

Saint Chad's | Echo

The Quarterly Magazine of the Anglican Parish of Fullarton

May 2017—
August 2017

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Services...

Sunday Worship:

8:00am
Said Holy Communion
(followed by morning tea)

9:30am
Sung Communion Service
(Informal setting with hymns, songs and Sunday School during School Terms)

4th Sunday of the month
Healing Service with Communion
(Informal setting with hymns, songs and Sunday School during School Terms)

Weekday Worship:

Thursdays - 10:30am
Morning Prayer with reserved sacrament.



On a roll with our 2017 Parish Goals!

In January we set ourselves seven goals to achieve this year and it has been amazing to see how some of

these goals have already come to fruition. Diana Swanson has become our website administrator and updated the information on our website including advertising our Easter services and uploading current photos. Our new Leadership team approved our LGBTIQ [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer] banner which will soon be displayed on our parish grounds fence line. This newly formed team, which welcomed Marie Sloan and John Bryant to our Parish Council, has also begun to brainstorm ways of inviting these communities to a forum in which we engage in a conversation about how Christian communities can welcome and create positive experiences of worship for those people who have been previously rejected by the church. We also registered our church premises as a SALA venue and had a very warm and positive response from Salvador Loreto who will be our artist in residence in the month of August. [Please see page 6 for more information.] Unley Council also asked to use our parish grounds for Neighbourhood Day. Tables, chairs, music and a coffee truck were provided by the council but unfortunately our surrounding neighbours didn't take this free opportunity to meet.

As you know, there has been some concern around people attending worship on Sunday mornings which has led me to begin thinking about offering a new service.

The idea has stemmed from the fact that many families don't attend church on Sunday mornings because it is their day of rest [for some] and opportunity to spend time as a family, which might entail going for a walk or a bike ride or even breakfast at a Café. Some families might like to come to church but given a choice they would probably opt for a walk or breakfast. I would like to trial a new service on Sunday mid morning which would enable families to come together and exercise and worship at the same time. I know it sounds a bit weird! But I feel families are so busy that by offering to do three things at once [time together as a family, gentle exercise, spiritual wellbeing] we just might entice people to come back to Sunday worship. The idea that is brewing is to offer a form of Yoga Church. [If we trial this we will need to think of a better name! So I am open to suggestions!] I have been in contact with a Christian Yoga instructor who is interested in working with me to combine Christian prayers such as the opening, confession, intercessions and blessing with yoga moves. There would also be a bible reading and a time of quiet reflection. At the conclusion of the service there would be an opportunity for a cuppa and a chat or even a light lunch. This new initiative is only in the very early stages of planning so if you have any suggestions please let me know.

One parishioner, upon hearing the idea has also said that the older age bracket might like to do this during an evening session and incorporate prayers from the New Zealand Prayer Book.

I look forward to sharing how this new form of worship and our goal setting have continued to unfold in the next Echo.

Easter @ St Chad's

It is always a little bit of a concern for a parish priest when you hear that most of your parishioner's will be away at Easter! Surprisingly, this did not have an impact on our Easter attendance, as our numbers were higher than in previous years.

Once again we re-enacted the Last Supper and Feet Washing with over 20 people attending. Over 60 people attended our 9am Good Friday service, which was a very moving experience. My year 9 students were given an assignment to design a Mandala and reflection that depicted a section of the Easter story. I then adapted and compiled their work for this service. The artwork was stunning. [PTO to view] Peter Ward, Cathy Caird, Chris Rayner and Caroline Milne enhanced this worship experience by singing 'God so loved the world' after each meditation. Our Easter Dawn service and breakfast was a lovely way to begin our Easter celebrations and our Easter Day service was a lovely way to end them. There were more visitors [including teachers from Walford and families who came at Christmas] than parishioners. I heard on the grapevine that Jo Prosser stopped counting at 90!

Once again Julie and I loved working together to brainstorm and create services for our Children, and I'd like to thank her for all her hard work and creative ideas, as those who attended had an amazing time! [Please see her article on page 3]

Blessings from Tracey



8 Points of Progressive Christianity Lenten Sermon Series

At our planning day in January it was suggested that in place of our Sunday worship sermon slot we could engage in a biblical study. This suggestion was taken up in the Season of Lent. The study that was chosen was from material compiled by The Society of Saint John the Evangelist [SSJE], which is a monastic community of The Episcopal Church & The Anglican Church of Canada. The study was based on the 5 marks of mission from the Anglican Communion. From these marks of mission, 8 dot points were compiled to encourage Progressive Christians to think about how they can continue to live their faith in a changing and secular world.

The **8 Point of Progressive Christianity** are:

1. *Believe that following the path and teachings of Jesus can lead to an awareness and experience of the Sacred and the Oneness and Unity of all life.*

2. *Affirm that the teachings of Jesus provide but one of many ways to experience the Sacredness and Oneness of life, and that we can draw from diverse sources of wisdom in our spiritual journey.*
3. *Seek community that is inclusive of ALL people, including but not limited to: conventional Christians and questioning sceptics, believers and agnostics, women and men, those of all sexual orientations and gender identities, those of all classes and abilities.*
4. *Know that the way we behave towards one another is the fullest expression of what we believe.*
5. *Find grace in the search for understanding and believe there is more value in questioning than in absolutes.*
6. *Strive for peace and justice among all people.*
7. *Strive to protect and restore the integrity of our Earth.*
8. *Commit to a path of life-long learning, compassion, and selfless love.*

Over 5 weeks our gathered community discussed these 8 points, with Marie Sloan tying up all the points in the final week by creating a tree of knowledge. The roots of the tree represented the five marks of the mission, the ground represented the foundation of our Anglican communion, the trunk of the tree represented point 8 which was the summation of the seven points, the branches represented the questions that were posed over the five weeks and the leaves [which were our written comments] were our reflections about our commitment to life long learning and understanding.

Our Tree of Knowledge Reflections were then summarised by Marie in the following way:

- ◆ Approach change with an open mind and a willingness to grow.
- ◆ Live with a compassionate heart and avoid "us and them" thinking.
- ◆ Invitation to release the selfish need characterised by our own ego, which separates "us" from "them."
- ◆ Where and when we start the journey of new awareness is not as important as our willingness to move.
- ◆ Have the courage to ask questions and to doubt.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those who attended and entered into this challenging yet rewarding time of sharing.

Children's, Youth & Outreach Ministry

In the Children's Room

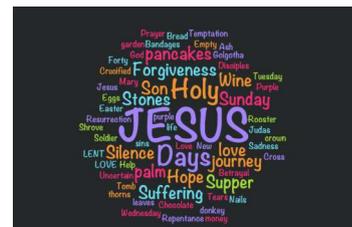
We have had a productive and fun term. The children learnt to grow coloured salt crystals and decorated candles with coloured salt. For St Chad's Day, after learning from Tracey the qualities of St Chad, we took the children out onto Cheltenham Street, where they used chalk to decorate the footpath so that the neighbouring community could see these qualities.



We made an attempt to boost our numbers by hosting a "Bring a friend to kids time on Sunday." We held this on Palm Sunday but unfortunately only one extra child was able to join us; Eliza Rayner's friend. As well as the Palm Sunday procession the children made hot cross biscuits and decorated shortbread butterfly biscuits for morning tea.



Our children spent the term learning about Lent and the Easter Story. They made a word cloud using words that described Lent and Easter; they also made artwork to decorate the Parish Centre. The main task for the term was to make five large banners to be used at our Good Friday Children's Service. The paintings depicted Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, Praying in the Garden, the Cross and the Resurrection. All the children were involved and added some special touches to the posters.



Eliza Rayner did a fantastic job of decorating the Paschal Candle.



Twenty-one children and their parents attended our Good Friday Children's Service, which was again held in our Community Garden. The morning began with hot cross buns and whilst the adults were enjoying their coffee the children made streamers to wave as we walked around the stations of "St Chad's Easter Journey". We revisited the pots that we planted last year and at each pot Nick held up a painting and Lara read a short story that explained what had happened to Jesus. At each station children had the opportunity to enhance the paintings by attaching velcro stickers. They also collected something at each station that they would use in the craft activity at the end of the Service.

At the fourth station the older children hammered five nails into the cross and the children chose a large wooden cross, a crown of thorns and nail to use for their craft. At the end of the service the children were given a booklet with photos of each of the paintings and the Easter story. They then decorated their crosses while the adults enjoyed another cuppa and more hot cross buns. Sophie was our official photographer. Jill Wildy and Lesley Giles looked after everyone by serving morning tea. An example of a decorated wooden cross is on display in the Parish Centre. The crosses were made by the Rosefield Men's Shed. The paintings were put up on the fence so that our neighbours could see our work and our faith story.



On Easter Sunday after Tracey had told the story through chocolate including the Easter Bunny, we played games in the garden. There was an egg and spoon race; Easter charades, a bunny hop sack race; throw the egg into a swinging basket and a beanbag game. After all that excitement we released 7 butterflies as a symbol of new life and went back into the church for communion. After communion the children went into the Narthex and finished decorating our final painting (the resurrection) and made an Easter garden while the Easter Bunnies (Bruce and his helpers) hid the Easter eggs. Then there was the fun of hunting for the eggs. All this was followed by hot cross buns.



These activities couldn't have been successful without the support of the adults who helped lead Sunday school and supervised the activities on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Thank you so much for your help; it has been great fun and rewarding working with you and your children.

Little Chad's



Little Chad's our Music, Play and Story Time continues to be great fun for pre school children and their parents/carers. Some of our children have moved on to Kindergarten and we have said goodbye to three families that have moved interstate or overseas. However we continue to advertise at local community centres, libraries and pre schools and have new families joining us. We are grateful that Jo Minter continues to lead the program with her beautiful voice and lovely welcoming nature.

Friday Cuddles

Our Friday Cuddles outreach program continues to offer support to mothers of young children attending the Pilates sessions on Friday mornings, by providing child minding and helping with their babies some as young as four weeks. It is much more than child minding, we build friendships with the mums and are able to reassure them on parenting issues, the children are really excited about coming to play with us and often don't want to go home. The mums are extremely appreciative of the help we provide.

A highlight this term was when Harvey had his 4th birthday. He brought cupcakes to share with the children so we had an impromptu party in the children's garden complete with bubbles from our bubble machine.

There is a group of five volunteers that help with this outreach program. It is extremely rewarding ministry. If anyone has some spare time one Friday morning per term from 9:15 am until 11:30 am I would really appreciate some extra help. The only requirement is a Police Check. Please let me know if you are interested.



Rosefield, St Chad's and Glenunga Combined Youth Group

We now have a name for our group "Untitled Youth" is connected to the idea of not seeking a title or a "name" for yourself - considering everyone as equal and valuable, which is something we model. We continue to meet on the first Saturday and second and fourth Friday of the month. There are three youth leaders from Glenunga and myself. As well as lots of games there is some input of scripture and plenty of time for discussion as well as a shared supper. Children from Year 6 up are welcome to join us. We meet at each of the churches on a timetable based on when each venue is available.

Julie Ascher-Ellis

Thank you, Julie for all the wonderful and creative work that you have undertaken so that our children and visitors could be included and enjoy our Easter celebrations! It is appreciated.

A New Archbishop for Adelaide



On Friday 28th April the Right Reverend Geoffrey Martyn Smith was installed as the 10th Bishop and 5th Archbishop of Adelaide and Metropolitan of South Australia. It was a grand occasion, (a ticket only event, would you believe) in a packed and brightly lit St Peter's Cathedral, whose bells pealed for an hour prior to the service, lending a joyful spirit of celebration to the occasion. The Governor of South Australia, the Lord Mayor of Adelaide and Isaac Bates on behalf of the diocese made formal speeches of welcome. And Karl Telfer, a senior Kaurua Custodian, offered a greeting to country.

The two processions into the cathedral were long and colourful, representing clergy and laity from all over the diocese. Geoff (as he likes to be called) specifically requested that parishioners join the procession with their parish banners, so of course the St Chad's banner participated proudly. Thanks to Marie Sloan our banner now has rainbow-coloured ribbons on it displaying our commitment to welcoming the LGBTIQ communities.

The congregation, as well as the choir, were in fine voice and grand and great hymns were sung, my personal favourite being the John Bell "Will you come and follow me".

I am delighted to report that Geoff's sermon was very good indeed, with its subject being the feeding of the five thousand, a very apt topic as of course he will be "feeding the flock" of the diocese. He preaches in short sentences, with clarity of language, and mixes profound ideas with humour. He caused much mirth in the pews by revealing his biggest dilemma on leaving Brisbane and coming to Adelaide was "should I support the Power or the Crows"!

The Communion Service then followed and the service ended with beautiful prayers and blessings. It was a privilege to be there representing the people of St Chad's.

Meriel Wilson

Parish Life



Mothering Saturday High Tea—Over 50 women gathered in our parish grounds on a beautiful Autumn day in March to enjoy our first high tea. Savoury and sweet delights were made by many parish volunteers and those who attended not only enjoyed these special treats, champagne and being waited on, but also had the opportunity to connect with women in our parish and on the fringe, with mothers and grandmothers from Little Chad's joining us.



Ringing our Bell for Peace

Meriel Wilson received an email from a close friend in Ireland inviting us to join with their parish on March 19th to ring our bell to signify ringing out opposition to all the hateful stuff that is circulating at present and to ring in a new hope for tolerance and Inclusivity. This email was then forwarded to Church Office, with the Administrator Bishop Tim Harris, inviting other parishes to join in this prayerful activity. We also letterboxed our surrounding community.

Over 30 people gathered at 11am on another beautiful morning. After saying the prayer of St Francis' - Make me a channel of your peace; Lucy Rayner, our youngest parishioner rang our bell. After each child had their turn Meriel Wilson and Marie Sloan our two beautiful Irish parishioners, began the ringing of the bell for the adults. It was a very special and moving morning.



The Wodgers Beatles Night

Over 80 people gathered on a Friday night to once again listen and dance to the Wodgers' Beatles night. Our church was set up in a cabaret style with friends and family gathering to enjoy each others' company and to listen to tracks from the Beatles that never made it to number one. The church was transformed by the lovely lighting that the Wodgers provided. I did ask on the night if people thought Jesus would approve of this and the conclusion was that he definitely would have!



St Chad's SALA Exhibition – 1st – 31st AUGUST 2017. Meet our Artist— SALVADOR LORETO



Salvador Loreto is an Australian artist born in Algeciras, Spain, into a gypsy family. He started painting and drawing at a very early age. On his arrival in Australia in 1966, Loreto discovered a new landscape and people, which stimulated his approach to painting for the years that followed. However the Spanish, and in particular flamenco, cultural roots remained a reference point for his painting. Throughout his work, the pathos, tragedy and direct physical expressive force appear as elements in his painting. The contrasts of light and shade, the reference to surrealist images and the profoundness of flamenco are all apparent in his work.

In Adelaide, one of the highlights of his career was to be selected twice to have the privilege of painting the portrait of the late Don Dunstan, former Premier of South Australia.

Dunstan considered Loreto a pure and great artist, whose work was relevant to everyday life, and happily agreed to sit for him. These paintings now have great historical significance in South Australia.

Experimenting with colour, form and techniques and never one to be forced to comply with one particular style, Loreto has been described as a mix of Goya and Dali'. In this exhibition, Loreto crosses many stylistic boundaries, founding his own style 'Loretismo'.



In the month of August,

Salvador will be our artist in residence on Tuesday—Sunday from 11am-5pm.

Please feel free to drop in at any time to converse with Salvador and to view his artwork.

Another great opportunity to invite friends and family into our worship and community space!

In Loving Memory—Valerie Mavis Bickley—07.5.1929—27.4.2017



Val was a prolific and inspirational traveller from her very early days, setting sail on a ship to England and backpacking through Europe. On the way she made connections and friendships with people that have lasted throughout her life.

On her return to Adelaide she began her nursing training career, firstly in Adelaide, then Sydney and then off to PNG. The roles of the expat nurse in PNG were not only to provide primary care, but also to share knowledge with, and develop teaching programs for the local staff, so that they could take over these roles in the hospitals once Independence had been achieved.

She was an experienced triage, general and surgical nurse, and a midwife. Val, by her own admission, was a very strict Matron, who could even be a bit cranky, but who was totally committed to providing the best possible nursing care to all. Students who graduated under her guidance were, in her opinion, simply the best.

The communities she served deserved the best possible care. She worked in Madang, Garoka and Mt Hagen. In a book titled "That They Might Live" the hospital conditions are described, the rugged roads that 'the unfortunate' patients had to be transported over, the lack of supplies and the nurses having to maintain their white starched uniforms despite living in crowded quarters in the tropics.

When Val came back to Adelaide she began work as the Co-ordinator of Community Nursing at The Parks Community Centre. She was on the vanguard of Community nursing and she relished it. Val organised "The Sunnysiders", a fitness group for the local women who, by all accounts were a pretty feisty lot. She brought her incredible enthusiasm for fitness and made it fun. She got women moving in ways that they had never done before. She headed up the Cancer Support Group, she mentored nurses and newly graduated doctors. Her determination to make things work without worrying about what she didn't have access to was a testament to her commitment. She taught and led by example. She loved the sense of community that she shared with her colleagues. Val's friendships have proved to be lasting and true, and, are testament to her. She loved catching up with people, sharing stories over fine wine and food and she would often talk about these reunion nights with sheer delight.

Travel, family, friends, wine, food, music, adventure, the natural environment, it's impossible to prioritise or compartmentalise these things in Val's life. She often told us she didn't want anyone feeling sorry for her because her life had been so full. Val was honest and loyal, she lived her values, she was an enabler, her integrity was unquestioned and she was committed to making life better for all who share this planet.

Extract from a Eulogy given at Val's funeral

Myth and Metaphor in the scriptures—hidden truths



You can visit the “Creation Museum” in Petersburg, Kentucky, in the US and learn that the world was created by God in seven 24-hour days sometime between 6,000 and 7,000 years ago. The museum is a lavish venue, strongly-supported financially since its opening in 2007. It covers an area roughly the size of the Adelaide Oval playing surface and attracts over 4,000 visitors each week. Nearby is a Noah’s Ark replica (under construction) which, when completed, will be the largest timber structure on the planet. The organisers and managers of the “Creation Museum” have taken the Genesis Creation and Garden of Eden myth as “*the inerrant word of God*” and built an entire exhibition around it. Anyone with even the most basic education and, hence, some familiarity with the evolutionary process and Darwin’s “*The Origin of Species*” (1859) would be appalled to see so “literal” an interpretation of Genesis Chapter 1 turned into bricks and mortar.

Turning now to a myth that is closer to home: are we similarly appalled by the story of the *virgin birth* of Jesus of Nazareth as we joyfully sing those carols each Christmas? Or the shepherds in the fields being overwhelmed by a “*heavenly host praising God and singing.....*”? Or the star that travelled from the east until it stood “*right over the place where Jesus lay*”? Are these statements of fact - the inerrant word of God – or are they pure myth?



Rather like the Genesis myth referred to above, no one with even a basic understanding of human biology and planetary motion could possibly accept these elements of the Jesus birth story as fact. But would not our Christmas celebrations be the poorer if we stripped the myth down to its scientifically valid truths? Not for me: I’ll have the myth every time!



So, how do we work our way through the dilemma posed by this conflict: **myths** that are strictly untrue but which we have cherished from childhood? Or, **facts** and **truth** that we need to embrace in order to manage our 21st century lives in the ‘real world’?

Consider the world of fiction – the novels we read for pleasure and to gain insights into “the human condition”. Are we bothered by content of a good story being entirely fictitious – the brain-child of its author? And are such works totally useless as guides to *living* or are they *sources of inspiration*? Is the **truth** of a storyline a *requirement* before we can accept whatever it has of value to teach us or inspire our action? I think not! There are many great novels, films and TV dramas whose storylines have contributed to significant social changes and inspired individuals to set their sights on life-goals that are well beyond the ordinary. Some examples are Pilgrim’s Progress, A Tale of Two Cities, To Kill a Mocking Bird, Middlemarch, Pride and Prejudice, Jane Eyre, David Copperfield, Wuthering Heights and Anna Karenina.

Myth has been described as “...*a sacred story which is not scientifically true but contains religious truth*” (Kevin Treston, 2013). The deeper one delves into the scriptures – Old and New Testaments – the greater one becomes aware that myth and metaphor are essential elements of the way ancient contributors conveyed their messages. What, then is the profound religious truth behind the Genesis creation myth? Perhaps, nothing more than “...*the universe and planet Earth had a most mysterious beginning....*”

It is to be deeply regretted, therefore, that “literalism” has been applied to this beautiful mystery, certainly by the “Creation Museum” people referred to above, but also by advocates of *Fall/Redemption* theology - a far more serious consequence of “literalist” thinking – “*For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.*” (1 Corinthians 15: 21 – 22).



What about the Jesus birth myth? What profound religious truth can we discover here? Again, a very simple truth: a baby was born whose life changed the world. He was born at a time when many of the powerful people, Roman rulers such as Julius Caesar, claimed “virgin birth” status to be credible in their society; a miracle or two also helped. It is not surprising, therefore, that in the 1st Century and 70, 80, 90 years after his birth, Jesus’ biographer, the Gospel-writers, immersed him in myth and referred to him as the Son of God.

The world in which we live is entirely different. To be sure, there are the rich and powerful people who, while not so foolish as to claim “virgin birth” status, do set out to impress us with their wealth or power or greed or capacity for inflicting death and destruction. Do we admire these people? Do we consider them as role models? I think not: our heroes are the likes of Mother Teresa of India, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, all of whom reflected the qualities of compassion, non-violence and sacrifice that characterised the life of Jesus of Nazareth. The challenge for us is to live the *wholesome* life that the Jesus myth inspires.

John Argue & friends



Other Special Services & Events Diary Dates for 2017

For more detail closer to the service or event please refer to our website or Weekly News .

Wednesday, May 31st

Friday, June 23rd

Sunday, July 30th

Saturday, August 12th

Sunday, September 24th

Sunday, October 22nd

Saturday, November 4th

Sunday, December 10th

Wednesday, December 13th

Sunday, December 17th

Lunch @ the Rectory

Quiz Night

Taize Service [one service only]

The Cabaret

Parish Breakfast & Service [one service only]

Bless your Pets Service [one service only]

The FAYRE

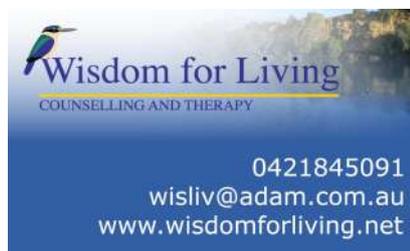
Our Nativity Play

Christmas Lunch @ the Parish Centre

Carols in our community garden

Spiritual Spa Days Afternoons to stop & engage with your God

Saturday, August 19th
Saturday, November 25th
2pm-4.30pm



St Chad's Directory

Nursing Home Ministry:

Monthly services are taken at:
Southern Cross Homes
Fullarton Lutheran Home
Carinya Nursing Home
Please contact the priest for details.

Other Pastoral Services:

- Thanksgiving for the birth of a child
- Baptisms
- Blessing of a relationship
- Weddings
- House blessing
- Prayers for specific needs
- Ministry of reconciliation (confession)
- Spiritual direction
- Quiet days and retreats
- Home Communion for the sick
- Anointing for the sick or dying
- Funerals

Other Parish Activities:

Sunday School
Julie Ascher-Ellis
8379 7825

The Prayer Ring
Wendy Retsas
8276 5021

Youth Group
Tracey Gracey
0417 899 603

Little Chad's
Julie Ascher-Ellis
8379 7825

Parish Priest:

Rev'd Tracey Gracey
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Email: graceyfam@iprimus.com.au

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