



Uniting Church in Australia
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS
Sunday 20 August 2017
Pentecost 11

Gospel

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." She came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly. **Matthew 15:21-28**

For prayer and action ...

Hundreds and hundreds [of ants] seasonally invaded the cells in which we were kept. Like the giant Gulliver in a rage of frustration and cold sweat I would stamp and slap and crush them without mercy, without any thought of their separate existence. But after days of this I got tired of my anger. It exhausted me. I watched how they worked together. And how, if I had crushed one in the night by accident, the others would gather around and if there was life in it still, comrades would lift this wounded companion and crawl up the vertical wall and search out an escape point through which they could take this maimed insect to be amongst its own. This incident became a symbol for me in this blank room with its three chained creatures [prisoners]. We cannot abandon the injured or the maimed, thinking to ensure our own safety and sanity. We must reclaim them, as they are part of ourselves. **Brian Keenan, who was a prisoner of a small group of terrorists in Beirut from mid-1980's, for four and a half years.**

Welcome to Seacliff Uniting Church!

If you are new to the area, visiting friends or family, or on a holiday, to you we extend a warm welcome, and invite you to share fully in worship and fellowship.

Our Minister is Peter Moss ☎ 8381 2943

This Week at Seacliff

Netball Presentation Night **Tonight 6pm at Seacliff UC**
Women's Evening Fellowship **7.30pm Wed. 23rd August**
TakeUs2 for September **(held next Sunday 27th August)**

What's News

Women's Evening Fellowship

Our next get-together is on this Wednesday, **23rd August, at 7:30 pm** in the Church Hall, when we will have a fun night testing your knowledge with a Quiz Night. Come along and enjoy your time with friends and satisfy your appetite with food supplied by the Blue Group. Thank you to those who supplied cake for our Morning Tea last Sunday. It was really appreciated. See other notice for result. Von

Morning Tea report

The "Slice of Cake" Morning Tea successfully raise **\$202:00** to aid Frontier Services Patrol Ministers in their work. Thank you to all those who supplied cakes and to those who donated to our effort, Von Bollinger

Hear about Police Chaplaincy - Reminder notice

Rev Mark Thomas will be talking about police chaplaincy at our next Inter Church Council meeting. This is open to everyone so if you're interested, come along to St Joseph's Catholic Church, 22 Strathmore Tce Brighton, on **Monday 21st August at 7.30pm.**

Peter

Cogs n Coffee

Our riders were gleefully checking the track as we rode, \$5 notes were being found!. A bit later it was brought to our attention that Mary had not zipped up her pocket and our free coffees were handed back. Nice to have Lyn and Howard join us for coffee. We also had a first with Faye loosing her front wheel while crossing South Road but all ended well. Bruce will lead next weeks ride. Meet at 8.30am at Wattle Reserve.

Brian (0439977576)

Takeus2 Aug 27

Remember we have the 'first Sunday of Sept' on the last Sunday of August to dodge Fathers Day. Our next meeting will be on Aug 27th and there has been a change to the Program. Max will tell some stories and show some pics of some of his Australian travels for an hour or so and I will do similar about our recent mountain bike trip to NZ with Andrew, Brian and a few others. We can call it the ANZAC show 'Australia & New Zealand And Commentary!'. From 6-9pm, usual arrangements.

David

Netball Presentation Night

The netball presentation program will take place tonight at Seacliff UC 20th August 6 – 8pm. All welcome.

Brian

Beyond Seacliff

A Thin Place - Day Retreat

The Corner Uniting Church corner Oaklands & Diagonal Roads, Warradale 9th September 2017 10:00am - 4:00pm

Event details

The theme of this A Thin Place retreat is "Standing at the Crossroads", looking inward and moving forward.

The retreat begins with morning tea in the cafe from 9.45am.

An introductory session from 10.15am-12.30pm will provide time for personal prayer and creativity at many prayer stations.

Lunch will be held from 12.30- 1.30pm, and will be spent in silence followed by Holy Communion and a quiet activity together. The afternoon session will focus on prayer stations and run from 1.30 - 3.30pm.

Wrap up will take place from 3.30pm and participants should be ready to return home at approximately 3.45pm.

Cost: \$25 (\$20 concession) includes light lunch, refreshments and all materials. To register please call Rosalie or Belinda on 8350 5400 by Sunday 3 September. Registration is essential.

Pastoral Placement at Seacliff

As most Seacliff people will be aware, Peter finishes with us at the end of July, 2018. Rev Beth Seaman, our contact person with the Presbytery, visited Church Council last meeting, to help us start taking the first steps towards transition to life after that time.

There are basically three options:

- Go straight to a new Placement without a break
- Have a 6-months or so Supply Placement
- Undertake a period of Intentional Interim Ministry.

Council recognises that the first one is simply not an appropriate way to go. We know there will be significant grieving to be done come that time, and we need to allow time for that to be processed before a new Placement begins.

The second one is not recommended by Presbytery. A more structured period to help us with intentional planning is preferred.

That brings us to the Intentional Interim Ministry. There are two possible reasons why a congregation might undertake this. The one that applies to us is the situation where there is a minister in placement who has been there for a long time and is dearly loved – and so the people will need a transition time. An Intentional Interim in this context represents a strong affirmation from the congregation of the minister.

This is Church Council's recommendation for us.

Two things need to be understood:

1. The leaders of the Intentional Interim programme will challenge us to do some serious thinking about our future. We will need to do that anyway; perhaps we would avoid it as "all too hard" without some independent encouragement; in any case it's arguably better that we do it with some assistance.
2. It's Council's recommendation, but in the end the Congregation decides.

In the meantime –

We need to undertake a *Consultation* concerning the *Life and Witness of the Congregation*.

Again, we need to do this anyway – it's 5 years since the last one, and it's also an important first step in the Placements process.

Please note the following information and plan to be involved if at all possible:

- We request just ***half an hour*** of your time ...
- ... during the period Fri 13th (evening) to Sun 15th (afternoon) of October this year. We hope that almost everybody will be able to find 30 minutes within that period.
- The process is a personal conversation with the Consultants appointed by Presbytery.
- Everyone is invited and indeed urged to take the opportunity to be part of the occasion – we need the widest possible range of responses in order to make the best decisions for our future.
- All responses are completely confidential. No submission or comment is quoted: the report is written up entirely in summary form.

So – a Congregation Consultation in October this year, and a recommendation for a time of Intentional Interim Ministry from the start of August next year. (Perhaps a final decision will emerge from the Consultation.) Please take these opportunities to help shape the direction of our congregation's life and ministry.

Blessings to you all.

Max.

BACK PAGE

Worship Leader for Today: Max Howland

Lectionary Aug 20 2017 Pent 11 Gn 45:1-15 Ps 133
Rom 11:1-2a, Mt 15: (10-20), 29-32, 21-28.

Reminder for Stewards 27.8.2017

Brian Gepp

Warwick Gardener

Welcome to our Church.

There are a few things you need to know especially if you are a visitor.

Fire exits are marked. Please take note. In the case of an emergency evacuation please gather on the Western Lawns under the Pine Tree.

St John First Aid Kit - on top of the pigeon holes up from the ramp.

Toilets are available through the door front right of the Worship Area or out through the turn around point on the ramp.

Morning tea is held after the service – we hope you will join with us.

Children normally leave for the children's programme after the children's talk during the Service. More information is available from the Steward's Table and displays scattered around "The Middle Hall".

Items for the Newsletter

Please email items to.

[deandixon7@bigpond.co](mailto:deandixon7@bigpond.com)

m and seacliffuc-

churchoffice @adam.com.au

by 9.30am on Wednesdays. If

you do not have access to email,

please phone or call in at the

church office and it will be

forwarded for you.

Contact Details – Peter Moss

Peter is at the office in Wheatland

House - Tuesdays, Fridays, and usually

Wednesday or Thursday mornings;

Office : 8296 1517. If he's not in the

office, you are welcome to ring him at

home and leave a message if he's not

there. Home : 8381 2943 Email:

peter.moss.534@gmail.com

Church Office Information

Open Thursday and Friday

9.30am – 12.30pm

☎ 8296 1517

Email: seacliffuc-churchoffice@adam.com.au

Website: www.seacliffuc.org