

## Whyalla

Greetings from Whyalla.

Almost recovered from her accident at New Year we were pleased to welcome Mrs. Mashford back to the fold again. During her illness we were rarely without an organist as a number of organists from other churches in Whyalla came to help us and we are very grateful to them for being kind enough to help us in this way.

Our love and prayers are with our Treasurer, Mrs. Jem Sharp on the passing of her husband, John, after a long and debilitating illness. John was involved in many things and it was felt that the Whyalla church would not be large enough. This proved to be the case and we are thankful to the Bunyarra Christian Centre for allowing us the use of their church for the funeral.

In late February we had a visit from our Moderator, Rev. Chris ten Broeke. We celebrated Holy Communion and after the service we shared a light lunch together. Chris had a long conversation with our Korean visitors, Sooa and Jung Woo. In April we celebrated Holy Communion again during the visit of the State Moderator, the Rt. Rev, Ian Touzel. It was also good to have Gae and David McDonald sharing with us, at Communion and later at a light lunch. Mr. Touzel stayed

with the McDonalds until he left for Mount Gambier on the Monday morning.

In June the P.W.A. will host a "Big Cuppa" event in aid of the Cancer Council of Australia. This is always well attended by members of the community. So many people, family and friends have suffered from some type of cancer and this is a small step towards helping to find a cure.

The congregation remains in good heart and looks positively forward to the future. We can remain positive and confident because we know that whatever the future brings it is all in God's hands and God will withhold no good thing for those who love him.

Jessie Mitchell



### Editor's Note

Thank you to all who have contributed items for this issue of SA News they are all very much appreciated. Contributions for the September 2013 issue are to be in my hands **no later than 5.00pm Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2013.**

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## Kings of the Forest

God's creation never ceases to amaze me, its beauty and variety all so intricately woven together. I must confess, I have always been astounded by the trees.

*Genesis 1:11-12* Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

The great English Oaks, Ash, Elm, Cedar, and lets not forget the Gum tree. Since I first started climbing some of them as a boy, their beauty have held me captive. So you can imagine my surprise when I read in the Bible that the Vine, the scraggy, ugly, undisciplined messed up tree, was to become King of the forest. When considering this statement, I quickly said an amen when God stated in *Ezekiel 15:2-5* "Son of man, how is the wood of a vine better than that of a branch on any of the trees in the forest? Is wood ever taken from it to make anything useful? Do they make pegs from it to hang things on? And after it is thrown on the fire as fuel and the fire burns both ends and chars the middle, is it then useful for anything? If it was not useful for anything when it was whole, how much less can it be made into something useful when the fire has burned it and it is charred?"

As I began to contemplate the pathetic standing of the vine in comparison with say, my favourite English Oaks, God's word in 1Corinthians 1:26-29 came to mind.

To be honest, I would have chosen the strong and worldly wise, people of nobility, the Oaks and Elms if you like, not the puny weak vine like people. But then I began to consider the fruit of my beloved trees, I had to admit that the acorn of the Oak is very bitter and only fit for squirrels, and the horse-chestnut tree, whilst very pretty, its fruit, the conker is only fit to hang on a piece of string for 'Conker contests'. Then I remembered the vines in the Barossa and McLaren Vale, how by good husbandry these vines, produce such a great harvest of succulent grapes.

Yes as vines we Christians can become the King of the Forest, our fruit can be the sweetest most profitable of all the other trees. It starts when the Lord makes us His vine and begins to prune away our messed-up-ness, begins to cut away at our lives to remove our sins, to straighten us out, train us, shape us, support us, feed us, so that we may bear much fruit for Him. Jesus had a lot to say about the Vine in *John 15:1-11*.

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So to be the Kings of the forest, to become the cream of society, to truly bear good fruit for the Lord, Jesus tells us firstly, that even though at times it may be painful when our father prunes our lives, it will make us *even more fruitful*. Secondly, that prayerfully reading our bibles will feed us and serve to cause our holy growth. *You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you*. Thirdly, we can only bear the sort of fruit that God wants when we remain close to the Lord, outside of the Lord all fruit is bitter. *No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Remain in me, and I will remain in you says Jesus*. Fourthly, the actual fruit God wants us to produce to the *Father's glory and showing yourselves to be my disciples are* 1.To remain in God's love; 2.To obey God's commands; 3.Bring joy to the lord by being the joy of the world.

May our heavenly Father help us to be the Kings of the Forest, that our holy fruit bearing will not only bring Him much glory, but also have an eternal effect on all the 'trees' about us, so that they too may avoid the fires that await all fruitless people.

Raymond Brewer

### **Rick Manton: Ministering to his people**

Rick and Kayleen Manton trained at Presbyterian Theological College Melbourne and are Australian Presbyterian World Mission missionaries to Aboriginal people, serving at Mount Druitt in Sydney. They are from the Clarinda Congregation.

*"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty. Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for. Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"'"* Isaiah 6:5-8

Randwick, Sydney, 1979: World Renowned American Evangelist Billy Graham had called for anyone in the crowd who felt that they wanted to give their life to Christ to go forward.

Teenage Rick Manton's auntie, who knew her young nephew had been living off the rails despite his own parents' conversion sometime earlier, asked tentatively if he wanted to join in."No," Rick announced. "I don't need to". Unbeknown to anyone in his family or his friends, the youngster had recently made his own pledge to accept Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour and had already stopped the drugs and moved away from his temptation-ridden friendship circle.

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stocked with savoury food, cakes, biscuits, fruit and vegetables. \$810.75 was raised for Missions. Don called it 'PWA street ministry'!

Colin Ross-Smith spent some time in the Millicent hospital with pneumonia, before being transferred to a Nursing Home in Adelaide. Margaret has moved to the Nursing Home too and we pray that they enjoy their time there together.

A few people attended the concert featuring 'Sons of Korah', a Christian band from Geelong, in the Mount Gambier Church on 1<sup>st</sup> May, which I believe was very well attended.

We all enjoyed Don and Gloria's 'Open House' on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May. They now have a very comfortable home at 1 Wallis Street, Millicent. It was lovely to catch up with folk from Millicent and Penola over a cuppa and slice, cake or other yummy stuff.

Barbara Provis

### **Mount Gambier**

About 230 people from around the region packed out the Mount Gambier Presbyterian Church chapel on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May for a concert presented by the band Sons of Korah.

Their contemporary renditions of the Psalms were enthusiastically received by all those present on the night.

Our thanks to Anita Fox for facilitating their visit.

Sons of Korah is a Geelong - based band devoted to giving a fresh voice to the biblical psalms. The psalms have been the primary source for the worship traditions of both Judaism and Christianity going right back to ancient times.



### **The Merciful Conqueror**

Christ obtains a throne in the hearts of men by conquest, for though the souls of the elect are his right — the Father gave them to him, and he died for them — yet Satan has the first possession. Christ must fight his way into the soul.

He rules not by compulsion but most sweetly. His law is a law of love, written upon their hearts. 'I beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ,' says the apostle (2 Cor 10:1). For he delights in free, not forced obedience. He rules children, not slaves; and so his kingly power is mixed with fatherly love. His yoke is not made of iron, but gold.



John Flavel (1628-1691) was a Puritan pastor and writer who ministered in the west of England. His book *The Fountain of Life* contains 42 sermons on the riches of Christ's offices and states.

## Wattle Range

We had our Harvest Thanksgiving Service on 24<sup>th</sup> February with the auction of goods held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>. \$1,100.00 was raised on the night and another \$100.00 was donated since. Part of this money went to support the local school's support worker so he could become full time. He works at both the High School and the Primary School in Penola.

Don led a service for the elderly folk at the hospital in February.

The Presbytery Ladies Day was held at Alan & Lal Clarkson's home in Tarpeena on 7<sup>th</sup> March. We shared lunch outside under the trees and participated in a couple of word games. The day was very well attended by ladies from Naracoorte, Mount Gambier and Penola.

The Ladies Weekender was held from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March at Karnkendi. Three ladies from Penola attended. Gloria was hoping to go, but that was the weekend they were moving house. Lots of people went over to Millicent to help move all the boxes etc.

Attendances at services have improved a bit in the last 3 months, including a couple of Korean men who enjoyed coffee and a chat in the hall with us after the service.

Shedmen is still happening every month. For those who don't remember – It is an outreach to men associated with Presbyterian, Lutheran, Uniting and Anglican Churches, they meet once a month in someone's shed for fellowship, discussion and a barbeque. The evening is sometimes led by Don or members of the Lutheran Church.

The Good Friday Service was a Wattle Range combined Service at Penola and the congregation enjoyed hot cross buns and a cuppa afterwards in the hall.

PWA members held a street stall on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April. The stall was well



PWA Street Ministry 19.4.13



Open House at Don & Gloria's 5.5.13



Open House at Don & Gloria's 5.5.13

## Mount Barker

**How would God see us - rich or poor?** Some may say we are rich - based on our property values and the bank balance. Some may say we are poor based on the actual balance sheet and regular attendance. Does God see us as 'rich' like Smyrna (Rev 2:9) or does God see us as 'poor' like Laodicea (Rev 3:17) even if we may think we are rich? Recently (*October 2012*) we gained significant grants to develop our kitchen. These grants have now been expended and the St. Andrew's kitchen upgrade has been completed. We were richly blessed by these Community grants that we know and see are the workings of God's grace. (*The operation of Andrew's Community Kitchen enabled us to successfully apply for grants totalling approximately \$35,000.*) We pray we will richly bless others too. Our hope is that the facilities are used more and more to bring glory to God



Above - The new Kitchen

Below - Andrew's Community Kitchen Group



through meal preparation and fellowship. Operating a Community Kitchen outreach is not new. Many Community Kitchens operate around Australia particularly in Victoria. We are one of a few in South Australia. Four to eight people meet regularly, decide on a menu and prepare a meal to eat together. It provides an opportunity to meet with 'churched' and 'unchurched' people who may learn about nutrition, cooking, hygiene and also improve social skills. It is a good use of facilities that may provide opportunity for others to learn of the reason for the hope we have in us (1 Peter 3:15). Andrew's Community Kitchen operates every week, with one week planning the meal and the other week cooking and eating the meal. One of our number co-ordinates the program. We know the grant does not make us rich in God's eyes. If God would see us rich then all of us should seek the gold currency that God gives so generously - God's grace to forgive, God's wisdom to direct, God's strength to support and God's joy to abide in us. To be right with God also means we allow Him to enter in and fellowship with us (Rev 3:20) knowing Jesus seriously desires all to fellowship with Him and stick close to Him.

Robert Finster

## Dan Iverson: Marine Turns Missionary!

In Japan Australian Presbyterian World Mission works with the Presbyterian Church in Japan and 'Mission to the World', the overseas missions arm of the Presbyterian Church of America. Dan Iverson leads the Mission to the World Japan Team and, together with his wife Carol, has served in Japan for over 25 years. The Presbyterian Church in Japan has 2,400 worshippers, 62 churches and 6 Presbyteries.

### **Dan, you were a U.S. Marine. How did you go from being a marine to serving in Japan?**

God used a good elder and a good pastor to disciple my wife and myself. We were involved in lots of ministry in the Marine Corps and God led us to seminary. My first friend there was a Japanese pastor from Osaka. He said "Can you come to Japan?" and I replied "No way!". He said "Could we at least pray for Japan in our cell group?" and I said "We can pray for Japan, that's not dangerous." Then Carol and I saw in the Bible, for the first time at seminary, from Genesis to Revelation it says "Every tongue and tribe and all peoples." We realised that in our lives the 's' was missing. We loved 'people' but not 'peoples', all people groups. Carol and I looked at each other after a three-day missions conference at our seminary and said "How did we miss this? What are we going to do about it?" About that time, three Presbyterian Japanese pastors from Chiba in 3 house churches, totalling 60 worshippers, sent an invitation to Mission to the World: "Please send a mission team to help us start a Presbytery in the Tokyo-Chiba area." Here we are.

### **As you look back over the last 25 years, what are some of the positive changes you've seen?**

Those 60 worshippers and 3 mission churches have now grown to 18 worship sites each Sunday. There are now about 800 worshippers. It's a healthy Presbytery and it's growing even though Japan is a hard and difficult country. We also see the Presbyterian Church in Japan growing. The career missionaries from America and Australia have largely been the impetus in the last 10 years for the growth.

### **What do you hope the Presbyterian Church in Japan will look like in 25 years?**

I pray that it will be a more gospel-centred Church, that the Church will see that the gospel is not just for the non-Christian but the engine for the Christian life as well. That is, the gospel provides both power and motivation for living as a Christian. That's a message that has affected my denomination, the Presbyterian Church of America, through folks like Tim Keller, Ed Clowney, Jack Miller, Martin Luther and the Apostle Paul. That message has affected my wife and myself very much — in our marriage, in the way we've raised our kids and the way we do ministry. I pray that there will be more of that kind of software and I'm seeing that in the Presbyterian Church in Japan. Not just good

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minister. He is well supported by other Presbyterian ministers including Luke McPherson (Tregear), William Morrow (Penrith) and Cliff Letcher (Director, Australian Indigenous Ministries). "I am amazed at how God has led me in this community which so needs Jesus," he says. "There is good and bad in every culture and the Bible applies to all. Anywhere where God's presence is not, the kingdom of darkness runs amok. Now, people are praying all over the place here and it does bring a calming effect to the community."

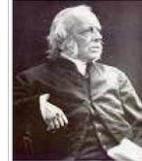
As APWM missionaries, Rick and Kayleen are supported by churches and individuals who pray and contribute toward their ministry. Please contact APWM if you would like to support them.

This profile was written by Karen Thornton, Journalist and Editor of the NSW 'Pulse' magazine and is reproduced with kind permission.

### **A Timely Word from the Past**

Revivals begin with God's own people; the Holy Spirit touches their heart anew, and gives them new fervour and compassion, and zeal, new light and life, and when He has thus come to you, He next goes forth to the valley of dry bones... Oh what responsibility this lays on the Church of God! If you grieve Him away from yourselves, or hinder His visit, then the poor perishing world suffers sorely!

Andrew Bonar



**Andrew Bonar** (1810-1892)

was a minister of the Free Church of Scotland and youngest brother of the hymnwriter Horatius Bonar. He is still known for his prayerfulness, Biblical preaching, zeal for evangelism, writings and opposition to the then emerging modernism.

## Mount Gambier

The Presbyterian Women's Association (PWA) hosted another musical afternoon on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. The proceeds went towards support of Presbyterian Inland Mission, Flynn Patrol.

The musical afternoons, which have been held once or twice a year since 2003, have raised just over \$9,500.00 for PIM and the Flynn Patrol in particular.

Thank you to all who have supported these afternoons over the past decade, including the latest.

In the photos: Top: Judy McCormack, Arthur & Judy Chambers and Norma Smith enjoying the music.

Bottom: Musicians included Rosie Douglas, Neville Telford and Betty Clayfield.



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would ever come out of it, but God was faithful to me and healed me. It was one of those worst time of your life/best time in your life periods and God did profound things in me.”

When a Presbyterian minister told Rick of a position available at the Presbyterian Theological College in Melbourne for an indigenous person, “the lights went on and I knew God wanted me there”. He started study as a private student in 1990 and studied for six years full time, particularly embracing what he calls “the pastoral stuff I longed for” in the third year.

Although he was offered a few exit appointments by Presbyterian churches, God led Rick to accept a role as a missionary to indigenous people under the auspices of the Australian Presbyterian World Mission (APWM), working in Mount Druitt. The goal was to plant a church for indigenous people; something that hadn’t really been done before, in a low socio-economic area with unemployment issues, transport issues, youth issues and a desperate need to hear the Word of God.

“We kicked off with two or three Christians and realized there would be no quick fix”, Rick says. He was committed. At first the new church met at Rick and Kayleen’s Presbyterian manse at Rooty Hill, but then the vacant Tregear Anglican Church was made available, including a manse which is now used by his son-in-law, who is also the youth minister, Leon Turvey.

Sixteen years on and an average 80 people aged 5 to 84 attend Sunday services, many of whom are brought along in the church’s 14-seater bus. “We need another bus,” Rick points out. “A lot of people around here don’t have any transport and we have to do three loads.” There are around 30 kids at Sunday school, 30 at a Wednesday kids program and 30 at a Friday youth program.

When it comes to theology and the obvious challenges between traditional Christianity and Aboriginal spiritual beliefs, Rick believes in keeping it as simple and as Bible-centred as he can. “We’re not running denominations and nor are we exclusively indigenous,” he says. “We run an indigenous church because our people feel more comfortable with their own kind. We try to get the focus on what is important – teaching people what they need – the Gospel; family structure, being part of the family of God, support and encouragement. I think we are in a position to have a big input into the local community but history tells me if we are going to build a church it is going to take a long time. There are particular challenges, like the regularity of attendees and getting them to feel a sense of ownership of their church. You have to roll with it and not let it get you down.”

Rick’s church also puts emphasis on working with other community programs and being seen to have a presence. His daughter Sheryn works in the Tregear Presbyterian Church preschool and his son-in-law Leon is his youth

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Reformed theology but sweet Reformed theology with a gospel passion to reach the lost. We need to make a distinction between the absolutes of Scripture that we give our lives for and the things that we’ve inherited that are not absolutes. I pray that the Presbyterian Church in Japan will be outward-focussed and practising the Priesthood of all Believers with lay people being more involved. The churches are so small in Japan that the pastor can do everything and that forms bad habits rather than raising lay people to do ministry.

### **What role do you see for John and Rose Evans in the team?**

We desperately need church planters in Japan. In many countries in the world there are lots of national partners whom we can support, mentor and fund but in Japan a new missionary can’t mentor anybody. Japan is a capable country where people are well-educated and it takes years for a missionary to be in the position where they are able to mentor someone. In Japan we have all these towns and cities with no church of any kind. We need church planters and we have seen that it’s the church planting side of things that God is using to grow His Kingdom in Japan. We see John and Rose as being part of our tentative plan to reach Chiba City centre. In the meantime we need John to get the language and culture so that he can serve. That will take time. We didn’t start our church until our sixth year in Japan. The rest was prep and time under a Japanese pastor. I want John and Rose to have that same good time even though we can’t wait to start in Chiba City. We want to do it as a team, he’s a leader and we want to put other people with him, Japanese partners, missionary partners and I hope he can work with Americans. They’re a great couple.

### **Ladies Weekender**

Mrs Nancy Kroeger, wife of Scott Kroeger Pastor of Hume Presbyterian Church, Melbourne, was the main speaker at the Ladies Weekender held at Karnkendi Campsite from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March. Her three talks were an overview of the Old Testament and emphasized the unfolding of redemption in the Old Testament.

Dr Ian and Mrs Glenys Murdoch spoke of their eight short-term mission trips over the last 12 years to Nepal with the International Nepal Fellowship, where they have worked and helped with leprosy patients and other medical needs in Surkhet, in mid-western Nepal.

A large group of 27 women stayed for the full weekend and a further 19 came on Saturday for Nancy’s second talk, the mission spot with Ian and Glenys, and a cruise with afternoon tea along the Glenelg River.



## Naracoorte

The picture on the right was taken at the Assembly Hall in Collins Street, Melbourne on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Pat Leitch & Sue Slucki are on the left of the photo.



Sue Slucki and Pat Leitch attended the ESL (English as a Second Language) Training that was held in Melbourne from 28<sup>th</sup> Feb - 2<sup>nd</sup> March. This training began on the Thursday afternoon with an Information Session for ministers and church leaders. This was a very interesting session where we heard about the work that is happening in Canterbury and Donvale Churches. The highlight was the testimony of a young Chinese man who told of his immigrating to Melbourne (with no knowledge of English) and joining the free English classes. He was not interested in hearing about God, just wanted to learn English. He, his wife and 2 daughters (9 and 12 years old) attended the classes and within 4 months he was attending the Bible reading and subsequently the Bible study classes. After 18 months he and his family became Christians. His testimony is very encouraging and he was only one student we heard about. Another lady attends English classes and won't go to the Bible reading sessions or Bible Study, but she goes out and picks up others so that they can attend. Canterbury Church now has 2 classes a day 5 days a week. This is not just a ministry for 'teachers' but all of the congregation can help in some way. Please have an open mind and heart to help in this ministry to ultimately win souls for Christ.

Friday and Saturday was all about teaching ESL, practical examples and experiencing a little of what the students do. Judy Rowlands is a dynamic facilitator who made it a very good experience with a lot of 'take-home' information. Judy also gave us a lot of information about teaching resources available. We really recommend this to anyone who has a heart to help the newcomers in our country. Judy explained it as a 'mercy mission' equipping students with the basics to go to the bank, the post office or to medical appointments, etc.

Judy will be running a similar training in Adelaide in August so please keep your eye out for more information.

Afternoon and evening Bible study classes have resumed in the manse at Naracoorte and are well attended. Andrew Chong, a Korean pastor, began a new ministry at St Andrews in April. He travels to Naracoorte each weekend to conduct a Worship Service at 2 pm on Sundays, in Korean language, for the Korean community here. Up to 20 young people attend (mostly young men) and after refreshments (Korean terminology) English classes are held. Andrew will

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And while life had already changed considerably for the young Aboriginal bloke raised the eldest of five on a reserve at Karuah, there was no way he could have known that God's ultimate plans for him would include him becoming ordained as a Presbyterian Minister and later planting a church for indigenous people in Sydney's western suburbs. But take a look back into Rick's past and you can see how God planted the seeds, then watered them and replanted him right back into the kind of community he had grown up to serve.

Rick wasn't raised as a Christian and had in fact by his own admission "gone completely off the rails like a lot of kids do, with drink, drugs, cigarettes and bad company" in his teens, but says he was certainly influenced by his father's sudden conversion after attending a Christian rally.

"My grandmother's parents had been missionaries around Yass and Tumut and after my Dad became a Christian I started to see Christianity at work," he says over a cup of tea at Mount Druitt Indigenous Church; a unique joint Anglican-Presbyterian ministry where the PCNSW supplies Rick and the Anglican church supplies funding for a youth worker and the buildings.

"I was 13 at the time and there were a lot of changes. Rules. No swearing, saying grace at the table. Dad introduced us to Sunday school and church. He didn't force us to go and sometimes we did, but you knew where you stood and you knew his conversion was a positive thing.

Still, Rick wasn't convinced to accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour himself at that time. That came later.

"I moved to Adelaide to work for my relatives who managed a hostel and attended an Aboriginal college to improve my education," he says. "In 1982, I applied to go to the Bimbadeen Christian Training Centre in Cootamundra, run by the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship of Australia (AEF). I didn't really have a plan but I knew I wanted to get married, do 10 years of training and then get into ministry. It didn't really work out that way. I met Kayleen at college and we got married after I finished college. We moved to Eden and were involved in the local AEF church, helping out with kid's club, youth groups, preaching, but my job was in a fish cannery. After two years I received a call to pastor an AEF church in Dandenong so we moved and we were there for 12 years."

Rick and Kayleen – whose family expanded to include kids Sheryn, Terry, Jacintha and Cameron - found that the new job started easy, but progress was difficult. Rick started to look around at different courses offering the pastoral training he felt he had missed out on and after 12 years, had to take some time out in Port Stephens to heal the stress-related depression that had started to overcome him.

"I prayed, read the Bible morning and night and my aunt and uncle and wife prayed every day for me," he says of those dark days. "I didn't think I

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## "PRESBYTERIANS ON THE MOVE"

On March 23<sup>rd</sup> a team of Christians from various Presbyterian ministries within 50 kilometres of our house, came to help us move with trucks and trailers, grace and love. Gloria and I simply could not have moved without the 17 brethren including a baby, a little boy, and the men and women who gave of their time and strength to literally lift this burden from our backs. The baby provided us with moments of blessed joy. The little boy provided us with moments of fascination...he loved watching our front loading washer after I got it working at our new address. And the brothers and sisters in Christ provided us with the actual move as they washed our feet with practical acts of Christ-like love (John 13:14). These were "Presbyterians on the Move" in every way. So as Gloria and I look around our new residence each morning...we continue to remember the grace and love that got us here. Truly God provides all we need in Christ...even a newly fashioned wood box that another brother made for our front end washing machine! It provided the right platform for our little watching friend to enjoy the view as the first load of our clothes was being washed on that day (Philippians 4:19). Thanks to everyone for your strength of prayers and labour as you enable us to keep ministering for Christ in the Wattle Range...

Don and Gloria Broadwater



also show DVD's on Korean culture on the second Saturday each month following a light tea in the hall. The DVD's will be in Korean with English subtitles, which will be a challenge for us but very interesting and enlightening I am sure.

Congratulations to our dear friend Audrey O'Brien who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday recently.

Pat Leitch



**Hmm!**

"It is neither shame nor pride for a drowning man to swim to a rock, nor for a ship-broken soul to run himself ashore upon Christ."

Samuel Rutherford *The Loveliness of Christ* (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 2007) 83  
<http://firstimportance.org/neither-shame-nor-pride/>

## Seacliff

The fellowship at Seacliff is warm and supportive, the worship enthusiastic; the preaching enlivening; the singing joyful; the prayer times valued; the craft group creative and fun; the Bible study informative; the PWA meetings a rich time of fellowship – in other words we are being blessed as we continue to meet during the week and on Sundays.

We have had several new people joining us for worship and two have become members of the congregation, with others attending regularly. Rev. Dr Reg Mathews and wife Elaine travel a long distance about twice a month to lead our services, while Rev. Dr. John Calvert and Luke Watts live closer but the ministry of each one is most valuable and we are very grateful that the Lord has enabled them to preach to us. They are regarded as part of our congregation. When they come they are always welcomed with a special morning tea or a shared lunch. We meet weekly for Bible Study in the home of a member and listen to the great teaching of R. C. Sproul, on DVD. This series, *From Dust to Glory* / an overview of the Bible, is easy to listen to and full of insights that remind us of the grace of God. The monthly craft nights are mostly given to making cards, but if you have had the pleasure of receiving one of them you will know how special they are.

Sadly, we farewelled Jean Michalski in late April, as she passed away after a fall. She couldn't always get to church, being 98 years old but she treasured the times when she could and shared the Easter Day service with one of her daughters. Her funeral was held on what would have been her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Several members of the congregation, Graham, Keith and Ari have been ill but the former two are progressing slowly and we pray for Ari and his wife, Nell for blessing in this time of trouble.

Work on the renovations to the manse are continuing to advance.

We may be small but God continues to sustain us, enabling and using us in His kingdom.

Heather Blunt

## Timor Leste: Multiplication

Picture the scene: There are well over 5,000 people. How can they be fed? There's one boy with five loaves of bread and two fish. He gives them to Jesus who multiplies it and multiplies it until 5,000 people are fed and there is plenty left over.

Do you think that boy ever forgot what happened to his five barley loaves and two fish that day? Of course not! Sometimes the grace of God works in unexpected ways, but if there was anyone who you would expect to have been blessed through this event it must have supremely been this young boy. As Jesus said 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' (Acts 20:35)

The people within the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Timor Leste pray for you. They pray in their regular church services. They pray in their prayer meetings. They pray that the Lord would richly bless we who are in the Australian Church. The words of one young man are imprinted on my mind. He is from a very poor area, and when we met for the first time he said, "Previously we had only met around the Throne of Grace, but now we have met face to face". I don't know his name. He did not know my name, and he does not know yours, but he did know that there are the brothers and sisters in Australia who cared for him, and he was faithful in seeking our blessing.

I don't invite you to give to me or to APWM, but I do invite you to give some of the resources that the Lord has given to you. It may be the value of two small buns, or you may be able to give much more than that, it does not matter how much because God can work with much or little. Maybe you will give to Timor Leste or to PIM or to other of the Lord's ministries - that is up to you to decide. BUT, I will tell you what the needs are currently in Timor Leste and then simply leave it in your hands.

Currently the Presbyterian Church of Australia gives the Church in Timor Leste \$4,000 each quarter to use for ministry purposes. We have agreed on the type of expenditure for this money, but we do not involve ourselves in the



"Previously we had only met around the Throne of Grace, but now we have met face to face."

details. At the end of each quarter the church in Timor Leste reports to us exactly where the money went. This allows us to give them an appropriate degree of autonomy. They take up their responsibilities faithfully before the Lord and we preserve ourselves from any colonialist arrogance which would suggest that we know better than they do what is the best way to minister within their culture.

We currently have money set aside for Bible Translation and also for a building in Dili. This money has been given for these purposes and will be spent for these purposes.

We presently have no funds at all for sending a teaching team to Timor Leste in June. We expect that this will cost around \$2,500. We also have no funds at all for the next quarterly grant which is due in June (\$4,000).

We have mission teams going from Darwin Presbyterian Church at the end of May and another one from Western Australia in July. Both are funded by the participants.

We are not worried, because we know that the Lord is not short of money - far from it. We do, however, encourage you to be faithful with the resources that the Lord has given you whether that be through giving here or there or elsewhere, and to pray with us that the Lord will send His provisions, and multiply them for effective witness in the land of Timor Leste. What He sends will be just the right amount.

Rob Duncanson: Minister at Darwin Presbyterian Church and APWM Coordinator for Timor Leste  
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**Hmm!**

Though the challenges facing the church are great, the commission Christ has given is clear: make disciples of all the nations. Spend your lives spreading the gospel of God for the glory of God to the ends of the earth. As you go, trust in his sovereign authority, depend on his indwelling presence, and experience his incomparable joy.

David Platt  
[www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org)

## Mount Gambier

Morning worship on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March included a well-supported Harvest Thanksgiving. Items for the thanksgiving were auctioned at the Sale of Gifts on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March where a record \$1,649.00 was raised! Proceeds went to support David & Gae McDonald of the Flynn Patrol, Presbyterian Inland Mission. This year featured a new offer-livestock in the form of guinea pigs and Rachel Ware is pictured on the right with her purchase.

