

St Margaret's Anglican Church Eltham



the  
Parish Matters

Celebrates parish life and reports important items from the most recent Vestry meeting  
Find us on the web at [www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/](http://www.stmargaretseltham.org.au/)

God of Power and love,  
who raised your Son Jesus from death to life,  
resplendent in glory to rule over all creation:  
free the world to rejoice in his peace,  
to glory in his justice, and to live his love.  
Unite the human race in Jesus Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen

*150 th Celebration Service in Hall  
When - Feb 26th at 10.30 am*

### **Mission Action Plan for 2012 and Beyond**

Vestry 'Planning Day' was compressed into a four hour evening since, with no change in composition, introducing new members to planning was not needed. A brief summary of 2012 operational plan follows.

. A review of 2011 indicated that five activities, out of forty or so completed, still required action and these were modified for carry over into 2012. There was extensive discussion on many points of the 2012 MAP published in 2010. Some adjustments to timeframes were flagged. It was agreed that two items of the original plan third year plan would be deleted: 'forming team for ministry to men' should be deleted because there are already two men only activities well supported; and the 'ministry to singles', now under pastoral care was effectively in place. In reviewing other planned items for 2012 it was noted that the Discerning Spirituality activity was operating very effectively. Under Worship activity there was some difficulty in identify a younger leadership. Christian Formation activities will continue. Under Site Development the reference to arranging for celebration of completion of the new development was deleted as this is now more likely in the middle of 2013.

Next Vestry examined how to plan for a five year (2012-2017) MAP which must be done this year to follow on from the end of the existing plan in 2012. Although the existing 3 Goals would be reviewed, it is probable that they will change only a little as much of the research and consultation was current. It was proposed that substantial work will need to be done to identify appropriate activities to achieve these.

It was agreed that there should be four additional monthly meeting of Vestry, commencing in August 2012, to progress the plan.

The performance indicators for Vestry's evaluation of progress this year were largely carried over. They are:

- Effective communication/interaction among church members and groups to make people feel part of the organisation.
- The Mission Action Plan will continue to be progressed and that activities scheduled for 2012 will be implemented.
- The Site Redevelopment Program will be continued and the anticipated implications for the St Margaret's Congregations will be identified and managed.
- Further development of policies and processes to support the engagement of St Margaret's with the wider community.
- A process implemented through which the clergy and vestry can engage on issues relation to respective roles and responsibilities.
- Appropriate recognition and celebration of the heritage and achievements of St Margaret's Church during our 150<sup>th</sup> year and planning developed for the future of this parish and this place.

### **150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Feb 26**

We look forward to seeing all current parishioners, past parishioners, family and friends on Sunday Feb. 26 at 10.30 for Family Friendly Service followed by BBQ lunch. Please bring any photos or memorabilia of parish life over the years prior to this event. Either talk to Geoff Dandy or leave in the parish office. On the day, we are asking our current parishioners to bring a slice, fruit towards a fruit platter, cakes of biscuits, plus BYO drink. Looking forward to a terrific celebration of thanks for 150 years and excitement for the years ahead.

### **Church Grounds**

Many people worked hard to make the grounds look really wonderful for the Archbishop's visit. The storms on Christmas Day have left their mark. Please spend a small amount of time just tidying up prior to our big event on Sat. Feb. 26 Many thanks.  
**Sally Petty (Warden)**

### **Being Present to Presence**

Very talented harpist, Kath Connerly presented an experience on being *Present to Presence* on Saturday January 21. We explored what this meant to each of us through the use of poetry, harp music, silence, conversation, labyrinth walking, art

and prayer to muse on the Presence that already resides inside each of us. Or how it was that we may be alive to God.

On Sunday morning Kath used this theme as part of her sermon encouraging us to 'delight in the presence of the Holy Spirit in the ordinary everydayness of living in Christ.'

### **Deirdre Retires**

The Rev. Deirdre Ragless will end her curacy with us on Sunday January 29. She has been in our congregation for the last eight years and part of the Clergy team for half of that time. There will be send offs from the Wednesday congregation at a barbeque after this week's Wednesday service and at a morning breakfast between the two services. It will be a big change for Deirdre returning to Adelaide where we wish her well, both caring for her family and in her continued service. We will really miss you Deirdre so please drop by as often as possible.

### **LINC Christmas Hampers**

Once again members of the churches of Eltham, Montmorency and Greensborough contributed Christmas food items, children's' presents and money to buy extra food to be made up into 23 Christmas hampers then delivered to families in the local area as suggested by Nillumbik Community Health Service.



Marjorie Taylor's family of four generations were in the LINC team.

The LINC team of packers was led by Marjorie Taylor who has volunteered her services over the last two decades.

For several years now this Hampers Project has been generously supported by the donation of a large number of Christmas gifts and food items by the constituents of Jan Kronberg MLC member for the Eastern metropolitan regions. LINC appreciates the use of St. Margaret's hall for the preparation of the Hampers that are well received by the many local families in need.

**Graham Pritchard**  
Chair, LINC Eltham

**The Archbishop's Visit  
Post service activities**



Archbishop Freier's magnificent robe on view at the 'turning of the sod' for the new extension – with Libby and Clem.



The oldest (Marjorie) and the youngest (Hannah) help the Archbishop cut the cake to begin the celebrations.



The archbishop puts the spade in to 'turn the sod' under close supervision.

Photographer Diana Warrell

Ed this edition Harry Watson