecy. Prophecy is not just about future telling. It speaks forth God's word into our circumstances. The Scriptures are also God's prophetic word, that speaks to each generation. Galatians warns us not to be deceived, to work for the good of all (*Gal 6:10*) and never to grow weary in doing what is right (*Gal 6:9*).

In today's OT reading we find a powerful military commander in a neighbouring kingdom afflicted with leprosy, a terrible sentence of social isolation and slow death. The first prophetic agent, a little Hebrew slave, spoke of a prophet in Samaria who could heal Naaman. But request for healing went from king to king accompanied by trappings of wealth and power, thereby agitating Israel's King. Elisha, hearing this, directed the king to send Naaman to him. Elisha ignored formal protocols, simply sending a message that he bathe in the Jordan seven times for his flesh to be restored; he would be clean. Naaman was incensed by his treatment and the advice! It was not how he had envisaged it. And what was special about the Jordan anyway? Without his servants' placation and encouragement Naaman would have returned home enraged and without cure. Instead he washed in the Jordan as directed, arising cured and clean, a new creation, his skin like that of a young boy. He was restored in health and social standing, but also profoundly transformed and thankful, adopting Israel's faith.

With the psalmist we too can praise God for rescue: "*You have turned my mourning into dancing. You have taken off my sackcloth.*" (*Ps 30:11*).

Merilyn Clark

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Moving forward?

Last week St John's Care received a new client named T. He was on his way to CIT

seeking information about studying Commercial Cookery when he noticed SJC and decided to drop by and inquire about what we offer.

T explained that he needed some assistance. His voice quivered as he spoke. T talked about his new life in Australia, and the hard times he has experienced since arriving here. He told me that his wife first arrived in Australia five years ago to complete her studies, and that he had arrived two years ago with their two children.

T told me that since he arrived in Australia, his wife began acting differently towards him and the children. She never wanted to spend time with them and would put him down regularly, often in front of the children. He said, "She used to tell me that I was useless and that I only came to Australia to complicate her life".

T recalls that almost a year ago, she told him she had to go to another state for work, and that she would be back in a few weeks. Since that conversation, almost twelve months have passed, and she has not come back, nor has she answered any calls or attempts to contact her. T often has trouble sleeping and has feelings of helplessness that are hard to shake.

T said that the family were forced to leave the place where they used to live and for a time had to live in his car with nowhere else to go. They are currently living in a flat, and although he is thankful to have a roof over his family's head, he hopes to provide more for his children in the future. He has aspirations of following his passion of becoming a chef and plans to begin studying at CIT next semester.

I assured T that SJC could help him with food and schooling supplies for his family and we supplied some ActewAGL vouchers to help with his gas and electricity bills. We referred him to EveryMan, The Junction (Youth Health Service), One Link, Thread Together (winter uniforms for his children), MARSS and arranged an appointment with a representative of CIT, to investigate his study options while he continues caring for his children.

We are supporting T and his family weekly and will continue working with them for the foreseeable future. T was overwhelmed by the support SJC were able to provide to him and said, "This is a giant step forward starting from scratch, and we feel much happier about our future."

Karen Medrano, Case Manager

Items Required: Weetbix, Washing powder, Vegemite, Cleaning products

Community Lunch—7 July 2022

Our regular Community Lunch returns on Thursday 7 July from midday—1.30pm, with a focus on aged care.

'Equity for our elderly' - Mark Cooper-Stanbury (PhD Candidate, University of Melbourne). Aged care in Australia is in a significant period of reform following the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. Among other things, ensuring equitable access to care is an objective of the aged care system, but this is challenging given the trend toward more 'market'-based arrangements and other barriers to access. Mark will draw on his current PhD research to illustrate some of the trends, issues and possible policy responses.

There is a sign on sheet on the board at the back of the church, or you can email the office to let us know that you can join us, or help out on the day.

If you have any specific dietary needs, please make sure that you let us know.

Do you know someone who is a bit lonely and needs some social contact? Maybe you could bring them along to the lunch?

**HOLY COVENANT
ANGLICAN CHURCH**
a place for everyone
PARISH DINNER
**CELEBRATING
OUR DIVERSITY**
SPEAKERS:
**SISTER JANE KEOGH &
FAISAL AMIN**

30 July 2022 - 6-9pm

89 Dexter Cres Cook

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/CACCH>

Ages 0-4 free

Children (ages 5-12) \$25

Adults \$60

As an inclusive parish we seek to ensure that affordability is not a barrier. Please talk to the Rector for assistance if required.

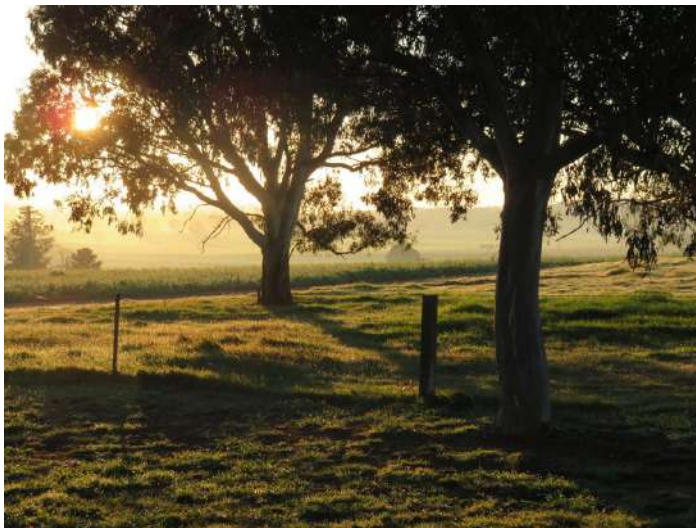
Peace abounds

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung from completeness where his feet pass. (V2 TIS 156. Morning has Broken)

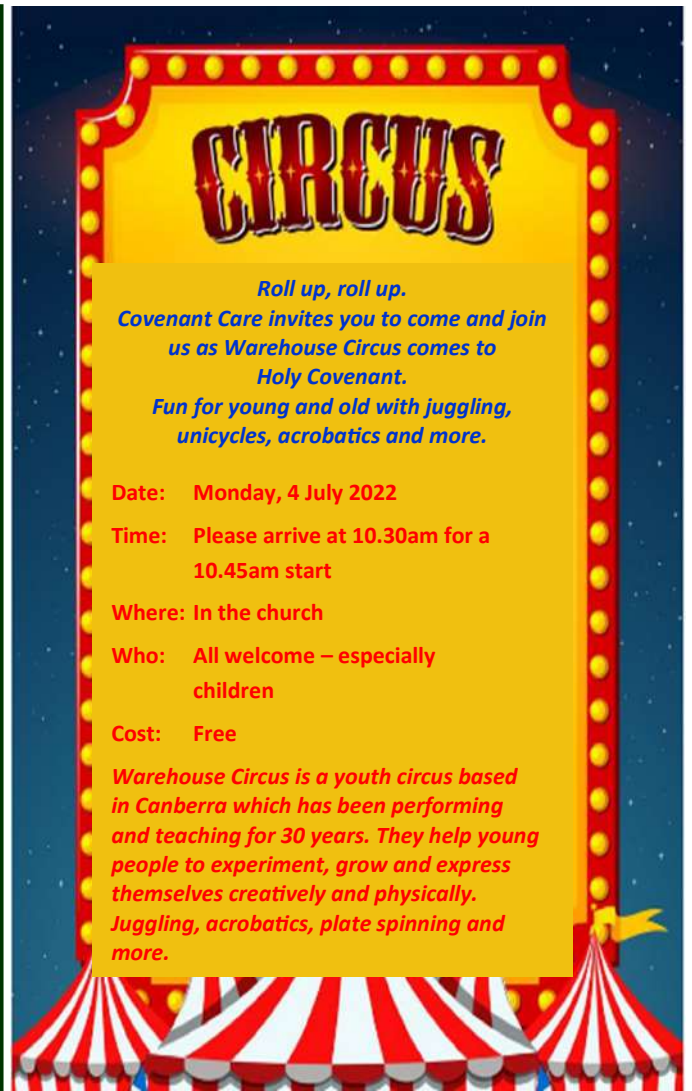
There was a mystery in the morning as I looked from my sacred space, across the lawn, thick with dew, to the green grassland just emerging through the morning mist, The garden lights were still on as the night hadn't quite given away to the emerging day. The trees, some naked of their leaves, others still undressing were still and empty, (the birds were still in bed!) Its quiet, ever so quiet and you could almost hear the bulging, bursting, pods of water drops falling from the bushes full of life-giving water from the nights rain. It's a new day, a fresh day, a new beginning and what a way to begin it - with God - in silence, giving thanks for all he gives us, for all we have, Peace abounds in the sacred space. Do you find that in your sacred space? Peace abounds.

Peace to those who are far off. Peace to those who are near. Anne, servant of the Lord

<https://comewalkwithme-reflections.blogspot.com>



Peace



CIRCUS

*Roll up, roll up.
Covenant Care invites you to come and join us as Warehouse Circus comes to Holy Covenant.
Fun for young and old with juggling, unicycles, acrobatics and more.*

Date: Monday, 4 July 2022

Time: Please arrive at 10.30am for a 10.45am start

Where: In the church

Who: All welcome – especially children

Cost: Free

Warehouse Circus is a youth circus based in Canberra which has been performing and teaching for 30 years. They help young people to experiment, grow and express themselves creatively and physically. Juggling, acrobatics, plate spinning and more.

Holy Covenant Street Library

The Parish wants to set up a Street Library on Dexter Street. We are looking for a suitable cabinet.

Have you one you could donate? Or perhaps you might see a suitable cabinet needing a new home and abandoned in a street?

Please get in touch with Gillian on 0477 480 503 if you can help.



A different kind of farewell

For those who are unaware, this week was Rhonda Thorpe's last week as the Program Manager for Holistic Care Nursing Ministries (HCNM). There were many plans for a special time at Covenant Care on Monday, but between the toilet dramas and people recovering from COVID, Covenant Care was cancelled. And the people recovering from COVID/otherwise being unavailable meant that the staff couldn't even get together for lunch. So all in all, it's been a less than satisfactory week for recognizing Rhonda's dedicated service to HCNM.

The speeches and presentations and bunches of flowers will all happen at some later stage. But on behalf of the wider congregation, the HCNM staff and all the clients and their families, it's important that we take this opportunity to recognise Rhonda's work, thank her for her dedication and professionalism, and wish her all the best for a relaxing retirement.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday
23
July

Parish Planning Part
Two

Parish Planning Part II

Trying for what feels like the umpteenth time to schedule the second half of the Parish Planning session.

If you are a leader of a ministry group in the Parish, please join us at the Worship Centre at 1pm on 23 July 2022 for planning part two, Measuring Our Success.

Please keep an eye open for a calendar invitation from the office.



Volunteers—thank you!

Many thanks to all those who assisted with ensuring that Elizabeth Grant's funeral service ran smoothly. Those who made music; ran the sound desk; found the purple altar hangings that Elizabeth helped make; set up the chairs; served the food and beverages; washed the dishes; vacuumed the Worship Centre afterwards, or anything else that happened that's not listed here—your service is valued and you make the world a better place.



There are multiple volunteering opportunities available for anyone looking to add something different to their day. If you are interested in helping out with any of the following roles, please get in touch with the office:

- Fete Coordinator
- Morning Tea (Sunday mornings)
- Video Camera Operator (training available)
- Sidesperson
- Keyboard or other musicians
- Friday Office Volunteer
- Chair Roster (new roster—sign on sheet on the roster board)

From Parish Council

At its meeting on 23 June, Council:

- was pleased to learn that Bishop in Council (BiC) had approved plans for the Rainbow Centre. This means that the Development Application will be submitted and the parish can proceed with seeking quotes from builders.
- noted that we will need to go back to BiC to seek permission to incur debt once the budget is determined
- reviewed how the budget was tracking in August
- noted the unplanned plumbing expense of \$5,500
- reaffirmed the importance of trust and accountability in ministry and the need for all involved in ministry to be up to date with safe ministry requirements
- discussed ways of improving the thermal comfort of the office

Joh Sheehan

Chair, Parish Council

Staff Leave

Please be aware that several members of the Holy Covenant Ministry team will be on leave during July.

Revd Wayne is away from 4-8 July.

Revd Wendy is away from 15-22 July.



We note that Revd Anne Ransse's holiday was overtaken by COVID, and we hope that she will be able to re-schedule that leave soon.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ An end to human trafficking
- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine, and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Research into Long COVID
- ⇒ Relief workers and earthquake survivors in Afghanistan

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Health workers dealing with the combination of COVID and influenza
- ⇒ Better access and uptake of COVID and influenza vaccinations

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Armidale
- ⇒ St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn and friends
- ⇒ Anglican Women of Australia
- ⇒ Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Goulburn Health Service
- ⇒ Anglicare Canberra and Goulburn
- ⇒ The Cathedral Chapter, and all aspects of the work and ministry of St Saviour's Cathedral, the mother church of the Diocese.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including George and Connie Gerrity; Elaine and John Gifford; Quenton Grafton and Carol-Ann Kubanek; and Janice Green and Perry and Cassandra Wiles.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Bev Barnes, Claire Whelband, Ted and Penny Lilley, Catherine Lorimer; Brian and Elaine Dennis and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

Tuesday: Arthur William Ryan (d. 1997)

Friday: Iris Hall (d. 1996)

COLLECT for 4th Sunday after Pentecost

God of the covenant,
in our baptism
you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom:
give us courage,
as you gave it to the apostles,
that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in
every circumstance of life;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

2 Kings 5.1-14

Psalm 30

Galatians 6.7-18

Luke 10.1-12, 17-24

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Children's Worker

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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

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Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

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Belonging and Caring

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Curate and Community Chaplain

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

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Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

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The Revd Connie Gerrity

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Resources Team

0419 255 002

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday: Tahli Robertson

Saturday: Elaine Dennis

The June edition of Anglican News is now available on the Diocesan website. You can access it here:

<https://anglican.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Anglican-News-June-2022.pdf>