



# SA NEWS

Newsletter of the Presbytery of South Australia

Issue 46

March 2020

## A Lonely Death

*'In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked Him among themselves. "He saved others, "they said, "but He can't save Himself! Let this Christ, this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with Him also heaped insults on Him. At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" - Which mean, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* Mark 15: 31 - 34



It was a lonely way to die. There were the thieves at either side, the chief priests and teachers of the law beneath His feet, yet it was still a lonely way to die. We know that a few of His followers, mostly women, were there. (The men, save for John, had fled.) His mother, Mary, was present as well. But it was a lonely way to die.

Friends, followers, family, enemies, strangers and agents of the law, we do not know their number, but they were there to watch Jesus die. However many there were, Jesus was suffering a lonely death. How could this be? How could someone be surrounded and die alone?

Listen to the tortured cry from the one on the cross: 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?' The Lord Jesus was lonely because He had only ever known perfect union with God was now experiencing the alienation from God that humanity deserved. He felt alone and forsaken. He was dying our lonely death.

The chief priests and teachers of the law mocked Him, calling for Him to come down from the cross. If He did that, they said, they would see and believe. Through their words Satan was engaging in one final temptation: become a King by abandoning the cross. Even at this, His most painful hour, Jesus rejects the tempter. He remained, entirely by choice, dying this loneliest of deaths.

The accuser speaks through the cries of those who heaped insults upon the Lord Jesus. They thought that His actions were a demonstration of weakness. The Lord Jesus' actions were, actually, the greatest demonstration of divine

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power since the creation. The Lord Jesus' lonely death was the greatest victory in history.

While upon the cross He was punished for the sin and guilt of all His people. The punishment which was due for each sinful act of ours was inflicted upon Him. God's just wrath, which should have fallen on those who had actually done those sinful actions, fell upon Jesus. Is it any wonder that He suffered? Is it any wonder that He was lonely?

We should pay attention to the cry, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Our cry should be "My God, My God, why would You NOT forsake me?" The reason that we are not forsaken is because Jesus experienced the forsakenness we deserve.

If Jesus has not died for our sins, then we will receive the due penalty ourselves. The loneliness and separation from God, which Jesus experienced in passing, will be ours for eternity.

The Lord Jesus is our King because He stayed on the cross. He is our Lord because He died for our sins. He experienced the agony of separation from God so that we would not have to. Do not wonder if you have been good enough for God to let you into heaven. Non of us have and none of us ever could. That is why God sent Jesus to accept the punishment which each of us should receive. God accepts unacceptable people because of what Jesus has done.

As we commemorate our Lord's atoning death and resurrection this Easter let us give thanks that Jesus died a lonely death so that we who believe can have eternal fellowship with God.

Gary Ware

## **Mount Gambier**

We are now well into the first term of the year and all of our groups have settled into a routine of meeting together again.

From all reports the Growth Groups have been thoroughly enjoying their studies from The Beatitudes.

Coffee and craft members are meeting again each Wednesday morning from 10.00am till noon. We had two impromptu days at the end of January since some were missing our weekly get togethers. On one of these days we had a visit from Lorna Moyle, who came with a bundle of knitted squares, beanies and a quilted patchwork rug. Shopping for the Christmas boxes is well underway, last years' boxes went to the Philippines. Our "square sowers" are busy putting rugs together ready for winter. We have had a generous donation of beautifully handcrafted soft toys and a number of donated toys for the boxes. We welcome ladies to join us, if you don't knit or crochet you are welcome to come for a chat and morning tea.

## Vale Reg Matthews

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing to higher duties of Rev Dr Reg Matthews. He died peacefully in hospital on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 after a short but unexpected illness. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Reg's wife Elaine and the rest of their family at this time as they continue life with Reg no longer present.

The following is Reg's testimony, in his own words.

### Testimony of Thanksgiving to God

I am eternally grateful to God for my mum and dad. I was born on March 27<sup>th</sup> 1945, and from childhood they made known to me the Holy Scriptures which are able to make us wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus as they faithfully prayed and read the Bible with me.

They always made it clear to me that being reared in a Christian home, and being brought up in the training and admonition of the Lord, did not make me a 'Christian', but that I needed to come to a personal trust and faith in Jesus Christ in my heart - and I praise God that in 1959, God convicted me not only of my own sins but that I was sinner before Him, and by His grace I repented of my sin and by faith received Jesus Christ into my heart. I knew God saved me, and He gave me a spiritual love and hunger for more of Him and His Word.

I am thankful that our family, including my two older sisters Rae and Christine, sought to worship in evangelical Churches. I have happy memories of going to the Rose Park Primary School, Adelaide Boys High School and to Adelaide University to become a Social Worker.

Then came 3 most wonderful years at the Adelaide Bible Institute where the ministry of Geoffrey Bingham gave me such a spiritual investment and foundation for my whole life - and it was at ABI the Lord led me to Elaine, a most loving and spiritually discerning wife - and the mother of our 4 children - Peter (married to Hyunhee), Julia (married to Rowan with Caleb and Kiara), Paul, and John (married to Sheena with David, Daniel and Benjamin).

At ABI, God blessed me with His Holy Spirit and He guided me into theological training at Ormond College in Melbourne. The Lord led us to ministry in Port Pirie, then France, then to Eltham and Kangaroo Ground in Melbourne, then to Brighton, then, as the Home Mission Officer this took me throughout Victoria and many parts of Australia, and back to Adelaide in Norwood and Para Hills, and finally to Elizabeth. I distinctly remember choosing, as my first message, the words of Micaiah in 2 Chronicles 18, "As the LORD lives, whatever my God says, that I will speak;" and the words of Job in Job 23:12 ever motivated me that "I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." The words of Jeremiah 29:11 have always been a comfort to me that God knows

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the thoughts that He thinks towards me...thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give a future and a hope.

Ezra 7:10 became a key verse for the several parish "School of Theology" situations engaged in since 1983 for it says that Ezra prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach it to others.

For all the experiences of this life I am truly grateful, but as our closing song expresses it, "one day we'll see Him face to face" and to be with Him will crown it all.

## **Adelaide Presbyterian Church**

### **Mt Barker**

Greetings to all readers from the Mt Barker folk, hoping everyone enjoyed a happy Christmas 2019.

Sadly I have to report the death of our oldest member, Mrs Kathleen MacAllan, at Estia Health Home, Strathalbyn, on 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019. She was 98 years old. Mrs MacAllan taught in the Sunday School in her younger days and was a very good worker in the ladies work within the church. Many an enjoyable day was had at the MacAllan property at Hartley, celebrating our annual Sunday School Picnic prior to church union.

During November, Rene and Mark Truyens and the Green family arranged a quarterly social evening within the church. Thank you to these people for their efforts for others to receive much enjoyment.

Our Christmas Eve service was held in the church at 2pm. The Sunday School performed the re-enactment of the Nativity scene with adults reading relevant Bible verses of the Christmas story together with the singing of carols. Thank you Sunday School scholars and teachers together with Elder Matthew Green for conducting the service.

Over the Christmas-New Year period we welcomed visitors Kyle, originally from Broken Hill and Emily from Ungarra, E. P.; Ian and Alison Richardson from Melbourne (Ian is a nephew of our late Elder, Mrs Marjory Grivell), Richard de Boer and his wife, from Nuriootpa and Don and Alison Stanley and their three daughters from the Clayton Presbyterian Church, Victoria. Don conducted a service here during Rev. Wally Zurrer's time in the late 1990's.

Davo Gunning and Peter Lim have conducted our services since the beginning of the year.

We have had the pleasure of welcoming Annette du Plessius to a few of the services. Annette has been in Australia for 4 and a half years coming from South Africa. She is employed in a vineyard at Lake Plains near Milang and Strathalbyn.

During January, Mr Vin Cross passed away at Milang, aged 91. His mother was

a Paterson and he was very generous to our church with numerous donations of money.

Following our service on 15<sup>th</sup> December last year, Davo Gunning moderated a Congregational Meeting to discuss the appointment of Mr Peter Lim at Mt Barker, from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. The Presbyterian Church of South Australia and the Queensland Committee are prepared to provide the cost of ministry for the above period. People present approved the above proposal.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 a number of our people joined in the "Big Sunday" service of the Adelaide Presbyterian Church at St Giles in Norwood. The service was followed by a bring and share lunch.

Welcome to Cindy and David from Sydney who are here for 3 years and residing in Magill.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Rev. Dr. Reg Mathews on 7<sup>th</sup> February, and of Mr Allan Evans, a friend of Mrs Christine Harrap of Mt Barker. Our deepest sympathy to their families.

Wishing all fellow churches in South Australia and beyond every success for 2020.

Arthur Crompton

## Seacliff

Church life at Seacliff has been rather quiet over the Christmas holiday break but services continued and we were grateful to God for the attendance of both regulars and some newcomers. While we are saddened at the departure of 5 overseas students we have welcomed Praveena from Singapore and on a couple of occasions, a student from Myanmar. Additionally, we now have 14 year old Miguel from Kenya, who has settled into life in Adelaide, a new school and church, with great maturity and composure.

Graduation ceremonies for our departing students were attended by several folk from the congregation. One was a 'claytons' graduation as Larissa from Brazil had completed her doctorate but will not return for the formal graduation ceremony in 2020. Instead, she and fellow students had a Brazilian BBQ in a local park, hired their appropriate gowns and caps and celebrated with many friends. On the other hand, the 3 Malawian students were able to attend a formal graduation and invited their church family members to take the position of formal guests. Nine church members became their family for the day and rejoiced in their receiving of rewards for all their efforts.

On 1<sup>st</sup> January several members attended a 97<sup>th</sup> birthday lunch for Mrs Joan Thompson, held in the lifestyle village in Salisbury Downs where she resides. It was also the birthday of Sue Dollman who came too. Joan continues to be in

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good health and thoroughly enjoyed her special day. Her son, two daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren were in attendance. Joan's son Dr Geoffrey Thompson, who was the Northern Territory Australian of the Year 2019, made a delightful speech about his mother.

**Promoted to Glory:** We are saddened by the news of the death of Rev. Dr. Reg Mathews who ministered at Seacliff about twice monthly for a couple of years prior to the formation of the Adelaide Presbyterian Church. Reg and his wife Elaine travelled from their home in Ingle Farm by public transport to Seacliff, directed his pulpit supply to missionary support and were important and valuable members of our

congregation. They attended many church functions and were involved in the lives of many members, taking a couple of funeral services, praying regularly for all our congregation (even up to the present time) and generally becoming one with us. Reg will be greatly missed and long remembered as a faithful servant of his Lord and Saviour Jesus whom he preached both in word and deed. A number of our congregation will attend the memorial service at the Elizabeth Vale Christian Reformed Church where Reg has ministered for the past 4 and half years.



Heather Blunt

## **B&B for hire**

St Andrews Manse

5 Church Street

Naracoorte SA 5271

One queen room and one single room

\$75 per day, bring own linen and food.

Contact Stuart McLean on 0400 418 247



Not available during February and March 2020

## Vale Brenton Manser

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing to higher duties of Karnkendi's long time and retired camp manager, Brenton Manser. He died peacefully in his sleep on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 due to complications after being diagnosed with Parkinson's plus. Brenton served as the Karnkendi Camp Manager for many years. He was a larger than life person who gave his time graciously to serve Karnkendi and the Lord most of all.



He was responsible for obtaining the large flag pole at the front of the camp so it was only fitting that the flag was put at half mast for a time to remember a man that will be sadly missed by all that met him and experienced his enthusiasm for life, family, Australia, music and our Lord.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brenton's wife Sandra, their boys and extended families as they continue their lives without him.

## Karnkendi

Firstly we would like to wish you all a healthy and blessed 2020 from Karnkendi.

December at Karnkendi is a quiet month with the lead up to Christmas and the New Year. However, we did have two camps in, with the first being a small group of grade 2 children from the Casterton Primary School which is situated an hour North East of Nelson so not too much of a road trip for the littlies.

The children were very well mannered. Victorian Primary School laws do not allow the staff to cater for the children, as their efforts are to be spent supervising them, so with a such a small group Heather, I and those roped in friends I talk of came to the rescue and we did a BBQ tea and breakfast. They all had a great time in Nelson and left talking about getting more grades from the school to utilise the facility.

The 30<sup>th</sup> of December saw the return of the Open Door Baptist Church from Mount Gambier utilize Karnkendi for their Annual family camp. Just over 60 members enjoyed a week at the camp and left on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. The group has some very keen fishermen and one evening they caught a large school shark off the ocean beach so this was brought back to the camp to feed the masses with fried chips replacing the "loaves of bread".

Pastor Rob Cotton and his lovely wife Helen have just confirmed their return

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again later this year which is great news to fill Karnkendi with a regular Church based group.

The New year was welcomed in but sadly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January our long time and retired camp manager Brenton Manser passed away peacefully in his sleep. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brenton's wife Sandra, their boys and extended families.

Mid January saw the Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative from Horsham stay at the camp for two nights with an 80+ family group. We had to make the Cottage available to fit them all in and we have made very good connections with all the organisers and tribal elders that kept an eye on the group.

The group required catering but with such numbers we would have certainly been out of our depth. The head Chef at Tenison Woods College Mount Gambier had offered to cater for any groups so after a quick call to Alison all was taken care of as she dragged her whole family in to help get the job done.

The week prior to Australia day is when camp regulars Scotch College from Adelaide use Karnkendi and the Glenelg river for their Annual Rowing camp as the temperatures in and around Adelaide can get a bit too hot at that time of the year for the students. Around 80 intermediate and senior rowers both male and female make the journey south in search of cooler temperatures.

Luckily the fire that was accidentally lit on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 15 kms east of Nelson, that destroyed 800 hectares of the pine plantation, was contained and did not enter the Lower Glenelg National park a few days before their arrival. The group are a huge financial boost to Nelson with support crews and families making it a holiday for the week.

Karnkendi becomes the hub for the event with over 130 persons including Students, staff and Families having meals at the camp. This certainly has the camp at capacity with not only physical numbers, but also careful use of power points to cook everything, constant pumping of water, and then the extraction of rubbish etc. We certainly got to know the Mums who worked tirelessly in the kitchen to make it all happen and for the first time we employed the use of large warehouse style shelving in the main eating hall to store goods for the week.

The Lord was certainly watching over the students as Nelson, unfortunately, made the news on Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January when their Mini bus with 25 onboard rolled on the last corner of the Mount Gambier road, crossed the oncoming traffic and ended up on its roof in the trees on the southern side of the road.

Hearing of the crash and the number of first response vehicles and a medi vac helicopter from Warrnambool racing to the scene was truly frightening. We could only imagine the injuries and how the parents would have been feeling.

I was only a small boy when our school bus driver fell asleep at the wheel and we slotted between big gum trees to end up through a fence, pulling up in a dry

swamp bed with no one hurt. We were hoping for the same outcome but expected the worst.

To our amazement all ended up as well as could be expected with 7 students being injured, 2 airlifted to Adelaide with serious but non life threatening injuries and the driver assisting Police with their investigation. Some other Students were bruised but on the mend, with some going home early but otherwise the Rowing Camp for 2020 went well.

Late January, early February, saw some youth from Mount Gambier Presbyterian Church stay at the camp for a few days so we are praying that this may be the start of more Presbyterian groups within the lower south east utilizing Karnkendi as an outreach, particularly with the youth and young families.

February is very quiet month with School starting back etc., so we are going ahead to improve the external lighting at Karnkendi in readiness for groups that camp outside. Finally we have been looking at the stage area, which was another of Brenton's ideas, as Karnkendi hosted 3 community Christmas carol nights many years ago. However, the floor has deteriorated to the point where we have fenced it off but with the return of Tenison Woods College needing a space for Band practice and Beaconhills



Flooring being loaded in Oakleigh South Melbourne onto a trailer for the journey home.

College in need of a basic outside camp kitchen we are moving forward with the renovation of the floor to kick start the project.

We are very much looking forward to the Presbyterian ladies camp on the 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> of March for a time of fellowship and catching up with the ladies from the lower south east and Adelaide once again.

Should you wish to inquire about a church outing at the camp or just a small family "get away" at the Karnkendi cottage please call Heather on 0448 871 225 or email [karnkendi@pcsa.org.au](mailto:karnkendi@pcsa.org.au)

God Bless,  
Harvey and Heather McBain  
Karnkendi Caretakers  
Nelson.

**CALLING ALL LADIES  
HAVE YOU REGISTERED??**

***Presbyterian Ladies Weekender  
13, 14 & 15 March 2020***

**The Son  
The Radiance of God's Glory**

*Jesus —*

*Yesterday, Today and Forever*

***Karnkendi Campsite, Wade Street, Nelson Vic***

***Main Speaker  
Vivienne Peate***

***Mission Speaker  
Pat Leitch***

***To register or for more information:***

***Phone:***

***Vivienne Peate on 0438 608 651 or email  
vjp18051@bigpond.com***

***or***

***Margaret Ware on 0421 957 526 or email  
mjware@internode.on.net***

## **Come and Stay at Karnkendi, Nelson**

### **Camp Costs**

The current costs for groups at the camp is \$25 per person per night (min 20 if possible) with a special cost for family groups over 60 in number of \$25 per night for Adults and \$12.50 for children 5-15 (under 5 free).

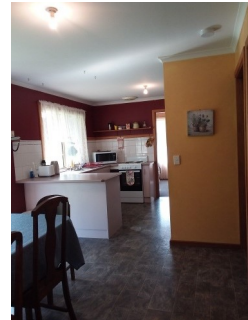
### **The Cottage**

The cost per night is based on 2 Adults for \$125 (bedding included) with additional charge of \$15 per person thereafter.

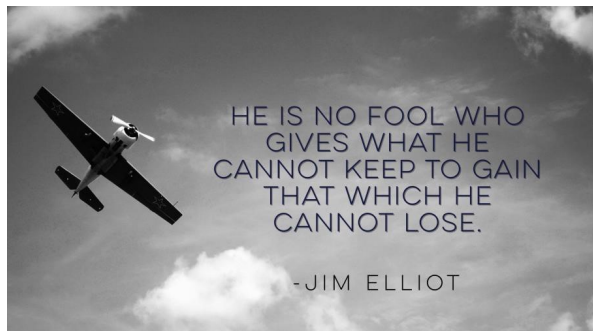
The cottage can sleep up to 8 but only has the one bathroom with separate toilet.

Weekly rates available on request.

Below are photos of The Cottage.



Please call Heather on 0448 871 225 or email [karnkendi@psca.org.au](mailto:karnkendi@psca.org.au)



## Naracoorte

On the 15<sup>th</sup> December the Sunday School children presented the Christmas story in a play called "The Empty Christmas Tree". The children had made Christmas decorations relating to the Christmas story and during the play they decorated the empty tree. This was followed by the children being presented with books and the 10 year olds receiving a Bible. Over the year, 20 children had attended Sunday School and 15 attended on the Presentation day.

The Naracoorte Singers always present a Christmas and Easter Cantata and this year the Christmas Cantata was held in the Naracoorte Town Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> December and was followed by afternoon tea. Members of the congregation always enjoy these Cantatas.

The St Andrews Naracoorte congregation is very blessed to have Rev Gaius Goh and his wife Verily with us again for 3 months (January-March). Gaius and Verily were happy to leave the smoke filled air of Armidale and enjoyed the fresh clear air of Naracoorte for a short while, until we were shrouded by smoke for a few days here. They are also very happy that about 200 mls of rain has fallen at Armidale in January, because the city has been on water restrictions since August last year.

At the time of writing, we are preparing for a Lunch to be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February to raise money for the school Chaplains and this will be followed by a time of Hymns of Praise, singing the hymns of Horatio Bonar. Gaius will introduce us to the author, Horatio Bonar and explain the background of the hymns and where possible what lead him to write them. It is usually a wonderful time of fellowship and praising the LORD.

Gaius is currently preaching a series of sermons on Jesus's "I AM" statements and Sunday evenings we have Bible Study in the manse. These studies, which we are finding very interesting and informative, are on the Plagues of Egypt.

Pat Leitch

## Wattle Range Church

### Millicent

Greetings from St Andrews Millicent to all of our Presbyterian friends.

Our church garden has survived the heat and lack of rain thanks to Jen and Steve Walker. Many people have remarked on its appearance.

Our attendance numbers remain the same, but it is a bonus when we have visitors which often happens in the holidays.

In November we celebrated Holy Communion which was conducted by Mark Lewis from Mount Gambier who was accompanied by his wife and son.

Some of the folk who were on the sick list are back at church for which we are thankful.

Our most senior member Nestor Buck sadly passed away on 17<sup>th</sup> December . A service was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> by Rev Gary Ware and assisted by organist Mary Thornley, it was great to hear the Pipe Organ played again. Our sympathies go to all of Nester's family for their loss.

We had our usual family Christmas Luncheon held at the Somerset Hotel, and attended by 18 members and friends.

Friday prayer meetings have commenced after a few weeks recess.

Recently we welcomed Alan Fox and his wife, Alan conducted the service, which was appreciated by all present.

We wish everyone a peaceful and holy 2020, and wish for an increase in attendance at services

John 13:34 *Jesus said "a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I first loved you."*

Thelma Thomas

## Penola

Hi all and welcome to another year of fellowship and friendship for 2020.

Going back to the end of 2019, we held a communion service which was conducted by Rev Mark Lewis in November. Our members really appreciate the help we get from Mount Gambier on a few occasions. Services continue weekly at Penola with Brendan Provis, Neil McLean and Malcolm Lambert all taking a turn helping to keep the church doors open.

A combined Church's service of readings and carols was held in Penola on the evening of 15<sup>th</sup> December, there was a great turn out of people, close to 100 attending. The service was organised between an Anglican leader and our session clerk, with members from all denominations and school students taking part with readings. The local primary school choir also sang. The Christmas message was given by Rev Gary Ware and by comments afterwards was warmly received. Supper followed in the hall after the service and provided a wonderful time of Christian fellowship.

The hall continues to be used regularly by the local AA group, Ranger Guides, and a centre care play group for disadvantaged children.

Our annual Christmas social was held in the hall on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Ladies from all the various churches enjoyed a social evening with the Christmas story being told through readings and carols and then supper to follow.

We were very saddened by the passing of Mrs Peggy Thorn on 5<sup>th</sup> January. She was 94 years old. Her funeral was conducted by Rev Gary Ware on the 15<sup>th</sup> January in St Andrews Penola. Peggy gave a life long service to the church having been a regular member, Sunday School Supervisor, board of

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management secretary for 30 years, organist, and PWA President. She was a representative on many committees within the PWA also.

We were also saddened to hear of the passing of Mrs Iris Balnaves on 2<sup>nd</sup> January, she was also 94 years old.

Penola Church has supported the PresAid 2019 appeal.

Heather Lambert

## Whyalla

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ within the Presbytery of South Australia as we welcome the start of another year. And what a period it has been since our last SA News, record breaking heatwaves with temperature reaching 47°C - 51°C in some places. Fires followed by flooding rain, although to be fair, Whyalla had the torrential rain but the flooding was limited. The period has been a mixture of joy and sadness - joy in what could be the start of drought breaking rains - joy in the fellowship the members of the Whyalla Congregation share with one another and sadness in the conducting of three funerals and a Memorial Service. All funerals have their own degree of difficulty but the hardest for everyone, were the Memorial Service for Irene Bryers and the Funeral for Sylvia Nelson both of whom had been friends with most of the congregation for many years.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November the ladies of the church went out for Christmas Dinner. Although I do not have any photographs, I understand they had a great night



together.

Not too long afterwards the men went out for dinner. There were less of us this year due to illness in four of our number and the passing of one other. However, we had a very enjoyable night, discussing, and solving, most of the world's problems. The photograph taken at the Alexander Hotel shows, Me, Fred Mashford, Alan Flack, John Caldwell and Herman.

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December, the Congregational Christmas Lunch was held in the James Harris hall. This took place at the conclusion of the Service and was attended, not only by the congregation, but family and a few invited friends. This was a very enjoyable afternoon. Sadly some of our people were not able to join



us because of illness.

On 24<sup>th</sup> December we held the Watch-night Service. This is generally attended by congregation and members of the community. The service is partly driven by the congregation who get to pick and sing favourite Christ Carols.

At the moment we have not yet started a Bible Study class, but it is foremost in our minds and will do so as soon as we are able to.

On 15<sup>th</sup> December we held a Carol Service. This was partly run by the congregation in that they were able to pick and sing favourite Carols. This was attended by members of the congregation and the wider community.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February, after the conclusion of Presbytery, our Moderator, Gary Ware, travelled to Whyalla to conduct a Communion Service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. It is always a great pleasure to welcome the Moderator to Whyalla and we are very much appreciative that he is able to visit us when time and circumstances permit.



Despite the decline in numbers due to illness, as a congregation we were still able to contribute outreach funds to the various charities within the Whyalla Community; these include the RFDS, Anglicare, Catholic Ladies Association, Isabella Smith. Both the Catholic Ladies and Isabella Smith provide meals for the homeless from their own resources, and the Whyalla Airport has the highest number of landings by the RFDS.

Overall, Whyalla is looking forward to 2020. We know that not everything will be smooth, but we accept the challenges that the year will bring and will pray for the strength to continue to ensure the work of the Gospel and the continuation of the Presbyterian Church in Whyalla.

Happiness keeps you Sweet  
Trials keep you Strong  
Sorrows keep you Human  
Failures keep you Humble  
Success keeps you Glowing  
BUT ONLY  
God keeps you going

Barry Williams



## PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for all those who have been affected by the recent fires and floods throughout our country.
- Praise God for our new and living hope through the raising of Jesus Christ from the dead and pray that multitudes will discover this as this message is proclaimed over Easter.
- Intercede for the Federal Government; Prime Minister Scott Morrison; that he will lead with integrity, stand firm in his belief and hold fast to his faith.
- Pray for the Leader of the Opposition Anthony Albanese; that he will be guided by Christian principles and come to know Jesus as his Lord and Saviour.
- Pray for the Ladies Weekender being held at Karnkendi Campsite on 13-15 March.
- Pray for the Presbytery of South Australia, Phil Strong Moderator, Gary Ware Clerk.
- Pray for the Adelaide Church; Davo Gunning, Damien Carson, Ben Harvey; congregations and elders.
- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- Pray for 'M' serving in west Asia.
- Pray for the Naracoorte Church; congregation and elders.
- Pray for Christians to be instruments of truth and grace in the midst of skepticism and increasing opposition to the Christian faith.
- Pray for hearts to be opened as the Lord Jesus Christ is proclaimed by word and deed by PIM workers.
- Pray that wherever Christian ministry is taught, the teachers will be given clear thoughts and the students will be granted open and willing hearts.
- Pray for the towns and cities of South Australia, for the people in them who do not know Christ, including unsaved family members, friends and work colleagues.
- Give thanks for rain in parts of the country. Pray for the gentle, soaking rain so badly needed all over our dry and thirsty land.
- Pray for goodwill, hope and compassion of all who bear responsibilities in government - Commonwealth, State, Territory - together with local authorities to address the issues we have as a nation.

### Editor's Note

Thank you to all who have contributed items for this issue of SA News they are all very much appreciated. Contributions for the June 2020 issue are to be in my hands **no later than 5.00pm Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

Editor: Lucinda Johnson

Email: [pcsanews@bigpond.com](mailto:pcsanews@bigpond.com)

SA News is a publication of the Presbytery of South Australia.