

Christ Church Chat

Sharon Peeling/Margaret Eley

Introduction: This trial column, accompanied by Sharon's apt pictures, attempts to capture and chronical the Goings-On at Christ Church. It is a brief diary in appreciation for the efforts made in learning and discussion, together with fundraising and fellowship. We value the initiative, planning, organising and supportive help given to each of these events. A big thank you to all who have contributed in so many ways.

September 9th-10th BBQ Weekend

Saturday found us, and our friends from the other regional churches, enjoying a selection of BBQed delights whilst gathering in the Jenkins Hall sheltered from the brilliant sun of a summer day. This happy occasion, so ably organised by the Fundraising committee, provided a wonderful opportunity for us all to meet Sharon, Bryce's lovely new wife. Bryce & Sharon were constantly circulating the room, meeting and chatting enthusiastically with so many people.

Please see Sharon Peeling's colourful article for the full story of the BBQ)



The following day, Sunday, Sharon joined us in worship when we were delighted to welcome her into the family of Christ Church.

Shirley said a wedding prayer and the couple were given a present of a basket of local goodies including some made by ladies in the church.

Prayer:

May they find lasting happiness with God at the centre of their Marriage.

September 27th – the start of a five-week Bible Study

This study led by Rev. Dr. Max Dionisio, took place at Christ Church, with members of all the churches in the regional group being invited. Max considered the book 'How we got the Bible', by Neil R. Lightfoot. Participants were asked to read specific chapters in preparation for the coming meeting. To think on the suggestions and historical facts put forward, to question in their own mind, and then query in the next meeting. Max might be able to give direct answers or explain the thinking behind today's acceptance of- certain understandings. Some of the leading questions being:

- How old are the earliest biblical manuscripts?
- How has the bible been preserved and transmitted to us?
- Why do we have so many translations of the bible?



October 8th - Thanksgiving Weekend,



The Church, as well as the individual windows were beautifully decorated. There is a tradition at Christ Church that individuals adopt a window as their own and decorate it accordingly for the current special occasion. Depending on the light, some windows photograph better than others, but it was all quite lovely.

October 18th & November 15th - Euchre Parties

Two Wednesday afternoon Euchre parties have taken place in the Jenkins Hall recently. Organised by Jim and the Fundraising group, these afternoons proved to be cheerful, colourful occasions and very successful. Everyone had a happy time, leaving with laughter and a full tummy of tempting eats.



October 26th-28th Rummage Sale

Evelyn about to sell her wares.



In common with nature, Rummage time comes with the change of season – spring and now Autumn. Each time I help unpack and set out the contents of gathered boxes and black bags I ask myself ‘where does all this stuff come from, and from whom? This time we had masses of rummage, much of it, bed linens. Maybe not quite the selection of women’s fashions as at some sales in the past, but masses of china-ware, dinner sets, glassware and ornaments. Might this be indicative of the demographic s of our congregation??? Whatever, the three days proved successful, and a significant sum was added to the ACW bank balance. Thank you to the organisers, Marlene, Evelyn and Shirley and all

who lent a hand in any and every way - lots of ways...

October 29th Sunday Combined Service

This Regional Service was held at Christ Church, but attended by our friends from sibling churches, some of whom took active, participative roles. The message throughout was ‘Love the Lord our God... Rev. Dr. Max Dionisio gave an interesting and thought-provoking sermon. Our catering ladies prepared and served a superb sandwich lunch, colourfully augmented by inviting salads and desserts brought by worshipers from other churches. A very happy morning enjoyed by all.

Ongoing Thursday morning Bible study.

This weekly discussion group can take off in a variety of directions and often does. Led by Larry Ricciardelli, the focus might be the coming Sunday’s bible readings. Alternatively other topics might overtake with spirited interchange and ideas. Recently, Larry showed valued videos of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, Theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident, who was a key founding member of the Confessing Church. Later he was arrested and subsequently hanged by the Gestapo.

November 3rd (Saturday) Lay Pastoral Visiting Workshop The highly experienced Doug Woods, honorary assistant at St. Luke’s in Peterborough, was welcomed to lead this workshop for anyone in the region who might be interested in learning more about pastoral visiting. In practice, whilst having some instructional element, the valued concepts, understanding, ideas and possible relationships involved, were considered in an interactive way. Those attending felt they had acquired the encouragement to venture into this critical, but vital, area of visiting others.

November 5th - Remembrance Day Service



They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down off the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

Lest we Forget



November 12th - Samaritan Purse Shoebox Program. – Blessing of the boxes

The boxes have been gathering in the last few weeks. As I added mine to the table, I felt my anticipation rising, wondering what was inside each one. How might a child feel in some weeks time?

Please see Diane’s full article for the exciting story of these mystery presents.