

# INTERACT

**The Magazine of the Endeavour Hills Uniting Church**

**Endeavour Hills Uniting Church Mission Statement**

**The Endeavour Hills Uniting Church...**

**a worshipping, nurturing, learning community...**

**an open door, reaching out to show Christ's face to all.**

**'Together We Grow.'**

**April 2016 Vol.18:No 3**



**Annunciation of the Lord**

*Leonardo da Vinci*

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Please note:

The views in the articles included in this publication are not necessarily those held by the Endeavour Hills Uniting Church.

# THE EMPTY TOMB

Luke describes the early morning scene on the first day of the week after Jesus' crucifixion. The women arrived to perform the ritual anointing of the body of Jesus, as was the



custom. The Revised Standard Version translates their reaction with a very expressive word – perplexed. This was because the huge stone used to close the tomb had been rolled away and the body was gone. A devastating blow to their already distraught state! Nowhere to grieve now, no resting place for their beloved master!

How could the stone have been rolled away? Had his body been stolen? Many were their thoughts. They were so confused that they did not notice two men in dazzling apparel standing nearby. The two men said: “Why do you seek the living among the dead? Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee, that the son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise?” And they remembered his words.

**REFLECTION:** Have we become blasé about the Easter message? We should be perplexed, and remember. It is for you and me that he died, in person, by name. Let us read again Luke 24, and on our knees be thankful! This is no idle tale, which was the apostles' first reaction to the women's discovery, early on the first Easter morning.

*Bill Pugh*

# HANDS ON



We know about idle hands. Children get into all kinds of mischief. My Scottish grandparents often reminded us of that. It's so much easier to let others do the hard jobs.

How busy were the hands of Jesus? He raised the dead, healed the sick, helped

the blind to see and the paralysed to walk. He took little children into his arms and blessed them. He turned the little boy's lunch into food for a big crowd of hungry people that came to hear him. He reached out and saved Peter from drowning on the stormy lake. The hands of Jesus made all the difference in helping those who needed him. He was so busy doing good.

You and I can use our hands to 'give a hand' — to be kind and generous hands, to be hands-on disciples. In Sunday School we often sang about Jesus' hands. The second verse is a prayer for all of us.

## Reflection:

'Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you,  
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;  
Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,  
Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.'

*[Margaret Cropper]*

N.B. How can I lend a hand?

*Bill Pugh*

## Thought for the Month

True humility is not thinking less of yourself;  
it is thinking of yourself less.

C. S. Lewis

# AN EASTER WAY OF LIFE

Easter is not just one day. It is a season of 50 days. This year it goes from April 8th, Easter Sunday, to May 27th, Pentecost.

The season of Easter is about challenging preconceptions:

- life is stronger than death
- an itinerant Jewish preacher is more powerful than the might of Rome
- Jesus bursts out of a tomb and through locked doors of fear
- God says to the world, “I have the final word, and that word is the word of life.”



In this season, the lectionary provides a number of stories to help challenge preconceptions and reinforce the transformation that Easter brings. In Acts 16:9-15, the apostles, Paul and Silas, encounter Lydia of Philippi and everyone's lives are changed. Lydia, a wealthy businesswoman, becomes a Christian and key founder of the church in Philippi. She convinces Paul and Silas to stay at her home for two full weeks — a considerable length of time for these two travellers.

Any notion that Paul was resistant to women's leadership in the church is challenged by this story. Similarly, we are reminded that the gospel is for all people — Jew and Gentile (Lydia is described as a “God-fearer” meaning a Gentile who is attracted to Judaism); rich and poor; male and female.

The next scene in the book of Acts lands Paul and Silas in gaol. After their miraculous escape they return to Lydia's house and, according to Acts 16:40, “meet with the believers there”. In other words, in a very short period of time, a church has sprung up in Lydia's home.

Who would have thought? But this is the stuff of Easter.

# PENTECOST—A HAPPENING



Pentecost was originally the name of a Jewish festival, held 50 days after the Sabbath that followed Passover. So, like our Christmas and Easter, it was an event - a regular, recurring, expected occasion. But the Pentecost we are remembering today was a “happening”, in every sense of the word.

It's quite easy to describe an event, but almost impossible to describe a “happening,” to analyse the odd change in mood that sweeps over a group of people, to realise exactly what is going on and why. So, naturally, this account in the second chapter of Acts doesn't sound like the minutes of a committee meeting. We read of a “strong driving wind” and “tongues like flames of fire.” These men were suddenly possessed by a presence and inspired by a power beyond all their calculations. Their routine was shattered. This was beyond all expectations, completely unplanned, totally spontaneous. It was a “happening”.

This may be something of a shock or at least a surprise to you to realise that the church of Jesus Christ began as a “happening”. From our experience with organised religion, we might well suppose that the church would be constituted by a carefully prepared conference, with disciples on the platform, at which a decision would be taken to launch a new movement to perpetuate the message of Jesus Christ. That's how we would set about such an enterprise today.

What we're saying is that the theatrics of Pentecost - the “happening” - was necessary to launch the movement...but later something more steady was needed. Later in the Book of Acts there is quite a lot about conferences, decision, elections of officers, programs, missions and all the rest. And that's the other side of the coin. The two go together: the theatrics first, to attract attention and to gather momentum. But the theatrics can't last and aren't meant to. The steady, day-by-day commitment must follow, where the emotional stirrings of the theatre are applied to daily concerns.

— *Sermon Illustrations Sourcebook H*

# THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

The Annunciation would normally fall on Friday, March 25, 2016. That day, however, was Good Friday, and the Annunciation is never celebrated during Holy Week. It is transferred, therefore, to Monday, April 4, 2016, the first open day after Easter Sunday.

The feast of the Annunciation marks the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he told her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



Since it occurs nine months before the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, the Annunciation marks the actual incarnation of Jesus Christ—the moment that Jesus was conceived and that the Son of God became the son of the Virgin.

The festival has been celebrated since the 5th century AD, and celebrates two things:

- God's action in entering the human world as Jesus in order to save humanity
- humanity's willing acceptance of God's action in Mary's freely given acceptance of the task of being the Mother of God

## **The Annunciation and the liturgy**

The story of the Annunciation has produced three important liturgical texts, the Ave Maria, the Angelus, and the Magnificat:

- the angel's greeting to Mary, which is traditionally translated as "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee," is the opening of the Ave Maria, and a part of the Rosary prayers.

*(Continued on page 8)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

## **The Annunciation of the Lord**

- the Angelus consists of three Ave Marias, together with some additional material. It is said three times a day in the Roman Catholic Church.
- the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) is the poem with which Mary responds to the Annunciation and celebrates the power of God.

### **Political implications of the Annunciation**

Some feminist theologians find the story of the Assumption portrays women as unacceptably submissive and as colluding with the idea that “women’s only claim to fame is the capacity to have babies”. They interpret Mary’s behaviour as demonstrating passive subordination to male power.

Other writers have a different interpretation. They don’t see Mary as powerless before God, but instead as a woman who makes a free choice to accept God’s task for her - a task she could have refused. Mary’s acceptance of the role of servant is not, they teach, demeaning. They point out that Jesus also regarded himself as a servant, and taking up the example of the disciples, they see Mary, through her act of faith, exercising her right to believe what she wants and cooperating with God in his plan of salvation, a plan that he cannot carry out without her.

Still others suggest that the story of the Annunciation emphasises the status of women, since in the Incarnation God enlists the help of a woman to create a child of vast importance, and gives men no part to play in this important work.

In the Magnificat itself, Mary becomes the herald of Salvation, and takes Christianity into the spheres of politics and justice as the first spokesperson for the marginalised people who were the focus of Jesus, and are now the focus of Christians and the Church.

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*(Continued from page 8)*

## **The Annunciation of the Lord**

### **The Bible story of the Annunciation**

The story is told in Luke's Gospel, 1: 26-38.

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

*Luke 1:26-38, NIV Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society.*

*Retrieved from <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/annunciation.shtml>*

*(Excerpt)*

## FROM THE MARKETPLACE



Recently, I was standing at the fruit and vegetable section of my local supermarket when an elderly Greek lady standing next to me asked if I were 'religious'. I replied in the affirmative. She asked if I was Catholic.

"No, I am Uniting (Church)," I

replied.

Her response—"I am Greek Orthodox. You know that there is only one God and that he is the God of us all."

My heart said, "Hallelujah!"

When returning home from the marketplace, a friend and I were walking along a narrow footpath made narrower by a stretch where residents had planted Agapanthus bushes covering several nature strips. We looked up to find a gentleman making his way towards us with the help of his walker. In the same breath, both parties lurched into the Agapanthus shrubbery to make way for each other.

It is not often these days that I recourse to the Authorised Version of the Bible, but Romans 12:10 (often quoted in my family) came to mind: "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." The outcome—a new friend was made.

### **Reflection:**

There is a well-loved hymn which begins with these words:

When we walk with the Lord  
in the light of his word  
what a glory he sheds on our way!  
While we do his good will  
he abides with us still,  
and with all who will trust and obey.

*(John Henry Sammis 1846-1919)*

*Joan Addinsall*

## NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

### 9TH MARCH 2016



Devotions were led by Wes Porch

In preparation for a 2nd conversation with a minister, the J.N.C. asked for our help in deciding what we expect from a .05 minister. This was discussed.

We will have a Retiring Offering every Sunday in April to raise funds to send to the Fiji Appeal.

There will be a Maundy Thursday service at Endeavour Hills to which Narre Warren North and Dandenong North people will be invited. Rev. Bruce Monro is to contact Rev. Ineke Gyles regarding this service.

As the manse has been empty for some time and we have not found anyone connected with the church to rent it, the process of renting it out privately has begun.

The environment Action Group is planning a picnic at Lysterfield Park Lake to be held on a Saturday in April and is also interested in having groundcover in the garden at the front of the church. A walk- or ride-to church day will be held later in the year.

A fundraising Sausage Sizzle will be held at Bunnings in Dandenong in May.

Kids Hope volunteers will be doing training this month and hope to start in the second term at Mossgiel Park Primary School. Each mentor needs a prayer partner and relief people are also needed to cover holiday breaks for mentors.

*Judy Hopkins*  
*Secretary.*

# Notice Board



## **Sammy Stamp**

Please save your used stamps for the Sammy Stamp Appeal. There is a box marked "STAMPS" on the table in the Narthex for the stamps.

## **Trading Table & Book Sales**

The total amount raised in March was \$57.65  
The next Trading Table will be on the 10th April.  
Please contact Heather Kimber.  
Phone: 9796 8154

## **Lawn Mowing & Gardening**

If you enjoy gardening and lawn mowing, your help with the gardens at the church and the Manse will be very much appreciated.

Contact: Bruce Hansen 9706 0585 Email:  
[bajphansen@bigpond.com](mailto:bajphansen@bigpond.com)

## **Paper Collection & Packing**

Keep collecting newspapers. Details regarding packing of paper will be in the weekly Notice Sheet or in Interact.

## **Casseroles**

For many years Judy Hopkins has been organising meals for people in our congregation experiencing sickness, etc. If you would like to help, please leave your contact details with Judy and she will contact you when needed.

Phone: 9700 7551

Email:

[judy.inehills@bigpond.com](mailto:judy.inehills@bigpond.com)

## **The Andrews Centre**

Donations of non-perishable food will be gratefully received. Just bring along a couple of cans or whatever you can spare and these will be delivered during the week. There are many in our community in need.

# Notice Board

## **Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group**

The group meets at the Church at 10.00 am for Bible study (except during school holidays). Everyone is welcome.

## **Beta: Ladies' Bible Study Group**

Come along and join our group as we explore **The Parables of the Bible**.

The group meets at 7.30 pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month (except during school holidays) at the Church. Please contact Mary Mehl: Phone: 9791 5442.

## **Coffee Break**

This informal group gathers at 10 am on Friday mornings (except on the 1st Friday of the month) at Muffin Break in the Food Court, Endeavour Hills Shopping Centre.



Everyone is welcome, so if you are in the vicinity on a Friday morning around that time, please feel free to come and join in. You will be very welcome. No need to book!

## **First Friday Lunch**

**12.30 pm on the First Friday of Every Month except January.**

**Various people take turns in organising the First Friday Lunch.**

**Check Notice Sheet on Sunday prior to lunch for name and contact details of Organiser and venue for lunch.**

**Contact Organiser by 5 pm on the Wednesday preceding the lunch if you can come.**

# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2016**



On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March two weeks' notice was given for a Congregational Meeting to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April. This meeting is for our JNC (Joint Nominating Committee) to put forward the name of a Minister for our Church. This is for a .05 appointment as requested in our Profile, and we would

not be sharing with another congregation. There will be time for questions and discussion before we vote on this nomination.

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE



**DATE:** 14th May 2016

**TIME:** 8am to 3pm

**PLACE:** Bunnings, Dandenong North.

**PROCEEDS to:** Mercy Ships

Volunteers are needed to work in shifts. If you can help, please contact Pam Cowley: Phone: 0429 932 111

# THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Before He ascended to heaven, Jesus promised the Holy Spirit who is also known as the Paraclete, the Intercessor in Aramaic, as well as the Advocate, Comforter, Counsellor, Helper and the Lord of the Harvest. "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever." (*John 14:16.*) "When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about Me. But when the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into all truth." (*John 16:13.*)



On the Day of Pentecost, when Peter stood up boldly and testified to what Christ had done, the Holy Spirit came down to bear witness to the person and work of Christ, and men were convicted by the thousands. (*Acts 2: 1-4 and 14-18*) It is only by the Spirit that preachers are enabled to preach effectively, after studying the Word of God to testify according to the Mind of the Spirit. If the Gospel of Christ is hidden and set aside and Jesus Christ is not preached to the people, the Spirit cannot do His work.

"But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (*John 14:26.*) When Christians witness for Christ, the Spirit will bring to their minds some of the sayings of our Lord Jesus Christ, and their minds will be filled with the Word of God. When the Spirit of God is resting upon us, we are able to speak with authority and power. "I have hidden your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You." (*Psalms 119:11.*) "However, as it is written: No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him." (*1 Corinthians 2:9.*) But the next verse makes us fully understand what the Lord is saying: "but the Lord has revealed it to us by His Spirit: the Spirit teaches all things, even the deep things of God." (*1 Corinthians. 2:10.*) "The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually

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## **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

discerned. The spiritual man makes judgement about all things, but himself is not subject to any man's judgement." *(1 Corinthians 2:14, 15)*

We are wandering pilgrims in this world.

The following is a hymn about the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit , faithful Guide  
Ever near the Christian's side,  
Gently lead us by the hand,  
Pilgrims in a desert land,  
Weary souls for ever rejoice,  
While they hear that sweetest voice,  
Whispering softly, wanderer come!  
Follow Me, I'll guide you home.

Ever present, truest friend,  
Ever near Your aid to lend,  
Leave us not to doubt and fear,  
Groping on in darkness drear,  
When the storms are raging sore,  
Hearts grow faint, and hopes give over;  
Whispering softly, wanderer come!  
Follow Me, I'll guide you home.

When our days of toil shall cease,  
Waiting still for sweet release,  
Nothing left but heaven and prayer,  
Wondering if our names were there,  
Wading deep the dismal flood,  
Pleading nothing but Jesus' blood,  
Whispering softly, wanderer come!  
Follow Me, I'll guide you home.

*Marcus Wells 1858*

*Contributed by Lakshman Pethiyagoda*



# CARTOON CORNER

**Salt and Light** by Jonny Hawkins



"Well, at least they're honest about it."

**Salt and Light** by Jonny Hawkins



**Salt and Light** by Jonny Hawkins



© 2012 Jonny Hawkins

NO USE IN JONNY'S COMICBOOKS

**Salt and Light** by Jonny Hawkins



"It's not the heat, it's the humility."

© 2012 Jonny Hawkins

© 2012 Jonny Hawkins



**Playgroup**  
**For Under 5s**

# Treasure Trove

A place to play, explore, discover, enjoy,  
journey, adventure, & share!



Endeavour Hills Uniting Church  
Corner Raymond McMahon Boulevard and Hellyer Way  
Mondays 10am - 12 noon during School Term



For enquiries or to link in please call Stephen on 0408 684 366

# FORGIVENESS

Nome, Alaska, on the edge of the Bering Sea, is like many villages of the Arctic. The ground on which the community sits is frozen, sponge-like tundra. Burying the dead is a real challenge.



Sanitation landfills are

unheard of. Garbage trucks do not haul off the kind of refuse we leave curbside in the “lower 48.” Instead a typical front yard displays broken washing machines, junked cars, old toilets, scrap wood and piles of non-degradable refuse.

Tourists who visit Nome in the summer are amazed at the debris and shake their heads. How could anyone live like that, they wonder.

What those visitors do not realise is that for nine months of the year Nome sits under a blanket of snow that covers the garbage. During those months, the little Iditarod town is a quaint winter wonderland of pure white landscapes.

The reality of grace is that the garbage of our lives has been covered by a blanket of forgiveness. The prophet Isaiah declares that the blight of our sin, once red as crimson, is now white as freshly fallen snow, and unlike the situation in Nome, our sin is covered forever!

— Greg Asimakoupoulos. *Leadership, Winter*

# GOD'S GIFT



Take a moment this week to spend some time in nature. Close your computer and turn off your phone for a few hours. Immerse yourself in God's creation.

One of my favourite pastimes is to walk in the park in the mornings. I listen to the sound of birds chirping and the gentle rustle of leaves. Sometimes, unexpected creatures wander onto the pathway. I see the occasional wallaby on the trail, who eyes me curiously from behind a bush.

If you live near the sea, go for a stroll by the beach after dinner. Listen to the sounds of waves lap against the shore. In the warmer months, there is nothing more pleasant than a walk after dusk. In those moments of peace and quiet, I feel God's presence near me. And when the sun sets and the sky changes colour, I see God in all his glory. Surely only a heavenly Creator can be behind such beauty, such wonders!

We are blessed to be stewards of God's creation, tasked with safeguarding his majestic garden.

**Reflection:** God has given us the gift of his creation. Our gift to our children is a prosperous world, so that they, too, can share in the same joy and wonders we have experienced.

*Brian Lee*

## IT'S HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME

A man eating in a fine restaurant complained to the waiter that the lobster on his plate was missing one claw.

"I'm sorry, sir," said the waiter, "but our lobsters are so fresh, they fight each other in the kitchen."

"Well, take this one back," he said, "and bring me one of the winners!"



We've heard it said again and again: "It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game." How many of us really believe that? How many of us actually *live* it?

As Christians, we are to strive to be winners in the kingdom of God rather than winners in the eyes of the world. We are to be more concerned about our eternal reward than we are about the temporary rewards and riches we accumulate on earth. The apostle Paul wrote, "Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3: 13-14). There is no greater prize!

*© More Meditations to make you smile by Martha J Beckman. Abingdon Press. Used with permission.*

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

There are no such things as mistakes on this (spiritual) journey, just learning opportunities. You won't always get it right, even supposing that you think you know what "right" is. But we are dealing with a loving and forgiving God, and the best way of learning is through making mistakes. So take the journey seriously, but not too seriously.

— Henry Morgan. *A Time to Reflect. Christianity Today* June 2003

## GIVING AND KEEPING

When I was in my early twenties and just married I still believed that I could do anything. We had an old washing machine that broke down. It needed a new motor. With great verve and energy I tore that washing machine apart, removed the old motor, installed the new motor, and proudly invited my spouse to bring down the first load of clothes to be washed. We filled



the machine with clothes, flipped on the switch, and I puffed up with masculine joy as the machine went smoothly through the wash cycle. The water drained out just like it was supposed to and the spin cycle began. I was in “can do anything heaven.”—until the moment when the machine started to make screeching sounds followed by the agitator flying out the top of the washer like a missile out of its launching silo.

Apparently I had crossed a couple of wires when I reconnected everything. This caused the agitator and the washtub to spin in opposite directions during the spin cycle. Within moments the clothes were wrapped tighter than a drum around the agitator, ultimately unscrewing it from its base and catapulting it through the top.

If you get your giving wire and your keeping wire crossed, the same will happen to you. Before long you will feel all bound up — wrapped up inside tighter than a knot. The unavoidable result will be catastrophe — some sort of strangulation followed by some form of meltdown or blow-up. It doesn't have to be that way.

It's important to have one's lifestyle and one's commitment to giving travelling in the same direction. Remember that it all comes from God. Remember that your decisions about what to keep and what to give away really stem from a single question — “How is God leading me to use what God has given me?”

Keep those giving and keeping wires straight, and you will live the life of an effective Christian steward. Check yourself out. Are you spinning freely? Or are you feeling all tied up in knots?

## QUOTES AND COMMENTS

I read the other day that a beautiful home of So and So had been completely destroyed by fire, but such a statement could not be strictly true. Fire cannot destroy a home. It may level the house that shelters a home, but not the home itself. Many a family has looked upon the smouldering ruins of their house and thought of the priceless things consumed and gone forever, but encircled one another in their arms and were able to say. "Thank God, our home is not destroyed."

There is only one calamity that can ruin a home — discord. When harmony dies, the home is in ruins, and all the material riches, successes and pleasures of life cannot supply what has been lost.

*D.W. Ferry, Sermon Home or House Sermon III Sourcebank II*

In the Season of Pentecost we are reminded that that was what happened to the apostles after the first Pentecost. It was an experience described in terms of fire, cloven tongues of fire, kindled from the tiny spark of the divine within those simple people who had come in contact with Jesus, who was able to kindle that spark and flame into the fire that brought about the church.

*Serm, Illustration Sourcebank 11*

Who practices hospitality entertains God.

*Anonymous*

I do not find in the Old Testament or in the New Testament, neither in Christian biography, in church history, or in personal Christian testimonies the experience of any person who was ever filled with the Holy Spirit and who didn't know it.

*A.W. Tozer*

The magician who saws a woman in two is not nearly as marvellous as the husband who keeps one from flying to pieces.

There's nothing more beautiful to me than the sight of a happy family — a family relishing a thirtieth wedding anniversary; the way family members look at each other in respect and admiration; the touch of a husband's hand on his wife's shoulder and the loving arm of a mother around a child who has distinguished him or herself and made the whole family proud; the tenderness in times of shared sorrow and adversity. These are among the most inspiring sights in human life.

*- Marco Manno, author Sermon Illustration*



# FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

## What's the Word

In the spaces provided, fill in the first letter of each picture clue.

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

Psalm 74:17\*

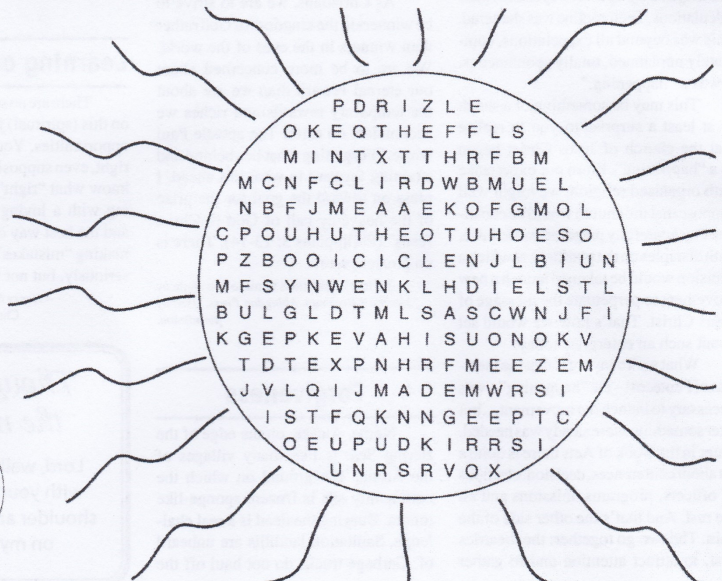
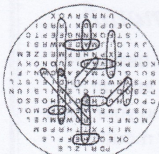
\*In the northern hemisphere winter has ended and it is spring.  
In the southern hemisphere it is fall and winter will be coming soon.

Answer: You have fixed all the bounds of the earth  
you made summer and winter.

## Word Find

In this Word Find, circle the words from the sentence above (from Psalm 74:17).

Answer:

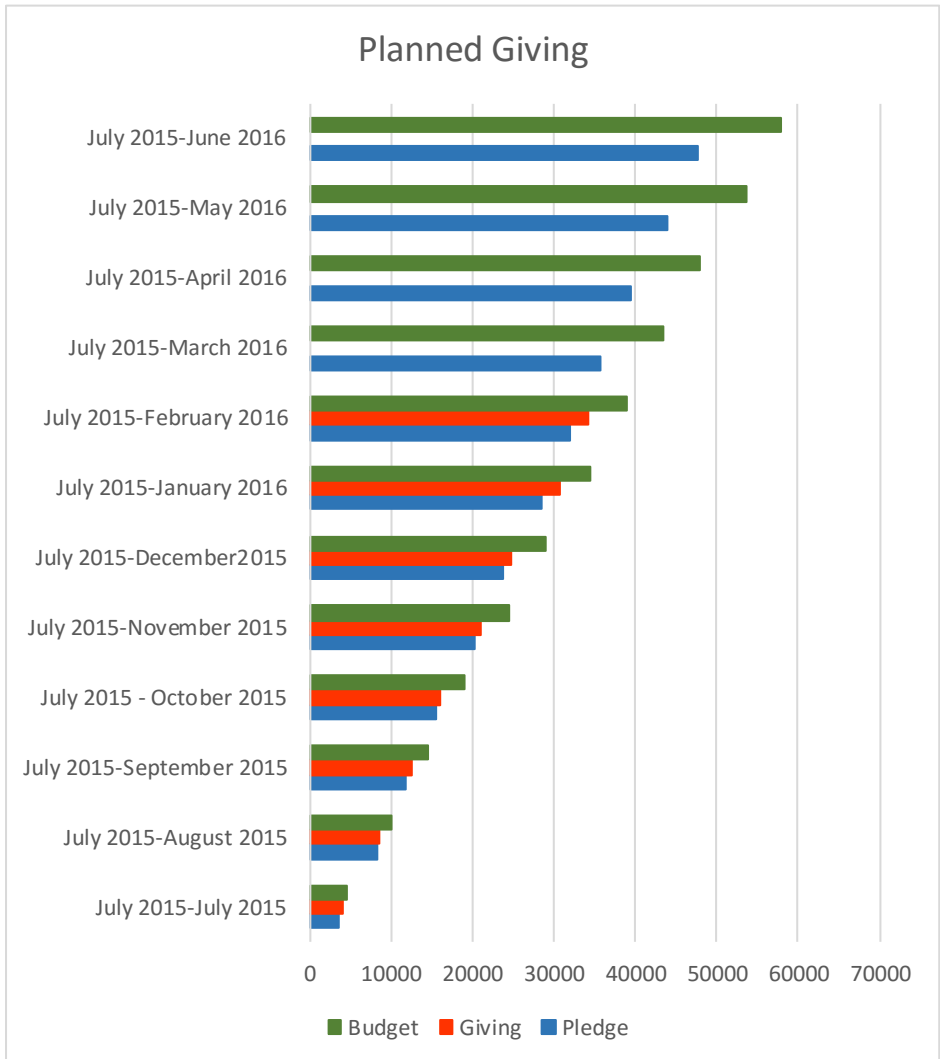




# USAGE OF CHURCH BUILDING

<b>Sunday</b>	10:30 am	Worship EHUC	All Areas except Childcare Office & Nursery
<b>Monday</b>	9:30 – 11.30 am	Play Group “Treasure Trove”	Narthex and/or Nursery
	Afternoon	Montessori	All Childcare areas
<b>Tuesday to Friday</b>	All Day	Montessori	All Childcare areas
Tuesday	7:30-9 pm	Beta Bible Study	Meeting Room (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)
<b>Wednesday</b>	10-12 noon	Bible Study	Meeting Room (except School Holidays)
	7:30 – 9:30 pm	Property & Finance Committee Group	Meeting Room (4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday)
	7:30 – 9:30 pm	Church Council	Meeting Room (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 pm	Singing Group	Church
Outside Montessori Hours		Church Use	All Areas except Childcare Office & Nursery
<b>ALL GROUPS will have access to toilets and kitchen.</b> <b>“Hall” = old pre-school area</b>			

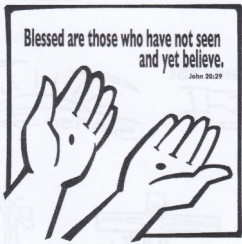


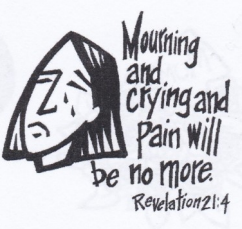
# Planned Giving



Would those of you who commit to Direct Debit giving in place of envelopes, please notify Brian Greenstreet for the church records.  
Thank you.



# Lectionary for April

Date		Readings
<p>Easter 2 3rd April 2016</p>		<p>Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31</p>
<p>Easter 3 10th April 2016</p>		<p>Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19</p>
<p>Easter 4 17th April 2016</p>		<p>Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30</p>
<p>Easter 5 24th April 2016</p>		<p>Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35</p>

# April Roster

April 2016	3	10	17	24
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Brian & Diane Hall	Lynda & Brian Greenstreet	Elke Beecher Pam Cowley	Youth
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Pam Cowley Sandra Cox			
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Pam Cowley Judy Hopkins			
<b>Communion Steward</b>	Brian Hall			
<b>Counting of Offering</b>	Brian Greenstreet Wes Porch	Lynne Bryan Sandra Cox	Catherine Gsalves Brian Hall	Bruce Hansen David Garnepudi
<b>Door/Offering</b>	Andrew Moore	Grant Allison	Sandra Cox	Christine Summers
<b>Early Word</b>		Elke Beecher	Steven Mayes	Lynda Greenstreet
<b>Flowers</b>	Mary Mehl	Artificial Flowers	Cheryl/Edith John	Artificial Flowers
<b>Kitchen</b>	Elizabeth Moore Delilah Spencer	Smith Family	Heather Kimber Pam Cowley	Joan Hansen Sandra Neal
<b>Organist/ Pianist</b>	Edith John	Olive Morland	Edith John	Band
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Rufane Smith	Andrew Moore	Ursula Ebert	Rufane Smith
<b>Duty Elder</b>	Judy Hopkins	Diane Hall	Pam Cowley	Cheryl Doddrell
<b>Preacher</b>	Rev. Bruce Monro	Rev. Bruce Monro	Rev. Bruce Monro	Alive Team/ Rev Bruce Monro
<b>Public Address</b>	Geoff Lacey	Gavin Bartholomeusz	Colin Wilhelms	Geoff Lacey

# May Roster

May 2016	1	8	15	22	29
<b>Bible Reading</b>	David Garnepudi Geoff Lacey	Judy Hopkins Heather Kimber	Wes & Jenni Porch	Sue Reid Catherin Gonsalves	Youth
<b>Communion Preparation</b>	Heather Kimber Judy Hopkins				
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Diane Hall Judy Hopkins Cheryl Doddrell Pan Cowley				
<b>Counting of Offering</b>	Grant Allison Brian Greenstreet	Wes Porch Lynne Bryan	Sandra Cox Pam Cowley	David Garnepudi Catherine Gonsalves	Bruce Hansen Brian Hall
<b>Door/Offering</b>	Grant Allison	Andrew Moore	Sandra Cox	Chris Summers	Stan Ashley
<b>Early Word</b>		Judy Hopkins	Stephen Mayes	Sue Reid	Michelle Smith
<b>Flowers</b>	Anne Williams	Artificial Flowers	Artificial Flowers	Lynda Greenstreet	Artificial Flowers
<b>Kitchen</b>	The Smith Family	Catherine Gonsalves Ruth O'Keeffe	Delilah Spencer Elizabeth Moore	Jacqui Gacutan Elizabeth Moore	Judy Hopkins Pam Cowley
<b>Organist/ Pianist</b>	Olive Morland	Edith John	Sue Reid	Olive Morland	Band
<b>PowerPoint</b>	Andrew Moore	Ursula Ebert	Jean Lacey	Rufane Smith	Andrew Moore
<b>Duty Elder</b>	Diane Hall	Judy Hopkins	Colin Wilhelms	Pam Cowley	Cheryl Doddrell
<b>Preacher</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Public Address</b>	Gavin Bartholomeusz	Colin Wilhelms	Geoff Lacey	Gavin Bartholomeusz	Colin Wilhelms

# Endeavour Hills Uniting Church

## Service Times

<b>Sunday of the Month</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
1st	Worship Service with Communion
2nd, 3rd	Worship Service
4th (when applicable)	Worship Service
Last Sunday of the Month	Contemporary Style Worship Service (February to November)

## Prayer Chain

Endeavour Hills Uniting Church is fortunate in having an active Prayer Chain. If you have any Prayer Requests, please contact any member of the Prayer Chain listed below:

Mary Mehl ..... 9791 5442

Judy Hopkins..... 9700 7551

Sue Reid ..... 9704 9195

Pam Cowley ..... 0477 149 367

## Church Council

### Chairperson

Cheryl Doddrell 9700 1674

### Vice Chairperson

Wes Porch 9706 1995

### Treasurer

Catherine Gonsalves 9796 9852

### Church Council Secretary

Judy Hopkins 9700 7551

### Council Members

Gavin Bartholomeusz 9700 5015

David Garnepudi 0452 551 077

Jean Lacey 9700 7246

Pam Cowley 0477 149 367

Diane Hall 9700 5104

Colin Wilhelms 9794 7175

## Elders

Pam Cowley 0429 932 111

Cheryl Doddrell 9700 1674

Diane Hall 9700 5104

Judy Hopkins 9700 7551

Colin Wilhelms 9794 7175

## Our Web Address

The Endeavour Hills Uniting Church web page is available for viewing at <http://www.ehuc.org.au>. Church Council oversees its maintenance. Please send all correspondence etc. to the Secretary, Judy Hopkins. Email: [church\\_council@ehuc.org.au](mailto:church_council@ehuc.org.au)

## Staff/Office Bearers

### Congregation Chairperson

Brian Hall

### Congregation Secretary

Anne Williams

### Presbytery Representative

Gavin Bartholomeusz

### Editors Interact

Sue & Stan Ashley

Ursula Ebert

## Finance & Property Committee

### Chairperson

Geoff Lacey

### Treasurer

Catherine Gonsalves

### Secretary

Brian Greenstreet

### Committee Members

Brian Hall

Sandra Cox

Stan Ashley

## Work Groups Conveners

### Administration

Jean Lacey

### Hospital Visiting Team

Judy Hopkins

### Pastoral

Judy Hopkins

### Prayer Chain

Mary Mehl

## Contributions to Interact

Any material you may have to be included in Interact may be sent in one of two ways:

1. e-mail (preferred method) to [interact@ehuc.org.au](mailto:interact@ehuc.org.au) putting "Interact" in the subject line
2. leave in the green Interact folder which is located on the stand to the right of the kitchen window.

Your articles, notices, goods & services for sale etc. are very welcome, **BUT please include your name, phone number &/or email address in case it is necessary to contact you.** Material should be submitted by **12 noon** on the deadline dates indicated below:

Month	Deadline	Publication Date
May 2016	24th April 2016	1st May 2016
June 2016	May 29th 2016	5th June 2016
July 2016	26 June 2016	3rd July 2016
August	31st July 2013	7th August 2013

This issue of Interact was prepared by Ursula Ebert and proofread by Marion Ward.