

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 23 APRIL 2023  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplajQ5YTXFCN0N4MGRlSEVIRllOZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

## SUNDAY 23 APRIL

8am & 10am Holy Communion  
Celebrant : The Revd Anne Dudzinski  
Preacher: The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

## WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch.

## SUNDAY 30 APRIL

8am & 10am Holy Communion  
Celebrant and Preacher:  
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
(Kid's Church & Youth Group resume at 10am)  
5pm Twilight Conversations

## Coming soon:

Friday 5 May: Pizza night 6pm  
Sunday 7 May: Colours of God  
Sat 20 May: Working Bee  
Sat 27 May: Planning Day & Women's afternoon tea

## Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth  
Branch: Jamison Centre ACT  
BSB 062 907  
Account No: 802588  
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

## Applying the Resurrection

*"For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him " (Acts 2:39)*

This is incredibly powerful stuff. But only if we respond to it as Peter invites us to do, by living lives of love towards one another. If all we do is read the words and fail to apply them to the realities of the world that we live in, then are we really living lives of love?

Applying the resurrection means participating in what God is doing in the world in all sorts of ways. In times of natural disasters, we apply the resurrection in our response through prayer, financial support, or physically engaging in the support of those affected. When the planet is threatened by climate change and out of control consumerism, we apply the resurrection in our actions to control our own environmental footprint, supporting those working for change at all levels, and finding ways to help those directly

impacted by rising sea levels and changing temperatures.

We apply the resurrection through prayer, contribution, volunteering or voting. We watch what God is already doing, and we respond. Of course, we can choose to do nothing, or do our own thing. These are both responses. But are they responses that demonstrate lives of love towards ourselves and others?

I try to look at the questions that can divide the church through this lens of applying the resurrection. How do opportunities such as the Voice, or legislation on Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) provide opportunities for us to apply the resurrection, to live lives of love for others?

For me, both the Voice and VAD require me to consider the greater good first and foremost. Do both these concepts provide opportunities for the world to be a better place for those who are currently suffering or experiencing disadvantage? Does my support for both show love to others? I think the answer is yes.

Megan Arthur

## Rebuilding

Last month the Multi-cultural Hub referred a client. We will call the client T. T does not speak English, but fortunately I speak Spanish.

T told me how and why she had come to Australia. The reasons why T fled her country are based around fear and trauma. She now lives with a kind-hearted family who offered her a room, but she has no money to buy food or to put towards her room.

Due to the conditions of her visa - which is a month away from expiring - she cannot work in this country. This means she will have to return to her own country. At the mere mention of this, I could hear the fear and panic in her voice.

I contacted Legal Aid to see if they could help with T's visa or provide any immigration advice. We were able to get an appointment that same afternoon. I accompanied T to help her with the translation. One of the Legal Aid workers explained that her experiences and the traumatic effects of those experiences could mean she is eligible for a different type of visa. Legal Aid is going to help with the whole visa application process.

The other impact of T's trauma is that she cannot sleep, has panic attacks, anxiety, and stress. T and I arranged to meet at 'Head to Health' the next day. 'Head to Health' offered T some strategies on how to identify and manage anxiety and stress. They also agreed to work with St John's Care (SJC) on T's case.

SJC will assist T in obtaining food on a weekly basis until her immigration status improves and she is able to work. We can also help her with some bus tickets so that she can get around. We invited T to visit us whenever she needs to talk to someone and informed her about our monthly lunch, which is a very good opportunity to get to know what is going on in our community.

I would like to thank the donors, supporters and volunteers who have contributed to our organisation, and who have played a part in supporting people like T.

*Karen Medrano SJC Case Manager*

**Items Required:** pasta meals, Cup-a-Soup, shampoo and conditioner, oil, instant noodles

## Hearing the Voice

Australians will soon be asked to vote to enshrine an Indigenous voice in our nation's constitution.

Many communities will need lots of help if they

are to understand, engage and support the referendum. This training event is for local people who wish to travel with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to see this vital initiative succeed. Participants will:

1. explore the history and significance of the Uluru Statement from the Heart
2. understand why including the Voice in the Constitution matters
3. appreciate how the Voice could improve life in local communities for First Nations people
4. gain confidence and know-how in leading local conversations with friends, families and communities
5. reflect theologically with Christians from a range of perspectives about the Voice's importance.

*Morning tea will be provided. Participants are advised that lunch will not be provided as there are many cafes in the vicinity providing a range of options.*

This event will be facilitated by the Revd Canon A/Prof. Glenn Loughrey.

Glenn is a Wiradjuri man. He is a leader at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University in Canberra and the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne's Educator and Advocate for the Voice. He is the chairperson of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council, the vicar of St Oswald's in Glen Iris and artist in residence at St Paul's Anglican Cathedral in Melbourne.

Tickets available from - <https://events.humanitix.com/hearing-the-voice>



## Colours of God

Colours of God (CoG) is a ministry of Holy Covenant that reaches out to adults with intellectual disability. It acts as a friendship group for anyone who wants to talk about God in an uncomplicated way.

The main aim of this ministry is to support people with disabilities and to share the love of Jesus; to encourage them on their faith journey into a closer relationship with Christ; to help them understand and apply God's Word to their lives, and to give them also an opportunity to serve others and have fellowship in a way that is meaningful to them.

CoG has been ably led by Archdeacon Anne and Revd Anne for many years. But for all things there is a season, and it's time for a change. Archdeacon Anne has already stepped away, and Revd Anne is looking to complete her time of leadership with CoG. We thank both of them for their service to this ministry.

Now we are searching for new leaders for CoG! Are you someone, or do you know someone, with a passion for inclusion and a desire to help bring the joy of God to adults with intellectual disability? Please contact Revd Wayne for more information about this important ministry.



## Beauty and Wonder

*The Lord God made them all. (TIS 135)*

Perhaps these are the words of a Sunday School song we first learnt as a child but its one of those early learnings that have stayed with us all our lives The song is full of words that show us the beauty and wonder of God's creation and when we look about us at his creation, we can see his mark everywhere. The massive grandeur of the night skies, the stillness of the stars and the silence of the sunrise.

If you want to see God's glory then just stop where you are and look it straight in the face. What you see is a love letter from God, his priceless gift to us. Socrates said: ' Speak that I might see.'

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



Made by God

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

## ANZAC Day Closure & Term Three Commencements

The office is closed on 25 April. Have a Good Yarn, Canberra Harmony Chorus, and the Men's Prayer Group **will not** be meeting that day.

Tai Chi returns on Wednesday 26 April at 9.30am. The Tuesday meditation service will not return for Term Three until May 2nd.

## Learning to Engage—Part Three

*Learning to Engage is an article Revd Wayne wrote for the St James Institute. Previously, we explored the history of Australian Christianity since the 1960s, discipleship as control, and introduced discipleship as discovery. This is the final instalment in this series.*



The gospel is pattern to be known and emulated for as the Father sent Jesus to a beloved yet estranged world, so Christians are sent to make God's love evident and effective. Faith, hope and love are discovered by learning how to see and engage as Jesus did. The point of Jesus is not to rescue the faithful by enabling them to escape or even to dominate the world, but to recreate the world by teaching people how to love deeply and appropriately. Christians are then invited to join, share and build God's kingdom of love, mercy, compassion and justice in this world.

Christ's life is like a blood transfusion that enters our bloodstream and enables us to see everything with eyes of faith, hope and love. Discipleship becomes the process or means by which we walk the way of love with Jesus, moving from sin into salvation, from isolation into community, violence into love, outsiders into insiders, dominion into harmony and temporality into eternity.

Discipleship is a perplexing path even when discovery is emphasised. For new life emerges only by asking questions, replying honestly and walking a new way. Our experience of life may be confusing and unstable, but our resistance, disappointment, struggle and weakness present opportunities for growth with God's help. Perhaps the greatest discovery is that we are not alone. God's kingdom and the desire for belonging, safety and prosperity beat within everyone for all are beloved.

Christian engagement with the world is transformed when equality is discovered. Difference, diversity and even dissent are valued as Christians participate in the work of recreation by addressing the injustice, violence and desecration that are simply taken as normal. When Christians become responsible, creative and non-violent citizens of God's kingdom, they may well become people who are respected, trusted and supported by those beyond our ecclesial borders.

Engaging with discovery can be problematic. Asking questions can make life awkward. Criticism can become an excuse for inaction. Collaboration can cause us to lose perspective and to drift from our core values. What's more, it takes energy to be curious. It takes courage to be present. It takes patience and forgiveness to be creative, all of which are in short supply. When discipleship is about discovery, Jesus shifts from being our master to a friend, companion and guide who enables us to leave our isolation and destruction behind for a better world.

### Conclusion

Current efforts to refocus the church's understanding of discipleship will have long-term consequences that may not be evident now. Each pathway will give rise to new ecclesial forms and expectations about leadership formation. Although each pathway will struggle with the other, as Esau and Jacob did long ago, I take heart from Jesus' parable of the seed that grows by itself (Mark 4: 26-29).

I have chosen to walk the pathway of discovery and by doing so turn away from trying to control the discipleship of others. The gospel seed is spread trusting that whatever stalk, head and grain emerges will be what's needed. Maybe the future of the church will grow best when people learn to love those that they live with and let God take care of the rest.

*Revd Dr Wayne Brighton*

## Scam Alert!

There are scams circulating at present that we encourage our Holy Covenant family to avoid:

1. A text message is sent to your mobile phone – purporting to be from your son or daughter. The texts claims the phone has been dropped in the loo and tells you to save the new temporary mobile number. The damaged phone's been put in rice, but in the meantime there is no access to the online banking system. There's an urgent bill needing to be paid, the amount of the 'supposed' bill is sent, and you're asked if that's OK. A further text asks "Can you help me?" question? On confirmation that the amount is OK Bank details including BSB & A/c no. and name are sent; your asked to do a mobile transfer (i.e. via Osko.) The language used mimics that of a son or daughter seeking help from their Mum or Dad.
2. An email purporting to be from Revd Wayne. There are several fake addresses, including pastor8329@gmail.com, rec-tor.holycovenant.au@gmail.com and other variations on those themes. Rest assured that Revd Wayne will never ask you for money, or for you to send him gift cards, or phrase a request like this: "Are you available to spare me some of your time now? Kindly respond to this email."

There's lots of useful information about avoiding scams and keeping safe online at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>



## Nungalinya News



Nungalinya College uses the expression 'Bothways' teaching to convey the

central idea that various perspectives can be integrated when learning more about God, the Scriptures and life! In particular, they strive to incorporate Indigenous culture and First Languages into all courses and ways of being, and position all students and staff as co-disciples, growing together. It is helpful to pause, on occasion, and remember that the College should be focussed on both: **Heart** and Head, **Body** and Soul, **First Languages** and English, **Ministry** and Theology, **Skills** and Faith, **Land** and Classroom, **Communal** and Individual.

Both 'Art & Faith' and 'Faith & Family Wellbeing' courses continue to prove very popular with students, and combine the learning of specific skills (drawing & painting and grief, trauma, violence-prevention strategies), within a Christian worldview. These 'applied ministries' are vital in community where such issues are so dominant. Please keep praying for these students as often deep emotions and cultural practices are being considered and worked through.



## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine and the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Peace in Sudan and a speedy transition to civilian democratic rule
- ⇒ The coronation of King Charles III at Westminster Abbey

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ All those mourning the death of Fr Bob Maguire
- ⇒ Preparations for the Federal budget, that the most vulnerable will be well supported
- ⇒ Willingness to listen to Australia's First Peoples and a successful outcome in the Voice referendum

### IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Tasmania
- ⇒ South Wagga Wagga Parish
- ⇒ The Forrest Centre, Wagga Wagga
- ⇒ The bereaved and those who care for them

### IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Luc Rose; Maxine Rose; Sandra & Geoffrey Ross; Richard and Maureen Scutter; Joh Sheehan; Paul and Heather Shelley, and Carol Sherman.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Glenys Wimmer; Ann & Peter Bazeos; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers, Anne Drummond, Gracie Bonnett, Lou Daniels, Geoffrey Ross and anyone known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

- 24 Apr Iris Gould (d. 1991)  
Linda Sharpe (d. 2002)
- 25 Apr Norma Alexander (d. 2001)  
Lesley Hadzontonis (d. 2009)

## BIRTHDAYS

- 27 Apr Judith Ann Daniells  
28 Apr Michael Troy

## BIBLE READINGS

- Acts 2:14, 36-41  
Psalm 116: 1-4, 11-18  
1 Peter 1:13-25  
Matthew 28:8-15a

## COLLECT for 3rd Sunday of Easter

O God,  
your Son made himself known to his disciples  
in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in his redeeming work;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Rector

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### Resources Team

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