

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 11 JUNE 2023
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUplajQ5YXZlFCNON4MGRlSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366

Password: 033643

SUNDAY 11 JUNE

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

WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch.

SUNDAY 18 JUNE

8am: Holy Communion
Celebrant: The Revd Lynda McMinn
Preacher: The Revd Wendy Robertson
10am : Holy Communion
Celebrant: The Revd Connie Gerrity
Preacher: The Revd Wendy Robertson

Coming soon:

Sat 17 June: St John's Care stall at Jamison & Working Bee
Thurs 6 July: Community Lunch

Bank details for direct debit:

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

As the final leaves of autumn descend and the liturgical colours change from white to green our focus shifts from Jesus' life to our calling to follow in the disciples' footsteps by growing in faith.

When Christians talk about faith today, many are more preoccupied with content than experience. Faith become a matter of what Christians believe, confess, or tell others. They knit together a reduction of principles, doctrines and presuppositions to form a so-called 'biblical worldview' that's designed to boost conformity while keep people safe from God's judgment.

Sadly, when people try to mine theological 'facts' from Scripture they risk missing the pattern which unfolds throughout the whole story of Scripture, namely that faith is about how we journey with God.

It's easy for us to misunderstand what Scripture says about faith as a journey. We live in a world where travel involves jumping on a plane to a far-off destination. We return as the same person but with a few souvenirs and too many photos on our phones.

The pattern of Scripture about faith is of a one-way journey that's filled with discovery and transformation where no one is ever the same. Abraham's journey began by receiving an invitation that came with a promise and not a theological

textbook. He stepped out into the unknown with God and not a collection of rules, principles or worldview designed to keep him safe from God.

Similarly, Matthew stepped away from a place of safety to go with a carpenter without any suggestion of gaining a heavenly reward. Others were bold enough to reach out to Jesus for healing while the religious establishment remained too scared to change or do anything differently.

If our world has a problem, it's that too many ignore the journey of faith because they are set in their ways and unwilling to change, unable to listen, unprepared reach out or too averse to go with God into a future that looks different to where they have been before.

When we are bold enough to go, strong enough to listen or even desperate enough to reach out we discover that God goes with us through all the wonders, storms and quiet bits of life. We are never the same because we are always growing in faith, hope and love.

Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

A Broken Centre

Unfortunately, this week's update does not contain a story about one of our client's, but rather something that impacts our staff, our volunteers, and most notably, every person we support at St John's Care.

Recently, our staff arrived at work to find that someone had smashed a window and broken into our Centre. In shock at what had occurred, they entered the Centre and found several items that were key to our operations were missing.

Mobile phones, iPads and a laptop were stolen. These devices are used daily by staff and volunteers to access and update client records, and contact clients and specialist support services for referrals. It was also clear that other items from the Centre had been stolen including a box containing gift cards which had been donated by members of the community. These gift cards included supermarket gift cards, and gift cards for various retailers.

Staff used the supermarket gift cards to provide to clients with specific dietary requirements that we are not always able to cater for, and retail gift cards so that parents can purchase school uniforms for their children.

The next week, our Centre was broken into once again through a smashed window. Despite the Centre alarm going off, the intruder left with some of the staff's personal belongings as well as many items donated by the public including food.

The recent break-ins have had a devastating effect on the volunteers and staff, but ultimately it the clients who are most affected. Every cent that we have spent over the last week having to repair windows and replace valuable items which have been donated by the Canberra community, takes food off the table for vulnerable Canberrans.

Every minute that staff and volunteers spend tidying, cleaning and organising tradesman to make repairs, is less support time for those who need it most.

We rely heavily on the donations of the community for our operation, and we continue to support rising numbers of clients during these difficult financial times.

Events like this make it increasingly difficult for us to meet the growing demand for our service. We ask Canberrans for their generosity once again and to consider supporting St John's Care - any support you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

Robbie Speldewinde Operations manager

Items needed: Small packets of sultanas, school lunch snacks, sweet biscuits, cooking oil, shampoo and conditioner

Confirmation Classes

Coming Soon

7 REASONS FOR CONFIRMATION

COMING IN JULY
SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Helps us to grow in faith, understanding and wise living



An opportunity to ask the minister tricky and awkward questions



To make a fresh start by having another go



Work out what's important



A chance to change your mind



Learn how to read the Bible wisely



Discover more about Jesus' life, work, death and resurrection



Wayne will be running a group for young adults (12-18 years) and another for older people (19-95 years).
Email for more information



What is the symbol in the Yes logo?

This logo was created in collaboration with Lara Watson, a Birra Gubbi artist, who lives in Ipswich, Queensland. It depicts a group of men and women sitting together in a circle. They are focussed inwards and talking about things that matter, sharing concerns and discerning the way ahead. Through such patient and slow conversation, everyone moves when the time comes after a consensus has been achieved. That is the journey we are taking. This is the invitation to consider the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament.



Awareness

All things bright and beautiful - the Lord God made them all. TIS 135

From the sacred space.

In the stillness, in the quiet - peace; as a single leaf twist in the gentle breeze and spirals gracefully, like a ballerina to the ground, where it rests on a carpet of colour.

A few moments of awareness with God and your entire day can change.

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

Anne, servant of the Lord

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



Waiting to fall

Coles points for Companion House

If you have enough Coles points for one of the saucepan offers, Companion House would happily accept donations of saucepans for refugee families. For more information, please contact Revd Wendy.



Women's Winter Warmer Afternoon Tea



24 June 2023

2.30-4pm

Gold coin donation for entry

An opportunity for the women of the Parish to catch up with friends and get to know someone new, while being serenaded and enjoying a delicious afternoon tea. There is a sign-up sheet on the back noticeboard.

Church Finances

In recent months, Holy Covenant has paid several large annual expenses. Bank balances in both the church's main accounts are slowly going down; the movement is small but more money is going out than coming in. Covenant Care have also had a significant increase in expenses, to ensure the presence of a Registered Nurse during Lyn Pascoe's extended sick leave.

Now would be a great time for a review of your planned giving to the Church. There are boxes of offering envelopes near the PA desk, and the direct debit options are listed on p.1 of the bulletin.

We are also looking for people to join a dedicated fundraising team, to seek out possible grants and other forms of funding for our mission.

Interested people should contact Joh, Wayne or Wendy.

Plant Sale—11 June

We have received a donation of many plants, that we can't look after until the Fete in November. So we are having a plant sale.

Plants will be available for purchase on Sunday morning, on the grass outside the main doors.

PLANT SALE



Keep calm and buy plants

St John's Care Groceries Collection and Cake Stall at the Jamison Centre

Saturday 17 June 2023

One week to go!

This year we are recommencing a collection of groceries and cake stall at the Jamison Centre to support the work of St John's Care.

We still need just a few more volunteers who would enjoy inviting shoppers at Coles and Aldi to purchase extra items to donate, or to do a shift on the cake/jam stall. It would also be lovely if we could find more happy cooks and bakers to donate cakes, jams, and other goodies to sell.

Please feel free to add your name to one of the two rosters which are located on the back wall. The first is the roster that encourages shoppers to donate groceries whereas the second roster is to help to sell cakes/slices/jams. In the meantime, please talk to Carol Kubanek (Carol.kubanek@gmail.com) if you would like to assist or have any queries.



Language Matters

The language we use to describe a person shapes our views/attitudes and expectations of them. The words we use convey how people are to be valued and whether their voices are important enough to be heard or not.

How we refer to people living with a disability can promote equality, inclusion and full participation. Or it can contribute to society's negative stereotypes and even limit the persons own dreams and aspirations, preventing them from becoming the person God created them to be. *I came that you may have life, abundantly.* (John 10:10).

There are many models that seek to understand disability. The medical model locates the 'problem' within the disabled person. The social model views the 'problem' as the impediments society creates. Being 'disabled' occurs when the social circumstances a person finds themselves in exclude them from meaningful participation in social and political systems. Think installing stairs instead of a ramp; using small print font; failing to use a microphone.

People with disability are people first, people made in the image of God with talents, abilities and skills to love, grieve, create and live. In some cases they may do these things a bit differently, but isn't that the case with most of us?

The majority of us will experience disability at some time during our life: through accident, ageing, surgery. While some impediments are more difficult to eliminate, let us consider our language so that we can enable each other to live our best lives and be the people God created us all to be.

Dr Joh Sheehan

Christian Leaders

Revd Dr Josephine Inkpin

Continuing on our exploration of inspiring Christian leaders, and given it's Pride Month, let's chat about Jo Inkpin, who was the Anglican Church of Australia's first out transgender priest.

Jo was born in England. She met her wife Penny at theological college in Durham. (Penny is also an Anglican priest.) Jo's PhD is titled *Combatting the 'Sin of Self-Sacrifice'?: Christian Feminism in the Women's Suffrage Struggle: 1903–1918*.

In July 2017, Jo made a public statement announcing her transition. She chose the name 'Josephine' in honour of Anglican saint and theologian St Josephine Butler. The Archbishop of Brisbane was supportive of Jo's transition and encouraged her to continue with her ministry, which she did.

Jo was the co-chair of the Anglican Church Southern Queensland Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group. She was also coordinator of the Rainbow Faith project, and featured on the Queensland State Library podcast 'Dangerous Women'.

In 2021, Jo was inducted at Pitt St Uniting Church. That made her the first out transgender person appointed to a ministerial role in an Australian mainstream church.

Interested in learning more about Jo? You can check out her website 'Trans Spirit Flourishing', or her blogs. Jo's personal blog is 'Blessed Imp' and the blog she shares with Penny is 'Pen and Ink Reflections'.



Penny in pink and Jo in black and purple

New Lifeline Resource

A new wellbeing digital toolkit has been launched by Lifeline to help people who aren't ready to talk about their situation on the phone.

The crisis support service would like the Support Toolkit to help people who wouldn't normally reach out to it for mental health and support. The toolkit is available at <https://toolkit.lifeline.org.au/>

Freedom for slaves and bonded workers in Pakistan

Mercy Home's primary mission is the release, rehabilitation and restoration of bonded and enslaved brick kiln workers in Pakistan.



The Pakistan Minorities Rights Organisation (PMRO) is a UK based organisation committed to helping achieve the equal rights for the religious minorities in Pakistan

Members of the Mercy Home and PMRO teams are speaking in Canberra.

When: 9.30am Saturday 17 June (presentations followed by lunch)

Where: Canberra House of Prayer for All Nations, 28 Guilfoyle St Yarralumla

Cost: Free (donations to Mercy Home & PMRO gratefully accepted)



Nungalinya News



Nungalinya exists to 'empower Indigenous Christians'. Thus, their core business is the training of Indigenous church members and leaders, to grow their gifts to serve their local communities.

So far in 2023 they have had four 'Foundation Studies' blocks focussing on the life of Peter and Paul and the early church, Ministry & Theology blocks on 'Leaders in the Bible', 'Hope & Healing' and 'Pastoral Care', two 'Art & Faith' blocks and two 'Faith & Family Wellbeing' blocks! All these courses have at their core a commitment to life-long discipleship, the growing in and authentic expressions of Indigenous faith.

Holy Covenant supports Nungalinya College with an annual financial contribution. Parishioners who wish to provide further support are encouraged to do so through the College website: <https://>



"I look forward to the day when in every walk of life, our identities are not questioned, or used as sources of privilege or denigration."

Josephine McDonnell Inkpin
St Francis (Theological) College Brisbane

Hearing the Voice



This is the text of an article that Revd Wayne has submitted to Anglican News, reporting on the recent Canberra workshop with Revd Associate Professor Uncle Glenn Loughrey .

Australia is at a once in a lifetime turning point according to the Revd Associate Professor Uncle Glenn Loughrey during his workshop on Hearing the Voice held on 18 May.

Assoc Prof. Loughrey presented the call to listen to the voices of our First Peoples as a test of our maturity and capacity to make decisions for the wellbeing of all. Assoc Prof. Loughrey is a Wiradjuri person, artist, Anglican priest and the Diocese of Melbourne's Educator and Advocate for the Referendum for the Recognition of First People in the Australian Constitution.

A mature nation can receive the Uluru Statement of the Heart and its sister document the Masig Voice from the Deep* as a gift and an invitation from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples respectively.

A confident nation that is creative and resilient can acknowledge the challenging truth of its complex history. It can rethink its foundational legal document by making room for the First Peoples in the manner in which they have requested, a status that was denied in the 1890s when the constitution was originally drafted.

'The Uluru Statement from Heart is an act of absurd compassion,' explained Assoc Prof. Loughrey. 'It contains no words of judgment but speaks from a posture of faith, hope and love. It speaks of forgiveness, it offers a pathway forward, it calls for help to address the hopeless that affects many young indigenous people.'

'If you are not heard, you are not seen. If you are not seen, you do not exist, you are Persona Nullius,' said Assoc Prof. Loughrey, explaining why the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice is supported strongly by 83% of indigenous people. Such a body should bring a long-term focus to policy affecting First Peoples that goes beyond the short-term game of Australian party politics.

'Like Jacob, the biblical patriarch, our nation is wrestling with God and our past,' said Assoc Prof. Loughrey. 'We will cross the river but only with a limp,' he explained. 'It will be a sign of our transformation and commitment to walking with justice, mercy and humility.'

Assoc Prof. Loughrey was the guest of the Public Issues Commission. Its chairperson, the Revd Dr Wayne Brighton said, 'Voice, treaty, truth, Makarrata is the journey we take together to establish a new level of justice and wholeness. Only when people are heard will they be treated as genuine partners who can build the future together. Once the bond between country and people is recognised, everyone will be open to hearing the troubling truth about colonisation and assimilation. We will walk together in a better way.'

*The Masig Voice from the Deep seeks to achieve self-determination for the peoples of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area, to freely determine their political, economic, social and cultural development.

The text of the Uluru statement can be found here: <https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement/>



PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine & the withdrawal of Russian troops
- ⇒ Mitigation of impacts from the destruction of the Nova Kakhova dam
- ⇒ Safe access to education for girls in Afghanistan

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Food and housing security for all Australians
- ⇒ Willingness to listen to Australia's First Peoples and a successful outcome in the Voice Referendum

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Gippsland
- ⇒ Parishes: Gungahlin; St Simon's, Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson; St Paul's, Ginninderra, & St Barnabas' Charnwood
- ⇒ South Sudanese Anglican Ministry (SSAM) Chaplaincy Unit (located at Ginninderra)
- ⇒ The Sudanese community at this difficult time in their country
- ⇒ Our wide range of exploratory ministries in this Diocese especially those that are emerging to full time ministry units.

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Valda Bromhead; Lorraine and Geoff Buckland; Barry and Sandra Button; David and Mel Clark; James Collier; and Ursula Conan-Davies.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Colin & Marilyn Tolano; Glenys Wimmer; Ann & Peter Bazeos; Alice Farrington; Bev Chambers; Gracie Bonnett; Geoffrey Ross, Ewan Garside and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

17 June Nicholas Scott Winders (d. 2015)
Elizabeth Grant (d. 2022)

BIRTHDAYS

16 June Sarah David-Hoole

BIBLE READINGS

Genesis 12:1-9
Psalm 33:1-12
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

COLLECT for 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

O God,
you have assured the human family of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Saviour:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in him,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

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