



# TALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 16th July 2017

Volume 23 Issue 26

## **Martin Luther and the Reformation**

2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the year Martin Luther made his 95 Theses known to the world, thus changing the history of the church, country, and world forever.

I recently bought a book at one of our church garage sales entitled "Luther for the Busy Man." Obviously this appealed to me because of the connotation that if I bought the book, I would appear to enter the ranks of "busy men."

The book is by author/translator Dr Paul David Pahl who served as a lecturer at Concordia Seminary in Adelaide from 1942 to 1966. The fly leaf says "He has faithfully reproduced Luther's words in clear, robust translation."

In reading some of the passages in the book I was impressed with how down to earth Luther's writings were and how they managed to span the gap of almost 500 years since the time they were written.

We have a wonderful legacy in the writings of the many who followed the biblical authors, throughout the ages until now. The fact that these writings have been preserved for others to study and learn from, appears to me to be something to marvel at and appreciate.

This is recognised in our Uniting Church Basis of Union, which in acknowledges the contribution of Reformation witnesses and scholarly interpreters of scripture."

In another arena, we may still sing Hymns written by authors from several centuries ago or even further if we indulge in the use of the "old hymn books" from time to time.

For example writers like St Stephen the Sabaite 725 – 794 and Bianca da Siena who died in 1434.

As well as appreciating these writings in their context, to me, the challenge seems to be to appreciate the messages they bring in our day and age.



Paul reminds us in his letter to the Colossians: "May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father, who has enabled you to share the inheritance that belongs to God's holy people, who live in the light."

We need to be thankful for the writers of old and build on their legacy. Also, perhaps we need to be vigilant that some of our present day electronic writings of value, are not lost in the future, when technology moves us on to another form of recording our faith and beliefs.

Provided by Greg Samson



**Traralgon District Uniting Church**

Incorporating: Traralgon, Traralgon South, Glengarry & Rosedale.



***This Sunday 16th July***

<b>Traralgon</b>	9:00 am	Rev. T. Johnson
<b>Glengarry</b>	11:00 am	Rev. T. Johnson
<b>Rosedale</b>	9:00 am	B. Hutton
<b>Traralgon Sth</b>	9:00 am	No local service

***Next Sunday 23rd July***

<b>Traralgon</b>	9:00 am	Rev. T. Johnson
<b>Glengarry</b>	11:00 am	K & I Conabere & S. Scarlett
<b>Rosedale</b>	11:00 am	Rev. T. Johnson
<b>Traralgon Sth</b>	9:00 am	Anglican

***Rosters for 23rd July***

<b>Stewards</b>	C. Mckeown J. Newling
<b>Elder</b>	I. Leversha
<b>Children's Address</b>	S. Scarlett
<b>Welcome Door</b>	C. Rhimes M. Stephens
<b>Newcomers</b>	B. Palmer
<b>Reader</b>	K. Conabere
<b>Morning Tea</b>	R. Hare I. McGloin
<b>Accounting Team</b>	J. Smart D. Steyn J. Allcorn F. Doonan
<b>Flowers</b>	J. Smart
<b>Grounds</b>	I. Whitehead C. Rode



**MUSICIANS for 23rd July**

<b>Traralgon</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	M. Crisp
<b>Glengarry</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	I. Conabere
<b>Rosedale</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	J. Cox
<b>Traralgon South</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	Anglican

**DATES FOR OUR DIARY**



**Monday 17th July**

9:00	Playgroup
1:30 pm	Monday Bible Study

**Tuesday 18th July**

7:30 pm	Tuesday Bible Study
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**Wednesday 19th July**

1:30 pm	UCAF
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**Thursday 20th July**

9:00 am	Prayer gathering
9:15 am	mainly music
7:30 pm	Thursday Homegroup

**Friday 21st July**

7:00 pm	Singing group
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**Monday 24th July**

9:00 am	Playgroup
1:30 pm	Monday Bible Study

**Tuesday 25th July**

2:00 pm	Afternoon Service
7:30 pm	Tuesday Bible Study

**Thursday 26th July**

9:00 am	Prayer Gathering
9:15 am	mainly music

**Friday 27th July**

7:00 pm	Singing group
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**Playgroup**

Monday 9:30 am - 11:00 am  
during school term.



*Interested persons please contact Theresa or Sue*

**mainly music ...**

 mainly music is on every Thursday at 9:15 am during school term. The new roster is on the notice board, please put your name down if you are willing to help. Contact Marilyn or Theresa if you have any queries.

**LECTIONARY READINGS**

**SUNDAY 16th July**

Genesis 25:19-34	Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**SUNDAY 23rd July**

Genesis 28:10-19a	Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**Notices**

- ◆ If you know of anybody who is in hospital, please let Tony know so that arrangements can be made for him to pay them a visit.
- ◆ During the cold winter months, the Thursday morning Prayer gathering will be held in the ministers office



*Trust - in His timing  
 Rely - on His promises  
 Wait - for His answers  
 Believe - in His miracles  
 Rejoice - in His goodness  
 Relax - in His presence*

*Come near to God and He will come near to you James 4:8*

**Opening of the Church on a Regular Basis**

It is desired to form a working committee (or Task Group if you like) to give serious thought to how we might be able to open up our building to the Community on a routine regular basis. Please let Tony Boulton know if you would like to be involved in this process as we would really like to include those who are not otherwise involved in ongoing leadership activities at present.

Following two preliminary proposal documents presented, Church Council at its July meeting gave approval in principal to formation of a group to prepare a formal proposal and recommendations to Council for the routine supervised opening for Community Use of the Sanctuary, Foyer and Chapel for Prayer, Meditation and Study (including use of media).

Your prayers, discussion (particularly in Study Groups) and advice reported back would help in further defining the concepts for later Council consideration.

Some "Leadership" activities, which might include Alpha studies for example or other service options such as the current Opportunity Shop options being considered could be included as a part of any proposal.

There might also be opportunity to liaise with other groups using the buildings to provide, through personal invitation, opportunity to participate in these various activities; including of course, Worship.

It is hoped that at least a preliminary proposal, including any implementation plan, could be brought to the September meeting of Council with a view to an early implementation date during our 2017 Spring.

Please contact Tony Boulton, Theresa Steyn or Rev Tony Johnson to express your interest, Thank you.

**WANTED:**

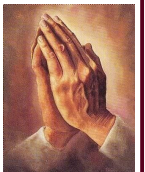
Men and women who know the love of God and have gifts and talents which they wish to share in caring for the people of God in Traralgon Uniting Church. There are many ways to serve in our Church including stewards, being on the Welcome Door, the Newcomers Team, reading the Bible, serving morning tea, assisting on the accounting team, providing flowers or working to upkeep the grounds. Our rosters at times are hard to fill, so if you feel you are able to assist in any of these ways, please let either Bruce & Heather Boucher or Sheila & Ian Whitehead know.

**U.C.A.F.**

The next meeting of our U.C.A.F group will be held on Wednesday 19th July 1.30 PM at the church. The syllabus item will be a segment of the DVD The Game Changer. Karl Faase interviews several people and asks them to explain their reasons as to why they, and we, can believe the Jesus story. Discussion to follow.

You are welcome to join us.

**PRAISE AND PRAYER**



**As part of God's wonderful family let us pause and give thanks for:**

- \* the work of the Gideons and the Bible Society
- \* mainly music and the Playgroup, the children and the parents who share in these groups
- \* all those who serve so faithfully and diligently in our congregation, but go unnoticed and unnamed. Thank you to all of you, for making our community a vibrant and vital one

**and we pray:**

- \* for the Gideons and their ministry of distributing the Bible. We pray for those who read the Bibles provided, that they may come to saving faith
- \* for the leaders organising September camp
- \* for those preparing for Synod 2017, the Moderator and those with leadership responsibilities in the running of Synod
- \* for all those whom we know are struggling with illness or any other difficult circumstances
- \* for all who grieve the death of a loved one
- \* that we would all be people who seek to share the love of Christ in deed, what we do, and in word, witness and evangelism

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers**

### **Broadband (NBN) Telephone & Internet Connection**

If you are considering a change in your current set up; and, particularly if you are considering or are happy to consider the Church's Internet Service Provider (ISP) Aussie Broadband (now also Tony's) please talk to Tony Boulton before committing. The Church, if such a connection is considered by Aussie as a referral (and we are currently working to confirm that), could receive considerable benefit if UCA Traralgon (Tony Boulton = authorized person on account) is quoted as the referring body. You can check the Aussie offers for yourself at [www.aussiebroadband.com.au/residential/internet-phone-bundle/](http://www.aussiebroadband.com.au/residential/internet-phone-bundle/)

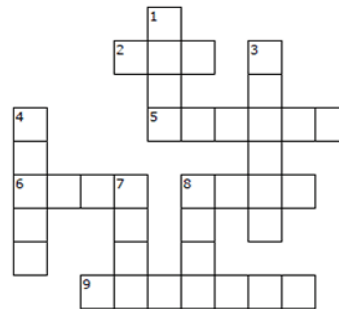
### **HAVE YOU REMEMBERED?**

Have you remembered that 40% of the world's population does not have access to a toilet and we are doing our best to help remedy the situation by selling toilet paper. Half of the proceeds go towards providing toilets in third world countries. They are big rolls and sell for one dollar each. Please buy some and give them to your family as well.  
See Bev Palmer. 51778107.

# KID'S TALK

## The Parable of the Sower

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. Matthew 13:23  
Based on Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23 (NIV)



#### ACROSS

- To put seeds in the ground so that plants will grow
- Small, sharp, pointed growths on the stem of a plant
- Plants such as grain, vegetables, or fruit grown by farmers
- A small, usually hard part of a plant from which a new plant can grow
- Not deep

#### DOWN

- The part of a plant which grows down into the earth
- A person who owns or takes care of a farm
- Covered with stones
- A way made by or for people walking on the ground
- The upper layer of earth that may be dug or plowed and in which plants grow

PATH	CROP	SOIL	THORNS	ROOT
SHALLOW	FARMER	SEED	SOW	ROCKY

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### **Uniting Church in Australia - Traralgon District**

19-29 Park Lane (PO Box 1136) TRARALGON 3844 ph: 5176 1029

Minister: Tony Johnson 0421331894

[tonyjj.tuc@gmail.com](mailto:tonyjj.tuc@gmail.com)

Parish Administrative Assistant: Theresa Steyn

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am-1pm

Email Address: [mail@traralgon.unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:mail@traralgon.unitingchurch.org.au)

Web Address: <http://traralgonuc.blogspot.com/>