

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH BRISBANE (MCC)

Volume 1, Issue 2

March 2007

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PASTORS PEN

### The Assistant Pastor's Pen

-As most of you know we had a robbery while we were away on holiday. We were very lucky not to lose a lot of our property and this was avoided because the person looking after our home returned earlier than he originally had intended. I believe God had a hand in this. Our car was stolen but luckily I had trusted an idea I had before I went away and did not fill it up with petrol. Consequently there was very little petrol in the car and the robbers left it in Albion with the lights on so the battery was flattened. There was only a belt broken in the car. If we had listened to Anne's inner wisdom, which said that the car should be put in front of the bike we may not have had the car stolen.

- We have learnt from this to take notice of our gut feelings/inner wisdom. How about you? Have you said after the event - I did have a feeling to do such and such. God has made us in this wonderful way to help us along in our life.

-Then this week we were looking for a house. I felt that as we had a dog this would not help us find an appropriate rental property. We both said to each other -don't worry about what the media says about there being too few rental properties. We both decided we would trust God, that there would be the right place for us. Going on past experience there was a place for us when we moved from Rockhampton to Brisbane. God does look after all of us.

-The second house we looked at had everything we needed.. There was also space to continue the Sunday morning home group etc for the church. It was not far from the railway station for those with no cars. We were the only ones looking at it, which we thought strange but hoped this would be in our favour. We put in an application that day. By midday the following day we had the approval we needed.

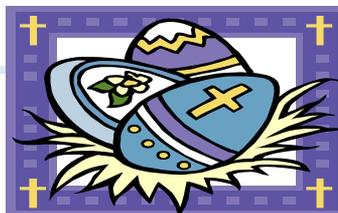
What am I trying to say? When we trust those instincts or listen when God uses other people God can work in ways to help us. You may wish to call it inner wisdom. It can be very hard at times to believe that God can work things out but each time we do so makes us a little stronger the next time. Sometimes the result does happen immediately, as it did with our house. Sometimes we are told - not just yet, or sometimes we have to wait for a better answer that will be shown to us. Keep growing the trust in your life.

IRIS SAGGERS

## EASTER SERVICE TIMES

This Easter we will have 3 different services you can attend.

On **Maundy Thursday** evening we will have a Christian Passover -come foot washing -come Lord's Supper style service in the 'church' space under the pastors' new home **at 9 Wyeth St Wynnum. 7pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April.** You will need to let either Iris or Anne know if you are coming to this so they can cater accurately - and if you can make a contribution to the cost of the meal that would be appreciated. On **Good Friday** we will again have a service **at 9 Wyeth St Wynnum.** This will be a meditative style service and weather permitting may be held in the garden. **3pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April.** On Easter Sunday we will have our usual Sunday services with a special Easter emphasis. That will be **9-30am** in the 'church' space downstairs at 9 Wyeth St Wynnum, and 7pm at the Quaker Meeting House 10 Hampson St Kelvin Grove. See you at some or all of these.



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### **From the Editor:**

- If you have anything to say or share with the rest of the congregation, please email me at [scdebeer@hotmail.com](mailto:scdebeer@hotmail.com) and I will gladly include it in the next newsletter.
- Also inform me of any speakers or events you know about that we can all attend and benefit from.
- Until next time, God Bless

Susan

# MATTERS OF THE CHURCH

## ROSTERS

At MCC Brisbane we have a roster system for many of the tasks involved in running a service. Some of the tasks you could go on roster to do are greeters, readers, acolyte, musicians, preparing supper and leading prayers. Some people are also invited by the pastors to preach, give the congregational story and serve communion.

The pastors are always looking to learn the talents of people in the church in order to empower them to use these gifts in ministry within MCC Brisbane. If you believe you have gifts we can use here at MCC please make sure the pastors know about them.



## PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

### REV IVOR HOLMANS

It was real good to see Ivor and Adriaan at the Crave service last week. Unfortunately Ivor is back in hospital again, and needs all the prayers we can give him. We pray that God will heal Ivor and help him restore his strength. Also think of Adriaan who is going through trying times at the moment.

## PASTORS ON THE MOVE

Anne and Iris has been blessed with a wonderful new home. They will be moving in over the next couple of weeks and can use all the help they can get if anybody is available to help.

The new address is:

**9 Wyeth str, Wynnum**

For people using the train, you will get off at the **Wynnum North station**.

For people using the bus you will use the **bus no. 223 and 224**

For people driving, use the **Wynnum North road, left into Hanam str and left into Wyeth str.**

**UBD 143 C15**

The move should be all done by the 30th of March 2007.

## Zero Tolerance Policy

MCC Churches have zero tolerance for sexual harassment or predatory behavior of any kind. At MCC Brisbane we want all people to feel safe, and we will do all in our power to see that no sexual harassment, bullying or predatory behavior happens at any church function. We have a risk management policy which covers this and other matters and is available for perusal before and after church - just ask the greeters to show it to you. Please feel free to speak with the pastors or any member of the BOD should you experience sexual harassment, bullying or predatory behavior at any church function.

## MEMBERS MEETING

On the **1st of April** there will be a special members meeting to consider the new rules of association. This will be held at the church **straight after the service**. All members must try and be there as we need a majority present.

### Brenda and Claire

Our deepest condolences goes out to our sister Claire and her loved ones on the passing of her mother a couple of weeks ago. We pray that God that gives her the strength to go through this mourning period. We would also like you to pray for Brenda who's mother became seriously ill and is currently going through trying times herself. May God give that her mother will regain her strength and that God will heal her.

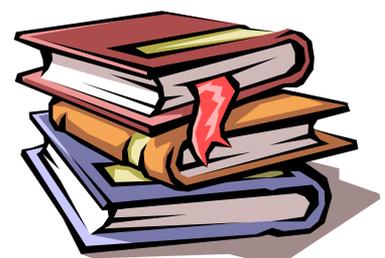
*"...God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid." Hebrews 13:5-6*

## LIBRARY

The church has a library of books which are predominantly for and/or about glbtqq persons - these include male and female fiction, studies and information on sexuality issues, some good literature on sexuality/spirituality and on homosexuality and the Bible. The library also contains many videos and

DVD's that are of interest to glbtqq people. There are over 300 titles to choose from and these are maintained by Iris. The library is housed at the pastors' home at 9 Wyeth str Wynnum and you can view it there on a Sunday morning or by arrangement. Iris brings a selection of books to church each

Sunday evening.



# HEALTH IN DIFFERENCE 2007

Health in difference is about diversity and is committed to the well-being of all individuals within the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) communities. The conference aims to provide forum that is stimulating, safe and supportive and where all aspects of the health within our communities can be explored. Health in difference 2007 is about acquiring new knowledge, perspective and skills; developing networks and having fun. **Topics:** 1. Changing cultural

and social climates. 2. Emerging health issues. 3. Advancing/Actioning contemporary legal rights. 4. Evolving/Exploring relationships. 5. Living Diversity.

Go to [www.healthindifference07.org](http://www.healthindifference07.org) for more details



## Congregation Picnic

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May we will be having a picnic at **Slaughter Falls**. This will begin at 11am and is a BYO everything picnic. Bring some games with and we can make it a fun day. Remember your hat, sunglasses and lots of sun screen and all your friends.

# LESSON OF THE DAY

## The Mayonnaise Jar and 2 Cups of Coffee

When things in your lives seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the 2 cups of coffee. A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with an unanimous "yes." The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under

the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. "Now," said the professor as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things—your family, your

jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you. "Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your pets. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first—the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand." One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

*There is always time for a cup of coffee*

children, your health, your friends and your favourite passions—and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else—the small stuff. "If you put the sand into the



## SISTERSPEAK

who identify as female. If you identify as female please consider joining us as we support each other in our life journeys and seek through fellowship and discussion to grow in faith and understanding.

Our first meeting went well and a program for the year has

been discussed. Our first activity will be a social BYO picnic at **Slaughter Falls on the 10th of March 2007 at 11H00** All is welcome and bring as many friends as you can to make this a fun day. Our next meeting will be on the **14 of April at 9 Wyeth str Wynnum at 14H00.**



SisterSpeak is a group for all

## FEBRUARY / MARCH 2007

MCC Brisbane meets twice on a Sunday

9:30 am **9 Wyeth str**  
**Wynnum**

19:00 10 Hampson Street  
Kelvin Grove  
Brisbane  
Queensland

Postal Address:

Po Box 317

Rev Anne James & Rev Iris Siggers

Phone: (07) 3891 1388

Cell: 0401 434 564

Email Anne : spaganne@iinet.net.au

Email Iris : isiggers@iinet.net.au

*All inclusive in the name of God*

**We have a web address**  
**[www.mccbris.asn.au](http://www.mccbris.asn.au)**

The next BOD meeting is  
Monday 02 April 2007 at  
19:00 at 9 Wyeth str Wynnum.



**Services** :People who attend Metropolitan Community Churches often come from widely diverse faith backgrounds as well as from a no-faith background. Here at MCC Brisbane we try to create services which will be welcoming and provide some familiarity for those from various faith backgrounds.

Our Sunday **Morning services** are a cross between a Home Group and a discussion group with a very informal Holy Communion thrown into the mix. These are held at the pastors' home at **9 Wyeth str Wynnum**.

On the **1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays** of each month our evening service would be an **eclectic mix of mainly modern protestant worship styles (think Uniting Church- sort of!)**.

On the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month** we have our **Pentecostal style service** of worship which we call our Crave Celebration Service.

On the **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday** of those months which have a fifth Sunday we have our '**Old Style**' service and this service has some traditional elements from Catholic / Anglican worship along with

music which is probably more traditional Baptist style music.

All are welcome at any of these services, or you can find the worship style which works for you.

## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### GET TO KNOW YOUR BOD:

**Pastors Anne James / Iris Siggers**



**Partners name:** We have been together for nearly 5 happy years.

**Pets name:** We have a 1 1/2 year tenterfield terrier called Candy.

**Any kids:** **A;** 2 married boys, 2 1/2 grandchildren. **I;** 1 boy, 1 girl both married and 5 grandchildren.

**Favorite Food:** **A;** Grilled Haloumi cheese. **I;** Fruit

**Favorite book:** **A;** BP Spongs—Why Christianity must change or die. **I;** Harry Potter.

**Favorite TV program:** **A;** Temptation **I;** Medium.

**What do you like least in life?** **A;** People who set out to hurt other people

**I;** People who hurt animals.

**What do you like most in life?**

**A;** Quiet times with Iris

**I;** Traveling seeing things.

**If time, and fear was no issue what would you still like to do before you die?** **A;** Travel 1st class on all the world's great railways. **I;** Travel all over Oz in a motorhome.

**What message would you like to send out there?** **A;** The people we love are precious, make sure they know they are loved by God and others. **I;** Enjoy each day to the utmost.



### The BOD now consists of

The Pastor as Moderator, The Clerk - Marie S, The Treasurer - Tracey N, Johann d J, Ray B, Susan d B, and the Lay Delegate - Robert C. These people seek to carry out the business of the church in such a way that money is used wisely and with integrity. They meet monthly generally on the first Monday night of each month. Members and friends are welcome to attend BOD meetings with voice but not vote.

