

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 4 AUGUST 2024 ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SPIRITUAL GIFTS (Ephesians 4.1-16)

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 4 AUGUST
8am and 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

WEDNESDAY 24 JULY
12 Midday Communion Service and
Lunch

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST
8am and 10am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
Revd Dr Wayne Brighton

Coming soon:
Commissioning of Covenant Care
Manager Sunday, 4th August.
Dinner Club, Tuesday 6th August,
Southern Cross Club Jamison at 6pm.

Bank details for direct debit:

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

What comes to mind when you think of spiritual gifts? Most of the things that grab our attention are miraculous signs like talking in tongues, healing and the working of wonders.

When the inexplicable capture our attention it's easy to lose sight of those gifts that cultivate humility, encourage unity and foster peace. If anything, the gifts that should be building up the church in a pluralistic, diverse and dynamic world by fostering maturity are doing the opposite.

Hardly a year goes by without some self-described apostle frightening everyone with some moral panic as they endeavour to stake their claim on any of the seven mountains of government, the arts, finance, education, religion, family, and the media. Prophets that offend everyone wail about being cancelled. Evangelists are avoided like the plague, lacking either respect or tolerance. Meanwhile, decades of scandals and clergy that act like moral police show how pastors and teachers can wrongly speaking the truth in love. Maybe this is why Australian Christianity has a reputation for being mean, angry, bossy, hypocritical and divisive.

Maybe it is time to consider Paul's advice once more. Perhaps the best test for authentic gifts is not a person's confidence or willingness to offer critique, their claims about faith or capacity to be right all the time. Maybe it's just the ability to love.

Can you imagine how different Christianity might be if God's restorative love was made the benchmark for giftedness? How might these gifts function differently?

If apostles focussed on love, they might help us to reach across the boundaries of stigma and discrimination to discover our shared connection with God. Maybe prophets would not only highlight the things that hold everyone back but help to bring communities together. Maybe evangelists would communicate how God helps everyone become what they were created to be. Maybe pastors would build communities of warm acceptance and growth. Maybe teachers would help us practice honest accountability, develop shared responsibility, with fairness and partnership.

Thankfully, these gifts are available right now. The biggest obstacle to sharing our gifts is our feelings of inadequacy and shame. Just as we don't need to go to the Olympics to become a better swimmer, walker or runner, we can be amateurs that help people grow by sharing what God has given us. How are you being a gift to those around you?

This week at St John's Care (SJC) we conducted volunteer training. We considered trauma informed care and self-care. At SJC we endeavour to walk with our clients by illustrating respect, compassion, advocacy, and encouragement. This is a partnership with our clients. This partnership is essential to enable SJC to support our clients to work towards leading the life that they – the client has determined. So often our clients tell us that they are told what to do, think and speak. SJC clients sincerely thank our volunteers and staff for their time to listen and truly care. Importantly clients report that SJC demonstrate care for them as they are, for who they are right now, what is useful to them – right now. SJC is also available to offer support and referral pathways for a new way forward – when the client determines this. At SJC we acknowledge that the client is the “expert in their life.” At SJC we work as a team, so to continue to invest in our amazing team, this week we held an introductory session in trauma-informed care and self-care. Many people live with the ongoing effects of past and current trauma. Keeping the possibility of trauma on our radar means keeping the sensitivities and vulnerabilities of possible trauma survivors in mind. It means being respectful, acknowledging and understanding, empathic and compassionate. This week a client we shall name S visited SJC for the third week in a row. She talked about her mental health journey and gave consent to speak with other practitioners and services that we are part of her care. Many times, S has telephoned or visited SJC and been verbally abusive. Sometimes telephoning for an hour and yelling abuse and emailing abuse. Throughout this time, we have prayed and always been open to S visiting the centre for assistance. This week S returned to SJC and she was able to request the items that she needed and SJC met her needs at that time. SJC welcomed S to return more frequently to enable her to save money for other items, such as large bills. SJC continues to support S as she journeys through her mental health struggles. Wendy, SJC Senior Case Manager

Items required: Toothpaste, cooking oil, vegemite, honey, 1L full cream UHT milk

Draw me in Lord

For God alone my soul waits in silence.

Ps62:1

The naked trees are still. The Grevilia bush, loaded with clusters of honey filled flowers is still, empty of hungry, excited Wattle Birds, the air is so still and the sky is the soft blue of morning light. The birds are still asleep and the face of God is in everything I see. I am touched with the incense of the flowering Daphne and from my sacred space I can feel God drawing me in, drawing me into himself and resting in the God space of my heart. Its fuel for the day ahead, its set me on the right path for the day, it's a warm feeling to fall back on when things are hard and tricky in the day. It's the presence of God travelling with me. Oh, not to be missed, those precious sustaining moments with God. They are mine; they are yours; they are free.

Mane Nobiscum Domine. - Remain with us Lord.

Anne, servant of the Lord.



For God alone, my soul waits.

Parish Dinner Wrap Up

There are so many people to thank, and reflections to be acted upon. I have to say, in my 40 years of event catering, this is the first time ever that I have had a dinner run out of vegetables and dessert. You definitely surprised me!

The people who set up, decorated, and laid the tables - thanks for providing a lovely environment for everyone to enjoy the dinner. Those who donated to, ran, and purchased from the silent auction - thanks for contributing and for the entertainment in the process. Wayne makes a fantastic MC and spruiker of objects!

Our volunteer cooks did a wonderful job, particularly those who were working with new ingredients or ways of cooking. Congratulations to all of you! Anne McDowell was a pillar of strength in the kitchen from before service started until the final clean up. Such a huge effort on her part, that I am deeply grateful for. The people who served meals, and those who brought dirty dishes to be cleaned - thank you for your contributions to everyone else's enjoyment. A vote of thanks to Richard Arthur, Anna & Rhys Thorpe, Trish Barnes and anyone else who was involved in the washing, drying and packing away of dishes. That physical work is difficult at the end of the night, and you did it with good humour and grace. Thanks also to those who got the worship space ready for Sunday morning.

If I missed anyone in my thank-you list, please know that I appreciate you all.

There were still a few containers uncollected at the end of the night, and it's possible that some containers and serving utensils went into the kitchen drawers in error. So please do check if you are missing anything.

I have received multiple requests for the recipe for the eggplant dish, so here is the link <https://www.delicious.com.au/recipes/eggplant-chickpea-tomato-bake-musaqaa-recipe/rmrwvq7u>

I hope that everyone enjoyed their evening. It's a beautiful thing to look out from the kitchen into an auditorium absolutely buzzing with people sharing food and building relationships. Well done Holy Covenant - you rock!

Megan Arthur

Parish Dinner Fundraising Outcome

The preliminary financial outcome from the Parish Dinner is \$5,870. After making a gift to Dr Karen Pack, our wonderful speaker, we raised \$3,227 from ticket sales and \$3,445 from the Silent Auction. Thank you to everyone who took part in the evening.

VACANCY

Want to understand what's happening in the church beyond our parish?

Want a weekend getaway in Spring (Friday 6 - Sunday 8 September)?

Feel like a good Chinese meal and coffee breaks?

Why not become a synod member and join us this year?

Our team has a vacancy as Russell Rollason has resigned following his move to St Simon's Kaleen to support Tracey who is locum in the parish.

Contact Wayne for more information or to express your interest.

Rainbow Centre Update

Currently the renovations of the Rainbow Centre are taking longer than initially planned. Fortunately, all we need now is to have an engineer sign off on the plans for things to start happening.

An engineer has been sourced, so hopefully the delays won't continue for too much longer.

SPRING BIBLE STUDY

GROWING THE GOOD LIFE

READING JAMES TOGETHER

13
AUG

SURROUNDED BY TROUBLES

LISTENING, DOING

20
AUG

27
AUG

POOR & RICH

LETTING FAITH SHINE

3
SEPT

10
SEPT

WISDOM'S PATHWAY

DRAWING NEAR

17
SEPT

24
SEPT

PRAYER & PATIENCE



MORE INFO:

WAYNE 0407 408 333

A BETTER GOSPEL

a book club
exploring participatory,
restorative, solidarity,
peace-making and
non-violent perspectives in
Christian theology



Need something more than two ways to live?

Read a good book and want to share it?

Listened to an inspiring podcast but couldn't share it?

This group looks to explore a range of fresh approaches to understanding Christ's nature, purpose and mission so that a more inclusive and engaged church might arise.

Contact Wayne at rector@holycovenant.org.au for details.

Save the Date:

Saturday, 21 September 2024

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

This year we are once again doing a collection of groceries and cake stall at the Jamison Centre to support the work of St John's Care. We would love your assistance on the day to invite shoppers at Coles and Aldi to purchase a few extra items to donate, or to do a shift on the cake stall. We are also looking for a cake stall coordinator and some willing bakers to donate cakes, jams, and other goodies to sell.

A roster will soon be put up on the back wall seeking volunteers to help.

In the meantime, please talk to Carol Kubanek
E: Carol.kubanek@gmail.com if you would like to help.



PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Anxiety in Britain about immigration and violent crime when mental health services need to be rebuilt.
- ⇒ Athletes, support staff and families at the Paris Olympics as they experience success, failure and injury.

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ For social workers, carers and those providing help through NDIS and aged care.
- ⇒ For the communities and leaders meeting at Garna Festival in the NT as they look for a way forward following the Voice vote last year.
- ⇒ For those whose incomes are insufficient and the wait for social housing seems endless.

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Ballarat
- ⇒ North Goulburn Parish
- ⇒ Wollondilly Gardens Self Care Units
- ⇒ NSW Police Chaplaincy in Goulburn
- ⇒ West Goulburn
- ⇒ Marulan
- ⇒ Goulburn Correctional Centre Chaplaincy
- ⇒ Pray for: Spouses and families of clergy and lay ministers and stipendiary lay ministers (SLM).

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Barry and Carol Pogson; Hayley, Sam, Tom and Evie Primrose and Grace Freeman; Lynda, Steve and Dulcie Raczowski; Anne Ranse; and Clive Rodger.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer (often for long term needs) including Barry & Sandra Button; Glenys Wimmer; Bev Chambers; Kath Arthur, Joh Sheehan, Celeste Sandstrom, Bruce Barnes and family, and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

- 6 Aug **Tamara Mary Batterham (d. 2019)**
9 Aug **Audrey Pearl Kennett (d. 2015)**

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Aug **Bryan McGuiness**
7 Aug **Iona Brighton**
8 Aug **Sue Dunbar**
9 Aug **Anne McDowell**

BIBLE READINGS

- 2 Samuel 11: 26-12:13a
Psalm 51:1-12
Ephesians 4: 1-16
John 6: 24-35

COLLECT

Living God,
whose Son Jesus fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us with your true and living bread,
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,
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Assistant Minister

The Reverend Dr Bili Malek
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Youth Coordinator

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Wardens

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Prayer Vine

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Covenant Care Program Manager

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Covenant Care Chaplain

Venerable (EM) Anne Ranse OAM
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Honorary Priests

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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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