

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2022

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher :
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER

12 Midday Communion Service
and lunch

SUNDAY 13 NOVEMBER

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant : Revd Anne Dudzinski
Preacher :
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversations

Coming Up:

Parish Picnic, 20 November, 10am-2pm

Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth
Branch: Jamison Centre ACT
BSB 062 907
Account No: 802588

All Saints Day: the meaning of hope

All of us are saints if we are committed to Christ. A key part of this commitment is having hope. When we are in despair we are diminished in our capacity to act. When we have hope we are enlivened to act. Hope makes action possible. It motivates. It impacts on how we perceive ourselves, what we privilege and value and how we spend our time and live our lives.

Haggai 1 records a situation of despair. God's temple is destroyed, his people exiled and put under the rule of a foreign king. The whole society both religious (represented by Joshua) and secular (represented by Zerubbabel) are as nothing. All of the old leaders had gone, and it appeared things were hopeless. The creative and redeeming God appeared to have vanished and had abandoned his people.

Into this situation of despondency God speaks through his prophet Haggai: "I am with you--take courage". God will honour his promises to his people which he made to them as they exited their captivity in Egypt. He is injecting hope. It is this hope that enables communities to stand firm in times of crisis and difficulty. Haggai encourages his people to rebuild the temple after their exile. It lay in ruins and rebuilding the Davidic kingdom was no easy task--exacerbated by drought, famine and

economic difficulties which beset Judah at that time (about 520BCE).

Haggai's prophecy contains an important assertion about ownership. The wealth of the world is not ours but God's. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine says the Lord of hosts. This is an invitation for us to reconsider ownership of assets and get priorities reordered. We are custodians or stewards of God's bounty. As caretakers we should be accountable. We also need to get priorities right. Rather than living in comfortable homes as they were in Judah they need to go about rebuilding. This rebuilding of the temple meant giving priority to God.

There is also another key theme in the reading from Haggai. This time the rebuilt temple will be even better, its splendour greater accompanied by prosperity. This links the Gospel reading about the resurrection. This again is about hope: that God raises us as he did Jesus from the dead. The resurrection is the gateway to hope. Being resurrected from the dead means a radically discontinuous relationship to a dying world. It provides hope and sustains hope.

With war, economic difficulties, rising inflation it is easy to live with pain and hopelessness. We need to remember God's words "I am with you—take courage."

Clive Rodger

From sleeping rough to safe space

D and her partner arrived in Canberra four weeks ago

from interstate. They made the decision to relocate to Canberra from interstate as they wanted to put distance between themselves and their old life and make a fresh start.

Since arriving in Canberra, D had been to a job interview and wished to continue to look for work. In the meantime, they were sleeping in their car at a truck stop. When they arrived at our Centre the overnight temperatures were still below or near zero degrees and they hadn't been sleeping well as it was cold, uncomfortable and they did not feel very safe.

D told me the couple had no food and had not eaten for days. Additionally, neither had income as their Centrelink payments had been frozen. D was also worried that they had not been able to shower for some time and that this was not helpful in looking for work. She told me that they also experienced mental ill health and had a significant trauma history. At times, they felt like all hope was lost and they had experienced thoughts of self-harm.

D and I explored what would help them the most at this time. We made a list of all the tasks that needed to happen and D prioritised them. We decided that finding a bed to sleep in was the highest priority. Together we called OneLink, which is an organisation who links community members to supported accommodation services and they advised that there were no beds available. As a result, we formulated a plan for that night, which included providing non-perishable foods and warm blankets, as they had no other option than to sleep in their car. We then contacted Centrelink to seek support with D's financial situation and were able to re-start their payments, although not for nearly a fortnight.

OneLink contacted me the next day to advise that a temporary bed had become available for D and K, which was fantastic news. The pair were overjoyed when I told them.

Since then, I have been working closely with D to help get their lives back on track. I have helped her to apply for priority housing with ACT Housing. In the meantime, they have found transitional accommodation where they can reside while they wait for either an ACT Housing property or a private rental. SJC continues to support them with food assistance while they get themselves into a better financial situation. I have also supported D emotionally as the move to Canberra presents a big change for her. She has been linked in with a GP, as well as a support group for people experiencing the effects of mental illness. She has been able to find some sporadic employment opportunities which will help alleviate some of the financial stress.

Both D and K still wish to gain full time employment and their goal is to work and become less dependent on social welfare services. They have many strengths and attributes that will aid them in achieving their goals of securing stable employment, their own home and meeting people to form new relationships. Not only are they driven, persistent and hard-working but they are also kind and compassionate.

D and K are incredibly grateful for the support that SJC has been able to provide them in this challenging time. They once said to me that they didn't know what they would have done or who they would have turned to without SJC, and that they have always felt welcomed and supported here. I look forward to continuing to work with D and K over the coming months in achieving their goals.

Social Work Student Belinda Ding

Pantry Items Required: tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned meat (Irish stew), pasta sauce, muesli bars

Congratulations to Geoff & Lorraine Buckland who celebrated their 60th (Diamond) Wedding Anniversary on Thursday 3rd November, 2022. They were married at St. Michael's Church, Wollongong.

Very best wishes for celebrating this wonderful milestone.



Walk with God

Come to the waters and I will give you rest - come.

What is in your mind when you stretch out your step to go on a walk? Is it thoughts of the day ahead? Is it thoughts of yesterday? To go for a walk is about taking the sacred space with me. It's about looking deeply at what is about me - the beautiful freshness of the land from the night's rain, the deep quiet of the beginning of a day, the emerging blue sky, the awakening birds, the sweet perfume of spring, the gentle breeze, the sense of just me and God (and of course the little dog!) - the awareness. Some of our habits, our way of life can be more a burden than a blessing but this habit, the habit of taking God on the walk, or sitting with him in the garden, can so easily become a way of life that is so refreshing and emanates such peace.

May the peace of God fill your life every single day. Anne, servant of the Lord.



Walking at Rungutjirpa (Simpson's Gap)

Parish Retreat 2022

Our parish retreat held 21-23 October was led by the Revd Susanna Pain, a former rector. The retreat was held at the Hermitage in Mittagong.

Retreats provide space in a busy life to step aside, have a break and reconnect with God and our true self. Susanna helped us to think a little more about the nature of our home and finding it within ourselves.

Thanks for the photos Heather.



Free Webinar—Dispelling the myths of ageing, palliative care and spirituality

Presenter: Adjunct Research Professor Ann Harrington

8 November 2022 at 1pm

Register: <https://bit.ly/webinar-myth-busting>

HOW HOLY COVENANT WORKS:

THE GIFT OF EVANGELISM

what gifts are there?



Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers help God's people join in the work of new creation (Eph 4.11-13). Their presence is a gift because they energize and enable our ministry with the people around us.

how is evangelism a gift?



Evangelism is all about the invitation to respond, belong and believe in God's work of salvation through Christ. It's about helping people have eyes to see God's presence in their lives.

why do we need evangelists?

Evangelists help new people to know God and join in the way of love. They understand the culture and can find words and ways that communicate to those who are standing on the edge.



what difference does it make?



Evangelists help us to discover the goodness of God and then bring freshness to others. Their playfulness and sociality makes church fun. They help newcomers connect and help us to become good neighbours.

where can I use this gift?

Evangelists like talking to new people, helping them find their way or just talking about God's new world and the way of love. They can help people who are looking for a spiritual home to find Holy Covenant as a place to thrive.



How Holy Covenant works, next week: the gift of prophecy

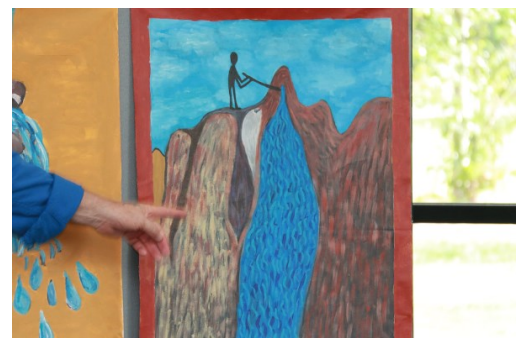
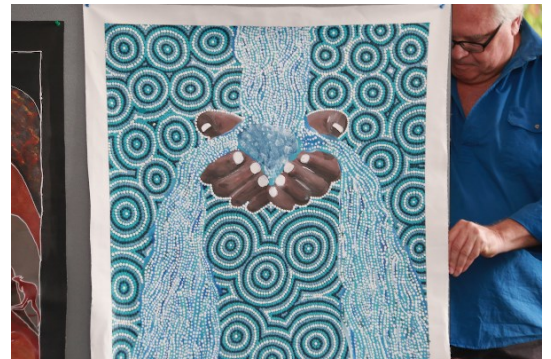
visit fivefoldsurvey.com to learn more



Nungalinya College

Empowering Indigenous Christians

The last block of 'Art and Faith' for the year happened across October. There have been some amazing paintings on the theme of water and life. The students shared in chapel, and have their public exhibition on November 4th.



Halloween Party

On a cold and wet October night, Holy Covenant hosted a Halloween party for the neighbourhood. There were games like dangling donuts, a sausage sizzle, face painting and way too many lollies.

Nearly 50 people joined us for a night of fun and laughter. It provided a great opportunity for kids to invite their friends who never go to church. Thanks to Wendy, Tobias and the youth team for making it a great night.



Have a Good Yarn

Tuesday 8
November,
11am - 12.30pm



Interested?
Contact
Sandra

PH: 0408
438770

3Cs

(Carer's Group)

Friday 11
November

Contact Sandra:
ph 0408 438770



Thanks family!

Megan and Richard Arthur would like to thank all the people who have sent messages and cards, wishing us well for our wedding. While the 'getting married in the garden' plan was a total washout, our friends and family enjoyed themselves in the Worship Centre instead. The honeymoon in Victoria was also pretty damp, but we still had a great time. Richard says that 'Come From Away' is a better musical than 'Hamilton', and Megan may have eaten her way around Melbourne.

Big shout out to Rick for marrying us, Wayne for this photo, and Steve Daniels for co-ordinating getting the seats set



up for the 8am service after the wedding. Also to Trish for putting together last week's Bulletin, and everyone who dealt with the email and the phone while Megan was away.

MORNING TEA ROSTER



CAN YOU HELP?
EMAIL
[OFFICE@HOLYCOVENANT.
ORG.AU](mailto:OFFICE@HOLYCOVENANT.ORG.AU)

100 VOICES FOR THE HOMELESS

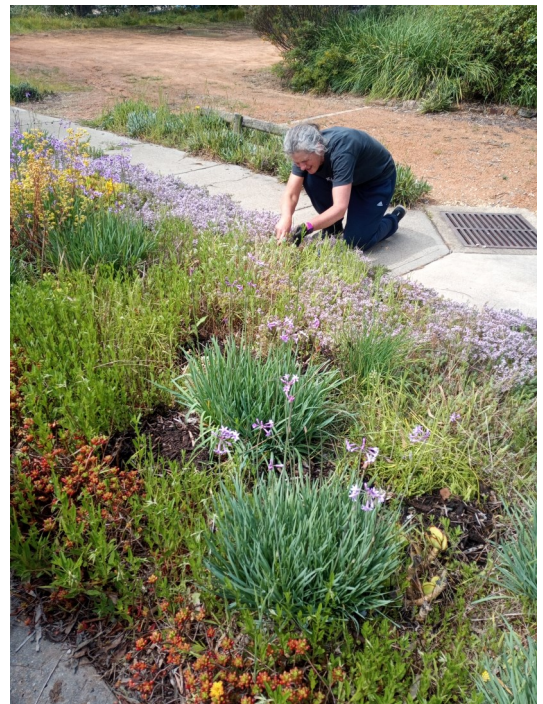


Venue St Andrews Church, Forrest
When Saturday 12 November, 2.00pm (afternoon tea provided)
Tickets \$10 per person, \$15 per family
Phone 6259 2931 **OR email** admin@stpaulsginninderra.org.au



Gardeners—we appreciate you!

A huge two day effort from Wendy E last week on one of the gardens. It's looking lovely, and just in time for the fete.



If you know of someone in the Parish doing great work, please send the details to the office. We love a good news story!

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Survivors and families of those who died in the South Korean crowd crush and Indian bridge collapse
- ⇒ The new Attorney-General of Kiribati, and the strength of that nation's judicial system
- ⇒ Peaceful transfer of power in Brazil
- ⇒ Upcoming elections in Fiji
- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine, and the withdrawal of Russian troops

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Farmers dealing with floods, hail and worker shortages
- ⇒ The Robodebt Royal Commission hearings
- ⇒ NSW Special Commission of Inquiry into gay and transgender hate crimes
- ⇒ An end to racism in our society following the death of Cassius Turvey

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Bendigo
- ⇒ Canberra Grammar School & Canberra Girls' Grammar School
- ⇒ Anglican News: Editors and contributors
- ⇒ Cursillo Movement

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Kay Beaver; Lucy Bennett; Jennifer Berrie; Karen Bisley; John Blue; Graham and Graciela Bonnett; Harris and Helen Boulton; and Heather Boyd.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Libby Warren; Phyl Holmes; Wendy Bloomfield and family; Glenys Wimmers; Helen Boulton, Anne & Peter Bazeos and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Wednesday: **Margit Alice Halsey (d. 2010)**
Alma Featherstone (d. 2013)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Monday: **Gareth James**
Wednesday: **Wendy Elkhuisen**
Thursday: **Deborah Greenaway**

READINGS

Haggai 1.15b-2.9
Psalm 145.1-5, 145.17-21
2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 2.13-17
Luke 20.27-40

COLLECT for 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

God of all the living,
in the resurrection of Christ Jesus
you have given us the promise of life
which death itself cannot destroy:
in the strength of this unshakeable promise,
give us a new heart to live, even now, as your new
creation.

We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus
Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton,
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Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

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The Revd Connie Gerrity

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Resources Team

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