

October 28th 2018

welcome!

Our regular services are:

8 am at St. Paul's
Classic Anglican service

10 am at St. Paul's
All age service with children's
programs

3 pm at St. Stephen's
All age service with children's
programs

ministry contacts

Senior Minister
Mark Smith 0430 393 414
mark.smith@lpachurch.org.au
Not available Thursdays

Children's & Youth Minister
John Young 6352 4347
john.young@lpachurch.org.au
Not available Wednesdays

Community Pastor
Terry Smith 0449233862
terry.smith@lpachurch.org.au
Not available Tuesdays

Wardens
Robert Hookham 0403506693
John Stevens 6355 1337
Eric Young
0429664436

Office Administration
Corinne Ogg 6351 3070
office@lpachurch.org.au
Wednesday & Friday 9 - 2

for children and youth



Youth Group
for yrs 6- 12
During School
Term Fridays
7:00 – 9 pm



K – yr 6
During School Term
Fridays 5pm – 6:30 pm

growth groups

Small groups for adults to
grow in Christ.
details on back of bulletin or
phone office.



Knowing Jesus • Serving Jesus • Proclaiming Jesus

Dear Friends,

Welcome to church! Last week's notice-sheet, I stated the obvious in child-life: **children matter**. Less obvious to some, is that **children contribute**. Jesus calls people of every age & stage to be a part of His kingdom. As members of His kingdom, Jesus gives them gifts. Jesus gives gifts to church members for the good of the whole church (Ephesians 4, 1 Corinthians 12). It's not less true of our younger members. It's right we heed Bishop Ryle's call to give great attention to the souls of children: *'It is the bounden duty of every Christian congregation to make provision for the spiritual training of its children.'* We teach them, we model godly life, we pray for them. But it's not just what 'we' (grown-ups) do for children. It's vital children aren't simply 'passive consumers' in church-life – because it's unhealthy for ANY person to be a passive consumer in church-life. It's vital we recognise God's Spirit & gifting working in them - & encourage them to use their gifts in love. Just like adults, children will be differently gifted. But all have gifts. Children can - & must – contribute.

Sandy Galea (children's minister at MBM – an Anglican church in Rooty Hill) helpfully puts flesh on the principle by sharing Eleni's Story:

'A few years ago I was observing leaders in our Preschool Room. I noticed that every time the door opened and another child entered the room, Eleni was the only child who'd stop playing and looked up. Not only that, she'd run to the child, throw her arms around them and invited them to come and play.'

Eighteen children were welcomed that morning by Eleni. Only one was not. I called Eleni over and said, "Eleni, I think God has given you a gift."

"Really!" she said, her eyes widened.

"But it's not a present (Eleni looked a little disappointed at this). God has made you good at something... he has made you good at welcoming." (Gift identified)

Again she said, "Really... what's that?"

"I think God has made you good at welcoming others."

And again she said, "Really, what's welcoming?"

(You can tell I'm not the most natural under-fives Children's Minister.)

"Well, every time the door opens and another child comes in, you stop playing, race over, smile and ask them to come and play. You make every child feel special when they come into Children's Church. You welcome them in."

Eleni responded that she thought everyone did that, but agreed with me when I pointed out that no else had stopped playing that day to welcome a child. I continued...

"But I noticed there was one boy you didn't say hello to."

Eleni leaned very close and whispered, "That's because I don't know him."

I picked up an MBM Kids Welcome sticker that was sitting on the bench (our leaders hand these to new children on their first day). I asked Eleni if, when a new child came to the door, she could pick a sticker off the bench, hand it to the new child while the Team Leader and the parent talked, smile and say, "Hi, my name is Eleni. Would you like a sticker? Would you like to come and play?"

Eleni thought that was a great idea! (Self-identification of the gift)

We then spent the next five minutes role-playing... Eleni pretending to be the new child at the door – me welcoming her in... then me pretending to be the new child at the door – Eleni welcoming me in. (Equipping)

When Eleni's Dad came to pick her up that day I shared with him what I'd seen in his daughter and he confirmed he'd seen it too. (Gift identification confirmed)

The next week, as Eleni's Dad dropped her off, I heard him say, "And don't forget what we've been praying about!"

I asked him what he'd been praying about with Eleni.

"That she'd use the gift God has given her and make everyone feel special who comes to Children's Church today." (Gift encouraged and valued)

A few weeks later Eleni was standing with her Dad at the front door of our church. She called me over and whispered, "I'm welcoming the adults now."

In Him, Mark Smith

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St. Paul's: Railway Parade, Lithgow • St. Stephen's: Williwa St, Portland



readings

ot Psalm 80 (page 419)

nt I Peter 5 (page859)

Responding to God's Word in Practice:

1. HEAD: What did you learn?
2. HEART: What did God say to you?
3. HANDS: What will you do?

word of encouragement:

Who could have imagined this?

I taught SRE for years. Lead kids at church. Ran Bible studies. I never thought that I would be sitting in an Op Shop, head bowed in prayer with someone who hasn't been to church for years. But that's what's happening.

God does amazing things.

As the Pastoral Outreach Worker in the Anglicare Shop, my role is to be 'proactively missional' in the shop context. What does that mean? Well, more than just selling clothes and food, we're a place that seeks to bring Jesus' love into the community. To meet people where they are. To show them that God loves them. To listen. To share Jesus.

We'd love your help to do this, too.

People from all walks of life come into the Anglicare shop. There are bargain hunters, excited to find a designer label dress or bag. There are proud, self-sufficient people, eyes shining with tears as they explain that they've never had to use charity before their workplace accident, or before the cancer that threw their whole family into disarray. Some people struggle to pay bills. Some struggle against mental illness or family dysfunction or abuse or homelessness. Some are lonely and isolated. All of them are beloved by God, made in his image.

Will you help us reach them with the love of Jesus?

Pray for us, that we can share the good news with our community. And consider volunteering with us, so that this good news can shine even more brightly in our region.

Kris Young

News to share or point for prayer?

If you would like the church family to hear of recent news, or request prayer for yourself, please contact the office by phone or email. *Due to privacy laws we can only publish names with permission of those people.*

prayer points

28th Oct Father in heaven, keep your household the church steadfast in faith and love, that through your protection it may be free from all adversities, and may devoutly serve you in good works to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

29th Oct Praise God for His name: "*The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.*" (Exodus 34v6-7)

30th Oct Remembering that God 'heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds' (Psalm 147v3), pray for those who've suffered at the hands of other's wickedness.

31st Oct Pray for all Christians reflecting on the hymn-lyrics:
*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

1st November Give thanks for the abundance we enjoy as a nation. Pray for those who come seeking refuge in our land. Pray that they might be warmly welcomed, enjoy security & peace, & come to find ultimate refuge in Christ (as we have).

2nd November Give thanks for those who use their power to serve & bless others. Pray for God to sustain & strengthen all who seek to use their position to alleviate suffering & injustice

3rd November Give thanks for our church family. Pray that we might grow in Knowing Jesus, Serving Jesus & Proclaiming Jesus.

4th November God our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of your church: and grant that what we ask in faith we may surely obtain; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

roster reminders for next week

4th November 2018

Removed for privacy

bible readings

ot Daniel 12:2 – 3

nt Revelation 20:11 – 21:8

Thank you for serving.

If you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty please organise a swap and let the service leader and the office know

Growth Groups

Mon	pm	Senior teens	Lithgow
Tues	am	mixed	Lithgow
	pm	mixed	Lithgow
Wed	pm	Women's	Lithgow
	pm	Men's	Lithgow
	pm	Mixed	Wallerawang
Thu	am	Women's	Lithgow
	pm	mixed	Lithgow
	pm	mixed	Portland
Fri	am	women's	Lithgow
	pm	Mixed	Lithgow



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notices

Hampers for Farmers

In partnership with Anglicare, we have hampers of food & toiletry essentials ready to give to those affected by drought. Contact Terry Smith to get these hampers to those you know who are in need.

Special Fresh Food Day: November

'A help up, not a handout'.

For us all, it's a chance to welcome others in conversation over a cuppa.

Next month's Fresh Food Day – Toiletries. Donations welcome now, contact John Wiltshire

Sunday 4th November: 'What happens when we die?'

After surveying the community for their 'question for God', we are answering one of the most popular questions at all our Sunday services: 'What happens when we die?' Great for regulars, as well as friends & family.

'Commitment Sunday' (Combined Service) 11th November:

Once a year we gather as a single congregation to express our unity & re-commit ourselves to Christ's service. Sunday 11th November, we have one service at St Paul's - 9:30am. (No 8am, 10am or 3pm – but Fresh Food is still on that day)

Confirmation & Baptism service- 18th November:

Our Bishop will join us & several members publicly express their faith in Christ. There is still time to join them in declaring yours. Speak with Mark Smith to be involved

Christmas Carols 2018

Our annual Carols are a great celebration of Christ's coming, open to all the community.

This year we are holding them on a Friday night at St Paul's (rather than Sunday). Put in your diary *Friday 21st December*

Friendship Service November 2nd 2018 2pm

St. Stephen's Portland see Mary Eves for details

Special Fresh Food Day November

Thank you for the generous response for toiletry items for the next Fresh Food Day. Many items are still required, and the Reject Shop has most items at a very competitive price

Direct Giving details

Account Name - ANGLICAN PARISH OF LITHGOW DIRECT GIVING

BSB - 062591

Account No. - 10085204