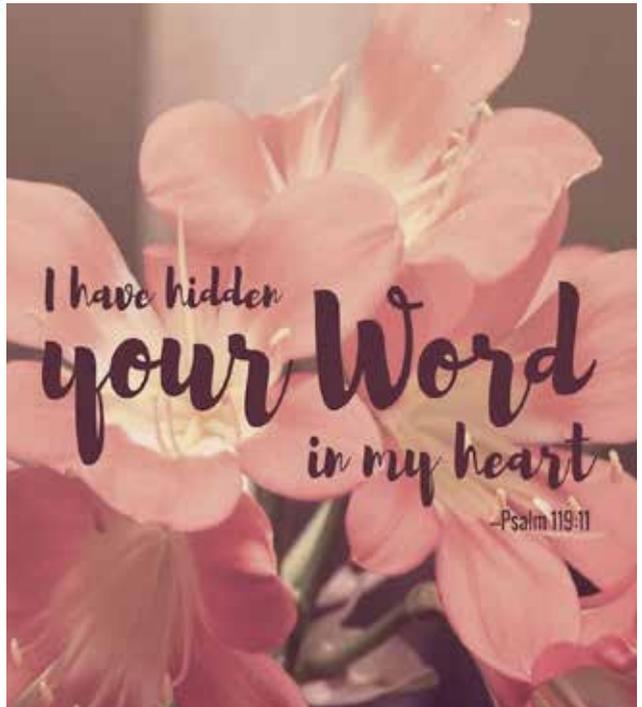




south east
bendigo

anglican parish

Monthly Bulletin June 2017



Contact us at:

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Bendigo, Vic 3550
(03) 5443 3482
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It is because of faithful believers like Wycliffe and Tyndale that we are who we are - disciples of Jesus drinking deeply from God's Word

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Ministry Team

Rector, Senior Minister and Archdeacon of Bendigo	Greg Harris
Associate Minister	Trev Bell
Children and Youth Minister	Rob Edwards
Ordained Pioneer Minister	Eddie Barkla
Honorary Clergy	Rev Geoff Chittenden, Ven John Geldart, Rev John South, Rev Dr John Steele, Rev George Thomas, Rev Tom Williams,
Wardens	David Bruce, Gordon Hensley, Joan Pape,
Secretary to Parish Council	Kerryn Hensley
Treasurer	Rob Bath

Holy Trinity Services

Sundays	8am	Holy Communion
	9.15am	Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays; Morning Prayer 2nd and 4th Sundays; Praise, Prayer and Proclamation 5th Sundays
	11am	Family Church Lord's Supper usually 3rd Sunday
	6.30pm	Contemporary Service Lord's Supper usually 3rd Sunday
Wednesdays	10 am	Holy Communion except in January
Fridays	2pm	Seniors Afternoon last Friday of each month except January and December

Home Communion by arrangement with the Rector and occasional services at Bendigo Retirement Village, Elm Living and Freedom Aged Care.

Cluster

South East Bendigo is in a cluster arrangement with the Strathfieldsaye Community Church

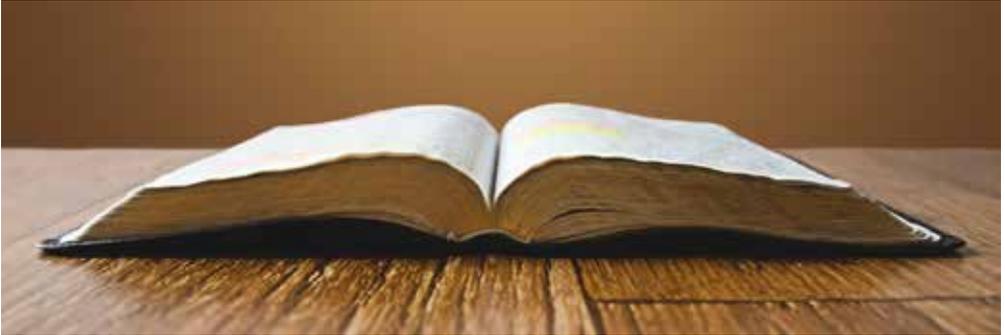
Priest in Charge Steve Weickhardt

Please note, any complaints of unprofessional conduct and especially any allegations of abuse should be referred immediately to the Director of Professional Standards 1800 135 246 (free call). This office has been established in terms of the Victorian Anglican Provincial Abuse and Harassment Protocol, in order to provide independent, objective advice and procedures for the proper handling of such matters.

Part 2

WHO

DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?



One of my hopes as we celebrate the Reformation throughout 2017 is that we might better understand “who we are.” In the same way that the popular TV show “Who Do You Think You Are?” explores the family tree of famous Australians - I believe it is important to explore our “historical tree” to see our church roots and better understand what we hold dear.

I am convinced that it is very easy in our era to take things for granted and most notably the bible - God’s Word. During the time of the Reformation one of the key battles was the translation and availability of the bible for the common person.

In 382AD Jerome was commissioned to translate the four gospels into a Latin version. This work was later expanded to translating the rest of the bible into Latin from

texts available at the time in the original language (Hebrew for the Old Testament and Greek for the New Testament). For the next 1,000 years and more the Latin translation was used throughout the church.

While the Latin translation was on the whole a very good

“If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to knowest more of the Scripture, than he (the Pope) doust.”

translation the problem was that few people in time could read Latin except for the educated elite. In fact very few clergy could read Latin, let alone the regular church goer.

Herein lies one of the main issues that contributed to the need for the Reformation. A great deal of myth and false teaching could arise because no one could check teaching

against Scripture. The majority of people were left to simply believe what they were told by church hierarchy.

John Wycliffe - more than 130 years before Martin Luther completed his translation of the bible into English (late 1300’s). He was spurred on by

the privileged status the clergy relished in, that resulted in excesses of pomp and luxury. Just a couple of years later he was executed as a heretic; yet Wycliffe started something that could not be stopped. Almost 160 years after Wycliffe another translator, William Tyndale, would exclaim,

“If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that

driveth the plough to knowest more of the Scripture, than he (a corrupt clergyman) doust.”

As I write this article, some 630 years after Wycliffe I am almost embarrassed at how blessed I am. For on my shelf sits no less than 6 bibles, on my desk is my favourite old NIV bible, and on my iPad I use an app that has the bible in 1,087 different languages with 50 English translations alone.

Is it possible that we have become complacent? Is it possible that by forgetting that which was so fiercely fought for (the bible in a language that could be understood) we have forgotten our church roots and who we really are?

It is because of faithful believers like Wycliffe and Tyndale that we are who we are - disciples of Jesus drinking deeply from God's Word, pilgrims on a journey where our path is lit by Scripture, and simple “ploughboys” who “knowest more”.



Greg Harris is the Rector and Senior Minister at Holy Trinity Bendigo and Archdeacon of Bendigo

Thank you God!



Thank you to those who over this past month, have been asking about my health and how the new medication is going. Thank you to those who have also mentioned that they are praying for me.

So far, I have experienced GREAT improvement. The pain and inflammation in my hands, elbows, knees and feet has definitely decreased. Thank you God!

During the past month, a number of Parishioners have mentioned to me that they also suffer from a chronic illness. They know first-hand, how a chronic illness can change your life. Tasks that should be easy to complete can become quite difficult.

At times this has caused me to doubt myself and my abilities. But God reminds me that no matter what, He sees me for who I really am - the beautiful creation that He made.

I am His child and He made me in His image.

My faith in God allows me to trust Him each day and overcome my doubts as I know that God is always watching me, loving me and giving me His strength.

For those of you who are also suffering with chronic illnesses, my prayer is that the joy, the hope and the love of Christ will shine from your life as you also live each day.

Thank you God!



Rob Edwards is Children and Youth Minister at Holy Trinity

4 Fundamental Lessons for Living

The Scottish-born naturalist, John Muir wrote, "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."

What John Muir is talking about is 'connection.' Our connection to the natural world is profound. It is more than a place to visit. It is home. It is where we feel most alive. It is where we relax and unwind. It is where we find refreshment for our bodies and nourishment for our souls. It is a place of healing and restoration. It is a place of learning and inspiration.

The natural world also offers lessons for basic living: how to be healthy, how to prosper, how to survive challenging times, how to grow strong, how to stand tall.

Peter Wohlleben has spent the greater part of his life observing trees. He worked as a forester for the lumber industry looking at hundreds of trees every day – spruce, beeches, oaks, and pines – to assess their suitability for the lumber mill and their market value. His love of trees was reignited twenty years ago when he began to organise survival training and log-cabin tours for tourists. He found that visitors were enchanted by the crooked, gnarled trees, trees of low commercial value, but curious and exciting specimens nonetheless. Wohlleben now

works for the community of Hummel, a tiny village in the Eifel mountains, managing their forest in Germany.

In his recent book, "The Hidden Life of Trees," Peter Wohlleben delights in explaining the amazing processes of life, death, and regeneration he has observed in his woodland. What the reader discovers is that the language of nature is the language of life. It is an ancient wisdom that calls us back to the fundamentals of life.

Here are four fundamental lessons for living from "The Hidden Life of Trees."

1. A tree is not a forest.

On its own, a tree cannot establish a consistent local climate. It is at the mercy of wind and weather. But together, many trees create an ecosystem that moderates extremes of heat and cold, stores a great deal of water, and generates a great deal of humidity. And in this protected environment, trees can live to be very old.

Trees need each other. Their well-being depends on their community. When trees grow together they are able to create an ecosystem that allows them to flourish and enjoy a long life.

Humans are social beings. It is part of our nature to want to be together. Life has taught us that

no individual can stand alone without the help and support of others.

Entrepreneur, Richard Branson says,

"Togetherness is a hugely important aspect of life. It unites us, gives us security, much-needed support and a sense of belonging, and encourages us to love one another."

2. Every tree is valuable to the community

Every tree is valuable to the community and worth keeping around for as long as possible. And that is why even sick individuals are supported and nourished until they recover. Next time, perhaps it will be the other way around, and the supporting tree might be the one in need of assistance.

Recognising the value of every tree ensures the survival of the forest. If every tree were looking out only for itself, the tree canopy would soon be compromised as weaker members succumbed to disease or lack of nutrients and died off. This would leave the forest vulnerable to further damage due to violent storms and the heat of summer.

Each person is a unique individual. Our uniqueness is not conditional on our

physical abilities or our mental wellbeing. It is not determined by our intellectual capacity or our emotional maturity. It is a given.

But, personal loss and hardship can cause individuals to forget their worth and lose hope. During times of doubt, we need others to lean on, people who will provide the physical and emotional support, people who will affirm our value.

The goal of society is to build strong and cohesive communities. To do this we need to find ways to promote inclusion and participation of challenged and disadvantaged people in community life. It requires a mindset that values the individual and sees their intrinsic worth.

3. Trees that are weakened are vulnerable to attack

If trees are weakened, it could be that they lose their conversational skills along with their ability to defend themselves. Otherwise, it's difficult to explain why insect pests specifically seek out trees whose health is already compromised.

A lot of trees suffer injuries over the course of their lives. A falling tree may break off the branch of a neighbour. The exposed wound is an ideal landing site for fungal spores. To avoid complications the tree must get the area sealed once again. But this is a slow

process. If the fungus becomes established the situation is potentially life threatening.

Most people consider the onset of a chronic illness or disability as a negative event. It is unsettling, causing a range of emotions including anger, fear, grief, and shock. Adapting to change is always difficult. Some conditions threaten every aspect of our life – employment, family, social interests, sporting activities.

Left untreated, mental illness can lead to tragic consequences.

4. Young trees take three to ten years to learn stability

The process of learning stability is triggered by painful micro-tears that occur when the trees bend way over in the wind, first in one direction and then in the other. Wherever it hurts, that's where the tree must strengthen its support structure.

The death of the 'mother' tree is a major disruption and places the smaller, younger trees at risk. Without the protection of the older tree, they are vulnerable to the elements. Trees are not known for their speed, and so it takes younger trees three to ten years before they stand firm once again. On the upside, adversity causes the young trees to strengthen their support structures.

Nobody enjoys going through difficult times. We do our best to shield ourselves or develop

strategies to avoid them. But tough times will come. How we respond says something about our character. It demonstrates what we're made of. It highlights qualities of courage, perseverance, strength and resilience.

Tragically, some people see themselves as broken. They are weary and lack the inner reserves to deal with the challenges they face. They feel their fragility. They fear their future. They finally succumb, resolving to end their pain.

There is debate as to how communities should address suicide prevention. Building strong, cohesive, inclusive, safe, supportive communities is a good place to start. People at risk need to know they are not alone, they are unique individuals, the threat is real, but there is a way forward. Understanding these foundational principles

1. Togetherness
2. Uniqueness
3. Vulnerability
4. Strength

provides everyone with hope for tomorrow.

Peter Wohlleben says, "Only people who understand trees are capable of protecting them."

My take is this: "Only people who understand suicide are capable of preventing it."

*Written by Bruce Rickard,
a member of the 11am
congregation.*

Caritas

Movie Night

Thursday 6th July at 7.30 pm at Holy Trinity.



Save the date

- 18th August - Coffee and Dessert Fundraiser for the church building extensions. Bendigo Mayor Margaret O'Rourke will be the guest speaker.

Contact Val Densworth H: 5446 1251 if you need more information.

Seniors Afternoon

30th June 2 pm

If you are over 50 and you enjoy fellowship, prayer, hymn singing, a delicious afternoon tea, and hearing guest speakers, then come along. For more information call Rob Bath M: 0418 587 193



Pie Drive

The Caritas Ladies are running a Pie Drive to raise money for the Bendigo Chaplaincy Committee. All pies will be freshly baked by the Elmore Bakery and can therefore be frozen.

There is a full range of pies, about 50 in total, including meat, fruit, quiches and lemon tarts. Both standard and family sizes are available.

If you feel you would like to support Chaplaincy, please write your order on an order form which can be found at the side door of the Church, or in the Office. Orders must be in by Sunday 9th July and the pies will be delivered on Thursday 20th July.

About Caritas

Caritas is a group for women. At Holy Trinity we are committed to fostering a healthy community amongst our seniors, as well as positive relationships with the wider church community, encompassing people of all ages.

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BENDIGO'S POSITIVE CHOICE

PURE FLIX PRESENTS
A FILM BY JOHN STROBEL

THE CASE
FOR CHRIST

Sunday June 18th at 2pm
Wednesday June 21st at 7pm

B BENDIGO CINEMAS

BUY TICKETS (\$20): LIFE1051.ORG.AU
OR AT LIFE ESSENTIALS OP SHOP

A movie based on Lee Strobel's best-selling book "The Case for Christ"

An award-winning journalist and investigative reporter, Lee sets out to debunk the claims of Christianity with unexpected results.

It's a movie for anyone who has pondered the existence of God. It's a movie with a great message, and provides an opportunity for people to invite their friends.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at www.life1051.org.au, or Life Essentials Op Shop (near the Town Hall). All proceeds raised will support Life FM.

Further details and a trailer of the film are also available at www.life1051.org.au

Grand Opening!

Sunday 30th July
at 12.30 pm

Opening of Holy Trinity Church extensions
by Bishop Andrew



Bishop Appointment Consultation

During the month of June the parish has been asked to meet and complete a consultation on the appointment of the next bishop. The consultation will take the form of a meeting to discuss the answers to 6 questions that will be available soon. These answers will then be fed back to the Electoral Board.

Please stay tuned for when this meeting will be called by Greg.

There will also be the opportunity to make a contribution online and details about this will be released in due time.



“Brick Appeal - Revisited” July 2017



Before we embarked on this building project every one of us spent time praying and considering how we could support what God had put on our heart. The result was extremely generous. Pledges totalled about \$250,000 - and with the exception of smaller regular payments still being made the rest of the money has been received. The way you have supported the project has also been an encouragement to other parishes in the diocese who have heard about it.

At the time the Parish Council was able to sign off on the building project with the knowledge that the overall cost of the project would still require a loan of up to \$200,000 from the diocese. We believe we are still on target to be within that

figure.

Over recent months various people have expressed that we should explore the possibility of further reducing the loan. As we see this project coming to an end we can see how these extensions are going to be a blessing to our ministry and to us here at Holy Trinity.

For that reason the Parish Council would like to extend to each of us the opportunity to consider if we may be able to make a contribution to further reducing the loan payment.

On Sunday 30th July we will open the building extensions when Bishop Andrew is visiting. We are also declaring this day to be a one off “Brick Appeal - Revisited” day.

It may be that some of us were not in a position to contribute before but now we can. It might be that some of us can contribute more now. Sunday 30th July will be such an opportunity.

As before - this will be a decision totally between each person and God. No one will be pressured or singled out. Donations to reduce the loan can be totally anonymous or given in memory of a loved one.

Please look out for the material to be handed out at church concerning the “Brick Appeal - Revisited.” Thank you once again for your generosity to this wonderful time in our church’s history.

Parish Council Report

Offertory Giving

The Parish Council heard that there had been a slight decrease in the open offertory giving but electronic giving was up. The council agreed that there was no apparent cash flow concerns at this point because overall expenditure was down.

Building Update

The council heard where the building project was up to and the fact that we were basically on target in relation to costs and time. The expected loan at the end of the build is still on target to be less than \$200,000. Greg and Gordon had the work-site floodlit for the evening so that the council could inspect it.

Building Opening Event

The council spent time brainstorming various ideas for the opening of the new buildings on Sunday 30th July by Bishop Andrew.

Carpet Repairs

The carpet repairs made necessary due to a small amount of flooding were able to be made with a minimal of cost to the parish - Approximately \$400.

Mission Support

Each of the Parish Councillors chose one of the mission organisations supported by the parish. Each month a Parish Councillor will present

information and updates on a different organisation and then the council will spend time praying for the mission society.

Greg's Report

The Council asked Greg a number of questions about his recent schedule including the Girton Foundation Service at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

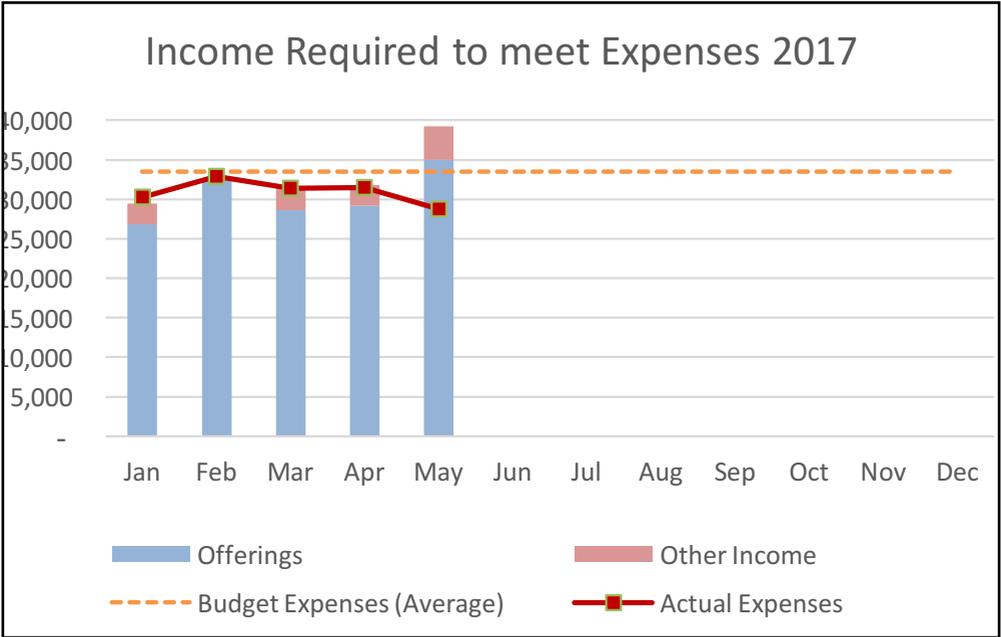
Bishop Electoral Board Open Meeting

Greg reported the electoral board for the next bishop would be meeting straight after synod and he encouraged the Parish Council members to make every effort to attend and represent the parish.



HT carpark filled with tradesmen's utes! Work on the church extensions proceeds at a good pace.

May offerings



eGiving

If you would like to make your regular contributions to our parish through direct debit bank transfer there are eGiving brochures in the church foyer that provide information on how to do that. Parish bank account details:

Name: Anglican Parish South East Bendigo
 BSB: 633-000
 Account Number: 120780267

Electronic Giving Cards are available in the foyer for you to place in the plate during the time when offerings are taken.

Year to date - January to May 2017		
	Income (Actual)	
Offerings	152,324.64	
Other Income	12,495.56	
Total Income	164,820.20	Surplus Deficit
Budget Expenses (Average)	167,632.92	-2,812.72
Expenses (Actual)	154,808.78	10,011.42

Mission money boxes

Mission money box donations for the May quarter

ABM 99.90; BCA 468.60; CMS 241.05

Total \$809.55





CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Youth **THRIVE.**

Year 7-12's

During the School term, **.thrive.** meets for **socials activities** with a 'God Spot' on the first and third Friday nights at Holy Trinity from 7:30-9:30pm unless told otherwise.

2nd June - Cooking Night
No Cost

19th May -
Gus & Girls night
No Cost

Invite YOUR FRIENDS ALONG

Teen Bible study - will meet after Family Church - 12:30-2pm
Bring your Bible & \$1 for Hot Chips
This month the dates for Bible study are - **Sunday 18th, and 25th May.**

Contact Rob Edwards for more info.....on 0438 061 076 or rob@southeastbendigo.com



family church
SEEKERS

SEEKERS is the children's segment during family church, where we seek to see what the Bible says and how it applies to our lives!

This month, the children will continue to look at the Risen Jesus!

Sun 7th May - Pentecost - Acts 2

Sun 14th May - Peter and John Preach
Acts 3:1 - 4:21

Sun 21st May - Stephen - Acts 6-7

Sun 28th May - Philip Preaches in Samaria
Acts 8:4-8; 26-40

THIS MONTH'S MEMORY VERSE

I can do ALL things through Christ
who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13

Confirmation

During term 2, Teen Bible study will be combined with Confirmation classes.

Below are the Dates for Teen Bible Study / Confirmation classes

- **18th, 25th June**
- **23rd July**
- **30th July** - Confirmation Service
- **6th August** - Wrap up

Prayer points for those being confirmed:

- ⇒ Confirmation class would be a time when the teens can explore their faith and discuss freely the topics they are exploring.
- ⇒ They would have open hearts to God's Spirit.
- ⇒ God would guide the leaders and give them wisdom as they look at questions raised.



Bishop Andrew inspecting the site



Moving in the new kitchen



The walls are going up



Gordon with Joe the builder/foreman



south east bendigo

anglican parish

*Committed to Jesus - Committed to Each Other -
Committed to our Community*

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