

The Link

The monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's, Brighton-Le-Sands Uniting Church

Volume 1 Issue 1

May 2020



*We reach up to
God, reach in to
one another and
reach out to the
community*

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Stephen Dain
Carolyn Gates

Pastoral care needs

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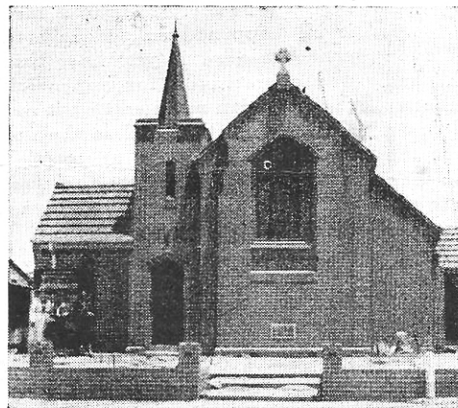
Bank details

To be advised

Welcome to the first issue of **The Link**, the monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's, Brighton-Le-Sands Uniting Church. This replaces Nuts and Bolts, since the decision of the Brighton-Kogarah Congregation to dissolve the relationship of "One congregation – two worship centres" was implemented by Georges River Presbytery as effective 31st March 2020.

Why "The Link"? Newsletters always serve as links between people and this is no exception. But the decision in this case was with the discovery that the name of the newsletter of St. Andrew's in the 1950s was just this. In the 1930s it was "The Kirk Chronical", but that did not have quite the same ring to it!! This banner is from Volume 1 Issue 5 April 1956. The font proved impossible to match! Feedback and better suggestions for a title are welcome. The newsletter now needs an editor, the present arrangement is only temporary, requests for information and offers to help to Stephen Dain.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Brighton-le-Sands



MINISTER:

Rev. Alan MacLachlan, "The Manse," 46 Queen's Road, Brighton-le-Sands.
Phone: LX 5456.

The Link

Other consequences of the change

See the side panel: We have a new logo, a new email address and a phone number. The church is now connected to the NBN and the computer will shortly be connected. A new website has been created, again see the side panel, and this is under construction. The website now needs an editor, the present arrangement is only temporary, requests for information and offers to help to Stephen Dain. The format is set by Synod and populating the pages is quite easy. This is an important communication tool. We have been promised the bank account details next week. At the last working B, the vestry was a completely sorted out and, since then, some repairs have been made. This will be the church office for the moment.

In the times of COVID-19



Obviously, the pandemic has had a major effect on activities. But the attempt has been made to keep you in touch with the church by the distribution of the weekly devotions by email and posted on the website. These are courtesy of Pene Brook, Alan Harper and Bruce Wyndham and we very much appreciate the effort that they make to provide them. We hope that that they know how much they are appreciated. In addition, there are images of the church as it would be dressed had we been there. I should particularly mention the Pascal Candle, which is a gift of Pene Brook. Pene has been a blessing to St. Andrew's in difficult times. We hope to have the opportunity to thank her properly when normal activities have been resumed.

If you know of someone who would like to be added to the email list or would like the materials delivered. Please let us know. Feel free to direct anyone to the website.

The future

The Church Council is listed in the side bar. Other task groups have been populated, but more volunteers are welcome. Meetings will be resumed as soon as practicable.

Rosters

These will be published in future editions of The Link when worship services are resumed.

Working Bs

Subject to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be Working Bs. 6th June, 29th August and 21st November, which are the Saturdays before Bayside Council clean-up weeks for Kings Road. Put them in your diary now!

We support

The church will continue to support;

COOK MOOREFIELD COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Supporting Nick's ministry at these schools. Financial donations to Alison (tax deductible).

NICK'S BREAKFAST CLUB AT JAMES COOK HIGH

Alison will be finding out what they need and we will make arrangements for any donations you may wish to make.



THE KOGARAH STOREHOUSE
FOOD MINISTRY.

The Storehouse is distributing food parcels on Wednesdays and needs food donations still.

<http://www.kogarahstorehouse.org.au/>



LACLA-LET THE AFRICAN CHILDREN LEARN ASSOCIATION

Carry on collecting your 5cts for donation when worship services resume.



SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The assembly of the shoe boxes will start around September. You can start buying tennis balls, skipping ropes, yoyos, marbles, T-shirts (sizes 2-14), thongs, exercise books, felt tipped pens, face washers, soap (PLEASE remove all wrapping), scrunchies and hair clips ready to donate. Put aside some money to donate for postage.

Samaritan's purse is not just about Operation Christmas Child, they are also about international disaster relief. For example, they have set up a field hospital in Central Park, New York to care for COVID-19 victims including intensive care taking the overflow from the Mount Sinai Health System Hospitals. (right)



They have a field hospital in Cremona, Italy (left) to care for COVID-19 victims and there are 5 Australians working there. These are, probably, the two most COVID-19 affected places in the world.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org.au/get-involved/ways-to-give/>

ACT FOR PEACE CHRISTMAS BOWL



Our Christmas Day offering and other donations goes to the Christmas Bowl. But Act for Peace is not just about the Christmas Bowl. There is also Ration Challenge and other activities.



<https://www.actforpeace.org.au/Learn/Why-we-are-here>

Weekly offerings to St. Andrew's

Some of you have been asking about offerings. As soon as we have a bank account, the details will be circulated and you will be able to make a transfer to that account, if you wish. If you would like someone to collect your offerings from home, please let Stephen Dain know. 95973843, 0414385622 or brightonuc@optusnet.com.au and collection can be arranged. If you have the offering envelopes, you could fill them each week and save them for when worship services resume.

There is no income from the users of the premises at present. The cost of utilities will be less but the bills still come in. We are making some improvements that cost a little.

Prayer points

The mission and ministry of our congregation. Worship leaders, preachers, musicians, readers, helpers, leaders, followers.

Those affected by COVID-19, their carers and families. Those who have lost loved ones.

Those still feeling the effects of the bushfire and floods.

Those who are sick, sad or lonely

Our own people especially Carolyn and Dennis Gates; Ruth Bird and the Gaitau family.

To raise up people to work within St. Andrew's.

If you need pastoral care or know of someone needing pastoral care, please see the contact details in the side panel on the first page. If you wish an addition to this list please contact Stephen Dain

Needed

We need volunteers. In particular to edit this newsletter once per month, the weekly notices when we resume worship services and the website. We need help at the working Bs, to assist with the Youth Group. Ask a Church Council member.

Until we meet again

Pray that we all keep safe and well and come back together again very soon.

