



Light in the

Hills

In Christ – growing – caring – sharing

A publication of the Anglican Parish of Mt Dandenong

June/July 2011

HILLS CHURCHES GET TOGETHER

The last Sunday in May saw members of Ranges Church, St Clare's Catholic, Kennon Uniting and our own Mt Dandenong Parish meet together for lunch in the Olinda Community Hall. It was an enjoyable time of getting to know one another and sharing the insights and interests of our Christian community. We look forward to doing it again.



THE CHESTNUT FESTIVAL

The Chestnut Festival held last month, saw the oval at Fiveways, Kalorama a colourful hub of activity as people bought their chestnuts and browsed the market stalls. Our Parish of Mt Dandenong was represented by a stall proffering information and a range of craft goods. Many thanks to those who helped, especially Hilary and Rod Mellis who manned the stall all day and David and Joy Spencer who transported and erected the tent

Below: Hilary and Rod at the receipt of custom, while Joy is busy in the background.



Support Christian Religious Education in our schools

Those who oppose Christian Education lessons in our state schools are very active at the present time, trying to have the weekly lessons abolished.

In our local schools at Mt Dandenong and Olinda, a well trained and dedicated team of volunteer teachers present the lessons each week and are very well received.

You can support them

- In your prayers
- By writing a short note or E-mail to the members of Parliament responsible for decision making, expressing your support for the continuation of the CRE program in our state schools. The addresses are:

The Premier, the Hon Ted Baillieu –

ted.baillieu@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Minister for Education, The Hon Martin Dixon –

martin.dixon@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Member for Monbulk, the Hon James Merlino –

james.merline@parliament.gov.au



Coming Events

June 26th Hospitality Sunday — Every parishioner is invited to a meal or afternoon tea in another parishioner's home. A wonderful opportunity to spend time with other members of the Parish. — Please make every effort to accept your invitation!

Wednesday 31st August Parenting Seminar

Parenting Guru, and provider of extra tools for your parenting toolbox, Pinky McKay, will be speaking once again at St Michael's hall. Further publicity will be forthcoming, but put the date on your calendar. Contact Janet on:

tirawa@comcon.com.au if you would like to be

HERE & THERE

with Carolyn Clark



Although the St. Michael's Hall was not quite finished it was great to recently hold a lunch there following the 11.00am Service to say thank you to Dorothy and Jim Kirwin for the tireless contribution they have made to Parish life over many years and to wish them well in their new home and life in Croydon. We also congratulated Lorna and Bruce Clark on celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary and they shared how much our Parish has meant to them over some of those 50 years.

Congratulations also to John Curtis as he celebrates an "0" birthday and our best wishes to Leigh and Eric Martindale and family as they settle into their new home in Gembrook.

It seems a long time ago that we first started the planning for a new kitchen and refurbishment of the St. Michael's Hall, not to mention how we would fund the project. All along it was felt that we would require a loan from the Diocese but prayers were answered and with the generosity of many in our Parish and using some of the money left by past Parishioners, we were able to nearly reach our target. We decided to borrow from our own reserve funds, for the extra money needed, to avoid paying interest on a loan and replenish these funds with any further donations. Thank you to all who have given so generously, both financially and of their time, as there has been much painting of ceiling, walls, doors and woodwork by Parishioners. Now we look forward to really enjoying using this new facility and trust it will be a Blessing



Light in the Hills

from TANZANIA

John and Jill Morshead write –



Dear friends,

In our last prayer points we asked you to pray that John's teaching would be well received by the theological students at St Marks. . That prayer was quickly answered. Last week one of his Systematic Theology students commented at the end of his class, "I will remember your teaching, all my life". Edgar , another student added, "Your teaching prepares us to be able to teach and preach in our future ministries."

Give thanks with us, that God is able to use us to bring such blessings, and pray that He will continue to do so.

John says "There are so many worthwhile things that could be achieved here, theoretically. However,when you try to do certain things, you find too much resistance too many obstacles"

PLEASE PRAY FOR "**The courage to change the things that can be changed, the Grace to accept the things that cannot be changed, and the Wisdom to know the difference**".

- Please continue to give thanks for the amazing opportunities God gives us to get close to neighbours and friends here, and pray that the love we show to them will truly reflect the love of Christ.
- We were recently inspired by God **to count our blessings**. Almost too many to mention.....our wonderful health and energy, wonderful children and family, great friends, work that we love. We could go on and on, but we especially give thanks for the 38 years of marriage which we have shared. Please join us in *counting blessings, and giving thanks*.
- Give thanks for the recent visit of CMS affiliate Lynn Pryor, and her visit to St Marks to see the library. Lynn was able to write a comprehensive report to evaluate the needs of the library and to advise the college of the best way forward. Please pray that any financial obstacles will be overcome to achieve these objectives.

Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer for our work here in Tanzania,

John and Jill Morshead

From the Vicar. . . .



For this issue of *Light in the Hills* I pass on to you a story told by Nicki Gumble, concerning the author of the famous hymn, 'O Love that will not let me go.' The prayer that follows also is written by Nicki Gumble. I hope it inspires you in some of your troubles

George Matheson was born in Glasgow, the eldest of eight children. He had only partial vision as a boy. By the age of twenty he was completely blind. When his fiancée learnt he was going blind and that there was nothing the doctors could do, she told him she could not go through life with a blind man. He never married.

He was helped by a devoted sister throughout his ministry. She learnt Greek, Latin and Hebrew in order to aid him in his studies. Despite his handicap, Matheson had a brilliant career at the Glasgow Academy, University of Glasgow and the Church of Scotland Seminary.

When he was forty years old, something bittersweet happened. His sister married. Not only did this mean that he lost her companionship – it also brought a fresh reminder of his own heartbreak. In the midst of this intense sadness, on the eve of his sister's marriage, he wrote one of the most popular and best loved hymns of the Christian church – 'O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go'. He completed the whole work in five minutes and never edited, corrected or retouched it. 'This came,' he wrote, 'like a dayspring from on high.'

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

A Prayer: Lord, there is no one like you. Your righteousness reaches to the skies. You have done great things. Thank you that though we may see troubles many and bitter, you promise to restore our life again. I praise you for your faithfulness. My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you – 'I, whom you have redeemed.' Amen

Stephen

Healing Services

at St Michael's

Every first Sunday of the month at 5.00pm a simple healing service is being held at St Michael's, Kalorama. Everyone is welcome, whether or not they are members of the Parish.

The healing of body, mind and spirit, has always been part of Christian mission. Although often neglected in the parish life of our Western churches, healing is still a natural part of Christian ministry in many parts of the world. Jesus "preached the gospel and healed the sick" and the book of Acts records that healing accompanied the preaching of the apostles and St Paul. Down the centuries the accounts of the lives of saints like St Columba, St Patrick, St Francis and many others, include stories of healing. The preaching of John Wesley (to his surprise at first) was accompanied by healings among those who heard him preach, and he himself several times experienced physical healing in response to prayer.

When a congregation reaches out in healing ministry to people in need, several things happen, according to Canon Jim Glennon (who held a weekly healing service in St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney for many years).

- "The first is that there is a release of love and compassion. When people are in need and the congregation reaches out to them in the name of Jesus, there is a release of love that is unique. The Bible says that it does not matter what else is available, what else is done, if it is not done so that love is released and experienced, those other things are ineffective. Indeed after all other things have long since departed, it will be love that remains.
- "The second thing that happens is that there is a sharing of faith. Faith draws on the promises of God, and in a healing service we share our faith with others and they with us. The Bible says that if we have faith as small as a grain of mustard seed, God will use it. A healing service is a pool of Christian faith.
- "The third characteristic of a healing service is that it provides and uses a range of ministries. The ministry that God provides comes through people, and God equips each person for ministry, and that ministry differs one person from another. Only when the ministries of everyone in the Body of Christ are active, will all the ministry that God has provided be available to meet people's need."





Growing Up with God

An age by age guide to nurturing your child's faith.

by *Marlene LeFever*

Four year old Alicia made a slight mistake when she repeated a Bible verse: "That whoever believes in him should not perish but have ever *laughing* life." Grinning, her mother didn't correct her. That's exactly how she wants Alicia to feel about Jesus.

From their earliest days, we want our children to know the joy of learning about Jesus. But how much can a child really understand about God? And how does that change as she gets older? To help our children develop a faith that will carry them into adulthood, it's essential we build on their strengths at each stage of development.

A Solid Start: Birth to 2

Even these early years are critical to your child's spiritual development. As a parent, you're always there, ready to feed your baby when he's hungry, play with him when he's awake and rock him when he's fretful. Through these experiences, your child develops a foundation of love and trust in you that will later lead to trust in God.

Children under 2 also learn by imitating. When you pray with your toddler, she might fold her hands and try to copy the language and tone of your prayers. These activities will eventually help her make sense of the concept of having a relationship with God.

Children first become conscious of God around age 2. The God-images they develop now are crucial to their future concept of who God is. You can help shape your child's idea of God by talking about God's love and kindness. You can assure your child that we can trust God to take care of us. This is also a great time to use your child's natural curiosity as a spring board for talking about God's power and creativity. Talk about God as the Creator as you walk outside, read about nature or visit the zoo.

Bible truths for Birth to 2-year-olds:

- God made all things.
- God loves and cares for me.
- Jesus, God's Son, loves me.

Learning Explosion: Ages 3 and 4

At this stage, a child will often express his thoughts and feelings through play. As your child learns more about God's love, he'll want to show God love in return. He can do that through simple songs and prayers.

This is also a stage of rapid mental development. Between the ages of 3 and 10, the activity level in your child's brain is about 225 percent higher than that of an adult brain.

With this expanding mental ability comes a better understanding of right and wrong. So as your preschooler learns Biblical truths like loving others and respecting parents, he can begin to apply those truths to his actions. Now is a good time to talk to your child about his conscience. Explain that the conscience is one way God talks to us. When our conscience tells us something is wrong, we need to listen.

Bible truths for 3- and 4-year-olds:

- The Bible tells me about a loving God and his Son, Jesus.
- I can listen to Bible stories and learn Bible verses.
- I'm beginning to understand that the Bible is God's Word.
- I know that Jesus feels sad when I do something I shouldn't

A Child of God: Ages 5 and 6

At this age, many children who have been raised in Christian homes are ready to ask Jesus to be their friend for life. Although this is an exciting time for parents, it's important to let them make their own decision. Sharon, the mother of 6-year-old twins says, "They're asking questions about sin and Jesus' death on the cross. But they don't quite get it yet." She says. "I'm not pushing them. I want their decision to be made for the right reasons, not because they're pleasing me."

By the time your child reaches 6 years old, she starts to realize that Bible stories and songs actually relate to her own identity as a Christian. You can use simple symbols as teaching tools. For example, set an extra plate and chair at the table and explain that it's for Jesus who is with you all the time even though you can't see him.

Bible truths for 5- and 6-year-olds:

- Jesus loves everyone and that's why he came to earth.
- I know who God is, what he's like and what he's done for me.
- I can talk to God whenever and wherever I want.
- I know people in Bible times loved God and served him, and I know how I can love and serve him today.

Ready to Reach Out: Ages 7 and 8

Once your child reaches this stage, the questions start to get harder: *If the little girl in the Bible story was dead, why did Jesus lie and say she was only sleeping? Why did you tell that policeman you didn't know the stop sign was there?*

When your child asks these kinds of questions, don't worry. Questions and doubts are clues that your child is maturing and learning to seek out her own answers. When she finds those answers— by searching Scripture or talking to you— she'll be better equipped to follow God on her own, rather than simply following your example.

At this age, children are beginning to realize that God can use them to do his work. For example, when 8-year-old Brian put

all \$20 of his birthday money in the offering, his Sunday school teacher questioned him: Did he know how much that was? Did he know he wouldn't get it back? Brian was surprised that she'd questioned his gift. "Of course I want to give all of it," he told her. "The missionary who visited our class needs it for the computer he told us about."

Encourage your child to use his special abilities to serve God and those around him.

Bible truths for 7- and 8-year-olds:

- The Bible is God's truth for me.
- Jesus' death and resurrection makes a difference to me.
- The Ten Commandments are hard to obey. I need Jesus' help.
- The world is a big place, and God is working all over the world.

Digging Deeper: Ages 9 and 10

Obviously, parents are pleased when their children provide correct answers to spiritual questions. But it's important to encourage them to dig deeper and to grapple with spiritual issues.

If your child doesn't ask hard questions, ask them yourself. One mother did this with her children. Tina Reiman says, "When we discussed David's sins of adultery and murder, I asked my children why God would take the throne away from King Saul and not take it away from David. We looked at the ways David and Saul each reacted when his sin was revealed. This gave us a chance to contrast true repentance and mere regret."

Ask probing questions that require your child to think deeply. Just as physical exercise develops athletes, spiritual activity will grow disciples.

Bible truths for 9- and 10-year-olds:

- The Bible defines right and wrong, and I'm responsible for choosing right.
- Salvation is for me and all people who trust Jesus.
- The Bible is the big picture of God working with his people, and I'm part of that picture.

Big Changes: Ages 11-14

The relative calm of the 9- and 10-year-old world seems to shatter around age 11 when the child's mind makes the dramatic leap from following concrete rules to a world of infinite possibilities. Around this time, your child will begin to



You never get spiritual power in a church unless the worship is mighty and God-centred, unless unity and sacrifice and prayer are part of the life of that church. But when those elements *are* present, along with praise and joy and freedom . . . people come to repentance and faith in Christ before even the sermon begins! They are converted through the sense of God that comes through the worship. Could that happen through the worship of your church?.

Michael Green

think about "What if ... " questions: *What if Jesus hadn't died? What if my Buddhist friends aren't wrong?*

Encourage your teen to test theories and move to higher levels of abstract thought. This allows him to see God in an even bigger way. Seek out answers to tough questions together. The search itself will show your teen that faith is a process of growing and learning, even for adults.

At this stage, your child will also begin to wrestle with her own identity and where she fits in this world. Help her find that identity in the Lord. Encourage her to join a church youth group or a Christian club at school. Help her find an older Christian who can serve as a mentor.

Bible truths for 11- to 14-year-olds:

- Being a Christian is part of who I am and the choices I make reflect that identity.
- God's Word is filled with people just like me who were faced with difficult circumstances. I can look to the Bible for solutions to problems I face.
- God wants me to serve him by serving others.

As your child grows and develops, keep your eyes open to indications that he's moving towards spiritual maturity.

Eight-year-old Jeffrey and his father were watching a TV program about a cult. The child kept saying, "That's not true."

"How do you know that's not true, Jeffrey?" his dad asked.

"Well," responded Jeffrey, "when you've been a Christian as many years as I have, you know what's right and what's wrong."

Amen to that!



(with acknowledgement to *Christianity Today*)

☺ ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

- ★ Why did the man take a pencil to bed?
To draw the curtains!
- ★ What did the pencil say to the rubber?
Take me to your ruler.
- ★ Why is it bad to write on an empty stomach?
Because paper is better!
- ★ What is it that you should keep, even if you've given it to someone else?
Your word!

Are You on Form?

Mr Booth, Mr Chips and Mr Einstein are all teachers at Hilltops College.

One teaches English, one Maths and one Singing.

The pupils do not like the English teacher.

Mr Booth does not teach Maths.

The pupils like Mr Booth.

Mr Einstein does not teach English.

Which master teaches which subject?

(Answers at the foot of the page)

PEN-THINGS

Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter. PENTA means 5 so a pentagon has five sides and the first five books of the Old Testament are called the Pentateuch.

There are quite a number of words that begin with the letters PEN, so can you say which PEN is... (answers at the bottom of the page)


1. A free kick in football?
2. A female swan?
3. Someone you write to?
4. An early kind of bicycle?
5. A sporting event?
6. A small coin?
7. A flag?
8. A black and white bird that can't fly?

Creation Celebration

Find the words in the grid.

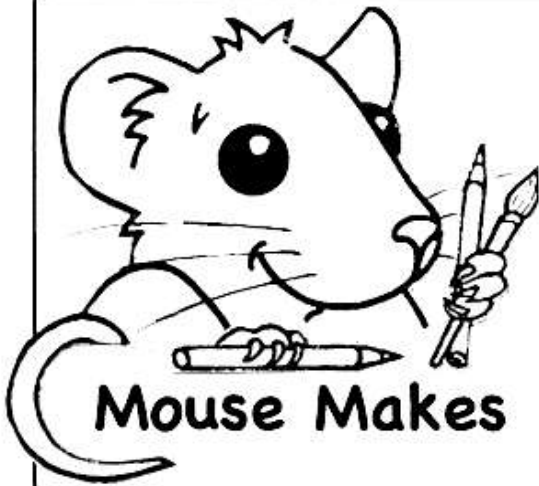
B	I	R	D	S	S	B	X	S	D
E	E	D	A	E	O	Y	T	N	L
A	J	O	H	V	L	F	H	A	R
F	U	L	D	E	Y	I	E	M	O
T	P	L	A	N	T	S	G	U	W
E	Z	N	Y	N	W	H	O	H	A
R	A	T	S	P	D	O	D	L	T
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	R	S	E
H	A	M	A	Z	I	N	G	D	R
F	A	D	E	T	A	E	R	C	J

seven	animals
days	humans
light	created
water	God
sea	amazing
fish	world
birds	
land	
plants	



Pen-things Answers: 1. Penalty 2. Pen 3. Penfriend 4. Pennyfarthing 5. Pentathlon
6. Penny 7. Pennant 8. Penguin

Are You on Form? Answers: Mr Booth, singing. Mr Einstein, Maths. Mr Chips, English.



Mouse Makes

Jesus said: -
 "The **Helper**,
 the **Holy Spirit**,
 whom the Father will
 send in my name, will
teach you everything
 and make you
remember all that
 I have told you."
John 14:26



Jesus said:
 "I will ask the Father,
 and he will give you
 another **Helper**, who
 will stay with you
 forever. He is the
Spirit who **reveals**
 the **truth** about God."
John 14:16,17



Jesus said:
 "...how much
 more shall your
 Heavenly
 Father give the
 Holy Spirit to
 them that ask
 him?"
Luke 11:13

Read the story of
 Pentecost in Acts 2

**The Fruit of
 the Spirit**

"The Spirit produces


 LOVE
 JOY 
 PEACE

 PATIENCE
 KINDNESS 
 GOODNESS
 FAITHFULNESS
 HUMILITY
 and SELF CONTROL"

 *Galatians 5:22*



"Let the Spirit direct your lives"
Galatians 5:16



"...the spirit also
 comes to help us,
 weak as we are.
 For we do not
 know how we
 ought to pray; the
 Spirit himself
 pleads with God
 for us"
Romans 8:26

Cut out , keep and learn these
 Holy Spirit Bible verse cards.

The Anglican Parish of Mt Dandenong, Diocese of Melbourne

St Michael & All Angels', Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd., Kalorama

Sundays: 8.00am Holy Communion
11.00am 1st Sunday of the month – Morning Service 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th – Holy Communion
5.00pm 1st Sunday of the month: Healing Service

St Matthew's, Monash Ave., Olinda

Sundays: 9.30am 1st Sunday of the month – Morning Service & Sunday School
2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th Sundays – Holy Communion & Sunday school

Tuesdays: 5.30pm 6.00pm Prayer for the Hills

Wednesdays: 10.00am Holy Communion

Vicar: Archdeacon Stephen May, BSc, Dip Ed, Bth. DipMin.
Vicarage: Tel 9728 6353 Mobile 0407468251 E-mail : sj_may3@bigpond.com
Postal Address: PO Box 148, Kalorama 3766 Email: www.lightinthehills.com

Children are welcome at all services



TABLE TENNIS: in St Michael's Hall, 8.00pm Mondays

MARMADUKES: Playgroup for pre-school children — St Matthew's Hall 10.00am Tuesdays

CRAZY WHIST: St Matthew's Hall – 1.00pm Wednesdays

BIBLE STUDY HOME GROUPS: 7.45pm Thursdays, 1/1502 Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd, Olinda (led by Dick Wallace)

7.00pm Wednesdays, at the home of George and Joyce Coughlan – contact David Spencer 9728 1106

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Wednesdays 2.00pm – 4.00pm at St Michael's, led by Valerie Barras

CRAFT GROUP: 1.30pm, second Monday of the month, St Matthew's Hall. Convenor: Hilary Mellis, Tel: 9751 1886



SUNDAY SCHOOL: St Matthew's, 9.30am Sundays

Supervisor: Mrs Yo Heading Tel 9751 1639

Light in the Hills – Contributions welcome E-mail: dragon@rabbit.com.au Tel: 9751 0412

Alone with none but you, my God,

I journey on my way.

What need I fear, when you are near

O King of night and day?

Safer I am within your hand

Than if a host did round me stand.

A prayer of St Columba

