

Keeping in touch

Sunday 18th December 2022

This newsletter commenced during lockdowns when Services were not held in person and still temporarily replaces the Sunday Bulletin. Please email or call with anything you'd like to share, or to advertise or any upcoming events. (Helen Hall – see contact details below.)

The Poinsettias ... are here and looking good at the front of the church. Please remember to write your card and attach it to a plant. If you don't have a card yet you can collect one from Nancy. There are only 2 left if anyone has missed out. From the 40 plants sold, we made \$526.40 for the painting fund.

If you are going away you may take your plant, but we would like to have a good display for a while. They will be lovely to have for the Blue Christmas Service. Please make sure you take yours on Christmas Day at the latest.

Christmas Services and Events

The venue for the following is St. Andrew's:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ Sun 18 th Dec 2pm |  | 9 Lessons and Carols |
| ➤ Sun 18 th Dec 7pm | | 9 Lessons and Carols (ecumenical) |
| ➤ Wed 21 st Dec 7.30pm | | Blue Christmas |
| ➤ Sat 24 th Dec 8pm | | Christmas Eve Carols (outdoors) |
| ➤ Sun 25 th Dec 9am | | Christmas Day |

Carols at Rupertswood

The 'Combined Churches of Sunbury' thanks all volunteers for their help with Carols at Rupertswood. If you have any comments or suggestions for next year, please write them down and hand to any of the LEC committee members. *Praise God from whom all blessings flow ... Wilmy Johnson.*

Drop-in Centre

The Drop-in Centre will reopen on **Friday 13th January**.
Enquiries to Jan Semmens on 0400 404 901.

Keeping in Touch

Today's is the final issue of this publication for the year. It will resume on **Sunday 5th February** (depending on content being available).
Wishing all a safe, happy and blessed Christmas and New Year ... Helen Hall.

Rosters for next Sunday 25th December:

Door: S. Clarke, N. Prewer **Morning Tea:** no M/Tea on Christmas Day

Readings for next Sunday 25th December:

Isaiah 52: 7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12) John 1: 1-14

... see overleaf



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News and Notes

- I have a handy resource available which is a list of the Lectionary readings from now until 26th November 2023 – all on one page. If you would like a copy, please let me know. I can email it to you or print a copy, whichever you prefer – Helen Hall.
- Newly discovered items that can be recycled are:
 - DVDs/CDs (Helen will take to Officeworks). Place in the batteries drawer – NOT the plastic cases please.
 - Any brand coffee, Slurpee or drink cups, plastic lids and straws can be recycled!! (but not in your recycle bin). ‘Simply Cups’ is working with new technologies to upcycle cups into useful items, e.g. outdoor furniture, garden beds, reusable cups and most recently, a road! The Gap Road 7-Eleven is a collection centre and has a receptacle for cups, lids and straws. Please save any coffee and similar drink cups (as above) and drop into 7-Eleven or bring to church (rinsed and dry please) and Helen will take them.
So far, over 29 million cups have been saved from landfill!!!

Advance notices

- **Bunnings sausage sizzle** Bunnings has offered us the opportunity to hold a sausage sizzle on **Saturday 28th January**. *Many hands make light work* and we can make several thousand dollars from this. Please let me know soon if you think you’ll be able to help. There are sitting down jobs (collecting money). If we have 24 people, it would mean only 1 hour each.
- **Launch of St. Andrew’s restoration fundraiser** We need \$25,000 to have the church painted and \$28,000 to repair the spouting etc. I have every faith in this wonderful congregation although it seems a daunting task.

Small steps –

- ★ Cream containers will be provided to take home for spare coins
- ★ There will be a money box in the kitchen foyer to place donations for produce items that are contributed from time to time

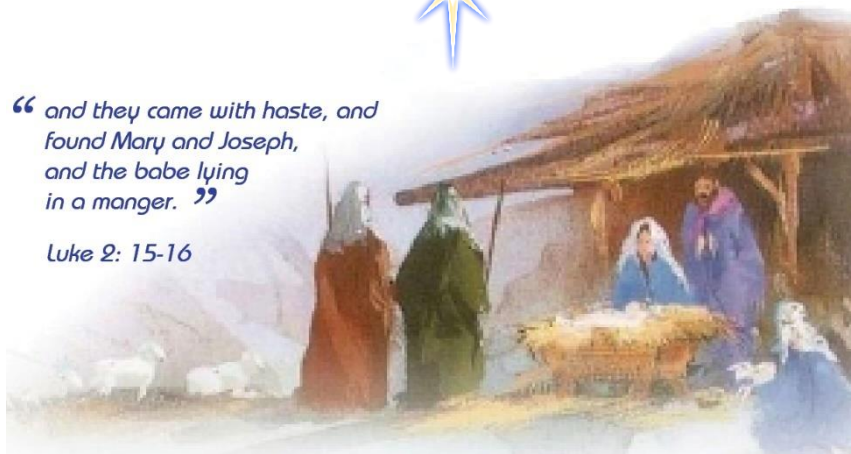
General donations can also be made via cash or bank transfer to:
St. Andrew’s Young Mums account
BSB 633 000 Account number 115212300
Please put ‘painting’ as the reference.

Watch this space for events happening next year.
Any suggestions are welcome – give Nancy a call on 0421 885 179.



“and they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.”

Luke 2: 15-16



Happy Birthday!



December

18th Joyce Wheeler,
Graeme Fenton
22nd Neal Dunkley

January

3rd Sonia Iseli
6th Robin Simpson
7th Ben Prewer
18th Jacqui Hay
24th Michael Prewer
30th Shirley Wellington

February

4th Rob Coulson
6th Linda Bone
11th Carole Simpson



Congratulations!

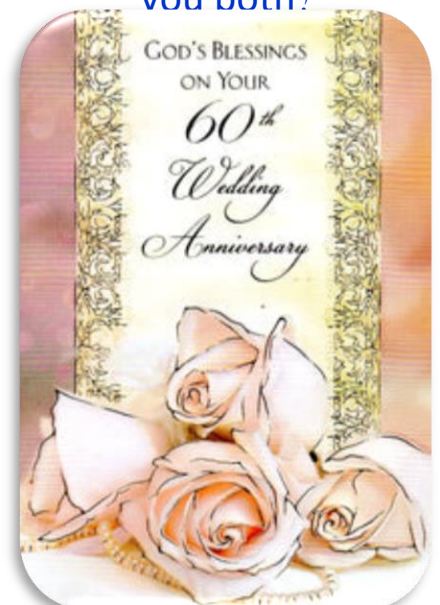
to

Bruce and Tricia Palamountain

*on the occasion of their
60th wedding anniversary*

*to be celebrated on the
29th December 2022*

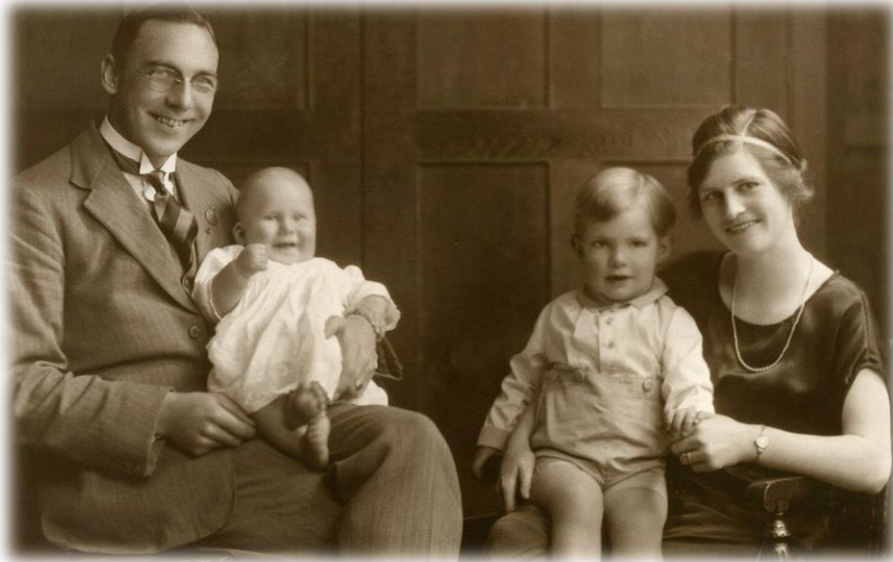
Our very best wishes to
you both!



Christmas Bowl - Share God's love this Christmas

When Victorian Methodist Minister, Rev. Frank Byatt, sat down to his Christmas dinner in 1949, he knew millions of people were starving in war-ravaged Europe. And he was compelled to offer help. He put a Bowl of Remembrance on his Christmas dinner table and asked his loved ones to place a gift in it to 'share your good dinner with hungry children in other lands.'

Frank couldn't have foreseen how his simple act of compassion that evening would grow into the powerful Christmas Bowl tradition that we now know is celebrated in thousands of churches across Australia. And he couldn't have known how much it would be needed in our world today.



Reverend Frank Byatt, founder of the Christmas Bowl, with his family

The impacts of the climate crisis, rising inflation and the ongoing war in Ukraine are all contributing to growing food scarcity for many communities already uprooted by conflict and disaster around the world. This global food crisis is now pushing millions to the brink of famine with families in urgent need of food, care and lifesaving support.

In these difficult times, the Christmas Bowl not only expresses our unity in Christ, it provides a powerful way for Australian Christians to share hope through practical Christian action, led by our committed local partners working in the toughest conditions around the world.

As we break bread with our loved ones this Christmas, our thoughts will be for our sisters and brothers who have been forced from their homes, and loved ones, by conflict or disaster.

Please join with us again this year with Christmas Bowl, as together we share God's love, helping create a world where uprooted people have a safe place to belong.

Envelopes are available on the bench in the kitchen foyer or inside the December Crosslight magazine. You can place cash in the offering bag OR fill in the credit card details and mail the envelope. With either method, if you would like a receipt, fill in your name and address.

Recycling Corner

Use the recycling trolley in the foyer for donations of the following:

- milk bottle tops
- bread bag tags
- bread bags
- tea bag tags
- old biro's
- medication blisters (empty)
- old glasses (spectacles)
- CDs and DVDs
- coffee and Slurpee etc. drink cups, plastic straws and lids

Also:

- Used postage stamps – no longer accepted by TLM but continue to donate and Helen will try to send to Sammy Stamp in Parkdale.
- Helen is still collecting mobile phones and chargers (the Zoo's 'Gorilla Doctors' collection), toner/ink cartridges, batteries, small electrical devices.



Buy recycled:

The other side of recycling is to try to purchase products made from recycled materials to create a market for the material we recycle. If there is no market, it has to go to landfill.

Check out these websites:

<https://littleecoshop.com.au>

www.onyalife.com/products

www.cleanup.org.au/buy-recycled

