

Spicer

Matters



November 2016

From Judi



Last week, Dr Deidre Palmer, the moderator of the Uniting Church SA Synod, came to Spicer. The theme for her term as moderator has been Community in Christ: Living Compassion and Hope. This has made me think some more about community – and what it means to live in community.

In today's world community is very different to how it was even 50 years ago. It is very easy for people to become isolated and this is not good. I attended a forum on mental health recently and we were told that being connected with community is essential for our mental health. I discovered that at any time 1 in 4 people may be suffering from mental ill health – this has risen in recent years from 1 in 5. I also discovered that the person in the corner, who is not joining in may be vulnerable. At Spicer we try to care for one another and if we know of a need we try to help. I encourage you to look out for the person who may not be engaging – who may be putting on a mask while struggling inside. Engage with the person, it may take many attempts but please keep trying, keep offering the hand of friendship and care. It may make all the difference in someone's life.

In Matthew 25, the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, Jesus says whenever you (noticed, cared etc) for someone in need you cared for him. Let us notice each other and care for those in our various communities.

Blessings

Judi



jams &
cakes

Spring Fete

Saturday
29 October
8.30am – 1.30pm

Spicer
Uniting Church

44a Fourth Avenue
St Peters

sausage
sizzle

coffee &
devonshire
tea

plants

pre-loved
books

craft

trash &
treasure

Spicer Community Lunch

Australian Story: War, Depression and Post War Prosperity



Dennis Stidston is a real St Peters native: born at 19 Fifth Ave in 1931; attended Hackney Free Kindergarten and East Adelaide School (and later Norwood) until the age of 14. He was also part of Spicer Sunday School and, with his wife Gwen, is a regular at Spicer Community Lunch. Unlike most children today, Dennis enjoyed the freedom of walking or cycling to school unaccompanied by any adult.

His family of four children suffered greater poverty than most during the Great Depression of the 1930's. This was because his father had returned from World War I virtually unemployable owing to war induced deafness. Despite their



poverty, his mother insisted on paying for her children's school books out of a meagre disability pension.

Against his will, his mother insisted that Dennis leave school at 14 in order to take his first job in the post office at St Peters. In order to qualify for a permanent position, he was required to know typing which he learned at night school.

When he turned 18 in 1949, Dennis joined the Royal Australian Air Force where he was trained over many years as an engine mechanic in various locations – Laverton (Victoria), Rathmines (a base for flying boats on Lake Macquarie) and Wagga (NSW). He ended up in Adelaide where he met and married Gwen in 1952, with whom he has three children (and many grandchildren some of whom have made them great grandparents).

Dennis was posted to Vietnam with the rank of Warrant Officer where he served for two and one half years away from his family. His job was to service Canberra bombers.

Following his resignation and discharge from the RAAF, Dennis spent the next 20 years working at the Adelaide Children's Hospital as a clerk, storeman and Purchasing Officer. In that last role he was responsible for purchasing medical supplies for many state government instrumentalities.

Dennis retired at the age of 60 and has spent the following years gardening, learning bricklaying and how to play the organ and the trombone. He became a member of the Enfield Town Band and the Baptist and Uniting Churches – Dennis and Gwen now attend Walkerville Uniting.

One other highlight of their retirement years has been a trip to the UK where they discovered a very prosperous Stidston family connection in Plymouth.

Let us hope we see more of them at Spicer in the years to come.





playgroup





Each Tuesday morning during term time the children (and carers) of our local community gather at Spicer for our Playgroup. We have a variety of activities, ranging from painting to play equipment to general play. After 1.5 hours of dedicated playtime, the little tykes assemble for a story and a collection of songs, with accompaniment on the piano from Ann O. At 11.45 both families and helpers join each other for a lunch of sandwiches, made with love and care by Michelle & Marilyn, followed by assorted biscuits and cake.

A big thank you to all the people involved: Bill, Margaret B, Malcolm, Marilyn, Michelle, Margaret J, Sonia, Ann O, Helen & Judi.

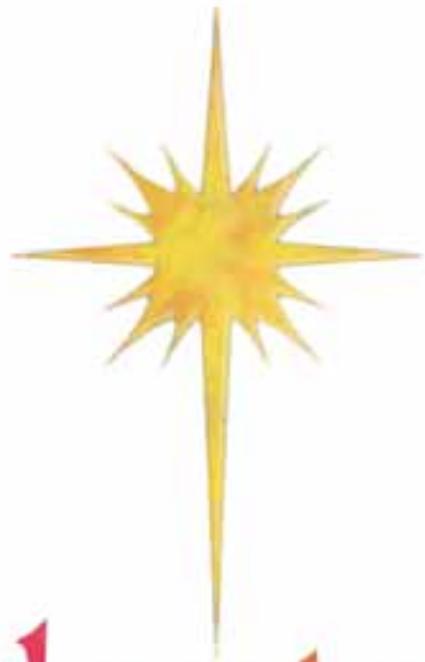


Operation Christmas Child

This year the shoeboxes filled and collected for Operation Christmas Child are going to Cambodia. These boxes bring delight and joy to the children they are given to, and are a lot of fun to pack. Each box has something to love, something to play with, something for school, something to wear, something special and something for hygiene. Finding just the right thing to buy for the sex and age of the children can be a challenge – especially when battery operated toys aren't a good idea! – however it's well worth the time and effort. One suggestion – start shopping for next year now! Boxes can be filled throughout the year (if you have somewhere to store them) and brought into church at the end of the year.



*Rediscover the
Christmas story...*



*Carols
in the
Amphitheatre*



Enfield Brass

The Jones Commentary

30 voice gospel choir

Children's Nativity

Sunday 18th December 7:30pm

Dunstone Grove, Stepney
(opposite The Avenues Shopping Centre)

Free sausage sizzle

Spicer
Uniting Church

44a Fourth Avenue, St Peters
www.spicer.org.au

Gingerbread House building

Thursday 1 December 7 pm

Friday 2 December 7 pm

Saturday 3 December 2 pm

Please book through the church office on 8362 3771 by Fri 25 November so that enough kits can be made.

Cost \$15. Included: house, silver base, icing glue and cellophane. BYO lollies.



For your November calendar

Tues 1	Playgroup	10 am
	Lunch	11.45 am
	Movie Group	TBA
Tues 8	Playgroup	10 am
	Lunch	11.45 am
Wed 9	Just COS	10 am
Sat 12	Eat Pray Care	10 am
Sun 13	Church Picnic	10.30 am
Tues 15	Playgroup	10 am
	Lunch	11.45 am
Thurs 17	Community Lunch	12 noon
Sat 19	Special gingerbread event for ladies	2 pm
Sun 20	Youth Group	2 pm
Mon 21	RAD	7.30 pm
Tues 22	Playgroup	10 am
	Lunch	11.45 am
Wed 23	Just COS	10 am
	Church Council	7.30 pm
Tues 29	Playgroup	10 am
	Lunch	11.45 am

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday 13 November

10.30 am

Dunstone Grove



Ministry Team

Minister

Rev Judi Hartwig
c/- Office
judi@spicer.org.au

Office Administrator

Helen Lloyd
c/- Office
helen@spicer.org.au

Music Director

Rod Ennis
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Youth Leader

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Pastoral Care Coordinator

Anne Wilson
0419 816 097
sarnia@internode.on.net

Playgroup Coordinator

Margaret Just
0417 475 383

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Church Council

Jane Allen
Sue Harding
Warwick Jarrett (Sec)
Julia Lloyd-Jones
Pam McEwin
Jill Miller
Melanie West (on sabbatical)
Michael Whitehead (Chair)

Spicer Matters

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hrs: Tue–Thur 9am–3.30pm; Fri 9am–2.30pm



Deadline for next issue

Please have all articles to Anne by Sun 20 November