

PENSHURST
ANGLICAN
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE

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Service live
streamed Sunday
9am

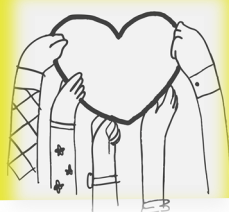


Live Intentionally
为主而活



do all the good you can
尽你所能作善工

By all the means you can
藉各种途径



In all the ways you can
用各种方式

in all the places you can
在各地各地



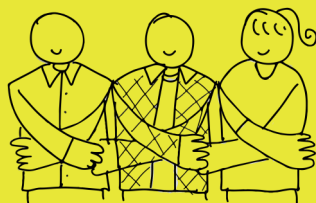
at all the times you can

在任何时间

to all the people
you can
对各方群体



as long as you can
如以往的献上



John Wesley 约翰卫斯理

A Word from Rev. Phill

A way forward

Our Premier recently announced a roadmap out of lockdown. The state will reopen when we reach 70% double vaccination in mid-October. What does this mean for us?

1) We will delay coming back in person until November

The wardens have considered numerous factors and have decided that we will continue to meet online for the rest of October.

2) We aim to provide a safe environment

We have developed protocols in line with Public Health Orders. Our aim is to have 3 stages:

Stage 1- Meeting face to face but with numerous restrictions

Stage 2- Easing of some restrictions

Stage 3- Living with the new normal for gathering

Further details can be found here: <https://www.penshurstanglican.org/important-announcement>

The timeline for these stages will depend upon health advice. In the meantime, we will continue to provide our service online.

3) Vaccination

Consistent with health advice we encourage people to be vaccinated. The following video produced by the Christian Dental and Medical Fellowship may be of help to those who are 'vaccine hesitant.' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ8choouzA&ab_channel=GiffordDennison

We are eager to meet again but in a way that is safe. Feel free to contact myself, Pastor David or Pastor Tiny if you have any concerns or would like to discuss this further.

Building Renovations

Have you seen the most recent update to the Building and Renovation Plans? It was sent out by Doris on SMS. In case you missed it, here is the link to the webpage: <https://www.penshurstanglican.org/>



Here are few dates to look forward to. Isn't it nice to be able to make plans?

30th October	Clean-up of foyer and kitchen area ready for re-opening
7th November	Services resume live in the church Godly Play starts again in person
5th December	Baptism Sunday
24th December	Outdoor carols
25th December	Christmas Service

Discipleship Training with Rev David

Since arriving in January, Rev David has conducted a number of courses with the Mandarin congregation. The most recent course completed was "Discipleship Training". It ran from 7 March to 12 September (with a few breaks) with 25 lessons in total. Eleven brothers and sisters completed the course. Each participant was given the opportunity to lead once, enhancing their opportunities for learning.

Many students said that they were much blessed by the training. Students who complete their studies are encouraged to lead two people in the hope of passing it on. Soon, in early October, we will begin the second phase of training, and the brothers and sisters who have completed the course will have the opportunity to assist in leading again, in the hope that more people will be blessed.

This is a great achievement considering that the training was mostly completed during restrictions over Zoom. We look forward to seeing the Mandarin leaders put their training into action.



Stay in Touch

It won't be long now, just 4 more weeks and we can gather together again as one.

Of course we will need to be mindful of the space restrictions and other requirements to gather. Because the Ministry Team and Parish Council do not wish to exclude anyone, they have decided not to open up to in person meetings until those who are not vaccinated can join us. The first service will be in the beginning of November. You will need to preregister.

As is discussed in the children's section, special arrangements are being made to ensure that Godly Play is safe for our children to attend. To ensure that we don't exceed the space requirements, we will need you to preregister the children for Godly Play too.

In the meantime, here is the roundup of ways that we can gather this month.

Sunday 10am Rev. Phill and Colette catch up with everyone from the English speaking congregation.

Sunday 11am Rev. David hosts the Mandarin congregation gathering on Sundays at 11am.

Thursday fortnightly 7:30pm Young mother's Zoom with Tiny.

Saturdays 3pm Story Time with Tiny A new Zoom for the children.

Each cell is also meeting together on Zoom as per their usual schedule. Contact the cell leaders for more details.

Have you liked us on Facebook or followed us on Instagram. You can find us at:

 <https://www.facebook.com/penshurstAnglican/>

 https://www.instagram.com/penshurst_anglican_church/

Parish Council

Dear parishioners,

Parish council met on 13th September via zoom and the main things we discussed related to how and when are we reopening, the building renovations and planning for the future.

The wardens attended the zoom regional meeting organised by Bishop Peter Lin, to discuss reopening. There is a lot to consider and we are working through the public health orders and Covid safe plan requirements.

The task force has had a very busy few weeks reviewing and discussing the final plans and costings for the building renovations and we are hoping the renovations will start in October. Its exciting to know our new kitchen, meeting rooms and foyer area will be ready for us in the not to distant future.

We are also considering plans for 2022 and we will be discussing these in more detail at the October meeting.

We appreciate your prayers for us as we work through all of this.

Gaye and the Parish Council

Missions & PAC

October is traditionally our mission month, when we focus on the missions that we support and look at other missions around the world. This year instead of our usual celebrations, why not commit to a month of prayer for one of our Mission agencies? Each agency has published a monthly calendar giving you something to pray for each day.

- Anglican Aid is funded by Sydney Anglican Diocese, that's us. https://anglicanaid.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Anglican-Aid-Prayer-Diary-2021_FINAL-LoRes.pdf
- SIM Australia. Their office is in Penshurst. Jason and Maria serve with SIM Australia. https://www.sim.org.au/sim/media/Documents/Praying-for-Missionaries-using-Scripture_1.pdf?ext=.pdf

Please continue to pray for all our mission partners, Andrew and Julie and family, Jason and Maria and family, Elizabeth McDougall, David Lakos and Pastor Michael Duckett at Macarthur Anglican church.

Please ask God to sustain their desire to serve and reach others for Christ. Pray for the relationships that they develop, that God will bless those relationships so that they may be God's light to those they encounter.

SIM (Serving in Mission) Malawi - Update

In 2017, our church generously provided support for the Children's and Youth work in Malawi, while I (Carolyn) was there for 6 months with SIM, as the Personal Co-ordinator.

Since 2017, local Malawian Christians have taken over these areas of ministry with support from SIM missionaries.

The Sunday School Teachers United Movement in Malawi (STUM) aims to train Christians in how to develop Sunday School throughout Malawi.

John Msowoya, the leader recently gathered church leaders to develop this ministry and was very encouraged.

Youth work responsibility is undertaken by Jonathan. Due to COVID there are limitations but they are planning for Youth Camps in Nov/Dec to share the gospel.

SIM Malawi has five focus ministry areas: (1) Build the Church; (2) Pursue the Unreached; (3) Reach Children and Youth; (4) Impact the HIV and AIDS Crisis; and (5) Advance Mission.

God is at work throughout the world in amazing ways. Let's join in prayer for this work.

Prayer



I arise today,
conscious of the forgiveness
of God the Father,
conscious of the companionship
of God the Son,
conscious of the guidance
of God the Spirit,
conscious of the unity
of the Trinity,
Three in One.

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For ourselves

- ◇ Give thanks for those who have completed the Discipleship training. Pray that God will bless their studies so that they can lead others to Jesus.
- ◇ Let's pray for those in the Chinese congregation that are doing the Abundant Light course with Rev. David.
- ◇ Pray for our Parish Council and Ministry Team as they meet to consider all the arrangements necessary for us to meet in person.
- ◇ Would you give thanks for the Children's Ministry team? Tiny, Marilyn, Selina, Gaye and Carolyn have worked hard to continue connection with our children despite the restrictions.
- ◇ Would you please pray for Ray as he continues his preparation for the HSC?
- ◇ Pray that God would continue to show you what it looks like to live a life worth of the Gospel as shared by Rev. Phill in September.

For our community

- ◇ Our community has many international students and other temporary migrants who have not been able to work since May this year. Would you please pray that God will provide for their needs?
- ◇ Pray for local community groups, that they may be able to meet again. Pray that financially they would survive. Many sports clubs have suffered greatly due to restrictions and lack of playing. These groups are important to our community.
- ◇ Please pray that the return to school for our children will be safe and Covid free. Pray that teachers would be able to manage their workload and respond to their students.

For our state and country

- ◇ Now that we have a new premier and deputy premier, would you please pray for our leaders? Pray that they will govern fairly for all, that they will remember the underprivileged and those in need.
- ◇ Pray for our leaders that they will make clear decisions about reopening the State and reducing Covid restrictions.
- ◇ Pray for the church agencies that work with the government to deliver services to members of our community, who shape policy and direct resources. Ask the Father to bless them with understanding, generosity and justice.

Godly Play at Home



Can you believe that it is Term 4 already? This month our children will continue to learn about God's through Old Testament stories. They will be covering the return of God's people from exile, how God spoke to His people through the prophets and Jonah. The Old Testament stories really emphasise that no matter where the people went, whether they were in captivity or in Jerusalem, God was always drawing

close to them. God always cared for His people and they could continue to worship Him and love Him no matter where they were, even in the belly of a fish!

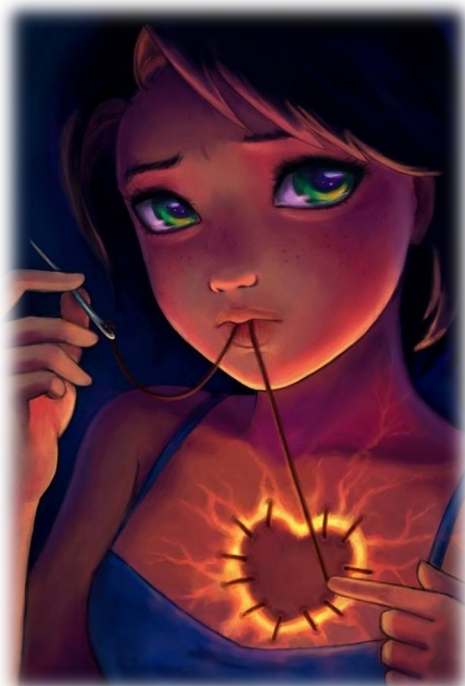
The Prophets lesson emphasises that we still have prophets among us today. Both men and women can be prophets. I wonder if you know any prophets today? We will then move into the prophets role in the Christmas story, beginning our advent lessons at the end of the month.

One advantage of lockdown has been that you parents have been able to watch the Godly Play stories with your children. Other adults can as well. I encourage everyone to watch a couple of the stories to see the way that our children experience God in Godly Play. Did you know that if you teach a lesson through play a child will absorb that teaching so much more than if it is taught in the normal manner?

Please be assured that the Children's Ministry Team are taking all necessary precautions to keep our children safe during their lesson time. They will be given individual packs of materials so there is limited sharing. They will be spaced apart. Our teachers and doorkeepers are fully vaccinated. We look forward to seeing the children again in November.



Seek God for His Face



Isn't it amazing that the God of the Universe has invited us to see His face? To walk with Him each day. Job said:

What is man, that you make so much of him, and that you set your heart on him, visit him every morning and test him every moment? Job 7:17-18

God has given us, humanity, a closeness to himself that he has not given to any other creature, not even the angels. He loves us so deeply that He chooses to dwell in us: 1 Cor 3:16.

We become His home and He is ours. We are invited into the relationship between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to be united with them: John 17: 21-23.

What a privilege that we have been granted.

Take some time this month to sit and ponder the invitation the Father provides to draw ever closer to Him, to know Him, to see His wonder in all creation and feel his ever present love.



October in Sydney is a month of contrasts.

Our weather changes so dramatically, from thunderous storms to peaceful sunny days, just right for a picnic. Seems appropriate for the times we live in right now doesn't it?

Today all is peaceful and I am loving the sounds of the birds as they twitter and sing amongst themselves all around my house.

The sounds of spring are always inviting. What a beautiful place we live in.

Praise God the good creator.



Church Finances

Here is a snapshot of the church's finances.

Our total Income was **\$22,659.73** in August. This included a single donation of \$5k together with our rental income.

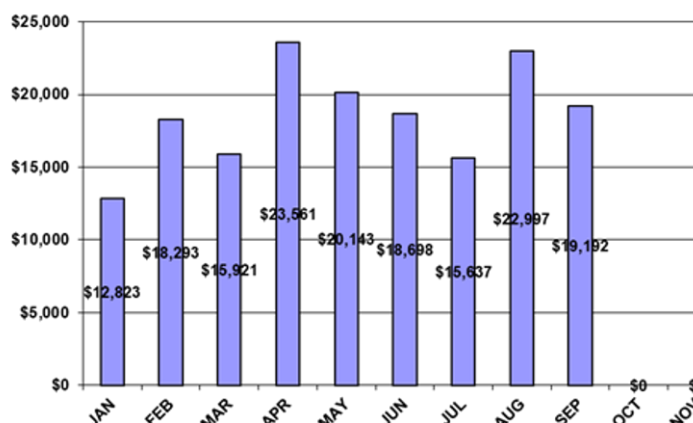
Our total Expenses was **\$25,691.61**. This included \$4,045 for a new dishwasher for the kitchen in anticipation of the renovations.

The offertory was \$2,275 over budget.

Over the year, we are **\$6,570** below budget. This is due to mainly the high maintenance expenses at the two residences early in the year and the shortfall on hall rentals due to Covid lockdown.

Jeff Powys

PAC Offerings 2021



Cell Groups at PAC

Our church calls itself a "cell church", built upon the Biblical idea that the primary way that God's people can truly live out the Gospel is through small, intentional communities (called "cells"). It is here where Jesus is given a far more intimate opportunity to do His work of transformation.

If you are interested in joining one of these cells, you can talk directly to one of the group leaders or to Rev Phill for more guidance on which cell will fit you best.

English-Speaking Cell Groups	Day/time/frequency
Tuesday Night Cell	Tuesday/ 7:30pm/ weekly
Jeff & Megan Powys	Thursday/ 7:00pm/ weekly
ReCharge! (University+ group)	Thursday/ 8:00pm/ weekly
PAC Youth Group	Friday/ 7:30pm - 9:30pm/ weekly
Young Father's Group	Friday/ 7:30pm/ fortnightly
Gaye Bishop / Joy Watkinson	2nd and 4th Saturday/ 1:30pm / fortnightly
Mothers' Group	Thursdays/7:30pm/fortnightly

Penshurst Anglican Church: 2 Carrington St, Penshurst

www.penshurstanglican.org/

PAC Online Banking

Please give your offertory by direct debit using the banking details below:

Westpac Bank, Mortdale

St Johns General Fund

BSB: 032167

Account No: 870821

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

Our Pastors

Senior Pastor: Rev. Phill Read

9580 1217 or 0401 539 736

Email: phill@penshurstanglican.org

Assistant Pastor: Rev Canon David Wong

0410 247 200

Email: david@penshurstanglican.org

Family Pastor: Tiny Tse

0439 022 877

Email: tiny@penshurstanglican.org