



New Horizons

The monthly newsletter of the Warwick/Killarney Parish
MAY 2024



Pastoral Ponderings

16 May 2024

I greet you in the precious name of Jesus.



Welcome to the Pentecost season addition! Pentecost is a significant feast day that concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church. It is a celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ. It is observed on the seventh Sunday after Easter, which is 50 days after the resurrection of Jesus and 10 days after his ascension into heaven.

Pentecost holds great spiritual significance for Christians. It marks the birth of the Church and the beginning of the disciple's mission to spread the message of Jesus Christ to all nations. Pentecost reminds us of the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the importance of being open to the Spirit's guidance and empowerment.

I have been wrestling with the prophecy of Ezekiel and the valley of dry bones. I am thankful that we serve a God who can bring back to life things, people, places and relationships that seem like dry bones. I am hopeful that the Spirit of God that falls afresh upon us can do for us and in us more than what we can hope or dream for.

The Affordable Housing progress is on track, and we have progressed from the contract negotiation phase to the contract signing phase (lol, one has to chuckle about this sometimes). We are hopeful to be able to make formal announcements by August. Until then we are still working flat out to get everything needed in place. Thanks to Ian Darnell, Jenny Lane and Sue Campbell for the ongoing hours spent in meetings and workshops with the synod team.

Please continue to pray for us as we seek a favourable outcome for the vulnerable in our communities.

Blessings Ansie Liebenberg



Warwick mainly music – 15 years young

In 2009, 15 years ago, a young mother - Donna Stubbings – put a request to Church Council - would we please allow her to establish a mainly music group in Warwick – sponsored by our church. Believe it or not, this request was treated a little coolly – but after some lobbying of a few members it was given the green light and allowed to proceed.

A small group of us joined Donna as she organized everything – affiliation, equipment, the PowerPoint program, music played on a CD player with a data projector, heavy speakers on stands and a big white screen to assemble – and deliver the presentation. And it wasn't until the second year that we realized we needed to take more responsibility in all that Donna had willingly done on her own. It was a steep learning curve for us.

So, our starter team consisted of Jean Reid, Donna Stubbings, Jenny Potter, Dianne Cahill and Sue Campbell, Neville Heard and soon we added Noela Rickard, along the way we attracted a grandma who had 'graduated' out of mm – Angela Lester, plus Anne Maree Clarke, David Angell, Scott Young, Virginia Browne, Peter Cloherty, Rev May, Anne Coy and now her daughter Liddy Loy – another 'graduate.' Our men make a great cup of tea and are a wonderful presence for the dads who occasionally attend. In 2024 we begrudgingly accepted Jean's resignation as our leader and chief PowerPoint controller. She has led us in our times of varying popularity, and we thank her for her steadfast service and loyalty over the nearly 15 years.

Our initial charge per family was \$4 – and we've only recently increased that to \$5 which goes towards the monthly affiliation fee. We also have a 'spotty box' which is available for families to contribute small amounts that are sent to excluded or disadvantaged mainly music communities.

Until COVID we provided food for both children and parents – annoyingly with a lot of waste. Now we just provide nut free food for our 'big people.' During 2020 when we were all isolating due to COVID 19 Dianne Cahill and I provided a weekly live feed of mm onto facebook – until we were told it was illegal – then we posted onto Youtube. This provided some continuation of life before COVID for both parents and children. The things we've all learned.

One of the most endearing aspects of mainly music is that we often have 3 generations of a family present, often have dads in attendance, and at present have 3 or 4 grandmas who regularly bring their little ones. We have had older adults attend who are legal guardians of children – family or otherwise. Conversations which arise can be very personal and trusting and develop into very sincere friendships. We often chat with past members downtown and truly enjoy seeing the development of shy toddlers into confident, happy school-age children. These young families all come with a variety of challenges and difficulties – from non-English speaking backgrounds, children on walking frames, significant learning difficulties, bereavements, single mums, significant physical challenges - but at mm they seem to feel welcome, relaxed, included and supported. We have Grandma Virginia and Rev May who usually have at least one baby on their knee.

It was quite a few years after we started that a play area near the hall was fenced, with a shade area and after a few years of drought we applied for a grant to provide a free-fall surface to overcome the dustbowl which had developed. We now have a selection of child-safe climbing sets and a sandpit that occasionally holds 5 or more children. (We'd love another sandpit.)



Our initial membership settled to about 15 families, with maybe 10 or so attending each week. But, happy to say, after some years we realized that our numbers were so strong that we really couldn't relate personally with so many families, so we devised a dual group system with a common morning tea time. The later, smaller group tended to have the younger babies who were asleep at the earlier time. This set up lasted about 5 years but reverted to a single group. At present we have about 10 families with 15 children attend each week – with some leaving when they return to work and starting with young babies often when they've been referred by the Maternal and Child Welfare system at the hospital.

The joy we all encounter on Thursday mornings makes this ministry probably one of the easiest ways to show God's love for us all. We incorporate 'God songs' in each program and get to cuddle a child who comes to sit on our lap if we're on the floor. We've all aged 15 years since we began but some of us are still rolling around on the floor being hungry caterpillars, and in our prayers each morning we give thanks to Jo Hood – the dreamer behind the program, and to God, for his calling us into this ministry.

Sue Campbell – for the Warwick mainly music team.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in the Afternoon!

Williams Hall Saturday 25 May - 2pm \$15pp

Entertainment By The Warwick Choral Society Inc.

All funds to Cancer Council Qld



Soup & Movie Night – Sat 25th May – 5:30pm

Join us at Killarney Uniting Church Hall.

Bring a knee rug and something comfy to sit on.

A canteen available to raise funds for Killarney mainly music.

Adult:\$10; Child: \$5; Family: \$20

Call Julia on 0431 631 668 if you have any queries.

DATE CLAIMER SECOND MARKET DAY ON SATURDAY AUGUST 17TH.

- featuring Books and Native Plants.
- food stalls as per previous markets
- entertainment Warwick City Band, Warwick Thistle Pipe Band, Inverness Highland dancers.
- Planning meeting Thursday July 18th - 7.00pm.

Measuring Time...Definitely Food for Thought

When you get to my age, time can be irrelevant...or extremely important, depending on how you're feeling at that moment. I am busy trying to throw out what I don't need; but I don't get far as I have to pause to peruse what was in that folder or file. That's why the Church Library is still a work in progress.

I have such a lot of things I have kept simply because they seemed interesting...and I found this History of the Calendar, another fragment I kept in order to use some day. So, this is the day! Our present calendar has evolved from one established by Romulus consisting of 304 days divided into 10 months which commenced with March. It was then modified by Numa who added the 2 extra months of January and February with the months consisting of 30 and 29 days alternately plus one extra day. We now have a year of 355 days!

In 46 BC, Julius Caesar asked help from The Egyptian astronomer, Sosigenes, for the calendar had fallen into some confusion. This led to the Julian Calendar in 45 BC ; in fact, 46 BC was made to consist of 445 days to adjust for the faults that had arisen and was known as the Year of Confusion. How would you ever get your appointments straight amongst such confusion?

In the Julian Calendar, all centennial AD years were leap years (1200, 1300 etc) but towards the 16th century, there was found to be a difference of 10 years between the Tropical and calendar years. In 1582, this was corrected when Pope Gregory ordained that October 5th should become October 15th and that only every 4th centennial year would be a leap year. This then became The Gregorian Calendar and was adopted by Italy, France and Portugal in 1582, but not by Great Britain and her dominions until 1752 when a correction was made by omitting 11 days, September 2 was immediately followed by Sept 14th. Getting more confused??

Well, we're not quite there yet! The Equinoctial or Tropical Year is the time that the earth takes to revolve around the sun from one Spring Equinox until the next which is approximately 365.24219 which is approximately 365 days 5hours 48 minutes and 45.216 seconds. The equinox is the point when the sun crosses the Equator making night and day equal.

So now, our Calendar is 365 days except when the year number is divisible by 4 like this year which has 366 days....but now the last year of a century is not a leap year unless the number is divisible by 400....so 1800 and 1900 were not leap years, but 2000 was.

Interesting....confusing? But what does it mean for us? Well, I guess it means that every year is special and that we should enjoy what each day offers us because we can't rewind the day to catch up on what we've missed. Keep a prayer diary (I try!) and if you can't do that, have one good memory of what each day brings and feel blessed by God.....Shalom, Jean

Jumpers and Jazz news – ‘SCORE’

We've arranged a full five-point entry into the fun of Jumpers and Jazz in July this year and hope that everyone – in our church community, locals and visitors - will find something to enjoy this year.

Jazzy breakfast – Saturday 20 July from 7:30am to 10am – Terry's Catering Crew are organized in the delivery of this first-up offering – but if you are able to assist in any way - clearing up at the end of the morning maybe – please let Terry know. Invite a friend or family to join you at this buffet style breakfast as you are entertained with the sweet sounds of Elliot McRostie's jazz ensemble. These are professional musos and have other gigs over the weekend, so we are keen to have them with us for the morning.

Courtyard Coffee – starts on Saturday morning after the Jazzy Breakfast and continues Monday to Friday of the next week – (9:30 – 12pm) with pop up stalls featuring plants and crafts. Again, Kathy and Paul are very organized regarding the delivery of the catering but I'm sure they would really appreciate help to tidy up each morning after 12pm. Also, Kathy might welcome some contributions towards the food, check with her as to what you could provide. Can you help?

Church display - throughout Saturday 20th July to Friday 26th the church will be open 9:30am – 12pm for people to wander through and contemplate the diorama displaying significant events in Jesus' life. Rev Ansie saw this at Rev Willie's Pittsworth church over Easter and has asked the artist to set it up in our church over our Jumpers and Jazz period for us and visitors to the church to witness. Church sitters for these 6 days will be needed to guide visitors through the scenes, so if you think you could help in this regard, please see Sue Campbell so we can fill a roster – we've already started one.

Target – what could you SCORE? - Jan Reid has already organized a team of willing knitters but there's always room for more. And I'm sure she'd welcome helpers to set it up before the weekend.

Tree – again Jan has come up with another creative idea to decorate our tree in true Jumpers and Jazz tradition in the theme of SCORE and between her and Jenny and Jazz they will set that up in the days before the 20th July. So, speak to either of these ladies if you'd like to be part of the fun – and the shake down....

Enjoy the energy that comes from being part of this very typical Warwick event.

News of God's Garden Autumn 2024

As the season changed, we had our first garden meeting of the year, where there was a great discussion of Autumn and Winter plantings. We hadn't had a meeting for quite some time.

We resolved to change the strawberries to another bed. John has refreshed them a number of times, but they now have a new bed. The spare runners were distributed through the Friday coffee and Sunday morning. There will be a green manure crop planted in the old bed, before we attempt any other crop there.

The tomatoes have been excellent in production, but they are now almost finished. We have radish and Swedes seeds up. Thanks for the seeds from Claire's seed stand. The snow peas seedlings are really healthy, and we have some dwarf and normal broccoli seedlings planted. These are covered to try to stop the white cabbage moth.

A big thanks to the garden fairies who have been caring for the library box. I placed some further books last Friday as we were having a visit from a touring group from Chinchilla. There was a discussion about the kurrajong tree as it is very messy with sticky seeds following rain. There is rather too many shadows as well for many vegetable crops. We will approach Church council for their best wisdom regarding this dilemma.

My very big thanks go to John and all the team who help to keep God's Garden so inviting. After much reflection, we resolved to agree to have Youth Justice young people to assist in the garden.
May and all the team.

WISH LIST

- God's Garden has the opportunity to have a seat painted red endorsed by Youth Justice, with a plaque, as part of the Red Bench Project, Take a seat to make a stand.
- To do this, we need a bench!! Painted red (maybe we can do that)!! We have 2 benches under the tree but unfortunately, they cannot be moved and get covered in very sticky seeds from the tree.
- We are now hoping someone will have that surplus bench they can pass onto us for this very reason.



TWEATTTT

When you live alone, you realize how important it is to share a meal with another as you talk over the news and events of the everyday. When this doesn't happen you even forget to stop for a meal until you realize it is too late. That's when you reach for the chocolate to fill the gap! What would we do without that brown stuff? I know that I buy food to eat and then forget it's there until the use date is over.

Enter TWEATTTT (those who eat alone and talk to themselves)! Because we have some amazing caterers who give so much of themselves, we can come together on the first Sunday of each month to talk together over a two course meal prepared by this amazing catering team. It is a really special ministry given to us solo livers! It is open to all, and we hope that you who live alone might come and join us. It costs us a meagre \$15, and we even get a choice of two menus! Please come and join us after church for a yarn followed by a meal of sharing together!.....Jean

MAY CHURCH COUNCIL CHATTER

- We saw our plans, we recognised our need, we did the survey, we took the vote and now we have confirmation that our dear Ansie is confirmed in her placement with us which extends beyond the 10 years finishing next year, for a further 5 years. Good news indeed!!
- Killarney Community Collaboration Group has two new members with David and Carolyn Vardy representing the Uniting Church. Thank you, Carolyn and David. We appreciate your accepting this responsibility.
- We have been tasked with ensuring our financial gifts in our tithes and offerings each Sunday in all our churches are secure.
 - All congregations must have 2 unrelated people counting the money.
 - Warwick Hospitality teams will require the stewards on duty for that Sunday to take the offering plates to the office after the Service and locking; with one member helping Pam or Jenny count the money as it is recorded on our own files and prepared for banking.
 - TWEATTT will also have 2 people count the money and Ian is investigating a drop box for afterhours money deposit to the bank.
- One of the wishes we heard at our Annual General Meeting were some opinions on how people would like worship to happen. It is a mix of old and new or traditional and modern. It will be a focus point for this year so watch out for conversations and make sure you join in.
- **Grief and Loss:** Blue Care has changed the compliance needed for those leading the program so Council has decided to stop running this Ministry. I am sure all who have benefited from the program will join us in thanking Jean Reid and Barbara Cutmore for their very loving and skilful leadership. It was such a blessing and Jean and Barbara; you were such a warm light for those needing some of that light in their lives.
- **Farewell Claire.** Those in Church in Warwick on Mother's Day had the chance to say goodbye to Claire Cunningham who has sold her home and business with plans to move to Gympie to be nearer to her family. Claire has left a big hole in our church family with her generosity in cooking, hospitality and flowers. For many years, because she and Eric opened their business seven days a week it was a struggle for Claire to attend worship. The only worship service available was a night time service and these were not always offered. Recently with changes to her business hours and days, Claire has attended our Warwick worship services each Sunday morning and become a valued member of the Intergenerational evening service. Claire participated in a recent Alpha course and enjoyed the interaction with the younger members taking part, sharing her wisdom and compassion in a special mentoring role. Thank you, Claire for being a faithful member of our congregation for over forty years. May God bless you as you embark on the next part of your journey. All the best Claire, we miss you.
- Youth Justice: we have agreed to participate in the Youth Justice Community Cleaning and Graffiti Removal program which is another way of saying that we may see some Youth Justice officers in our grounds accompanying young offenders who may be washing windows, gardening or painting the herb boxes in God's Garden. And if the initial experience works, it could even grow.



**Sunday 5th May in Killarney welcoming families as they bring
Cheyenne and Dallas for baptism**



Farewell Claire!

**We will miss you, your companion and your
apple green van on Sunday mornings.**



**15 years of mainly music Mayhem
The motley crew responsible!**

