



Services

Sunday morning 9:00am
Sunday evening 7:00pm

St Andrews Groups

Pre-Schoolers

SALT

Youth Groups

Kid's Club
Andy's Club
Chaos
Senior Fellowship

Adult Groups

SAS
Interact
Time Out
Men's Dinner
Ladies Dinner

Bible Study Groups

Phill Pratt's Young Adults
The Taylors'
Ladies
Kyngdons'
John Wilson's
Paul Hall's

Sporting Groups

Soccer Team

Editorial

Jesus said, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you" Luke 17:6

In the sermons of spiritual gifts from 1 Corinthians, we see that one of the gifts in the list is 'faith'. Now this might seem strange because a Christian is defined by their faith, since it is only by faith that a person is put right with God, through the death of Christ. However, the spiritual gift of 'faith' is optimistic faith, it's faith which turns mountains into molehills, it's faith which says to problems "get in line behind the promises of God!" Faith sees what God can do and asks him (humbly in prayer) to do it.

High Tea

Don't miss this! After the success of last year's Garden Party, we will stage a **High Tea** on Saturday 26th September, 3.00pm to 5.00pm. Please join us for an afternoon of fine food, friendly fellowship, live music, and words of wisdom on 'the greatest high of all'. Tickets available from church office, \$15 family, \$5 individual, \$3 concession.

Ladies Dinner

For the August meeting, the ladies had a theme of 'A Burning Faith' with speaker Zara Pennicook. For our September 15th meeting (at the Sea Spray) we will have the Archbishop's wife, Christine Jensen. Christine (17 grandchildren) will have a 'HEART TO HEART' as she shares a wealth of Christian experience and knowledge. Book with Rajia Hannam on 4257 7250 rhannam@westnet.com.au.



Congratulations to the Erringtons on the arrival of granddaughter, Lucinda

St. Andrews Seniors

The usual service followed by a leisurely lunch saw a full table. With apologies from almost as many as attended (sickness and travel mostly) I am worried about what will happen when everyone is present and correct on the same day. I mean, no one wants to miss out on their dessert do they?

Men's Dinner

One of the biggest groups we have had recently (48 men) at the Sea Spray, heard Ken Short speak on 'Hallowed be your name' – how Christian men must seek to live out what we pray, and so we should try to honour God in every part of life. The next meal will be on Tuesday 1st September at the Sea Spray Function Centre, 6.30 for 7.00pm. Mal Forrest from Shellharbour City parish will speak on 'Signs of Glory' from John chapter 12. Please book by 31 August on 4256 6464.

Timeout

Timeout group was able to present Marie Dawson, the



Mission Aid Group (MAG) Sydney representative, with a number of rugs, to be sent to Africa. Thanks ladies, keep knitting! Marie works with CMS. She and her husband Peter spent many years as missionaries in Tanzania and the Congo (Zaire). The rugs will be put to good use. It was lovely to hear Marie's story and

about her work with MAG.

Parish Council Report

- Maintenance work including modifying the lectern, fixing the kitchen hotplates, altering the door catches, erecting a shade sail over the sandpit, enabling the smoke alarm in the hall, has been or is being done. External painting will commence following colour selection. Some small maintenance jobs in the Rectory to be done also.
- Agreed to purchase and install a baby change table (\$635) in the hall on the wall between toilets. Planning for a disabled toilet is underway.
- Giving is commensurate with budget overall but slightly down for July.
- The Parish Risk Management Assessment is largely complete with a few changes needed including moving bins to the eastern side of the kitchen door to allow emergency exit at all times. Exit arrow signs to be erected and possible trial evacuation to be arranged.
- The Website (standrews.org.au) has been a big hit with most frequent searches for services information and young people's activities (Andy's Club, CHAOS and SALT).
- We agreed to look at placing good quality Christian books (including science) in schools and public libraries in our patch.
- Doorknocks done by Graham and Tim for families of Andy's Club kids for Special Invitational Service on 30th August. Doorknocks may continue with suitably gifted parishioners to pass on the "Essential Jesus" packs and evangelise the community.



**Who says kids aren't welcome in church?
Chris Milliken & Ella Scarrett at the console**

Ministry Report

The 'SALT' group (from 'St Andrews Little Time') is a Christian ministry to parents (sometimes Dad will come) and their preschoolers. It is going gang busters! A report from the leaders of the group follows:

One challenge facing our SALT group is our numbers at the moment. On average we only have 3 Christian Mums (plus ever helpful Barbara in the kitchen!) attend from our church and are feeling frazzled with our numbers! For most of this year they have been hovering around 25 children, and approx 18 Mums. Over the past few weeks we have regularly been over 30 - 38 children. This has affected the relationship which the leaders are able to have with the Mums as we feel we have really just been doing 'crowd control' rather than really getting to know the Mums. So pray for us as we look into program changes, a possible capping of numbers at a particular limit, 'pre-registering' for next year, etc., whilst still keeping the welcoming feel about SALT. We also ask for prayer for some of the older ladies to come and help be 'Grandmas' once a week on a roster system so they can chat to Mums. Also prayer that when playgroup ladies might come to church for future events, they will then have some more familiar faces in the building. The more 'successful' play

groups - the ones who had families join their churches as a result of coming along - all had whole support from their church - both in prayer, practical support etc.

SALT ministers on Tuesday morning from 9.30 -11.30 am at the church premises.

Missionary News

Shord and Ann van Dong have been asked to go urgently to Hong Kong to assist with missionaries who have had to leave China following recent violence in China. Their classes in Tasmania will resume after completing this assignment.

Adrian and Anita Lovell will visit the parish from Sunday 2nd September to Friday 7th around midday. We will be linking with them as CMS link missionaries. Meet the Lovells here next Sunday.



Adrian is from the Carlingford Parish and Anita from Gladesville Parish. They met at a prayer group for missionaries for South America while studying at Moore College.

Youth Work News

Andy's Club is a Christian group run by St Andrews church. We meet at the church each Thursday evening (7.00pm to 8.30pm). As we write this bulletin the group is getting ready to 'highjack the lantern' (crawling up hill in dark to turn off lantern before someone else spots with their torch). This is usually a highlight of the term's program. In Christian education they are learning about the life of King David, who knew a bit about escaping from people.

Tim continues to teach Scripture at the High School. He is getting good attention and questions. Currently we have students from year 8. Graham and Geoffrey K are taking the remainder and need prayer for massive patience just now. We hope that showing some concern in their welfare will assist students have a better view of themselves. It was great to have three young folk (Ricki Siles, Amber Mobberley and Adam How) as well as Ricki's mum Dacia confirmed recently. It has also been good to have an occasional new face in evening church.

Lessons from the Past

The Erringtons visited the ruins of Ephesus during their recent trip. This was a city in the Roman district of Lydia, now the nation of Turkey. Once Ephesus was a sea port, now it is about 5 kms inland. You can see how wonderfully well the ruins have been preserved over the years. The reason for this lies in a river which meandered – the Meander River in fact – which once meandered its way around the plain, dumping a lot of river silt which buried Ephesus before too much damage occurred due to other ravages



occurred. Nearby was the spectacular Temple of Diana (in Greek the goddess Artemis).

Paul had strong links with the church in Ephesus. The church was founded thus: when Paul first visited the city he went to the Jewish

Synagogue and reasoned with them from the Scriptures that Jesus was the promised Messiah. He was asked to stay longer but found it necessary to move on. Returning later, Paul encountered some disciples of John the Baptist. He explained the need to move forward to faith in Jesus, whereupon they were baptised as Christians. Paul again spoke in the Synagogue but as opposition grew, Paul withdrew with those who had been persuaded to become Christians, and the work continued in a hall in the city.

Eventually there were so many believers that the sale of silver statues of the goddess Artemis plummeted. The Ephesian silversmiths were losing money. As passions grew high they seized the Christians Gaius and Aristarchus and rushed down to the public theatre. Paul wanted to speak to the crowd but his friends prevented him. It was left to the official town clerk to settle the crowd down and send them on their way.



After this Paul left Ephesus, but he later wrote them a magnificent letter, preserved as 'Ephesians' in our New Testaments.

Graham's joke from Sunday night

Once a painter successfully quoted to repaint a wooden country church. When he got there he saw that the church was out in a paddock with no one within cooee. So he decided to mix some water into the paint to make more profit from the job. The first coat was a bit thin (it was white paint) but a second coat (even more watered down) looked OK until a cloud appeared from nowhere and the rain washed all the paint off. Appalled, the painter cried out "Good Lord what shall I do now". Straightaway a voice came from heaven saying:

"Repaint, repaint, and thin no more"