



Uniting Church in Australia
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS
Sunday 19 August 2018
PENTECOST 13



Reflection

We all have dark days. When there seems that the light at the end of the tunnel has been extinguished. And the future holds little hope. We feel shrouded in blackness; unable to smile, unable to care. It's exhausting and the burden is heavy.

God, only you know how I'm really feeling. You truly understand. Words fail me - but you hear the groaning of my heart. Longing for a better day, and a brighter future. Longing for hope.

Even when I'm in the pit of darkness and the world is no longer bright, I will continue to talk with you, God. I know you care...even when I can't quite feel it. I know you're there...even when I feel distant. May I walk through the darkness knowing that You've promised a better day, O God, and find hope in Your promises, even when I'm feeling hopeless.

From UC E-news

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 Rev. John Howard (to 30th September 2018) Tel 0429 081 046

This Week at Seacliff

MovieMates

Time TBA Tuesday 21st August

Women's Evening F/ship

7.30pm Wed. 22nd August

What's News

A note from Rev. John Howard

John invites members of the Seacliff UC congregation to call him on his mobile **0429 081 046** or text a message if preferred for any contact while he is with us at Seacliff UC.

John would also be happy to accept an invite to attend small group meetings within the church and to meet people with pastoral concerns at Wheatland House as arranged.

John

The Moss Farewell

1. Most of you will recall that, amongst other gifts, Peter and Lyn were presented with a **Seacliff UC Photobook** with several hundred photos of their time with us. Council has also decided to buy another copy for congregational reference. At present, it is held by Rev John and Ailsa Howard and in due course will also be made available to Rev Anne Hewitt for interest and in the meantime, it will rest on top of the pigeon holes and may be perused or borrowed for a week before returning it please.

2. You may also recall that Arthur Tucker has kindly prepared **DVDs** of both the final service and also the farewell speeches. Peter and Lyn have been given a copy and another copy rests on the little shelf above the sound equipment near the main door. This copy may be borrowed, copied if you wish and returned within a week please, by those who were absent or those who just want to hear the speeches, jokes and stories again!

Max and David

WOMENS NIGHT FELLOWSHIP.

Our next get-together is on Wednesday, 22nd August, at 7.30 pm, in the Church Hall. Our program is a "**Dutch Auction**" so come along with two lovely presents, one worth very little and one worth no more than \$5.00. Also bring along some money so you can bid for a wonderful surprise to take home. The **Blue Group** will be on duty that night.

Von

Craft Market & Exhibition 2018

Countdown has started - 10 weeks to go!!! One of the themes of the day will be - "be environmentally responsible", hence we are asking for donations of paper bags in place of plastic shopping bags, and clean cornstarch bags. Just put them in the box on top of the piano in the morning tea room. If sewing is your 'thing' consider making cloth shopping bags, or if you like knitting / crochet maybe some cotton dishcloths for our Eco-table.

Heather

Cogs n Coffee

10 of us did the enjoyable ride to Pt Adelaide and back and it was pleasing to be able to travel on the new tracks around and under Pk. Terrace, and over the new South Rd. They are very good and make the ride so much easier.

Next week, meet at Wattle Reserve at 8.30am for a ride to "Bikes for Refugees " at the conservation centre in Franklin Street. If you are not a rider but would like to join us we will be there around 10am. Coffee is available there as well.

Brian



Report to the Congregation from Church Council

Council met last Tuesday evening: it was a long but profitable meeting.

A couple of brief reports:

^ We welcomed Rev John Howard, and were grateful for his wisdom and guidance in several matters over the course of the evening. We also looked at ways in which John may be involved in the life of this church during his time with us.

^ We have received a note from Tarcisius – the girls have resumed school, they are trying to get used to the hot, very humid weather again, and Tarcisius himself is progressing through the multiple hoops in getting his school project up and running.

^ Our AGM for the election / appointment of positions of service and leadership has been set for Nov 18th, fitting around other commitments including in particular our Stewardship programme.

^ The annual Presentation Night for the Netball Club will be held on Sunday 26th August, starting at 6pm, in the church space and followed by dinner in the hall. Council agreed to continue the practice of meeting the purchase cost of the trophies presented to the netballers.

And then ...

Rev Anne Hewitt begins her Intentional Interim Placement with us on October 7th. We need to give Anne a welcome that will indicate our commitment to working with her over that time, so:

- Worship that day will include a Liturgy of Induction, including the presentation of the symbols of her work: Bible, bread, wine, water;
- After morning tea there will be an extended opportunity for us to meet and chat with Anne, followed by ...
- A shared lunch, with some welcoming formalities, and a chance for Anne to talk to us about how she sees her task unfolding.

Please note these arrangements for Oct 7th and plan to be there if at all possible.

We also plan to offer a pastoral support group for Anne.

Pastoral Care

There are two programmes coming up for people who would like to find out more and/or develop knowledge and skills in the area of Pastoral Care.

Pastoral Partners is a programme that has been running nationwide for over 20 years: there will be a session at The Corner Uniting Church, Warradale, on Friday 20th (evening) and Sat 21st (day time).

Dr Paul Whetham is launching an edition of his Soul Food Café programme, also at The Corner, in October. This is a programme for the skills development, and also sustaining of well-being, of leaders in churches.

If you could be interested in either of those programmes, speak to a member of Church Council.

Safe Place – care for children and all vulnerable people

Our Synod has launched a revised Safe Place policy, which it is hoped [even expected] that we as a Congregation will sign and commit to. We all know how devastating it is when people, especially church leaders, abuse children and other vulnerable people – this policy is part of the UCA response to the matter.

UCA Assembly decision re same-gender marriage

This has been reported to us, and there are papers on the notice board in the small hall. There is a role for congregations in the follow-up to the Assembly decision: ministers are free to decide whether they will or will not conduct marriages for same-gender couples, but *Church Council* decides whether it will permit the property to be used for same-gender marriages. We have begun the process for resolving our policy: as *part of that*, Council will seek the advice and opinion of the Congregation on the way to our final decision.

Max, with CC members Rosemary, David, Josie, Andrew.

BACK PAGE

Worship Leader for Today: Rev. John Howard

Lectionary for Today: Pentecost 13: **1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14, Psalm 111, Ephesians 5:15-20, John 6:51-58.**

Reminder for Stewards 26.8.2018

L Milner Colin Theakstone

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. 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.com
[m](mailto:m@seacliffuc-churchoffice@adam.com.au) 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 –

Rev. John Howard
to 30th September 2018
Tel 0429 081 046

Rev Anne Hewitt
from 1st October 2018
Tel 0408 130 584

Church Office Information

Open Thursday and Friday

9.30am – 12.30pm

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