



# Everton Park



## SERVICES

### TUESDAYS:

- 9:30 am Holy Communion

### FRIDAYS:

1st and 3rd Friday nights:

- ♦ 7pm Alive & In the House
- ♦ 7:30pm 28th November Confirmation Service

### SUNDAYS:

- 7.15 am Traditional Communion Service
- 9.30am Contemporary Communion Service with Kid's Time (followed by morning tea).

## November Calendar

### MONDAYS:

- 7 pm Men's Study Group

### TUESDAYS

- 7 pm 4th,18th, 25th(Carols) November Creative Arts Rehearsal
- 6.00 pm 11th November Parish Council

### WEDNESDAYS:

- 9.30am Gentle Exercises
- 12.30pm—Beacon Counseling Ministry
- 10:45 am 12th November MU Meeting and Lunch
- 11:30am 26th November MU Lunch at Arana Leagues Club
- 4:45 pm 26th November BCM Supervision Sem.

### SATURDAYS

- 1pm 15th November Baptism Seminar
- 2:30 pm 15th November Confirmation Seminar

### SUNDAYS

- 11:15 am 16th November Carols Rehearsals
- 11:30am 23rd November Confirmation Seminar



**Birthday Morning Tea after the 9.30am service on 11th November**

## CONTACT DETAILS

### SENIOR PASTORS:

Andrew and Lynette Peters

### RECTOR:

The Rev'd Dr. Andrew Peters PhD FAIM

### CREATIVE ARTS DIRECTOR:

Lynette Peters MA (Mus)

### WARDENS:

Jim Smith (Treasurer)

Vicki Herman

Neil Griffiths

### ADDRESS:

- 203 Flockton Street Everton Park
- Mail: PO Box 231, Everton Park 4053

### TELEPHONE:

- Phone: 3353 2020
- Fax: 3353 8877
- Emergency Pastoral Care: 0418 775 166
- Practical Care: 0408 770 748
- Emergency Prayer: 3353 2045

### INTERNET:

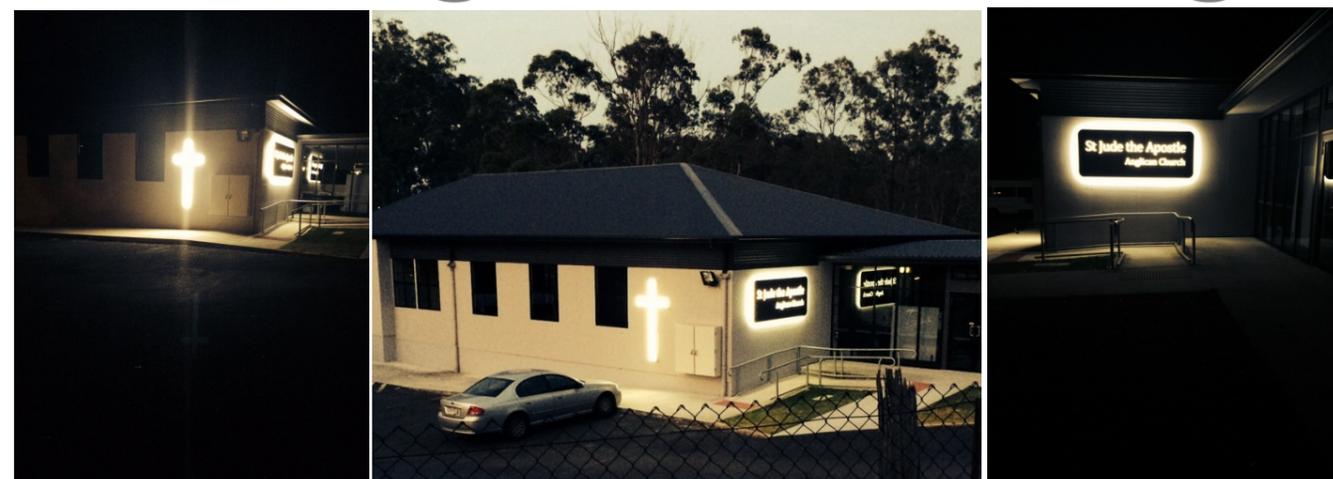
- E-mail: stjude@tpg.com.au



# The Cornerstone

## November 2014

## New Light Cross & Sign



## Using Open-systems dynamics

In the September issue of *The Cornerstone* we addressed the movement of our church from a closed to an open-system church. The concept of open and closed system churches has its early beginnings with the teaching of the Apostle Paul. He expounds this in 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4, where he uses "body" analogy to explain the systemic nature of the church, its people, groups, activities and leadership. He also uses system-thinking to challenge the Galatian church, which had forsaken the Gospel and turned back to the Law. For Paul all members of the Body of Christ are both unique in their gift-mix and indispensable for the effective life of the church, which is the Body of Christ.

In our own time, Systems Theory has deep resonance with Paul's understanding of the interrelatedness and interdependence of the different members and groups in the church. Systems theory formed one of the key models used by Social Sciences over the last couple of decades and subsequently used to describe organisational dynamics in both business and volunteer-

intensive organisations such as the church. Its focus is two-fold: 1/ the internal relatedness or interaction within the various groups or sectors that go to make up an organisation or church; and 2/ the engagement of the organisation or church with its external environment. Internally, relatedness notes the importance of seeing the different sections or subsystems of the church as related rather than unrelated, therefore noting the implications of decisions made in one section of the church, which can have an inordinate effect on other sections of the church. Externally, it notes the importance of the church's interaction with its environment – its local community, city and nation.

By moving towards an open-system church our own church has positioned itself to engage three processes that help us to be effective in achieving our God-given purpose:

**1/ the first is an awareness of the nature of our external environment (the world around us) - the failure of**

the Anglican Decade of Evangelism, at the turning of the second millennium, led us to believe that the world around us was impervious to the Gospel – we were led to believe that the world around us was not interested in the Gospel/Church or just did not want to be bothered. This was the expected conclusion of fifty years of church decline. I want to say categorically that that picture of the world out there is no longer true, if it ever was true. That picture of the world came from a disengagement of the church from its external environment, as it moved to a seclusion of the church within itself. An open-system church will engage that world again and seek to understand its motivations and language and speak into it in terms that it can understand.

**2/ an understanding of the church's specific mission** – the church has a general mission to preach the Gospel to the whole world. However, each local church has its particular skills and abilities that uniquely equip it to impact various parts of our society and the world at large. This requires our church to reflect upon and think through the unique message we have for the world we are re-engaging. One aspect of that message for our church is the essence of giving that lies at the heart of God who gave us His Son, and the joyfulness and excitement of giving that unleashes the miracle-working power of God in our midst.

**3/ its development of the core competencies needed to accomplish that mission** – a closed church ignores or deliberately resists the call to learn and grow through learning that is at the heart of equipping its members for their specific mission to the world at large. It means taking the time to meet in study and discussion groups that involve a dialogical interactive learning process. This along with specific skill development enables our members to effectively interact with our external environment – where there are people who want to know the Gospel and what they need to do.<sup>1</sup>

The movement from a closed to an open-system church involves enabling team members to get to know each other better. We do this so that the church can achieve its goals and vision, as well as, enabling individual members to satisfy their need for inclusion, support, power and achievement. When this is done properly it develops a church that works responsively with its leadership to achieve God's purpose for His church. When it flounders or is hijacked by people with their own agendas, it creates a divisive element in the church that pushes people into factions and undermines the leadership of the church. Mink, Mink and Owen note the following points as important for church members to overcome the debilitating effects of a closed-system church to one that exhibits and nurtures openness:

**Developing Trust:** trust develops in groups that reward sharing of ideas, thoughts, opinions, and feelings and that make and keep simple agreements. Such groups are characterized by a climate of cohesion, belonging, and mutual confidence.

**Accepting and Recognizing Individual Differences:** communicates acknowledgement and respect for each person's unique point of view.

**Giving and Receiving Feedback:** to learn, grow and succeed, team members require feedback on how their performance compares with what is expected of them. The availability of feedback enables the individual and the team to stay on target. When the team is closed to constructively analyzing its performance against expectations, the likelihood of failure is increased immeasurably.

**Problem Solving:** problems arise and the successful team learns how to identify them and develop solutions. The alternative to problem finding and solving is binding the group's energy in faultfinding and scape-goating, both of which reduce the team's effectiveness in achieving its goals.

**Letting go of the Past:** effective teams spend time celebrating their accomplishments. This process strengthens the team. It also enables the team to let go of what has been done and to refocus its energy on what is to be accomplished next. When a team experiences a setback or failure, it is important to take time to grieve together. This process frees up energy that would otherwise be tied up in resentments, regrets, and shaken confidence. Although there has been failure at the task level, the grieving process turns defeat into victory at the level of group maintenance and individual needs.<sup>2</sup>

For a church to move out of closedness to openness it needs to develop a learning framework that enables all its members to understand the culture, ethos and nature of open-system dynamics. This moves the church towards effectiveness in its God-given mission and the individual members to growth in fruitfulness. This framework will enable different members to learn in their own way the things that they need to be vibrant effective Christian men and women.

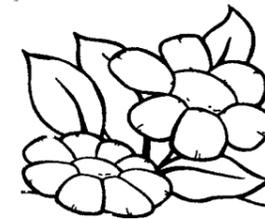
*Ps Andrew Peters*

<sup>1</sup> Peter Drucker, *Managing in a Time of Great Change* (Oxford: Butterworth-Heinmann, 1995), 26-27.

<sup>2</sup> Mink, Oscar, Barbara Mink, and Owen, Keith, *Groups at Work* (New Jersey: Educational Technology Publications, 1987), 39-40.

## CHILDREN – AGES 8-10 YEARS

# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



## Word Find

Look up, down, across, and diagonally to find these words:

LOVE

PATIENCE

FAITHFULNESS

JOY

KINDNESS

GENTLENESS

PEACE

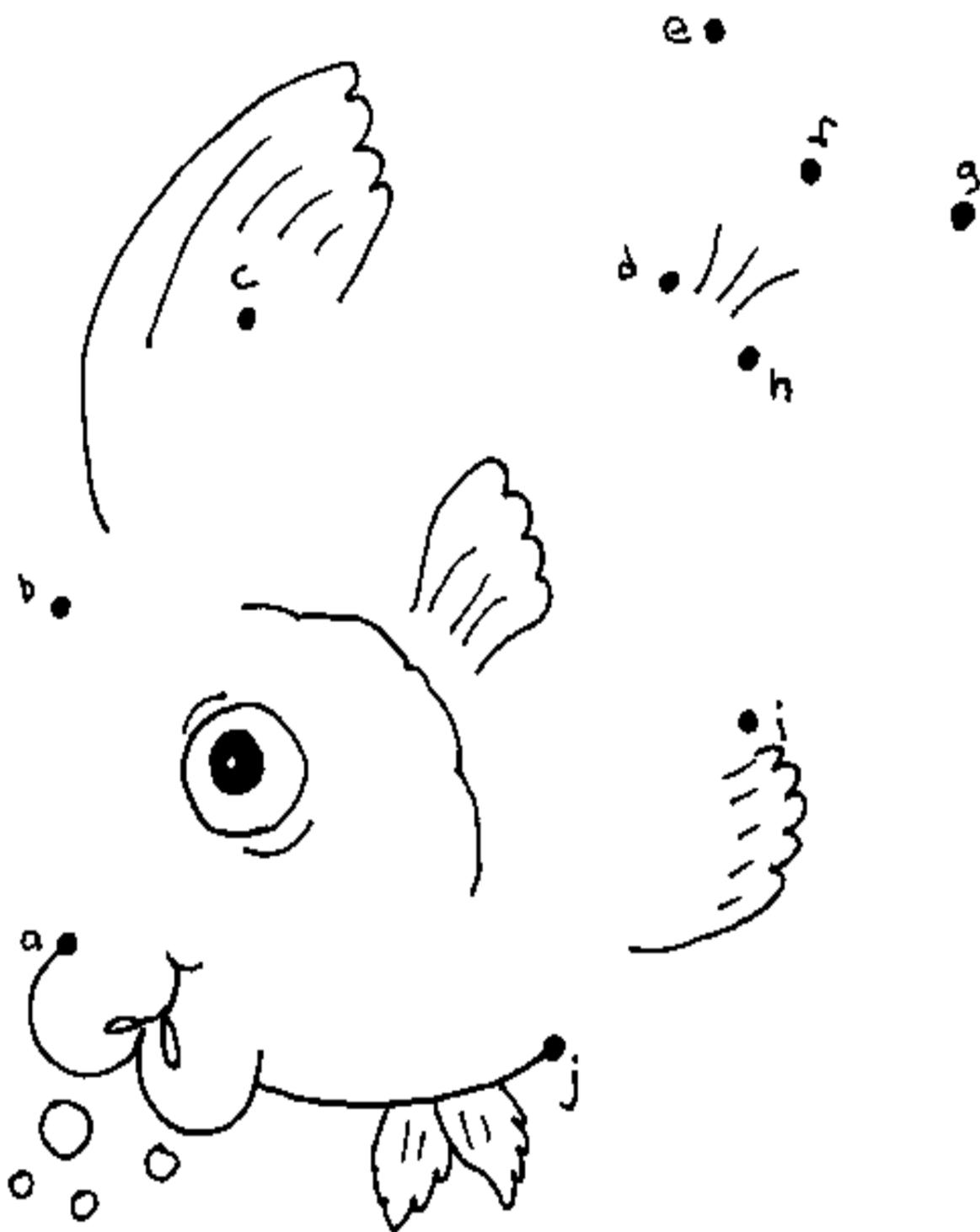
GOODNESS

SELF CONTROL

Y	K	I	N	D	N	E	S	S	N	Y	E
G	T	P	Y	D	B	T	L	W	S	C	G
L	S	A	M	L	J	O	Y	B	A	R	E
O	K	T	D	G	G	N	H	E	D	G	N
V	C	I	W	S	O	M	P	K	Y	M	T
E	S	E	L	F	C	O	N	T	R	O	L
H	N	N	P	B	Y	N	D	W	S	K	E
W	S	C	K	S	G	P	L	N	D	T	N
N	B	E	L	M	T	U	B	H	E	W	E
F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	N	E	S	S
C	Y	L	H	V	W	T	S	H	T	P	S

## CHILDREN – AGES 6-8 YEARS

### JOIN THE DOTS



# 2015 World Day of Prayer Bahamas Competition

In March next year, our Church will host the 2015 World Day of Prayer for our local area. Each year has a different region of the world as its theme. The theme next year will be the *Bahamas*. To assist our Creative Arts and MU teams to prepare for this event we ask for the support of our members in gathering information and pictures on the Bahamas. The best of these will then form the material for our audio/visual and poster/picture presentation at the World Day of Prayer. To do this we are going to conduct a number of competitions, with prizes for different age groups. There are a number of levels:

- ⇒ **Level 1: Multi-media Presentation: [prizes for best in adult (18plus); Teenagers; and Children categories]**
  - PowerPoint presentation – from 20 to 30 slides
  - Video/DVD presentation
- ⇒ **Level 2: Picture Poster Presentation: [prizes for best in adult (18plus); Teenagers; and Children categories]**
- ⇒ **Level 3: Coloring-In Presentation: [prizes for best children categories]**

Presentations need to be submitted to the Pariah Bahamas Committee on or before Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Winners will be announced at the Confirmation Service on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November.



**MU Australia**  
Part of the World Wide Mothers' Union



#### MU CHRISTMAS LUNCH:

DATE: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November  
TIME: 11.30am for 12 noon  
Place: Arana Leagues Club –  
Dawson Rd Arana Hills  
COST: \$28.00  
RSVP: 18<sup>th</sup> November

**Sign Sheets available in Church Foyer and  
CMC Reception**

### High Tea

## St Jude's Christmas Breakup

Sunday 14th December - 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm

### Carols Service

## St Jude's with Brisbane Brass Music Assoc.

Sunday 14th December - 5.00 pm

# St Jude's Day Celebration Sunday 26th October 2014

## 9.00 am Combined Service

Featuring drama, special items, great worship, children's item, music and message.

## 11.00 am Morning Tea

**12 noon BBQ Lunch** - Steak, sausages, chicken, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, salads, Cheesecakes, Cakes, Fruit Salad and Ice Cream cones, Punch, Coffee, tea, cordial and Cold water.

## After Lunch Vision Launch

**Cost: Adults \$15; Children \$5 (under 5 free); Families \$40**

## Confirmation-Reception Seminars

**Saturday 15th November—2.30 pm to 4.30 pm**

**Sunday 23rd November—11.30 am to 1.00 pm**

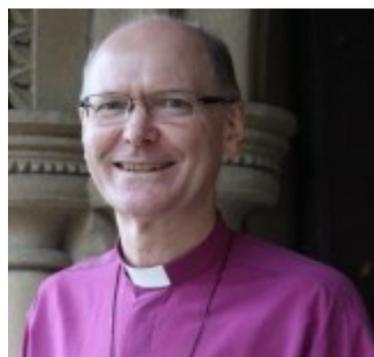
## Confirmation-Reception Service with Bishop Jonathan

A number of our members are preparing to be confirmed or received into the Anglican Church by Bishop Jonathan. Please join us for the evening to support them and celebrate this time with them.

**Date: Friday 28th November**

**Time: 7.30 pm**

**Followed by Refreshments**



# Retiring Offertory 26th October 2014



Neil Moss outlined the great work that Gideons International in placing Bibles in hotels, motels, hospitals and with students across the world.

*[there will be a retiring offering taken on the day as well as online at*

*Pay anyone - Gideons - BSB: 704901 A/c No 00000550]*

## Working BEE

We had a great team of people assist us at the working bee, who installed posts, planted trees, spread soil and weeded the gardens. Kevin and Don also cleaned the alfresco café's decorated concrete.

