



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA



Christ Church
Lavender Bay

Christ Church Lavender Bay

Striving for personal maturity in Christ
Building the body of Christ
Providing hope through Christ

Newsletter

August/September
2020

www.cclb.org.au

Getting to know each other, in faith

Ironically, the restrictions under COVID 19 have brought a number of blessings. One of them is the inclusion in the live-streamed services of video interviews with our members about what brought them to Christ Church, roles they perform, and what their hopes and prayers are for the Christ Church family, now and in the future. Here are some edited highlights from four of the interviews.



Diane and Jurgen Joester love actively serving God and our church family

“Our task is to pass it on to the youth”

Diane & Jurgen Joester. Diane: We wanted a Prayer Book-based church with a nice balance of music and liturgy and preaching. We love studying the Bible together. Its important that everyone who can, be in a Study Group. Now we're running a group! I have also been on Parish Council. **Jurgen:** Lachlan and the team have done a great job with The Gathering. That's our task, to pass it on to the youth in some way. Going weekly should be the start of something great! And I'm looking forward to being on Council.



A Christ Church family - the Douglas's: Archie, parents James and Mary, and Beth

“A great community to grow up in”

The Douglas's. Archie: Christ Church is a great community to grow up in - I've learnt the Christian message about love your neighbour and goodness. **Mary:** A stimulating environment that makes you think about faith and is a very supportive of the family. **Beth:** I was baptised in the church by Reverend Ross McDonald. I really enjoy how you can meet people whose lives are so different to yours. **James:** I think church is a great and glorious mechanism to bring generations together.



Philippa: The live streaming has been a real plus, lots of people tuning in and enjoying.

“Liturgy, choir and music important”

John and Philippa Armfield. John: I'm responsible for changing the liturgical colours to reflect the change in liturgical seasons. I also enjoy being a welcomer. To me, the liturgy, choir and music are very important. And the fact that you go every week, you listen and learn. **Philippa:** I'm a church warden, sing in the choir and do intercessory prayers. Its very important for us to go to an evangelical church that sticks to the Bible. You need that encouragement and mixing with other Christians.



“I went to the services for two weeks and I was stuck. We've just loved it ever since!”

“I pray for more to come to Christ ”

Merle Lindstrom: The Bible-based preaching is wonderful. We have so much talent for preaching and for Bible studies at Christ Church. It's just building on my faith all the time because the Lord is so present. My prayer is for more people to come to Christ through the live streaming, which shows how people who are not regular church-goers can join in. My husband Harry passed away nearly three years ago. I miss him dearly but I'm not alone because I have the Lord with me at all times.

Now two services, both in-person, both on-line (story: page 2)

August Diary

Sun 2nd 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sat 8th Parish Council Planning Day

Sun 9th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Wed 12th 7am Parish Council

Sun 16th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sat 22nd 8-11am Spring Clean

Sun 23rd 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Sun 30th 10am Prayer, Praise & Proclamation
5pm The Gathering

Bible Study Groups

Monday nights (fortnightly) Bible Study Group (Contact Keith & Anne Mason)
Monday nights: Bible Study Group (Contact Geoff Kells)
Thursday mornings: Rectory Bible Study Group (contact Ann Kells)
Thursday night: Bible Study Group (contact Jurgen and Diane Joester)
Thursday night: Bible Study Group (contact Lachlan Edwards)

The Buzz from the Bay

Acts of Christian kindness

During the restrictions, many at Christ Church are demonstrating acts of true Christian grace. Some have prepared and delivered meals to those living alone and/or unwell. Others have called up fellow-members and had a friendly chat, provided some advice about things like returning to church or on line worship or prayed when appropriate. Choir members have been supporting each other with small friendship gatherings (socially distanced), for afternoon tea at Helen Wheeler's place, and through phone calls and emails."

For everything you need to know about physically attending church (including how to book) for either service, go the church website, click on the video "Safely returning to Church" where COVID Task Force representative, Penny Morris, explains the details. Or call Lachlan on 9923 2052.

Now two services, both in-church, both live-streamed



From June 28, Christ Church started having two services, offering a choice of worshipping in person or on-line.

Sunday Morning - Traditional Services - 10am: Our traditional prayer book service as we love it, continues, with a few changes to allow for hygiene rules. These include bringing your own Bible (why not install it on your iPhone?) and as much as possible continuing with offertory by EFT or cheque. For those who worship online continue to join in by opening the website and going to the "live" tab. **Sunday Evening -The Gathering - 5pm:** The Gathering has moved to weekly, with a contemporary feel and sound, but with the same sermon as for the morning. Same hygiene rules as for the morning service. Want to "gather" online? You can join in by opening the website and going to the "live" tab.



Spring Clean

At Christ Church, Spring is coming early this year. On Saturday 22nd August, 8am-11am, we will have a Spring Clean working bee as we come out of winter/ Covid hibernation. Bring your gardening and cleaning gear. Practising social distancing should be easy as long as we are careful and considerate. For hygiene reasons, can you bring your own thermos of hot drinks & snacks.



Evonne believed in Jesus' forgiveness. We know that she has received eternal life.

We remember Rev Evonne Paddison

On 14th July, our dear sister **Evonne Paddison** passed through into glory. We live-streamed Evonne's Service on the 23rd. (Due to restrictions attendance at church was family-only) Evonne came to us after faithful service to her Lord, notably in Christian education. She was with us for some three years as Assistant Minister. We all cherished her scholarly yet light-hearted sermons, her pastoral sensitivity and above all, her love. Evonne was very active in the preparation of marriage couples, conduct of weddings, pastoral visitation, leadership of Bible Studies and the annual High Tea events. We have all been spiritually enriched through her Godly dedication.



Church renovations progress

According to **Dave Sullens**, proprietor of The Slate Roof Company, repairing our church roof, the first phase of the Rejuvenation Project, is one of his more challenging jobs. "It has a very steep pitch - 70 degrees. We are replacing 150 year old tiles. The fixtures were rusting and tiles were falling off. Before replacing tiles, with high quality imported tiles, we'll put breathable sarking in to prevent condensation. We will also fit copper flashing on the gables to stop water penetration. There are three skilled tradesmen on the job which should be finished by end August. The new tiles should last at least another 150 years!"

Rector's Message

I was speaking to a not-yet Christian friend on the weekend who has been struggling with debilitating sickness for a number of years now. Her struggle with her health consumes most of her waking hours. She admitted that at times, she feels hopeless. Yet she said that one thing she admired Christians for was their hope in a certain future. Evonne's funeral was all about hope, or as another Christian who attended her funeral said, it was about "assurance". We need assurance now. The world needs assurance now. Hebrews 11:1 says: "Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." We have confidence that Jesus' resurrection guarantees our own resurrection (Jn 11:25), and we have assurance of a better future beyond the horizon (Rev 21:4). May we hold firm to this hope, and may we proclaim this hope and assurance in Jesus to our family, friends and community in these uncertain times.

Reverend Lachlan Edwards, Rector, Christ Church Lavender Bay

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September Diary

Sun 6th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 13th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Wed 15th 7am Parish Council

Sun 20th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 27th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Bible Study Groups

See details at base of August Diary

Buzz from the Bay

On-line giving to continue

Because of rules regarding in-church services, we ask that offering continue giving via EFT giving or giving by cheque. Our Banking details are Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account 158400747. Please support our Ministry by continuing your giving in this way. Alternatively, for those who are attending church in person, there is a box where a retiring offering can be placed.



Bishop for 151st Anniversary

How quickly has the year has rolled around since we celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone and the launch of our Rejuvenation Fund! As we mark our 151st year on 23rd August, Bishop Chris Edwards will use the occasion to speak to us. The wardens will also give us an update on our Rejuvenation Fund and building works.

Sermon series on Daniel

What gave Daniel the courage to swim against the flow of society? It can only be his utmost confidence that God is the sovereign ruler of the world, at all times and in all places. John Lennox writes: "The story of Daniel and his friends is a clarion call to our generation to be courageous; not to lose our nerve and allow the expression of our faith to be diluted and squeezed out of the public space and thus rendered spineless and ineffective." We look forward to dipping our toes into the book of Daniel during September and October this year.