

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 7 JANUARY EPIPHANY

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

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRiSFVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

SUNDAY 7 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion
Celebrant: Revd Lynda McMinn
Preacher: Revd Connie Gerrity

Wednesday Midday service in recess—resuming 7 February

SUNDAY 14 JANUARY

9am Holy Communion
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Lynda McMinn

Coming soon:

Wednesday morning teas (at 10.30) starting 3 January

Bank details for direct debit:

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

Inclusion: Listening to God

Sometimes there are things you have to do. Sometimes there is an event in your personal life of such magnitude that it dictates a complete change in the way you live. And then you know, deep within the inside that is pure you, that there is something that must be followed-up and done. It is like an internal independent voice that must be obeyed. Sometimes it might take a lot of courage and pain to be true to yourself. And for Paul it was the follow-up from the Damascus Road Epiphany when he was given a direct commission as a special messenger from God (*Gal 1:16*) to share the Good News to the Gentiles and tell them that they were equally blessed by God. What he had to say was fundamental to both Christianity and the whole world. God is working for all through Christ. God has a plan and everyone is involved.

We all know what it is like to be

excluded. When we are not accepted we might leave and go elsewhere. What was it like to be a Gentile compared to being a Jew? Did the Gentiles feel subordinate? Was there animosity between the groups? There were obviously different ways of living. And I am sure their separate lifestyles continued after any acceptance and recognition of Paul's message and the wider development of Christianity. But the underlying commonality of God-support was, and is, inseparable as an integrating force.

At the start of a new year, we all hope that 2024 will bring improvement in world affairs. The world has become splintered with many different groups at loggerheads in armed combat. Let's hope that no matter cultural differences all can listen to the God within and respond appropriately with respect to our differences. And that peace will emanate in living life together.

Richard Scutter

Year in reflection

As at 21 December, this year we have assisted approximately 848 households with Christmas hampers and have given out over 6500 gifts from our present room. We would like to thank our supporters for their generosity over the last twelve months, and particularly in the lead up to Christmas. Gifts left in the present room were handed out to those in attendance at the St John's Care (SJC) Christmas lunch.

To give you an idea of the growing need amongst the community, in 2017 we assisted 237 households and provided approximately 1700 gifts to children in need. Across the first eleven months of 2023, we helped 3811 households by providing a combination of basic support in the form of emergency relief, and more complex support such as case management.

As well as the rise in the number of households seeking support, we have seen an increase in the complexity in the needs of those seeking support from our service, with more community members case managed than ever before.

In December alone, we supported over 1000 households, and we expect this number to rise significantly as our database is updated.

I would like to thank our amazing volunteers who have been run off their feet each day. Without them, we could not do what we do for the Canberra community.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout 2023. We are so blessed that you have given your time or donated to us to support the Canberra Community.

Jason Haines

Executive Director

Items needed: Tinned meat, shampoo, tooth paste for adults and children, toothbrushes for children

Parish Roll

How up to date are your details in the Parish Roll? Please check the hard copy roll near the Weekly Bulletin at the back of the church. You can make changes on the hard copy or email them to the office.

summer schedule

MANY OF OUR REGULAR
PROGRAMS WILL HAVE A
BREAK OVER SUMMER

COMBINED SUNDAY SERVICES
FROM 31 DECEMBER - 9AM

MORNING TEAS,
WEDNESDAYS FROM
3 JANUARY FROM 10.30AM

8AM AND 10AM SERVICES
WITH KIDS CHURCH AND
YOUTH GROUP RESUME
4 FEBRUARY 2024

Surplus to requirements

We have a freezer available that is no longer needed for the casserole bank. It is an Esatto upright freezer 1.4m high, 0.55m wide and 0.55m deep. It cost \$500 when purchased in 2020 to support our "Covid" casserole program.

Enquiries to Megan Arthur or Paul Shelley.

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Peace in Ukraine & Palestine, and an end to occupation
- ⇒ Those impacted by the Japanese earthquake

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ Recovery from flood, fire and other disasters
- ⇒ First responders, mental health support teams & domestic violence support services

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Southern Queensland
- ⇒ Parishes of Braidwood, Bungendore, Collector, Crookwell/Taralga & Binda
- ⇒ Malwaree & Cartwright Mission District
- ⇒ Small country churches & their ministry; co-operating parishes

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Pam Lane, Anne & Martin Lange, Jenny Lange, Clare Lawlor, Chris Lee, Penny Lilley & Lorna Loadman
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Bev Barnes; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Bob and Kath Arthur; Reg Holmes, Chris Olsson and anyone known to us personally

COMMEMORATIONS

- 7 Jan Pierre Willem Elkhuizen (d.2007)
Dorothy Joan Williams (d. 2019)
- 19 Jan Andre Ronald Eric D’Cruz (d. 2000)

BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Jan: Jodie Petrov
8 Jan: Hilary Harris
11 Jan: Alan Duncan, Penny Lilley, Pam Steele

BIBLE READINGS

- Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

COLLECT

O God,
by the leading of a star
you manifested your only-begotten Son to the
Gentiles:
mercifully grant, that we, who know you now by
faith,
may after this life be led to the vision
of your glorious Godhead;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

Rector

The Reverend Dr Wayne Brighton,
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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

Allison Cooper-Stanbury 0410 506 231

Prayer Vine

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Belonging and Caring

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Children & Families Worker

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Covenant Care Program Manager

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Covenant Care Program Director and Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

The Revd Anne Dudzinski
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The Revd Connie Gerrity
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The Revd Lynda McMinn
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Resources Team

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