



# St John's Cranbourne October 2018 Newsletter

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*GROWING PEOPLE, BUILDING COMMUNITY*

15 September 2018

Dear Friends,

You may have noticed that this is the October issue of the newsletter, and that it has been sent early. The reasons for this is that numbers of you are being invited to participate in the 2018 *St John's Stewardship Review*, and so are being sent a 'stewardship pack' at the same time. Sending the two at the one time saves on postage.

If you have received this pack by post, please have a look at it now, rather than putting this mail aside to look at later, for the reasons outlined below.

## ***Spring – an important season at St John's***

A church such as St John's is almost entirely dependent upon the resources provided by its members – monetary and human resources. At St John's we don't ask anyone to commit themselves 'for ever', but we do ask all active members to renew the dedication of their giving each year, in early Spring.

We do this on *Stewardship Review Sunday*, which this year is on 16 September.

No one is asked to respond out of a sense of obligation, but rather with an individual sense of thankfulness to the Lord for all that he has done for us as individuals, and that we as individuals can enhance the church's life and mission within our community. It is our delight to be active and intentional stewards of the rich bounty with which the Lord has blessed each one of us – to be cheerful givers, and to make sure that none of us becomes a 'missing piece'.

If you are actively involved in St John's, or would like to become actively involved in the year ahead, please complete and return the forms in the pack enclosed as soon as possible, or request forms from the church office. Forms should be sent to 'The Recorder', and a suitable envelope is enclosed with them.

## ***J Kids (our 10.30am Sunday Program for Primary School Children)***

In Term 3 we had lots of fun looking at some of the parables of Jesus. We saw the number of children increase toward the end of the term which enabled us to separate the younger children from the older ones for craft or game activities. Each session covers a teaching segment, usually a memory verse game, a physical activity which builds on the teaching, and a craft or card game (depending on age).

If you would like your children to come to *J Kids*, or if you would like to help with this worthwhile ministry please speak with David, Carolyn or Flora. Term 4 begins on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Clipboard packs with activity sheets will be available for the children during church services over the holiday period.

Carolyn Hooper

PS. To the right is a photo from this term's *J Kids* art exhibition.

## ***Evening Church***

*Evening Church* at St John's turned 6 months old last week. Under Simon Elliott's leadership and with fantastic support from our youth musicians, it has become well established, averaging just over 20 worshippers each week. Some members of this congregation come to this service only, but most are people who come to this service when morning commitments prevent them coming to their usual normal service. A planning committee made up of Phil Bertrand, Virandi Fernando, Peter Giles, Sarah Joseph, Gail McMenemy and myself is working to further develop the service, and to establish rosters similar to those for the morning services. If you'd be interested in going on one of these rosters, please contact Gail McMenemy ([mcmfamily@bigpond.com](mailto:mcmfamily@bigpond.com)). She'd love to hear from you. Also needed are additional musicians – keyboard, guitar or solo instrument.

If you can't make church on a Sunday morning, please come to *Evening Church* instead.



Incidentally, two members of my own family, both with young families, attend an evening service in their parish. They find that they can now do all the family things which increasingly occur on Sunday mornings and still be active church members. *Evening Church* has a lot going for it.

*Evening Church* starts currently at 5.30pm, but the starting time will move to 6.30pm during daylight saving months, ie from October to March.

### **St John's Fete 2018**

**Saturday 13 October 9am – 2.30pm**

The St John's Fete, to be co-ordinated again this year by Barb Bates, is barely four weeks away. The signs will go up soon, and flyers arrive this week. Please do what you can to publicise the fete amongst neighbours, family and friends. There will be plenty of scope to assist, and the easiest way to offer will be through your Stewardship Review Response.

If you can assist with the distribution of fete flyers (we'll soon have 10,000), please call at the office to collect some and instructions.



### **Music and Youth Ministry at St John's**

Our main 9am organist at St John's is taking some leave during November, which creates a heavy burden over that time for our second organist. Sometimes people only reveal their talent when needed. Do you, or does anyone you know, play the church organ or classical piano competently? If so, we'd love to speak with you or them about helping from time to time with the music at 9am, or for that matter at 10.30am or 5/6.30pm.

We also need to renew our youth ministry amongst teenagers, probably launching some additional programs. Please speak with me or send an email if you have ideas.

### **Musical in the lead up to Christmas?**

Two years ago St John's young people staged the musical *The Amazing Jerusalem Makeover* (see photo). Our program leading up to Christmas this year may be different from last year – for instance it appears that we will not be involved in planning the *Cranbourne Community Christmas Carols* event. One possibility for this year is to have another musical. For this to happen planning and preparations would need to start soon. If you would be interested, in whatever way, whether small or considerable, please see me, and I'll call a meeting of interested people in the first week of October.



### **Confirmation Service 2018**

Nine people are preparing to be baptized and confirmed or confirmed at St John's at 6.30pm on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Please plan to attend that service and support these people as they profess their faith and seek the anointing of the Holy Spirit on their lives.

### **Reception into The Anglican Church of Australia**

The confirmation service provides a natural opportunity for people who have become part of St John's, but are not technically Anglicans, to be received into the Anglican Church of Australia. Being received means that a person who has been a full member of another denomination is granted a membership status equivalent to someone who has been confirmed within the Anglican Church. This allows such a person to go onto the electoral roll if they meet attendance criteria, and then to vote in parish elections and to stand for office within the parish. These matters are of considerable relevance in the lead up to the parish Annual General Meeting at the end of November.

David Powys, Vicar