



Morialta Vision



Volume 1 Issue # 2

February 2008

A Word from Our Minister ...

This week I was talking with someone about our Market and Exhibition and realised it was less than three months ago. So much has happened since.

A new government has taken office. School has finished and begun again with new teachers, new classmates. For some school days have been left behind and new areas of study beckon.

This year had hardly begun before we had to say farewell to Leslie Hopkins.

We still look hopefully at the sky and wait for rain.

And we have had to hear and accept the news that Alan has discerned a call to Enfield and are preparing to farewell him and Lee.

In that three months we have celebrated Advent and Christmas as we were invited to *Dream God's Dream* and amazingly, already, we are into Lent. (This year Easter comes on the second earliest possible date!)

Three months of events have touched and shaped our community in small and larger ways.

Over the next three months Lent and Easter will touch and shape us, inviting us to learn how we can be a more faithful community, better able to recognise the signs of new life around us and within us. May we be ready to join with the first witnesses to the resurrection, sharing the good news of Christ, seeking to make God's life and love present in the world.

Grace and peace,
Diane.

Matthew 6:28 – 29

"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these ..."

*D*avid Purling writes:

They were talking about it on Radio 891. We had to go into the city that day so I suggested to Judith we take the camera and have a look at it on the way back. Well it was certainly "worth it". This photo I took that day is of something truly amazing. A press release from the Botanic gardens had as its heading, "South Australia's rare and charismatic Amazon Waterlily is here..."

The Adelaide Botanic Garden would like to welcome the much anticipated flowers of the Amazon Waterlily (*Victoria amazonica*).

The lily has flowered just in time to see the New Year in.

The Amazon Waterlily currently measures 30 cm in width and 12 cm in height, and the largest lily pad is 165 cm in diameter. The load-bearing capacity of a leaf is about 40 kilos.

...and when *Victoria amazonica* blooms?

The first night: a white flower. Firstly, a young leaf appears and beside it a bud shows itself. The signal to blossom is the distinct scent of pineapple given off by the flower. The scent attracts beetles, which are active during the night and which fly into the flower. In the morning the flower closes itself holding the beetles captive. During their imprisonment they are covered with pollen.

Victoria amazonica second night: pink flower opens again



and has changed colour: from creamy white to dark pink.

The beetles are released and fly out taking the pollen to newly budded *Victoria* flowers a short distance away.

The 'old' *Victoria* disappears under the water and forms seeds. These seeds fall onto the river bed and will germinate.

The flower, then turns purplish red the third day before dying.

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The borrowing of books over the December / January holiday period has been great.

This is really pleasing as it means that the wonderful resource that Morialta has in its library is being used.

We are now moving into the season of LENT and I would like to encourage you to have a look at the books we have on WISDOM.

The Lenten study which we are looking at called *Wisdom's Way* asks us to look at wisdom and how it can enhance and change our lives.

The Library

Over the coming months you might like to further your own personal search by looking at one of the books in the reading list.

There is a wide range of books, some engaging you on a search for wisdom giving a deeper meaning and sense of connectedness in your life and some a more light- hearted approach.

In the church we have had an amazing collection of wise sayings. If you would like to create another sacred space I thought it might be nice to bring along snippets of

wisdom you might collect during the period of Lent.

It may be something that you have discovered at Lenten Studies and would like to share. We will be creating a Display of Wisdom on the Library Display Board in the foyer.



These books can be found on the shelves and table marked



Reading List: Wisdom Books

Native Wisdom for White Minds

By Anne Wilson Schaef
Daily Reflections Inspired by the Native peoples of the World

Tribal Wisdom

Illustrations by Peter Dunn
Tribal peoples and their connection to the earth that we all share.

The Gift of Wisdom

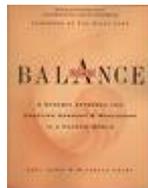
Axiom Publishing
A collection of thought-provoking and reflective quotations from some of the world's greatest minds.

The Wisdom of Jesus

Compiled by Anna Trimlew
Inspirational verses from the Bible along with favourite hymns and other quotes.

Living in Balance

By Joel Levey & Michelle Levey

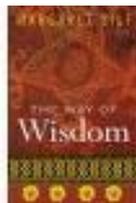


A synthesis of ancient traditions of wisdom and cutting-edge research into

h u m a n performance, and practical tools, written by two pioneers in stress mastery and mental and physical health.

The Way of Wisdom

By Margaret Silf



This book will appeal to all those searching for a deeper meaning and sense of connectedness in their lives.

Furry Logic (Wild Wisdom)

To the Library Jam Ladies (in appreciation)

There's Margaret Pittman's jam of fame
Lemon marmalade – is her game

There's Margaret Martin who adds 3 fruits
They're orange colour and oh so cute
She'll also make some stone fruit too
They herald in the summer new

And Margaret Boundy often will
Jars of lemon butter fill

Now Aileen James a whiz with pickles
To make us have our fancies tickled

And Aileen Brogan just by ask
Will make some winter jam her task

Thank you Ladies – Jenny Babaras

Last year the jam raised \$571.15 for our Library.

From the Chairperson

Members of the Congregation may be wondering what will happen when Alan finishes his ministry at Morialta.

As we all know, our ministers come to our congregation, they minister to us and with us, and they move on to other congregations. What's happening now is part of the normal process. We will all be sad to see Alan and Lee go and we know that Morialta's loss is Enfield's gain.

Obviously we have been well

served by our two ministers. They both work hard for and on behalf of us all, and when Alan and Lee leave there will be a gap.

Council has met and agreed to some actions to support Morialta as we continue to explore and discern how we should move forward in mission. When Alan goes our ministry complement will be Diane at full time and David Purling in Supply Ministry at 0.3.

Council has chosen not to start the search for a replacement immediately. It has agreed that the responsible thing to do is to continue to move forward in 2008 on development of the two Directions in Mission agreed by the Congregation, and as we do that and review progress in the middle of the year, to discern our needs for future placements and leadership roles. Council will report to the congregation when more information is available.

The AGM of the Congregation on 16 March will provide an opportunity.

Because it is important to get it right we all need to think and pray and share our thoughts. If you have any ideas or concerns please talk to one of the members of Church Council or jot them down and either put them in my pigeon hole or send them to me via email to bruceind@mac.com

Bruce

Church Council Report - February 2008

In Worship, Alan led us to reflect on "call" to service : Jonah's response of fleeing to Tarshish, and the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, who "forsook their nets and followed him".

He talked about clergy, himself included, receiving a "call" and trying to ignore it; of being called to a specific place, for a specific amount of time, but still belonging to the larger Church. He reflected on belonging, ownership and change, and gifts and graces, not only for ministers, but for all who participate in mission. "Mission to be lived out." Alan shared his memory of being called to ministry some 30 years ago.

Then, in addition to providing chocolates (as has been his Valentine practice with Council!) Alan gave members a gift, a bookmark with a

picture of the Kazan Church, his place of call, taken 30 years ago, over the text:

"The wind blows where it chooses.... You do not know where it came from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

John 3.8

Alan will be missed by Council, not only for his chocolates(!), but for his thoughtfulness and wisdom. Council then received update reports from the three working groups (Faith Building; Community Centre Development; Worship;) which are in the process of taking up tasks again in this new year. All are moving into action and it is intended to bring reports to the March AGM of the Congregation.

Council continued to examine the ways in which ministry will be actioned and supported in

2008 as Morialta moves forward in a time of change.

Our 2008 Calendar, including Community Building and Fundraising events, was revisited. Firm dates for what promises to be a highly entertaining and enjoyable series will be published as soon as possible, and at the time of the Annual General Meeting.

Matters of Alan and Lee's move to their new abode at Enfield, and Diane and family's move to their new residence at Highland Avenue, were noted.

A first report on financial outcomes for 2007 was given, with some further and final checking to occur. The anticipated report to the AGM in March promises to be encouraging.

A report on Grants in 2007 noted our receipt of a total of \$33,000, a matter for celebration, whilst also drawing attention to opportunities Morialta may have pursued if projects had been identified. We were provided with a listing of Grant opportunities for 2008 and noted the importance of considering these sources of funding for programs, personnel, equipments, etc. as we go forward. As a congregation we need to "think bigger" and beyond our familiar boundaries!

Morialta is a caring community. We seek to keep our Ministers and carers informed so that they can journey with and support our folk. Elders shared matters of pastoral care before concluding the meeting.

Property Operational Ministry Team (POMT)

Leadership of the Team has changed. Rob Webbe is now Leader and Marj Crawford will give secretarial support. The team was saddened by the loss of Leslie from its membership.

Some 88 or more jobs were completed in 2007 across the

church properties at Chapel Street, Highland Avenue and College Drive, providing significant, practical support for Morialta's activities.

Notable successes were the completion of the transept curtains and acquisition of the new Sebel chairs.

Painting of the church exterior is proceeding well and the team looks forward to further important projects for completion in 2008, including the front of the church and western car park, and replacement of the netball lights.

Given the increasing seniority of POMT members there is a need for more practical support from the congregation.

The team also expects that more contract work will be needed.

Community Outreach Mission Ministry Team (COMMT)

The following is extracted from Community Programs Inc Annual Report 2007.

The full report is available on request and is often required in grant applications.

Morialta Uniting Church Community Programs Inc supports a raft of activities designed to respond to identified need within the community. These programs are wide ranging across a broad demographic, and their delivery is supported by over seventy volunteers drawn principally from the Morialta church community. Costs and charges are kept to a minimum in order to minimise any financial impediment to participation.

The Programs

Coffee Corner serves a community lunch every Wednesday from February until mid December. The average cost for a 3 course meal is around \$6. This program is supported by the Burnside Community bus. The client base includes many who are isolated, alone, disabled or marginalised. In mid 2007 we completed 15 years of continuous service, a major achievement, given that nearly 50 volunteers support this program.

Friendship Centre offers recreational activities including mahjong, rummiking, jigsaws and carpet bowls. Attendance has averaged in the low twenties.

Community Classes in 2007 have included an auction bridge group on Tuesday mornings, and Tai Chi on Monday afternoons. The Bridge group has struggled to attract new members, with those continuing showing significant signs of increasing frailty. It is unlikely to continue into 2008. By contrast, the Tai Chi group is enthusiastically attended and much appreciated.

The Workshop fulfils an important role, particularly in the lives of many senior men, on Monday morning and Wednesday afternoon. A Furniture Restoration mixed group also meets on Saturday mornings.

Morialta Playgroup has continued to grow, with a strong attendance averaging up to 20 children. The mothers/carers are provided with morning tea each week by members of the Church community. Mutual friendship and care are hallmarks that make the group particularly strong.

Student Accommodation, a long standing program, operates to support rural tertiary students as they make the transition from rural to city life, secondary to tertiary education, and home living to independent living. Nine students are housed in the two houses. Students are encouraged to live responsibly and independently.

Finance

While we deliver our programs 'at cost', because of the generosity and commitment of our volunteers, we are able to raise funds during the year,

to offset the salary cost. We reimbursed the Church \$2,000 to cover costs incurred in operating the facilities, including telephone, utilities, stationery and clerical support, and also paid the differential between a 0.8 ministerial placement and fulltime placement (\$7,564.80) plus a further \$1800, towards ministerial stipend.

Community Centre

In the latter part of 2007 we have begun a process of looking at successful community programs in other Churches and beyond, with a view to identifying successful strategies, targetting, management and promotion. This process is intended to help us to assess the benefits of proactively developing Morialta as a clearly identified Community Centre.

Grants

At the end of 2006 we were successful in applying to the Premier's Community Initiative for a grant to run a parenting course 'Building Healthy Responsible Adults' (\$2,200). We also purchased new lunch tables plus a storage trolley via the Volunteers Support fund (\$2650), and a new refrigerator following successful application to the Federal Small Equipment Grants scheme. In August we were delighted to be able to purchase 36 new Sebel chairs courtesy of Community Benefit SA. These provide much safer and ergonomically sound seating for our seniors.

Alison Lockett

Gateways Group

A sparkling-good food-great company-much conversation day was enjoyed by 30 people at Lesley's and Arthur's Encounter Bay holiday house on the January Monday holiday. Included were guests, Liam and Desi, colleague and friends of the Cargills from Indonesia. Liam, one of Morialta's Sunday forum speakers in 2006, is now completing doctoral studies at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus.

A special occasion within the luncheon was the celebration of Lorraine Powers' birthday. Happy birthday and good wishes to Lorraine!

Gateways began its twice monthly sessions last week at the beautiful new home of Pam and Kel Johnson, with 26 members beginning "The Last Week", by Borg and Crossan, and reflecting on the days and events of what we now call Holy Week.

This group continues to be open and welcomes others who wish to read and explore as they journey in faith.

From: UC Information Feb 2008

Change

Andrew Dutney

"I'm so over change", he said. "We always assume that leadership is about change – coping with changes in a group's situation, planning organizational change, managing change. Can't leadership sometimes be about helping a group stay right where it is, keeping things the way they've always been?"

It'd been a searching conversation with this student. He asked good questions. And in spite of what I'm about to say, I'll sleep on this one.

But I think leadership has to be about change. Even keeping things "the way they've always been" involves change. Say a congregation decided it wanted to maintain the wonderful tradition on Wesleyan hymn-singing. It would have to accommodate enormous changes to do that. It would have to factor in the decline in communal singing in Australian culture in general, the loss of denominational status of the Methodist Hymn Book as the one text every congregation had in common besides the Bible, the absence in 2008 of that big multi-generational group of singers that most congregations could marshal in 1958, not to mention the shortage of pianists, organists and similarly skilled volunteers to lead the singing at the same time as fending off the fanatical antiquarians who've been inspired by that Maddy Prior recording of what the hymns "really" sounded like in Wesley's day!

No doubt about it, to maintain that tradition of hymn-singing today would require a very innovative congregation indeed. It couldn't be done without

really embracing change, and not without effective local leadership.

Then again, I would say that, wouldn't I? After all, as a member and minister in the Uniting Church I signed up for change. It's in the Basis of Union:

"The Church lives between the time of Christ's death and resurrection and the final consummation of all things which Christ will bring; the church is a pilgrim people, always on the way towards a promised goal; here the Church does not have a continuing city but seeks one to come. On the way Christ feeds the Church with Word and Sacraments, and it has the gift of the Spirit in order that it may not lose the way." (paragraph 3)

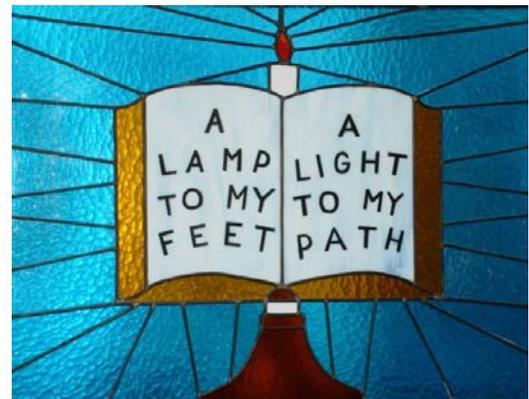
Belonging to "a pilgrim people" implies change. It's a journey, and journeys involve changing surroundings, changing fortunes, changing traveling companions and, unless you're amazingly skilled at packing light from the outset, changing the stuff that makes up your baggage along the way. Something we need at one point in the journey we don't need at the next. It could be a form of worship, a way of making decisions, a rule, a building, a battle. At some point we just have to consciously choose to lay it down at the roadside – grateful for the blessings it brought, warmed by the memory of what it meant to us, but recognizing that now we must go on without it. Unless we can do that we become burdened in ways that will slow us down and ultimately bring the pilgrimage to a sad, shambolic end.

Not to the "promised end" that Christ will bring, not even close to "the final consummation of all things".

Our point of departure never changes (Christ's death and

resurrection). Our destination never changes (the final consummation of all things which Christ will bring). Our need for nourishment and direction doesn't go away (Word, Sacraments, and the gift of the Spirit). But the things we need along the way are in a constant state of change. That's what leaders are for. To help us recognize and negotiate those changes that will keep us "always on the way towards a promised end".

Rev Dr Andrew Dutney
Principal, Parkin-Wesley
College, Associate Professor,
Flinders University School of
Theology



January Worship & Fellowship

Several people have commented on the services during January. As well as the usual high quality of the preparation, leadership and content of the worship itself the very positive nature of the fellowship which followed these services was mentioned especially. They enjoyed the opportunity to have unhurried conversations with other worshippers. It also seemed that when the tables and chairs were used it worked really well. They could sit and relax with food and drink and friends, but could get up and move around as they desired too. Some felt the sense of community of the whole church was enhanced.

Chris Ayles

Morialta Magpie

Student Achievements

We congratulate our young adults on gaining entry to the following courses:

Matthew Barker
Flinders University
Drama Degree Course

Rachelle Clarke
Adelaide University
Bachelor of Science

Andrew Mackenzie
UniSA
Associate Degree in
Engineering

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Emily Dansie on being awarded the St Peter's Collegiate Girls' School Performing Arts Scholarship for years 5 - 12.

A hair-raising memory!

Approximately 10 years ago Morialta Vision published a profile on the Clarke family written by John Grooms.

You may enjoy this excerpt:

"Katrina, with visions of being a hair stylist, spent the time giving Neville's hair the treatment. She finished up with 8 horn-like plaits on top of his head, all tied with a variety of coloured ribbons. Unfortunately no camera was available."

Submitted by a Clarke fan.



Pancake Day Success!

Congratulations to the Youth & Young Adults group who produced pancakes in plenty for very satisfied consumers on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. The outcome was a total of \$250 for UnitingCare Adelaide East.

A great effort!

What on earth is earth ?

EARTH is a young adults' network for the Uniting Church in Australia. It is aimed at 18-35 year olds and welcomes all young adults- singles, couples, with or without kids who are interested in social justice issues and putting their faith into action.

For more information go to the Uniting Church website or join the EARTH mailing List by contacting Deanna Howland:
earthg@rosefield.org.au

Calendar for March 2008

Sun 2	Worship Experience at Rosefield UC
Thurs 13	Earthspace at The Corner UC
Sun 30	Ye Olde Book Club
TBA	Social Event – Fringe

For locations email Deanna or call mobile 0427 0429 32
Or...talk with Diane

Humour Corner: Bloopers

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please use the back door.

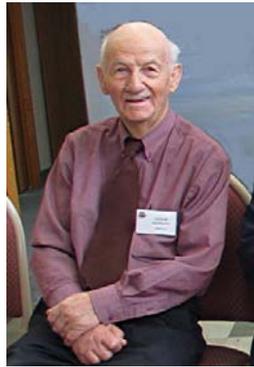
The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."

A tribute to William Leslie Hopkins (1918 - 2008)

Leslie Hopkins was a good man, a man of his word, a loyal, generous and dependable man. A man always amongst us at Morialta.

At worship, with the "fix-it" team helping to recycle papers or giving support on a maintenance project. He cared for the sick, attended fundraisers and faithfully maintained his 'presence' at Church Council Meetings. Leslie was always there.

After marrying Helen Drewitt in our church he stayed in Adelaide working in the GPO from where he retired as Mail Officer in 1979.



In the wider community he worked as a registered Council volunteer escorting people to medical appointments and on shopping expeditions.

His anchorage was also at the North Adelaide Meeting House of the Society of Friends where he was a 'birthright' Quaker. He served on the Oversight Committee and represented the Friends on the South Australian Council of Churches.

From his own family connectiveness and his connectiveness to not just one but two families of God, he has cemented an impetus for Christian practice from which Beverlie and us all have greatly benefited and will continue to benefit.

Thank you, Leslie.

Arthur Tideman

From Bruce Prewer's "Jesus Our Future"

"Wide-angle Lens"

Loving God, assist us to work our way through complicated issues. Fit our discernment with a wide-angle lens, that we may see not only the immediate consequences for ourselves but also the results of our actions at large. For your love's sake.

Amen."

Sharing Conversation and Good Food... Over 80s..



On 5 February forty of our Over 80s revelled in Afternoon Tea in the foyer at the invitation of the Pastoral Care Team. There was no shortage of conversation and broad smiles of sheer pleasure were everywhere. Tea and coffee was served in beautiful fine bone china – with delighted comments. Traditional scones (from Bruce Bakery), cream kisses, slices, pies and wonderful sponge and chocolate cakes, were the generous repast.



Norma Fowler's African travel tales were a highlight! She shared rich word pictures of elephants, hippos, zebras, cheetahs, monkeys, and the rest, in high numbers and wonderful wild settings. We heard of the people and their living, and of market produce in Kenya - watermelons, cabbages, corn and tomatoes - carried long distances to market on bicycles and heads.



Norma's description of one animal brought much amusement – "A Warthog has a face that only a mother could love! Dish-shaped!" She said that the whole most amazing experience was a memory "which will stay with me for ever"!



Everyone gave warm thanks to the Pastoral Care Team and looked forward to the next similar occasion for celebrating senior years, wisdom and zest for life. Thanks to Pauline, Fay, Bruce, Jey, Alan, Diane and Bruce!



Thank you

I would like to thank the people who gave me bits and pieces of fabric for the "Patchwork Project" for the Centre, for Support for Indigenous Scriptures.

So far I have made 12 quilts and time permitting, may be able to make another 2 or 3. Some of the material was not suitable for this project, but I have passed some on to the Modbury UC for African Women's Day sewing class

and can use some for other projects in which I am involved.

Judith Purling



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The Life of a Tree

This year in Lent our readings begin with a story of a garden and a tree, and with a God who calls us into being and into relationship with the world around us.

This Lent we are invited to sit beneath another tree as we explore God's call on our lives as individuals and as a community of God's people.



Diary dates

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday 7:30pm

A Service of Shadows
preceded by a Meal beginning at 6.30 pm

Good Friday 9:30am

Easter Day 9:30am

Sunday 13 March 10.00 am

Combined Service
Followed by the Annual General Meeting
of the Congregation and
Annual Report from Council

Sunday 6 April 10.00 a.m.

Final Combined Service with Alan
Followed by Shared Lunch

We will invite folk from Enfield who
would like to worship with us that
morning.

Reconciliation

**Honesty about our past
is the bridge to the future.**

**Saying 'sorry'
is the foundation of a new day.**

Acknowledgments

David Purling for the cover photo of the
waterfall and for that of the Waterlily
on the front page.

Brian Corrigan for the numerous
photographs that he contributed to this
edition.

The various other contributors that
provide us with enjoyable articles for
each edition.

Deadline for April Edition Wednesday 19th March 2008

If you would like to contribute an item,
please send as Word documents either:
by email to the Vision Receiver,
Sharon Mackenzie,
(craig_sharon@picknowl.com.au).

**Please do not attempt to format or use other
software**

OR

In hard copy via the Vision pigeon-hole – please
allow more lead time for word processing.



KCO 2008

Will be held at
Adelaide Shores Caravan Resort
West Beach
on 12th & 13th April

Come and help celebrate end of term and 30
years of KCO with fireworks and a fun filled
program.

NAME LABEL