

@Glynde

MAY 2018

GO
& MAKE
DISCIPLES
OF ALL NATIONS.
MATTHEW 28:19

CHURCH DETAILS...

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Wed—Fri 9 am—1 pm

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www.glyndechurch.org

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Devotional thought

MATTHEW 28:19–20: "GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU; AND LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE."

In Jesus' day, disciples were learners who sat at the feet of their masters, taking in their every word. Disciples desire to conform their lives to the life of their teacher. To make disciples, means to help unbelievers, agnostics, atheists, and religious people, become fully devoted followers of Jesus. To Go, means a change of location. An old friend of mine told me many years ago, "It may be to go across the room, across the city, across the country, or across the world, but you cannot be obedient and stay in the exact same place." That challenge still rings out today.

More than a 100 years ago, a primitive tribe in New Guinea was given a sundial as a gift. They didn't understand its purpose and instead of viewing it as something functional, they viewed it as something sacred. Wanting to honor and protect the gift, they built a hut over it, rendering it completely useless. We might laugh at the irony of this, but many believers do the same thing with God. There is a danger of making our belief in Him so reverent, solemn, and honoring, that we partition off a little area of our lives and make sure God stays within that area, never spilling out into everyday life. When we truly love and submit our lives to God, it will cause us to desire what God desires. And Jesus tells us that what God desires is for us to first be His disciples, and then to go and be fruitful, making more disciples as we lead people back to His throne of grace.

"LORD, as we go today to share Your love with a dying world, put someone in our path that needs You. Then, LORD, give us the words to present You to them in such a way that they cannot help but be drawn to You and be saved."

From the editor...

The theme I have chosen for this month is 'Cultural Diversity'.

We are so very blessed here at Glynde to have so many different culture's to learn and grow from.

The sharing of God's love with everyone who walks through our doors has brought us so many amazing people to get to know. Both tears and laughter have been shared as well some amazing life stories. Some of which you can read about later on in the newsletter.

Also we all have so many stories to tell of our own journey to Glynde as our church home.

May this month be a blessing to you as you continue on life's journey.

Leah Cronin
(Guest Editor)



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From Pastor Wayne...

*Hi! I
've just returned from a week's annual leave with Jenine in Sydney. We had a great time relaxing together and recuperating. Now, it's back to work with you for the Lord here in this Glynde area....

***The theme that Leah Cronin has suggested for this month's AT GLYNDE is "Cultural Diversity": a focus on the fact that God wants people from "every race, tribe, nation, and language" in his family, not just people like ourselves (Rev. 7:9). Jesus, God's Son, made this clear in his ministry as he loved and cared for all sorts of people, people from all sorts of races and backgrounds.... And Jesus emphasised this in his last words recorded in the book of Matthew: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations: baptize them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always" (Matt. 28:19-20).**

***This is what we are aiming to do in our church here at Glynde: to reach out with the good news of God's**

love, and His forgiveness through Jesus, to people "of all nations".

It's great to look around on a Sunday morning to see a big diversity of people worshipping the Lord in our church and at Lighthouse: Sudanese, Iranian, Malaysian, Korean, and so on. And it's great to see people from a whole range of cultural diversity coming along to our mid-week ministries: Playgroup, Mainly Music, Parenting classes, English classes, and our Markets to name just some of these ministries. Praise God for the people that He has brought into our community, and with whom we have an opportunity to love, and share the good news.

*Sometimes we feel that our individual efforts to share this good news of Jesus are, well, insignificant. Yet Jesus has entrusted the spread of the good news of God's love, and His forgiveness *through Jesus' suffering and death on the cross*, to us *his followers*.

In the months of May and June, we are going to focus on how we each can make a difference for the Lord in our daily life. **Over five weeks we will**

focus on ways in which we can “Surprise the World” by *Living Questionable Lives*, lives which can provoke questions from the people around us and make a difference for the Lord. To do this, as I’ve said, we need to develop new habits, *habits that invite and promote questions from the people around us.*

Michael Frost in this book *Surprise the World* focuses on five habits that are summed up in the acronym BELLS.

Each of the letters of this word is the first letter of one of these habits: Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, Sent.

For example, the first habit is that of blessing at least three people each week: one of these is to be a member of your church, one of these is to be a person who is not, and the last one can be from either group....

This habit involves us asking ourselves each week, each day: **“Who can I bless today by a word of affirmation, Or by an act of kindness, Or by a gift?”** By committing yourself to even just this one habit, you will be committing yourself to living a questionable life, *a life that may provoke questions from the people around you about who you are, and why you are the way you are.*

And that’s by developing just one of the five habits J

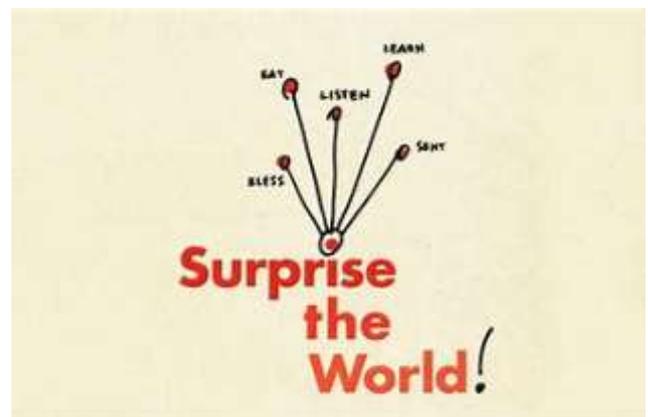
***Watch out for the publicity about this five week “Surprise the World CHALLENGE”,** which has been happening and which you will hear more about. Then each Sunday during the five week period in May and June, *beginning on Sunday, May 20th,* one of these habits will be focused on in worship. And then during the week, you are invited to be part of a Mid-week Small Group where we will chat together about implementing these habits in our lives.

***Have a look at the *Worship Calendar for May-June ’18* at the rear of this *AT GLYNDE*.** Coming up are a number of activities that provide us with opportunities to meet together and to

reach out to people whom we don’t know well. At the start of each month, we have a community lunch after worship: come along and enjoy one another’s company, and encourage one another in our walk with the Lord. On Mother’s Day, Sunday May 13th, we will be celebrating a time of Baby Thanks in worship as we give thanks to God for our most recent newcomers to our church and our mid-week community. On Sunday, May 27th, there will be a welcoming BBQ at our house, *the Boehm’s house at 12 Swan Avenue Klemzig*, for all newcomers into our church family.

***May God bless you and me** as we reach out into our “culturally diverse” community around us with the Good News of God’s love, and His forgiveness through Jesus. May God bless us as we “reveal and celebrate God’s love, so that **all people, people of all nations** may know Jesus and worship *God through him*”.

Pastor Wayne





From the Chairperson ...

Love can do anything...

Helene Schulz
Chairperson

Changing Lanes embracing cultural diversity

The early church was built on cultural diversity - at Pentecost, religious people from all over the world were gathered and to their amazement they heard uneducated Galileans speaking to them in languages from their countries of origin. And when Peter preached to them about Jesus of Nazareth and appealed to them to turn from their sins in the name of Jesus Christ, many believed and were baptised (Acts ch 2).

Our church also needs to be built on cultural diversity. Australia's population is made up of people from over 200 countries, and in our neighbourhood there have been waves of migration from Korea, India, China, Iran, Sudan, Sri Lanka and Japan. We are in the midst of significant demographic change.

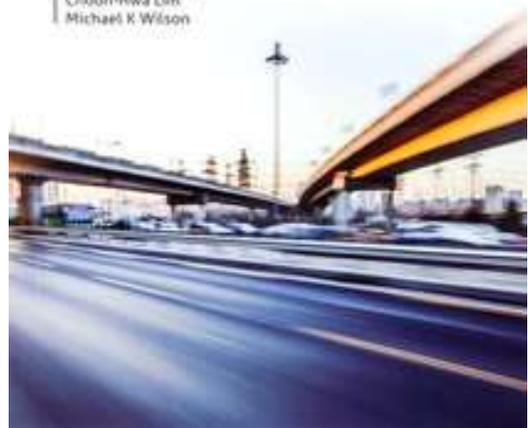
The book "*Changing Lanes, Crossing Cultures Equipping Christians and churches*

for Ministry in a Culturally Diverse Society" (Schachtel, Lim & Wilson, 2016) begins like this: "Good drivers don't stay in the right-hand lane when you are trying to overtake them. Good drivers use their rear-vision mirrors. Some churches are good at spotting the demographic changes that are looming up behind them and they adjust well....They are willing to

Changing Lanes, Crossing Cultures

EQUIPPING CHRISTIANS & CHURCHES FOR
MINISTRY IN A CULTURALLY DIVERSE SOCIETY

Andrew Schachtel
Choon-Hwa Lim
Michael K Wilson





change, to reach out to the ethnic minorities that are increasingly becoming part of the communities in which they are located".

This book was an important reference point for me as I thought about our mission and vision at Glynde a couple of years ago and our congregation actively worked towards having a cross-cultural worker. We had the specific goal of strengthening our outreach to people from different cultural and faith backgrounds in our community. And now look at what is happening! Many people from many different countries and cultures walk through our doors every week. Some ask questions seeking to understand a little more of who we are and what happens here; others are content to share in the activities and connect with our community.

Our willingness to embrace the many cultures and the rich opportunities for sharing Jesus' love has led to many wonderful stories, some of which are shared in this month's magazine. In embracing these people and their cultures, we have changed, even while the message of God's love and salvation remains unchanging. As a church facing more cultural changes, we will need to learn new skills and to change how we

do ministry. We will need to distinguish between what makes up our own christian identity and what is our own cultural bias - and the implications of this as we connect with people from different cultural backgrounds. This can be challenging, but is also rewarding. Our national church is also taking a deeper interest in developing ways of connecting across cultures and is strongly supporting us through a Cross Cultural Mission grant. This has enabled us to extend Barbara Mattiske's hours to 20 hours per week and means that our mid-week cross cultural outreach can continue to thrive. My prayer is that we continue to support and grow this ministry - that our church will truly reflect the cultural diversity and richness of our neighbourhood.



Celebrations @Glynde!

As always, we love sharing in the many celebrations around the Glynde community. Here are a few snapshots of some of the recent events and celebrations. This will be a regular segment, so if you have something to celebrate, please send us a photo so we can celebrate with you in the @Glynde.



Congratulations to Karlea, Adam, Eli and Piper on the safe arrival of Penelope Kay Kremer on Tuesday 24th April at 9:36pm weighing 3.45kg and 48cm long.



BOOK REVIEW

"What Makes Us Tick" - *The 10 Desires that Drive Us* - Hugh MacKay (2010)

Hugh MacKay is one of Australia's leading social researchers. I have read several of his books including "Reinventing Australia" and "Advance Australia – where?" and, by chance, attended his very engaging public seminar in Cairns some years ago.

Dr Andrew Pfeiffer, lecturer at Australian Lutheran College, recently wrote a journal article in which he took a reference from "**What Makes Us Tick**". Intrigued I borrowed Mackay's book from the library and found it typically thought provoking.

For years MacKay had collected numerous 'round the table' conversations from many people of differing ages, opinions and backgrounds. This information led him to write up "**The 10 Desires that Drive Us**" which form the contents of the book.

MacKay emphasises "that the 10 desires explored in this book are highly negotiable; they are about survival; they are about the way we choose to live".

My reading started with "**the Desire for Something to Believe in**".

MacKay deduced that this **Desire** is 'more widely satisfied by religion than any other set of beliefs we humans embrace'. Not surprising, you say !

Further he writes (page 88): 'once we've embraced a particular set of conditions, we constantly seek reinforcement of them, in fact we can even enjoy having our beliefs attacked, because the experience of defending ourselves against attack is in itself a reinforcing, affirming experience'.

MacKay expounds (p100) : 'Because our particular beliefs are such an intimate, personal response to the general desire to believe in something, it's hardly surprising that other people from their perspective of their personal beliefs should find ours bewildering, threatening and even ridiculous.

But they need theirs, just as we need ours.'

I found MacKay's quote from G.K.Chesterton set me thinking !

"When people stop believing in God, they don't believe nothing, they believe anything".
Worth reflecting on?

Then there was the '**desire for more**'..... 'The human appetite for whatever feels good and is almost insatiable ... the desire for more can make competitors of us all'...I found much to ponder over in this chapter!

To illustrate this '**desire for more**' MacKay described a cartoon in which a man asks his companion sitting on a park bench "What are you going to do today?"

The companion replied "Nothing".

"You did that yesterday" the man said.

To which his companions replied "But I didn't finish"!

PS: another 'serve of food for thought'!

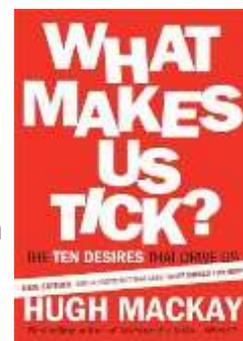
I have also recently read "Razor's Edge", a 'novel with meaning' written in early 1900s by William Somerset Maugham. He wrote:

"for men and women are not only themselves; they are also the region, therefore the language, in which they are born, the city apartment or farm in which they learnt to walk, the games they played as children, the old wives tales they overheard, the food they ate, the schools they attended, the sports they followed, the poets they read, and the God they believed in".

No wonder we are so uniquely and wonderfully different!

Happy reading!

Joy Mildren



Get Involved @ Glynde...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		1 9.30am Craft 7.30pm Quillers Surprise the World (Hosts) Discussion
6 9am Worship HC 10:30am Worship HC 12noon Community Lunch 12:30 Korean Worship	7 7pm KYB	8 9:30am Craft 7.30pm Quilters 7.30pm Exec Team
13 9am Worship 10:30am Worship 12:30 Korean Worship	14 7pm KYB	15 9:30am Craft 7.30pm Quilters
20 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC Mid Year Review 12:30 Korean Worship	21 7pm KYB	22 9.30am Craft 7.30pm Quillers
27 9am Worship HC 10:30 Worship HC 12:30 Korean Worship	28 7pm KYB	29 9.30am Craft 7.30 Quillers

What's on in May?

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2 9.30am Playgroup 7.30pm BFM Meeting	3 7.45am Prayer Mtg 9.45am Mainly Music 12.00noon Cards	4 9.30am KYB 10.30am Coffee & Chat	5 10am Girls' Coffee morning 10am English Class
	9 9:30am Playgroup 9.30am Women's Fellowship	10 7:45am Prayer Group 9:45am Mainly Music	11 9:30am KYB 10.30am Coffee and Chat	12 10am English Class
	16 9.30am Playgroup Magnolias Outing—Guide Dogs 11.15am Mary Magdalene	17 7:45am Prayer Group 9.45am Mainly Music 12noon Cards	18 9.30 KYB 10.30 Coffee and Chat	19 8am Blokes Brekky 10am English Class
	23 9.30am Playgroup 11.15 Mary Magdalene 7.30pm "Surprise the World"	24 7:45am Prayer Group 9.45am Mainly Music	25 9.30am KY 10.30am Coffee and Chat	26 10am English Class 10am-2pm Markets
	30 9.30am Playgroup 11.15 Mary Magdalene 7.30pm "Surprise the World"	31 7:45am Prayer Group 9.45am Mainly Music 12noon Cards		



WORSHIP MUSIC at Zion Glynde Lutheran.

Over a month of services, *Worship Today* liturgy is used on the first and second Sundays, *Traditional Lutheran* liturgy on the 3rd Sunday and *Matins* on the 4th Sunday.

Presently Christy John, our Organ Scholar, plays the organ on the 2nd Sunday and Joy Mildren plays the organ for all other services.

We are keen for a pianist to play contemporary songs at one of the services. We are also keen for another organist to join Joy and Christy on the roster. Could this be you ?

Our amazing ALLEN organ has specific features which support 'beginning organists' in leading worship. If you have some piano skills transferring to the organ can be successful and exciting!

If you would like 'organ coaching' or just an introduction to playing our ALLEN organ, please contact Joy Mildren, joymildren@hotmail.com or 0458 650 135 – she would be delighted to hear from you



Treasurer's Report for the Year to 31 March 2018

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Collections	\$29,647	\$37,062	(\$7,415)
Building Fund Collection (not inc. LCC)	\$3,281	\$11,472	(\$8,191)
Fundraising	\$3,603	\$3,399	\$204

Fundraising Outcome for the month of February
BBQ's
Wine Fundraiser

Ben Pfitzner,
Treasurer

Bank Accounts for Direct Giving to Glynde Lutheran Church by EFT

	Regular Giving	Building Fund
BSB Number	704-942	704-942
Account Number	48692 S1	152736 S1



Have you ever wanted to know more about people from other cultures who come to our mid week church? When I saw this title for the paper, I asked some of our mums from completely different parts of the world, and completely different cultures, to share with you their life story, and how they ended up being a part of this Glynde community...

Also, I thought this could be a good time to remind you of the life left behind for some of our Sudanese families...



Laila's story

My name is Laila Sulaiman. I am from Gaza Strip, Palestine. Living under occupation made life tough and stifled the living conditions. That's why when my husband, Mohammed, and I decided to have a baby, we were determined to raise him\her away from the dreadful humanitarian situation there. We decided to leave the country to give our child a normal life and a better future. Mohammed applied for a PhD scholarship in University of South Australia and got accepted. In a period of six months we went through several failed attempts to leave. However, Mohammed finally managed to leave alone. I followed him after four months of desperate attempts to leave. I remember I was seven months pregnant at the time and travelling alone amidst the unsafe travel conditions made my journey to Adelaide a misery.

However, when I arrived in Adelaide, I instantly found that light at the end of the tunnel. I loved Adelaide and the lovely people I got to know and I could finally enjoy a high quality of life. However, this was on the expense of leaving my family and friends behind. I felt lonely and needed support and love epically after giving birth to my beautiful boy Adam for the first time with only my husband around.

I was and still amazed of the number of places and activities that you can freely access and enjoy with your little one. I am also overwhelmed of the focus on children and their growth through library's sessions for kids, playgroups, and other various events at different avenues. My interest in keeping my child busy and knowing how important it is for him and myself as well led me to join Glynde. I first knew about it through a friend who I met after moving to a nearby Suburb.

The first time Adam and I went to Glynde, we felt very welcomed by the lovely staff, especially Barbara. She charmed me into coming every week after that. I sincerely appreciate her love and support throughout the whole time. Adam and I enjoy coming to playgroup and coffee and chat because they have created a space for him to socialize with other kids and gave him an opportunity to develop his creative side through making fun crafts with me. It also helped me fill up what I was missing in my life; friends, a more active social life, and a sense of belonging to a place. I formed lovely friendships and enjoyed the girls' night outs. I enjoy sharing my experiences with others and vice versa and that is what I found in coffee and chat. Moreover, Barbara organized a parenting course which was of great help to me and other mothers as well. It is great what this place can offer, specially for people who need a sense of family and a support system. It feels good when you know that you are not only going to a place to have fun, but you are going to a place where you consider your second home. I believe that the beautiful staff and the type of activities provided worked side by side in making my experience in Glynde a unique one.

Laila is a vibrant member of our community and is now helping us with preparation for Playgroup. We really appreciate having Laila and Adam here. Barbara



From our Cross Cultural Coordinator...

Barbara Mattiske Cross Cultural Coordinator

This morning someone asked me if we really have “mid week church” She was talking about a church service... and no, we do not hold a service mid week, but yes, we do have mid week church! What an opportunity we have to listen to people, to learn, to share, to sing together, to comfort one another and to love each other every single day. We have people joining us every week from so many different cultures, coming to our community – why?

I believe it is because we are a safe place, where Gods love shines brightly. People who are new to Australia and or new to faith need a safe place to be. Our mid weeks groups include people from Iran, Palestine, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, China, Malaysia, South Sudan and India. One family joined us just before Easter. Imagine, their confusion over how we celebrate the Easter season. We assume that everyone knows about Easter, commercially and faith wise...

We walk into a supermarket and look at the chocolate eggs and rabbits and wonder about all that chocolate! For some of our families, they didn't know what was going on... why rabbits? Why so much chocolate? Why days off? Also remember, English is your second language and you struggle to understand what people try and tell you!

So then, imagine, how do you explain Jesus dying for you – loving you so much that he took your place on that cross?



and it is quite a humbling experience to be there.

Today, even though it was our last Mainly Music for the term, 4 new families joined us from Iran and China. Four new families with whom we can share our programs, and friendship and love. Over the term we have shared many special moments. We have all smiled and laughed, and we have cried together and hugged each other. Culturally we may not understand each

We do it through prayer and especially through loving and caring for all who come here. We have to "live" Jesus' love for us.

We try with our Playgroup and Mainly Music that every activity and session is God based. That is why we spoil people with home made cake (thank you to all who bake for us). That is why we offer Parenting courses and English classes. (thank you to those who look after the children so we can do this). That is why we offer different study series, with next term offering the Magdalena movie.

That is why we have Girls Night Out. Thank you to everyone who came last Friday. It was a night of much laughter and fun. Friendships form at nights like this, where mums have a chance to chat in a setting that is safe, and not surrounded by their children. Remember, for some mums, they don't get to go out, so this can be a special time for them, and also for us. Each time we do a Girls Night, I am surprised and feel so blessed by the words that are shared, and the smiles and hugs that are shared. You can see God at the table of girls,

other's lives... but we understand hurt and love, and we can share on a level where culture doesn't matter. God helps us every step of the way, and I always know, that sometimes I can get it wrong, but God will not tell me off for trying. Is this church?

This is our mid week church. It may not look quite the same as Sunday, but it is Gods church.

Barbara Mattiske...





Continued.....

Rebecca

A number of years ago I spoke with Rebecca about her life in Sudan before coming to Australia to share at one of our Christmas services.

I cannot remember all of the details, but I do remember some of the most important!

When Rebecca lived in her village, the soldiers came through killing as they went. They ran and hid for hours not being game enough to re enter their village. When they finally did, Rebecca discovered her dad and others in her family killed. She had to take over the parenting role in her family. Then when she and Simon were married, and after many miscarriages, they decided to try and get over the border to a refugee camp and safety where they thought they could start a family.

Their first attempt was thwarted and they had to return to the village, where a cow was sold to supply the funds needed to escape. At the border this time, they hid in the back of a truck under sacks of corn and wheat, waiting to be discovered by the soldiers and killed. When I asked her was she scared, her reply was... it didn't matter if they were found and murdered, she would simply be with Jesus in heaven.

They obviously made it through and ended up in a refugee camp where they stayed for six years. Here under some very harsh conditions of little food, clothing and shelter Rebecca experienced her happiest moment, the birth of their daughter.

After many years they came to Australia, and finally Rebecca and Simon have found their home here at Glynde and are an important part of our family here and within the Nuer community. Rebecca is a proud deacon of the Nuer church. Simon and Rebecca with their family, together with Stephen and Nyalam and their family are loved here at Glynde.

I cannot forget Rebecca's story..

I also chatted with one of our very new Korean families and asked if I could share some of their story with you...

Rumi's story

I met Rumi earlier this year. She and her husband and son just appeared at our Playgroup one week.

They are from South Korea. Rumi is bright and bubbly and her English is fairly good. Her husband struggles a little with English, but gets by with Rumi's help.

Why did they come to Australia, and in particular Adelaide, and more so, why Glynde?

Many years ago Rumi was in Queensland and met some other students and they were sharing their future hopes and dreams. Rumi decided her dream was to study nursing.

On returning to Korea she met Wangyu and they married. Soon after their son Wanny was born, but Rumi's dream of studying nursing remained and they made the brave decision to pack up and move to Adelaide so Rumi could fulfil her dream. Wangyu gave up his job as well so that he could support his wife.

They arrived in Adelaide in early 2018 and just happened to see Glynde and came.

Rumi felt immediately loved and at home here.

Her dream to study nursing has started, and she is volunteering at the Glynde homes.

Her husband Wangyu has found a job in a supermarket doing night fill so he can be with their son while she studies. So we have Wanny here for Playgroup and Mainly Music, one day with dad, one day with mum and dad.

When I asked her why here, she said, that even though she doesn't know much about God, she believes that God must have sent them here and God given her a new mum and family here.

I don't know how many people can just pack their whole lives up, leave their home, their language, their culture to come to a strange country to follow a dream, with no job prospects or home, but they did. And now they are a part of our community. They are learning about Australian ways and they are open to learning about God.

How blest are we to welcome Rumi, Wangyu and Wanny!

Rika (Japanese)

Three years ago, in Easter, I have moved to Adelaide from Melbourne after living there for one year. It was because of my postnatal depression that had happened just after giving birth to my first son. My husband and I have lived in Adelaide for quite a long time when we were students so that there were some friends here who could support us.

Through one of them, I got to know about Mainly Music at Glynde Lutheran Church. The church is just 5 minutes' drive away from my house but in the beginning, it was a big challenge for me to drive to somewhere, especially somewhere new with my depression. However, the church offered me and my son so much more than just a music session. It has been providing us care, support and love just like we are a big family.

I was brought up in a family that runs big supermarkets in our region in Japan. There were always many adults working at my house. It is not too difficult to imagine that my mother had so much pressure to bring me and my brothers up well enough to meet their expectations. Pressure, economic downturn in 90's in Japan, debt and sickness, even though my brothers and I were still around 10 years old, we could tell our family had no harmony and comfort under the roof. When we fail to do something, my parents used violence to discipline us. Tears, scream and begging for help did not count. I could not find a safe place anywhere around me. Gradually, as a little teenager, I started to think about the reason why we live but the reason remained unclear. Success and money seemed to be the only way out for me to escape from my home and hometown. I studied hard to get into a good university to secure a good future. When I was studying at university, I had an opportunity to study English in Australia for three weeks. It was the first three weeks staying away from my parents and I felt so much freedom. After graduating from university, I came back to study at TAFE.

As well as studying, I started working at a Japanese restaurant in North Adelaide just because I wanted more money and free Japanese food, of course. At the restaurant, the chef and a kitchen hand were a Christian. In Japan, Christian population is just less than 1% so that I have had never met any Christian in my life until then. That was how I first encountered Christianity. I started to go to their church after a while and confessed my faith in 2014. Honestly for me, God as my father was unacceptable, Father and Mother were somebody I did not want to be close to. Also, I had been through indescribable pain in my life, it was a difficult and also a long way to open up and surrender myself to Him. However with a help of the Holy Spirit, God has brought me close to him. He provides me a reason to live. He gives me a heart to rejoice and celebrate what he has given to me. Although I still sometimes struggle with forgiveness because of the pain in my heart, I know for Him nothing is impossible. So, always there is a hope. Now I have three children under four. With a warm support and prayers from people around me, I am living here with His purpose.



Rika is a loving wife and mother to 3 children and has joined us at Mainly Music and our Parenting courses over the past couple of years. No one else in her family is Christian, so support and love from our mid week church is important to Rika. Please keep Rika in your prayers. Barbara

Gatluit (Stephen)

i was born in town call Malual Gahoth the border town in between Ethiopia and South Sudan . I lived in Malual Gahoth when I was young and then I passed my secondary school I was admitted to Northern Sudan Town call Shendi. I studied there for almost three years and then went back to South Sudan looking for work with the government, who employed me as intermediate teacher in town of Renk which is near to Northern Sudan . Five years later I decided to leave Renk and head home to where my mum and sisters were living . I went through many towns before reaching Malual Gahoth and walked for almost 15 days to reach my home town . After three months I decided again to go to a refugee camp where the UNCHR employed me as primary teacher and spend 5 years in refugee camp.

Living in the refugee camp is not easy as refugees are given rations - 10 killos maize , three litres of Oil and two kilos of bean. Everyone did what they could to survive , from collecting water from afar , chopping firewood for cooking as well as trading or selling their meagre supplies . Circumstances were so dire in the camp that many attacks and deaths occurred . Many of these happened while chopping firewood in the forest to sell. I was fortunate to earn my living working as a teacher which enabled me to support my family as well as others.

it was a huge relief and extremely exciting when i was granted resettlement .I arrived in Australia in November 2000. I decided to change my career from teaching and so I completed my Diploma in social welfare .I received help from the Australian refugee association and Lutheran Community care , I attended church at Ferryden park Lutheran before joining Glynde Lutheran Church and settled into into my new home. With further study and a degree in social work , I am now employed by Lutheran Community care as a settlement support work .

this is a bit of my life story... thanks

Stephen is a respected member of our Nuer community and also a loved member of Glynde. Thank you for writing and sharing your story... Barbara



Worship Calendar

MAY

6. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Easter 6 John 15:9-17
 10.30 a.m. H.C. "Being live Christians in a dead world" (*Tony Campolo*)
 12.00 noon *Community Lunch*
13. 9.00 a.m. Easter 7 John 3:16
 10.30 a.m. **Baby Thanks**
 **"Thanks for Mums" (Mothers' Day)*
20. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Pentecost Colossians 4:2-6 *Living Questionable lives (1)*
 10.30 a.m. H.C. "Surprising the world"
 1.00 p.m. *Half Yearly Meeting*
Pastor Henry Martinez
27. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Pentecost 1 Luke 15:1-2 *Living Questionable Lives (2)*
 10.30 a.m. H.C. "Changing the world
 one meal at a time"
 12.30 p.m. *Welcoming BBQ*

JUNE

3. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Pentecost 2 John 14:15-18, 25-27 *Living Questionable Lives (3)*
 10.30 a.m. H.C. "Listening to the Spirit"
 12.00 noon *Community Lunch*
10. 9.00 a.m. Pentecost 3 Philippians 2:1-11 *Living Questionable Lives (4)*
 10.30 a.m. "The answer is always Jesus"
Plus Testimonies
Baptismal Anniversaries (April-June)
 **Baptism of Bella Milton, child of Belinda & Jarryd*
17. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Pentecost 4 *Pastor Henry Martinez*
 10.30 a.m. H.C. Matthew 28:18-20 *Living Questionable Lives (5)*
 "Living as 'sent ones'"
24. 9.00 a.m. H.C. Pentecost 5 Mark 4:35-41
 10.30 a.m. "The unsinkable ship"
Church for Kids (Creation)

JULY

1. 9.00 a.m. Pentecost 6 Matthew 8:5-13
 10.30 a.m. H.C. "Sharing God's feast together"
 12.00 noon **Combined Multi-cultural service**
followed by Bring and Share lunch
8. 9.00 a.m. Pentecost 7 1 Samuel 17:32-50 *Favourite OT stories (1)*
 10.30 a.m. "Facing the giants in
 your life"
Plus Testimonies
School Holidays begin

CHURCH 4 KIDS !!

