

# HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 23 JULY 2023  
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRlSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366  
Password: 033643

## SUNDAY 23 JULY

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

## WEDNESDAY 26 JULY

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

## SUNDAY 30 JULY

8am & 10am: Holy Communion  
Celebrant: The Revd Wendy Robertson  
Preacher: The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

### Coming soon:

Thurs 27 July: Can you spot a scam?  
Sat 29 July: Parish Dinner  
Sat 12 August: Women's Breakfast

### Bank details for direct debit:

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

## Stairway to heaven

In Genesis 28, Jacob dreams of a stairway to heaven. For me, and many others of my generation, this phrase takes us straight to Led Zeppelin:

*There's a lady who's sure all that  
glitters is gold  
And she's buying a stairway to  
heaven.*

*When she gets there she knows,  
if the stores are all closed  
With a word she can get what  
she came for.*

*Ooh, ooh, and she's buying a  
stairway to heaven.*

As the song progresses, Led Zeppelin's lady discovers that she cannot buy her way into heaven. She joins the narrator winding on down the road, with shadows taller than their souls. Their chase for material things has spiritually shrunken their souls. What a powerful allegory Page and Plant provide!

If we want to build up the stature of our souls, what path must we travel? This week's Psalm has some of the answers for us:

*Search me, O God, and know my  
heart;  
test me and know my thoughts.*

*See if there is any wicked way in  
me,  
and lead me in the way  
everlasting (Ps 139:23-24)*

The way everlasting is much more than just the heaven of the Led Zeppelin song. It's even more than the everlasting life to which some translations of Ps 139 refer. The way everlasting is a way of forgiveness, repentance, grace, justice and peace. It is something that we can participate in, right now. This is the way of Jesus Christ.

Unlike the lady in the song, whose stairway is built on a foundation of 'whispering wind', our stairway is built on a foundation of God's love. Even if 'there's a feeling I get when I look to the west, and my spirit is crying for leaving', even when we fear that we have moved too far away from Jesus and are trapped in the material world, we can make our way back to the God who loves us. Our God is never more than a thought or a prayer away.

*Ooh, it makes me wonder...*

*Megan Arthur*

## CV Workshop

For many of our clients, gaining employment can instigate positive changes in their life. It can mean that they no longer rely on income support, that they can move out of social housing, or that they can begin getting on top of bills and other debts. Acquiring employment can allow parents to send their children to school camp or extracurricular activities. It allows financial freedom and, just as importantly, employment gives people a sense of purpose and fulfilment.

MTP Services are a local tech consultancy firm who develop and provide tech solutions for organisations, as well as specialising in recruitment. Their staff work hard to match candidates to advertised roles to the benefit of employers and employees. The company has been a fantastic supporter of St John's Care (SJC) over the last 12 months, making regular donations of funds and food and even donating technology to our staff following the recent break-ins.

Last Thursday our friends at MTP Services held a CV writing workshop for our clients here at SJC. The workshop helped our clients create/update their CV's to suit their skillsets and job preferences. The afternoon was highly successful and all of those in attendance provided positive feedback about the experience.

"For the first time in years, I feel ready and confident to look for work. The staff helped me with my resume and clearly explained the steps I need to take to get a job", said one of our clients.

Early this week I spoke with two of our clients who attended the workshop. They were both incredibly moved and motivated by their interactions with the MTP staff. We will continue to support our clients to move through the necessary steps to gain employment and hope to provide you with some positive updates over the coming weeks/months.

I would like to sincerely thank MTP Services and their staff for their ongoing support over the past 12 months. They are helping to facilitate significant positive change in the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our community.

*Robbie Speldewinde Operations Manager*

**Items needed:** Tomato sauce, Flour – plain and SR, Cooking oil and olive oil, 1 litre full cream UHT milk

# 9

## WAYS TO MAKE THINGS GREAT

BY HELPING AT HOLY COVENANT

jamming with the music team by playing or singing



helping with hospitality after services or pizza nights



reading, praying or leading in the sanctuary



creating small groups for fun, growth or study



pastoral care for those in times of need



welcoming guests and inviting them out



helping with kids church, youth group, camps or adventure activities



sound desk, cameras, computers, copying, service sheets & social media



These are our ideas. Maybe you have another gift or talent you'd like to share? Why not talk to Wayne or Wendy and see what happens

## Anglican News

The August edition of Anglican News is available on the Diocesan website: <http://anglicancg.org.au/news-and-events/anglican-news/>. The Covenant Care Nurse advertisement is included—don't forget to share it with anyone you know who might be interested!

## Holy Covenant's Orchestra

Did you know that Holy Covenant has its own orchestra? Well, almost.

Musica da Camera, a local string chamber orchestra, has been rehearsing at Holy Covenant on Wednesday evenings for the past 23 years and performs three or four concerts here each year.

Their concert a couple of weeks ago was a real buzz! Under musical director Sally Greenaway, the orchestra played seven contemporary Australian compositions. Five of the composers were present in the audience and spoke briefly about their works. Our own Jodie Petrov was the flute soloist in two of the works.

Several members of the Holy Covenant community are regular attenders at the concerts. If you would like to be on the email list, please contact Paul Shelley. The next concert will be on Saturday 9 September directed by one of Australia's top cellists, David Pereira.



## God of Surprises

*Let us ask ourselves today; are we open to 'God's surprises'? Pope Francis*

God is often referred to as the God of surprises and he never fails to live up to that description. All around us in our day there are things that cause us to say, 'that was of God', or 'that is of God.' Yesterday I was taken by surprise when the end of the day seemed to pause between that thin veil of light and dark as God put on a magnificent spectacle in the sunset. A spectacle of intense colour and beauty that caused such an intake of my breath, stopping me in my tracks in a moment of awe and wonder. It was indeed a moment of nourishment.

May the peace of God fill your life every single day.

*Anne, servant of the Lord*



A moment of nourishment



**Let's work for real change  
by respecting the  
knowledge, culture and stories  
of our First Peoples**

## Parish Dinner 2023

**When:** 29 July, 6-9pm

**Where:** Holy Covenant Parish Centre

**More information:** <https://events.humanitix.com/parish-dinner>

Just over a week to go, almost half the tickets are sold, and there's only 26 adult seats left unallocated on the list of tables.

**Table coordinators:** please remember to check with your guests about drinks and the antipasto (entrée) course.

The **menu** is up on the back noticeboard, and volunteer cooks are **urgently** needed. Recipes will be provided, and preparation costs will be reimbursed.

**Special dietary requirements:** thus far we are catering for vegetarian, gluten free and low FODMAP needs. If you need us to cover something else, make sure to let us know when you book your tickets.

**Volunteers:** it's great to see people volunteering to help. We don't need any more people for serving dessert, but all the other tasks are still available.



**Silent auction:** Remember to chat with Revd Wendy about donations for the silent auction. Once you have had a conversation with Revd Wendy about your donation, you can drop it off at the office marked 'for silent auction'.

## Christian Leaders

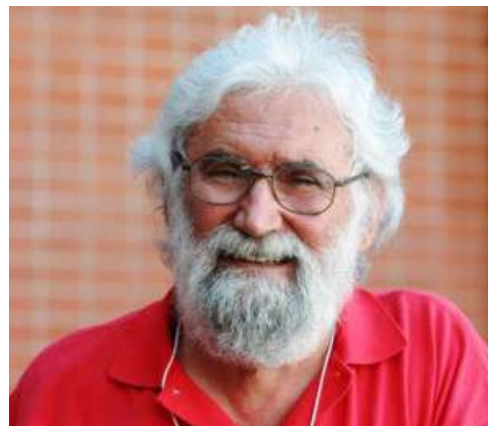
### Leonardo Boff, theologian of liberation

Leonardo Boff is a Brazilian theologian and philosopher, born in 1938 in the small town of Concordia, in the region of Santa Catarina. In 1959, he joined the Franciscan order, and he joined the priesthood in 1964. Boff proceeded to study philosophy and theology at the university of Munich, from which he received his doctorate in 1970.

Alongside other theologians including Gustavo Gutierrez and Jon Sobrino, Boff became one of the founders of liberation theology, which emphasises the liberation of the oppressed and has strong concern for the poor and marginalised. As a theologian, Boff has stressed the themes of liberation, ecology, poverty, and the need for reform in the church. His work has touched on Trinitarian thought, Christology, and Mariology, and included calls for women's ordination. In addition to writing, from 1970 to 1985 Boff helped compile and edit theological reviews, and encouraged the growth of local Christian communities in rural and urban areas of Brazil.

Boff had a difficult relationship with the leadership of the Catholic church, and he was formally silenced in 1985, though this was repealed the following year under international pressure. Following threats to silence him a second time in 1992, Boff resigned from the priesthood and Franciscan Order. However, Boff has remained an active lay minister in Brazil and has continued calls for reform, signing the 2012 Jubilee Declaration on reforming authority in the Catholic church. He is a professor Emeritus at the State University of Rio de Janeiro.

*Tobias Nevile*





# CAN YOU SPOT A SCAM?

Australians aged 55+ lost close to \$141 million to scammers in 2021.\* The internet is a wonderful place to explore and connect with others, but it pays to be savvy.

Source: <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/about-scamwatch/scam-statistics?scamid=all&date=2021>.

**Thursday 27 July, 3pm**  
**Holy Covenant,**  
**89 Dexter St Cook**



Come and watch a live webinar delivered by the eSafety Commission. Learn about common scams including the latest Tax and Medicare scams; tips on how to spot them; what to do and what not to do; where to go for help; dealing with feelings of shame and embarrassment; and have your questions answered.

**Inquires: Rev Wendy**  
**[hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com](mailto:hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com)**

## Interchurch Hike—5 August

Join with Renew Anglican Church and other Canberra churches for an interchurch day hike!

If you are keen to meet with other churchgoers and friends, come along to this day hike at Gibraltar Peak. We will meet at 9:30am at the Dalsetta carpark at Tidbinbilla Nature reserve, and it's just over an hour's walk to the top where we will have lunch and hang out before heading back down. The walk totals 8.2km but will be at a relaxed pace with breaks along the way.

Please feel free to invite your friends with other beliefs, nonreligious friends or friends from other churches as all are welcome. We also encourage you to carpool with friends from closer by to the start point.

Feel free to reach out to Melany or the Renew team with any questions, as we would love to see you there!

And if you don't feel up to this type of day hike and are looking for something shorter, stay tuned as we aim to run some shorter walks later in winter.

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/6xAQFSNcaizes4x88>

Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1222275755133075/?mibextid=Gg3INB>



## Dinner Forum—22 August

Christians for an Ethical Society annual dinner forum is happening in August.

In movements for justice and social change, inspiring and maintaining hope is seen to be vital.

Hope is a source of energy, keeping us connected to possibility, holding open the space for action that might otherwise be closed by cynicism and despair. But where is hope itself sourced?

In Christian understanding, hope is not a natural phenomenon. It's not optimism, the tendency to anticipate that things will just get better, or naturally improve. Rather it has to do with the nature of the future that calls us and commitment to participate in its realisation. Hope is both gift and practice, a fruit of prayer.

In this talk, Sarah Bachelard will reflect on the ground and work of hope from a Christian perspective, and explore what might be the distinctive contribution of this quality of hope to the needs and possibilities of our time.

**Where:** Bella Vista restaurant 84 Emu Bank, BELCONNEN ACT 2617

**When:** Tuesday 22 August—6.00 for 6.30pm

**Cost:** \$60 per person

**RSVP:** [admin@ces.org.au](mailto:admin@ces.org.au) by 15 August 2023

## Remembering Rob McAlister

Rob was a previous member of the Holy Covenant family. He passed away in Melbourne recently. His funeral was on Wednesday, but the video of the service will be available for 90 days. You can watch the video here: <https://vimeo.com/event/3572533>

## No More Household Goods Needed

Thank you to everyone who donated household goods for a Covenant Care client in dire need. The client has been overwhelmed by your generosity, and is now well established in their new home.

## PRAYER POINTS

### IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Impacts of extreme heat in Europe, Asia & the USA
- ⇒ Tensions between North Korea and the West
- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine, the withdrawal of Russian troops, and a new treaty for Ukrainian grain exports
- ⇒ Victims and survivors of the Auckland CBD shooting

### IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Preparations for the Voice referendum
- ⇒ Our diplomatic relationships with Solomon Islands and China
- ⇒ Housing and food security for all Australians
- ⇒ The Women's World Cup— players, team members, families and fans

### 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 Douglas, Zoe, Jamie and Rose Guilfoyle; Patrick Guinness; Karen Bisley, Clayton Ethan, Jamie and Samuel Gumbrell; Digby Habel and Jenny Hall.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Glenys Wimmer; Ann & Peter Bazeos; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers; Gracie Bonnett; Ewan Garside and anyone known to us personally

### COMMEMORATIONS

## BIRTHDAYS

Are there any birthdays this week?

## BIBLE READINGS

Genesis 28:10-19  
Psalm 139:1-11, 23-24  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

## COLLECT for 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Saving God,  
in Jesus Christ you opened for us a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts  
and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

### Rector

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton,  
0407 408 333      rector@holycovenant.org.au

### Assistant Minister & Community Chaplain

The Revd Wendy Robertson  
0481 458 037      hccommunitychaplain@gmail.com

### Youth Coordinator

Tobias Nevile      youth@holycovenant.org.au  
0468 969 372

### Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury      0410 506 231

### Prayer Vine

Rosemary Kennemore  
6251 2009      kennemorerosemary@gmail.com

### Belonging and Caring

The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton  
0407 408 333      rector@holycovenant.org.au

### Children & Families Worker

Lou Passmore      holycovenantkids@gmail.com  
0411 338 361

### Covenant Care Program Manager

Megan Arthur  
0487 945 615      nurse@holycovenant.org.au

### Covenant Care Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM  
0406 379 599      anne.ranse@gmail.com

### Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski  
0413 994 739      annedudzinski@optusnet.com.au

The Revd Connie Gerrity

0429 423 725      connie@gerrity.id.au

The Revd Lynda McMinn

0403 769 991      ellemm99@gmail.com

### Resources Team

0419 255 002