



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

February/March
2021

www.cclb.org.au

Christ Church heads into 2021 in good shape

Wardens Rod, Philippa and Ian sum up the year that was

We reset our plans in mid March as Covid cases grew alarmingly. Live Church services ceased and were immediately replaced with virtual services. Our cash offertory dropped to nothing but EFT-giving doubled and by year-end offertory was in line with expectations. Plans for an Assistant Minister were put on hold, and maintenance/other costs were held back wherever feasible. We qualified for the Jobkeeper/Boosting Cash flow Government initiatives and ended the year well ahead of budget expectations with increased reserves.

We appointed Emily Edwards as a part-time Children's and Youth Minister in the second half which has added to the insights, clarity and generational appeal of our sermons. And we have ring-fenced the increase in reserves in 2020 to enable us to increase ministerial resourcing in the future.

Our Bible Study groups have extended our pastoral care resourcing. Members of the congregation have stepped up and have participated in and enabled us to run both the Morning Service and the Gathering. A significant number of volunteers have also assisted with ushering and Covid cleaning, running the live streaming, providing music and intercessory prayers for our services, providing morning tea and so on. A real team effort. And orchestrating all of this and leading from the front has been Lachlan, our very capable and committed Senior Minister.

Rejuvenation giving and grants in 2019 and 2020 grew to around a cumulative \$200K by year end. We are on track after two years with our five year goal to raise \$500k which is enabling us to sustainably maintain and rejuvenate our 150 year old Church. We completed the replacement of the south side slate gables in 2020. We will replace the north side slate gables in 2021. Christ Church heads into 2021 in good shape.



Invite Erin to your Bible study

We have been partnering with **Erin** in her work for three years now. We have the honour of Erin visiting with us from the 14th to the 19th March and would love to share how Christ Church's partnering with her work in Asia has been assisting in her mission. Erin will be at church on 14th March at both morning and evening services and is available to join mid week groups during the week. This could be in Bible study groups, or over a meal. Contact **Lachlan**.

What's life all about? Who is Jesus? How do I read the Bible? What is the foundation of Christianity? Sceptical? Just wondering? Don't feel like you know much or been coming to church for decades? The seven week Christianity Explored is for everyone - a relaxed and informal format supported by a short video and participant booklet. Begins on 9th Feb at the Rectory, 7-8.30pm (socially distanced of course). Contact **Lachlan** for more details.

Christianity
EXPLORED
One life. What's it all about?

Lachlan's Message

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Bible Study groups are a great way to be regularly encouraged and to encourage others in the hope we have in Jesus through studying God's word, pastoral care and prayer. If you are not currently in a group, I urge you to begin this year by finding and committing to a group. There are groups that meet all through the week in different locations and in different formats. We are planning on forming three new groups this year, at least one of which will begin with the Christianity Explored course (see above). This is the perfect way for you to join a group without any expectations of knowing all the answers!

Rev Lachlan Edwards, Senior Minister, Christ Church, Lavender Bay

February Diary

Sun 7th Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 14th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Wed 17th 7am Parish Council

Sun 21st 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 28th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Bible Study Groups

Monday nights (fortnightly) Bible Study Group (Contact Keith & Anne Mason)

Monday nights: Bible Study Group (Contact Geoff Kells)

Tuesday nights: Christianity Explored Group (Contact Lachlan)

Thursday mornings: Rectory Bible Study Group (contact Ann Kells)

Thursday nights: Bible Study Group (contact Jurgen and Diane Joester)

Thursday night: Bible Study Group (Lachlan)
Want to join a group? Contact Lachlan.

Buzz from the Bay



Confirmation of Emily Edwards

On Sunday 6th December, Bishop Paul Barnett confirmed Emily Edwards in the community of faith. As a young child Emily's parents, Lachlan and Bec prayed that Emily might herself come to know Jesus as her personal Lord and Saviour. Praise God that by His Holy Spirit Emily made that decision when she was 12 years old, and now at 21 has stood to confirm her faith in public ceremony.

No matter how young or old you are, it is good to publicly declare your faith in Jesus. Please contact Lachlan if you'd like to know more about Confirmation.

4.15 Club & Teen Bible Study



From **Emily Edwards**: "We are SO excited for kids ministry at our church this year! With the new school term will come two refreshed ministries; an outreach opportunity for young families and a youth bible study. The former will be held every Sunday at 4:15, called the "4:15 Club", and will be a space for families to chat, do some craft and have a cuppa. The youth bible study will be beginning again in term one as well, and we'd love your prayer as it kicks off. We are keen to see how God will work in and through the young people in our church." Get in touch with Emily for more info at emily.frances.edwards@gmail.com

Sermon and study resource on John



From 24 January to Easter we will begin exploring the Gospel of John in church. The focus of the series is "Life to the Full" (John 10:10). **Lachlan**: "You may like to follow the sermon series with personal or group bible study of the Gospel of John. I encourage you to use a guide like St. Helen's Bishopsgate's 'Read/Mark/Learn: John'. These can be ordered directly from Koorong Books at www.koorong.com, or if you are unable to order online you can contact the church office at anglicanlb@optusnet.com.au"

The Radio Play: to director and cast - bravissimo!



Jo Kadlecek with wardens Ian and Rod

During the morning service of 24th January, on behalf of the three wardens, parish council, and congregation, **Rod Pearse** made a presentation to **Jo Kadlecek** for directing the Christmas radio play "The Man Born to be King". The performance at church was live-streamed 19 and 20 December due to COVID restrictions. From Rod: "*Bravissimo*, Jo for your efforts, your creativity and your skilful moulding of the cast and your success in staging the play. The cast did amazing work, particularly for the way each grew into their roles through the six rehearsals. There were some lovely comments from folks about the show, which was watched by some 200 viewers. And to quote Jo, 'We pray that God might use such opportunities for his purposes.'"

Minister for seniors



From Lachlan: "It is with great pleasure that I announce that **Rev. Di Nicolios** has agreed to be our honorary Minister for Seniors for one day per week, beginning in February. Di has said that she has found that, after a lifetime of ministry, one cannot simply switch off from God's irrevocable call to serve. Di will be overseeing caring for those who are in retirement years, as well as having a training and equipping role for our church wide pastoral care network."

News from THE GATHERING



Praise God! Lachlan with from left, Jed, Emmanuel & America Haslam

* Sunday 6th December, watched by some 30 members from both congregations, three young members of the Haslem family from The Gathering were baptised in the waters of Lavender Bay by Lachlan.

* An outreach opportunity for young families is being held every Sunday at 4:15, called the "4:15 club", and will be a space for families to chat, do some craft and have a cuppa. For more info, email emily.frances.edwards@gmail.com

The Gathering is on Sunday nights at 5pm, with a casual, easy-going format. Afterwards, for those who wish to, we head out for pizza/pasta at a local cafe.

Senior Minister: Rev Lachlan Edwards 9923 2052, 0437 150 100, rectorlavenderbay@gmail.com
Minister for Seniors: Di Nicolios, 0488161630, dnicolios@bigpond.com Office - Penny Goodley 9929 7723, anglicanlb@optusnet.com.au Newsletter : graemeadam1@bigpond.com

March Diary

Sun 7th 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 14th 10am Morning Prayer
11.30am Annual General Meeting
5pm The Gathering

Wed 17th 7am Parish Council

Sun 21st 10am Holy Communion
5pm The Gathering

Sun 28th 10am Morning Prayer
5pm The Gathering

Buzz from the Bay



Easter: "Life to the full"

At the end of his Gospel John explains "these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." Over Easter we will be exploring the joy of having life to the full in Jesus' name.

Join us at church or on-line.
10am Good Friday 2nd April
10am/5pm Easter Sunday 4th April

QR codes, and registering

Thanks to everyone who has so quickly adopted the QR code scan process for church. All people coming to church are required to scan in using the Service NSW QR code. If you do not have a smart phone that can do this, you can scan in as a dependant of another person. We will continue to register everyone who comes to services using our Elvanto electronic registration system.



Praise God for the generosity of the CCLB family to CCD

"Freely you have received, freely given" - Matthew 10:8

The goal for the Christmas Appeal for CCD was \$2,200.00. But never underestimate the giving spirit of our church. We raised \$2770! The equipment that can now be purchased for each of the five disabled children/young adults will be a blessing each day whether to help them with their independence or to give them comfort and support.