

Western Pacific District News



Edition 33/4 - Summer 2018/19



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Chief Apostle visit to Brisbane

A tribute to Apostle Hungito

Springvale celebrates 25 years





From the desk of District Apostle Schulte

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I hope you have all had a joyful and blessed festive season and I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

This article is somewhat of a new beginning. As our Chief Apostle said, "It's a new chapter but the same story". This story is about God and His love for man. His desire to help man, save man and for man to be reconciled with God, His gift of the Apostle ministry and its authority in salvation. This ministry is not the personal property of man but rather God's gift in the fulfilling of salvation. The story ends when man can live in eternity with God in the new creation – this does not change.

The new chapter has two parts to it. Firstly, the District Apostle is a different person. I'm sure you will recognise a difference of personality. I'm going to endeavour to do a good job of being me, rather than do a poor job

of trying to be District Apostle Andersen. My desire however is the same as all of our previous District Apostles: to wholeheartedly follow our Chief Apostle and walk together with all of you towards the goal of our faith – the return of our Saviour.

Secondly, a newly formed Western Pacific District. In this new "congregation" of Western Pacific, I look forward to experiencing characteristics out of our New Apostolic Church Vision and Mission Statements. A congregation in which people feel at home and cultivate a warm fellowship in which everyone shall experience the love of God and the joy of serving him and others.

I think most of you would be aware of the development in the defining of "Concept of Ministry". With my ordination as an Apostle, assignment as District Apostle Helper and appointment as District Apostle we have heard first hand

in our district new terminology that has come out of this. In CNAC 7.6 it says we have three levels of Ministry in the New Apostolic Church, the three being Apostle, Priest and Deacon. Within the ministry there are different functions - a ministry is given through ordination; for a helper function, a blessing is given through assignment. For a leadership function, a blessing and sanctification is given through appointment. As of Pentecost 2019 the separation of spiritual ministry and leadership function will come into effect with the Priest ministry. You can read more about this on nac.today and if you do not have access to the internet please ask your Rector and I'm sure he will make it available to you. Our Chief Apostle will make an announcement regarding this matter in the coming months.

Preparations are well under way for the visit of our Chief Apostle to our district in September of this year. As

soon as all venues are confirmed, this information will be made available to all.

Already since being ordained as an Apostle in September 2017, I have visited many areas that are new to me and I am very thankful that I have been welcomed warmly and reassured of your support and prayers. I am grateful for this and would like to assure you that you also have my support and prayer always.

With loving greetings

Peter Schulte

Striving onward, Pressing forward

Chief Apostle visit to Brisbane, Australia

On Wednesday 26 September Chief Apostle Schneider conducted a divine service for the members in Hong Kong. During this service, he announced the creation of a new district: Western Pacific.

The responsibility of caring for this district was given to Apostle Peter Schulte, just days prior to his appointment as District Apostle.

Hong Kong, together with Taiwan, Macao, Japan and Korea will be added to the countries under the former "Australia District" banner, namely American Samoa, Australia, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and a number of other South Pacific islands.

From Hong Kong, the Chief Apostle travelled to Australia, arriving in Brisbane on Friday 28 September. Accompanying the Chief Apostle on this visit were District Apostles Michael Ehrich from Germany, Urs Hebeisen from the Philippines, Leonard Kolb from USA, Mark Woll from Canada and District Apostle Helper David Devaraj from India. The Apostles from the Western Pacific District were also in attendance.

On Saturday the Chief Apostle met with the parents of the youth, where he gave an address which discussed the responsibilities parents have toward their children and how to help foster a love in them for Jesus Christ and his teaching.

At the conclusion of this address, all members were invited to attend an afternoon of fellowship. This served to increase the joy and excitement of all in attendance. It also provided the opportunity for a combined choir and orchestra practice to take place, and for the Sunday School children to rehearse the items they would present the following day.

Sunday was of course the highlight of the weekend, with the divine service conducted by Chief Apostle Schneider in the Brisbane City Hall. Already early in

the morning many helpers were at the hall to ensure that the altar was set up, the floral arrangements were in place, the orchestra seating was correct and the communion chalices were filled, along with the numerous other tasks that take place behind the scenes. The Chief Apostle, District Apostles, Apostles and their wives were welcomed to the venue by the Sunday School children who performed two songs for them.

The divine service came under a word from **1 Peter 1: 3-5**, "*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*"

The service also brought with it the retirement of District Apostle Andersen who served for over 30 years in the Apostle ministry, 17 of those as District Apostle. The Chief Apostle described him as a strong pillar, and a man full of trust and confidence in God and a wonderful source of blessing for many. He also expressed his thanks, and that of the Apostles, ministers and members, both in the service and around the globe.

It was then time for District Apostle Helper Schulte to be appointed as the new District Apostle. The Chief Apostle recognised that he had answered the call out of faith and love for God and for His people. He also gave the advice not to copy District Apostle Andersen, but to continue his work and be inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Chief Apostle said that there would be many battles to fight but to trust God; with Jesus Christ they would all be won.

In all, close to 1000 members were in attendance in the divine service in the Brisbane City Hall. Another 728 were connected to the transmission in various congregations around Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and a number of other countries.





Apostle Zuhuke Hungito: a tribute

Thursday 18 October seemed like just another day for Sister Mary Hungito as she prepared for her husband, Apostle Hungito, to leave the following day on yet another visit to some of the numerous remote congregations that formed part of his large working area in Papua New Guinea. Sadly, on Friday morning the Apostle suffered heart failure and passed away only hours before he was scheduled to leave.

Zuhuke Hungito was born on 16 April 1959 in the village of Keinge in the mountains to the north-east of Lae, the second largest city in the country. He eventually left the village to study nursing and after he graduated he worked in the Lae Hospital. He was introduced to the New Apostolic Church in 1988, only a few years after the church had commenced in that city. He was ordained as a priest on 26 November of that year and subsequently held other ministries until his ordination as Bishop on 25 May 1999 in Toronto, Canada. His wife and their 6 children supported him in the great work that he performed under very trying conditions in those early days of the church in that region. He was often away and there were no means of communication then but the work of God grew and the family did all they could to support this.



Together with his wife and children, he enclosed the bottom section of their house so that the congregation in their suburb of Lae had a place to worship. It still serves as the church in that area today. He returned to his birthplace to bring testimony of the work of the Apostle ministry of today and formed a large congregation there as well as in many of the neighbouring villages.

On 11 December 2011 Chief Apostle Leber ordained him into the Apostle ministry and he became the third active Apostle in Papua New Guinea alongside Apostles Allen Pouru and Aimol Wasimbai. The three Apostles worked side by side faithfully and joyfully in this great Christian nation and, despite the enormous physical challenges the geography poses, the church continues to grow with many souls receiving the sacrament of Holy Sealing each year.

Announcing his passing to all Apostles around the world, our Chief Apostle wrote of him "Apostle Hungito was a lovable servant of God, who often served under difficult circumstances conscientiously and successfully. He was a reliable fellow servant for his District Apostle and in the circle of the Apostles he was a much appreciated friend. I myself will miss him greatly."

He was truly a faithful and loving Apostle who was very close to his Chief Apostle, his District Apostle and fellow Apostles, to his fellow servants and he truly loved all of God's children with fatherly love. He testified of the love of God tirelessly and he dedicated much time and effort to the Sunday School curriculum, ensuring that this special task that the District Apostle had entrusted him with was carried out throughout the whole nation.

We can all continue to support Sister Mary and her family in our prayers as they continue to work with the Godly standards that Apostle Hungito joyfully upheld.



NACare Update



There have been two major disasters which have required our consideration for support since our last report. These related to the ongoing drought crisis and, more recently, the Queensland bushfires. Following is a report on the drought relief intervention and a mechanism for giving in relation to the bushfires.

Drought Relief

Farmers across Queensland and New South Wales are facing one of the worst droughts in living memory. Production is expected to drop by more than 30% compared to last year, and in some areas it is close to a 50% drop.

Drought brings with it hardship not only for achieving crop yields and feeding stock, but in providing for the families that work these farms and the communities they live in. With reduced production comes reduced income, meaning less employment opportunities, and overall less money flowing through these rural communities.

In September 2018 the NACare Foundation board of directors agreed to join the response to this growing disaster by making a \$5,000 donation to the Australian Red Cross.

These funds were used to alleviate financial pressures and support the health and wellbeing of severely drought-affected farmers, farming families and farming communities. Financial support was made available to meet everyday household expenses, as well as enabling access to social, health and educational activities.

Further to this, we also launched our drought appeal which saw all donations made between September and November allocated to this very worthy cause.

We are pleased to report that an additional \$3,035.00 was raised during this period and this will also be applied to the ongoing drought relief efforts.



Queensland Bushfires

We are all affected by the terrible devastation and tragedy of the continuing bushfire crisis in Queensland. We support our neighbours with our prayers and well wishes and pray that the crisis may be brought under control soon.

Many of you may be considering how you can help more. At this stage the Premier of Queensland has suggested that the main way of assisting is by donating money so that those who are able to help can bring the relief and assistance required.

There are several appeals which have been set up for this purpose to which you can donate directly. Should anyone like to donate through NACare, you are also welcome to do so.

All donations received by NACare during the month of December will be passed on in full to help the victims of the bushfires.



Springvale Congregation: 25 Years

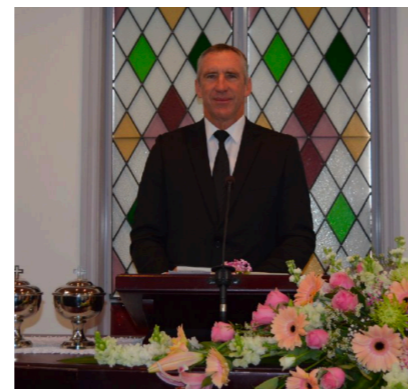
At the request of Apostle Heinz Schmidt, a Sunday School mission commenced on 1 June 1986 in the Springvale Civic Centre out of the Hallam (Vic) congregation. At the conclusion of Sunday School, the teachers and children travelled to the Hallam congregation to attend the divine service.

Later in the same year divine services commenced in the Civic Centre. A total of 24 members gathered for the first divine service.

On Sunday 23rd October 1993 the Springvale congregation celebrated the dedication of its new church building. The late Priest Jeff Fish was appointed as rector during the dedication service. On average 55 members attended the services.

Evangelist Hans-Peter Hoppner was appointed as the rector of the congregation on Sunday 21 July 1996. He served as rector until his retirement on 24th June 2012. At this time Evangelist Quinton Mustapha was appointed as rector.

On Sunday 21 October District Apostle Schulte conducted a divine service to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Springvale congregation. On this occasion the members from Hallam congregation were also invited. At the conclusion of the service, fellowship was enjoyed by all.



Sunday School Camp in Victoria

The Sunday School camp for the children in the Victorian district was held on the weekend of 10 / 11 November 2018 at The Mill Valley Ranch in Tynong.

The weekend concentrated on and centred around the theme "What would Jesus do" (WWJD) and this was highlighted to the children throughout the weekend through various activities. The culmination of the weekend was a divine service with Apostle Lodewick on Sunday morning, with the children forming the choir. The service took on an interactive direction, with participation encouraged by the Apostle.

Activities for the weekend included archery, canoeing & crate climbing. Children and adults had the opportunity to participate in all activities provided, with a strong emphasis on getting to know each other throughout the district and always keeping in mind "What would Jesus do" in all situations encountered on the weekend. It is safe to say that all who attended had that message ringing in their ears long after the weekend had finished.

The weekend was a resounding success proving that we can combine fun and faith for a desirable outcome. Planning is already underway for next year's camp, which promises to be bigger and better. Thanks to all who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of our camp, always ensuring the best interests of our children are met, and remembering WWJD.





Around the Congregations:

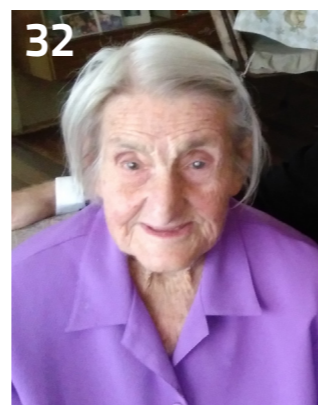
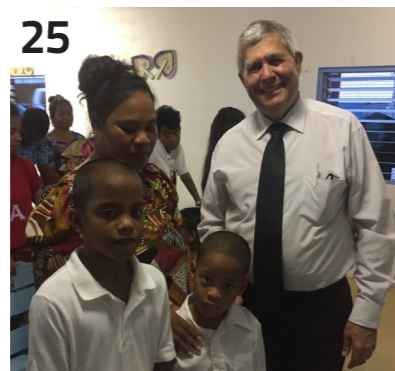
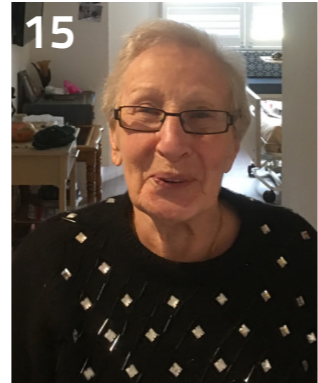
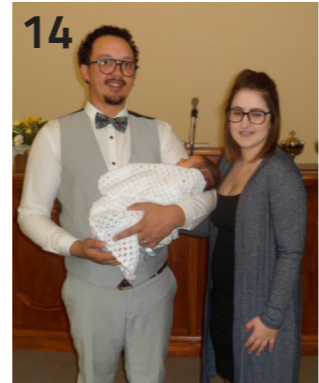
1. Variety Concert in Melbourne (Vic)
2. Youth program in Afiamalu congregation (Samoa)
3. Father's Day in Seven Hills (NSW)
4. Ministers with children in Rita congregation (Marshall Islands)
5. Father's Day in Geelong (Vic)
6. Nature park outing for Sunday School children in Adelaide (SA)
7. Father's Day in Gosford (NSW)
8. Ministers seminar in Solomon Islands
9. Sunday School movie night and bonfire in Hackam West (SA)
10. Welcome party for Apostle Lodewick in Lu Malu congregation (Solomon Islands)
11. Ap Lodewick address to youth in Hackham West (SA)
12. Children's program in Ililli congregation (American Samoa)
13. Sunday School service in Hamilton (NZ)
14. Sunday School program in Marshall Islands
15. End of year Sunday School outing to Lake Parramatta (NSW)
16. Youth Service in Toowoomba (Qld)
17. Drury (NZ) youth fundraiser
18. DA Andersen with the congregation after his last service in Dunedin (NZ)
19. Suva (Fiji) congregation welcome DA Andersen for his last visit prior to retirement
20. Sunday School program in Lu Malu (Solomon Islands)
21. Sunday School children in Redcliffe (Qld)
22. Sunday School children in Box Hill (Vic)
23. The 2019 confirmands in Auckland (NZ) enjoyed a day of fun together
24. New Plymouth Patea (NZ) Sunday School children
25. North Shore (NZ) congregation held a Friendship Day service
26. Fellowship in Christchurch (NZ) with DA Andersen on his last visit
27. Howick (NZ) youth enjoyed an outing
28. Seniors of V2 had morning tea in Geelong (Vic) with DA Schulte & Ap Lodewick





Celebrations:

1. Ap Des & Sis Maureen Lodewick received Ruby wedding blessings in Hallam (Vic)
2. Ev (ret) Colin & Sis Joyce Schulte received Golden wedding blessings in Caloundra (Qld)
3. Ap (ret) Heinz Schmidt of Geelong (Vic) celebrated his 70th birthday
4. Br David Alexander of New Lynn (NZ) celebrated his 90th birthday
5. Holy Baptism Matthew Schubach in New Lynn (NZ)
6. Holy Baptism of Caden Johns in Beckenham (WA)
7. Holy Baptism of Katerina Eckardt in Drury (NZ)
8. Holy Baptism of India-Rose Barwick in Hackam West (SA)
9. Ev (ret) Alf & Sis Lyn Tickner received Golden wedding blessings in Buranda (Qld)
10. Holy Sealing in Ajaltake (Marshall Is)
11. Pr Robert & Sis Mardi Clark received Silver wedding blessings in Ascot Park (SA)
12. Br Russell & Sis Sharon Isaacs received Silver wedding blessings in Beckenham (WA)
13. Holy Baptism of Grace Seeley in Beverly Hills (NSW)
14. Holy Baptism of Kingsley Van Der Poel in Hallam (Vic)
15. Sis Erica Ross of Caloundra (Qld) celebrated her 90th birthday
16. Holy Sealing in Ililli (Am Samoa)
17. Holy Baptism of Leo O'Connor in Rockingham (WA)
18. Holy Sealing of Br Michael Renshaw in Buranda (Qld)
19. Holy Sealing in Lu Malu (Solomon Is)
20. Br Raymond Kenzler of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated his 94th birthday
21. Sis Dot Bebendorf of Caloundra (Qld) celebrated her 90th birthday
22. Holy Sealing in White River (Solomon Is)
23. Sis Christel Schmidt celebrated her 70th birthday & Sis Hannalore Roepke celebrated her 90th birthday in Geelong (Vic)
24. Br Stanley & Sis Lynne Royston received Silver wedding blessings in Mackay (Qld)
25. Holy Sealing in Rita (Marshall Is)
26. Ev (ret) Derick Yon of Hallam (Vic) celebrated his 70th birthday
27. Dcn (ret) Hans Bronowski of Ascot Park (SA) celebrated his 80th birthday
28. Holy Baptism of Annaliese McSherry in Hallam (Vic)
29. Holy Sealing in Rockingham (WA)
30. Holy Sealing in Mulifanua (Samoa)
31. Sis Karin Mawhinney of Ascot Park (SA) celebrated her 70th birthday
32. Sis Hazel Heuer of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated her 98th birthday
33. Holy Sealing of Isaac Graham in Geelong (Vic)
34. Holy Sealing in Tarramata (Solomon Is)



For your Information

Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019
6: Bern-Ostermundigen, Switzerland	3: Berlin-Charlottenburg, Germany	3: Bujumbura, Burundi
13: Benguela, Angola	10: Charlotte, USA	10: Rosenheim, Germany
20: Wiesbaden, Germany		17: Colonia, Uruguay
27: Cape Coast, Ghana		24: Dessau, Germany
		31: Kampala, Uganda

District Apostle Schulte's schedule:

Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019
6: Redcliffe, Qld	3: Townsville, Qld	3: Wellington, NZ
20: Gladstone, Qld	17: Bundaberg, Qld	10: Victoria
27: Windsor, Qld		24: Papua New Guinea
		31: Papua New Guinea

Upcoming Events:

Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019
6: New Years' Day service		3: Service for Departed
		16: NACare Charity Day
		23-24: NSW Youth Convention



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Ministerial Changes:

Name	Event	Ministry	Congregation
Pr Justin Stephenson	Commission	Rector	North Ipswich, Qld
DA Andrew Andersen	Retirement	District Apostle	-
DAH Peter Schulte	Appointment	District Apostle	-
Br Jolame Koroï	Ordination	Deacon	Veisaru, Fiji
Br Gideon Chand	Ordination	Deacon	Nasinu, Fiji
Br Temo Jikoimoala	Ordination	Priest	Dravuvalu, Fiji
Pr Laisenia Raibulu	Commission	Rector	Veisari, Fiji
Br Kamaloni Vakameilalo	Ordination	Deacon	Nuku'alofa, Fiji
Pr Ross Schulte	Commission	Rector	Mackay, Qld
Pr Alec February	Commission	Rector	Maidstone, Vic
Pr Brian Hearn	Retirement	Priest	Maidstone, Vic
Pr Eddie Du Preez	Commission	Rector	Henderson, NZ
Br Paul Platen	Confirmation	Priest	Wellington, NZ
Pr Jan Diedricks	Confirmation	Priest	Gosford, NSW
Pr Richard Edwins	Retirement	Priest	Henderson, NZ
Br Jürgen Goetz	Confirmation	Priest	Windsor, Qld
Pr Michael Hans	Retirement	Priest	Drury, NZ
Pr Bernard Horne	Retirement	Priest	Henderson, NZ
Pr Colin Jackson	Confirmation	Priest	Seven Hills, NSW
Pr Clayton Mann	Confirmation	Priest	Howick, NZ
Pr Deon Marcus	Confirmation	Priest	Geraldton, WA
Pr Daniel Ndofula	Confirmation	Priest	Ascot Park, SA
Ev Glenn Scott	Retirement	Evangelist	Henderson, NZ
Pr Edwin Steenkamp	Retirement	Priest	Orewa, NZ
Br Brandon Testa	Confirmation	Deacon	New Plymouth/ Wanganui/Patea/ Hawera
Pr Michael Williams	Retirement	Priest	South Auckland

In Memoriam:

Brother Martin Bebendorf of Kingston, Qld	†	23/9/18
Sister Amber-Leigh Jacobs of Beckenham, WA	†	24/9/18
Brother Douglas Smith of Gosford, NSW	†	5/10/18
Apostle Zuhuke Hungito, PNG	†	19/10/18
Sister Faith Seeley of Beverly Hills, NSW	†	19/10/18
Brother Wolfgang Zimmermann of Elizabeth, SA	†	21/10/18
Sister Doreen Parbery of Paihia/Whangarei, NZ	†	29/10/18
Sister Relena Henry of Cairns, Qld	†	2/12/18
Sister Rachel Pouru, PNG	†	10/12/18
Sister Futinula (Fonti) Von Gunten of Cairns, Qld	†	27/12/18