

Australia District News



Edition 32/3- Spring 2017

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From the Desk of District

Dear Brothers and Sisters

As we enter springtime in the southern hemisphere we also prepare to welcome our Chief Apostle to our district. On Sunday 24 September he is scheduled to conduct a very special divine service in Melbourne, Australia.

During this service he plans to ordain District Elder Peter Schulte as Apostle for the Australia district. He will also be commissioned as the first District Apostle Helper in our district's history. This will commence the transition of responsibility of the District Apostle to him when I enter retirement in September 2018 when our Chief Apostle is scheduled to visit Brisbane.

Since being ordained Chief Apostle in 2015, Chief

Apostle Schneider has been determined to visit each District Apostle district around the world at least once per year. Given that there are 18 districts, this is a herculean task which he has set himself. Our district has been privileged to be included in these plans despite being the furthest travel point for him. We do not take this for granted and we are certainly very thankful to him for these visits.

Our Chief Apostle has also planned a meeting of the District Apostles who have responsibilities for the care of congregations in the Asian region while he is in Melbourne. After that meeting he will travel to Papua New Guinea where many Brothers and Sisters are eagerly awaiting his presence. It is planned that he conducts two Thanksgiving



Apostle Andersen

services whilst in the country, one in the north western part of the country and one in the capital city of Port Moresby.

The Thanksgiving Service is an annual event that we in the Australia district have traditionally celebrated on the first Sunday in October. It has the special focus of thankfulness to God for all He has done for us. It also creates a very special opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of offering and to openly discuss this in our family circle. I am very concerned that children and youth of today receive a good understanding of offering and its value as a practice instituted by God Himself. This teaching is primarily the responsibility of parents and must not be considered solely the task of Sunday School

teachers and ministers. Offering is an integral part of a relationship with God and must never be considered as a "donation" to the church. Please ensure that this is understood by all; young and mature in years. There are good references to offerings in the New Apostolic Catechism.

I now wish you a blessed springtime and a joyful participation in the visit of our Chief Apostle by whatever means are available to you.

With loving greetings

Andrew H. Andersen

Retirement of District Elder Geoffrey Barker in Victoria

The District Ministers from throughout Australia and New Zealand met in Melbourne, Victoria for a District Minister's Meeting on Saturday 29 July.

During this meeting they were informed of the Chief Apostle's plans for the future leadership of the Australia District as well as attending to many matters pertaining to the present requirements of the district. A Ministers and Wives Service in the late afternoon was followed by a dinner at the church hosted by the members of the Box Hill congregation. This dinner also served as a special occasion to thank District Elder Geoffrey Barker for his faithful and dedicated leadership of the district over many years.

On Sunday 30 July District Apostle Andersen conducted a divine service in the Hallam church which was filled with members from throughout Victoria. During this service District Elder Barker was placed into retirement after serving in various ministries for over 45 years. District Evangelist Eugene Volkwyn was commissioned District Leader for the congregations of Tasmania and Victoria.



Golden Jubilee in Elizabeth, SA

The church building in Elizabeth, South Australia was dedicated on 14 June 1967 by District Apostle Otto Gerke.

Two years of work, largely carried out by the Brothers and Sisters of South Australia, brought about the completion of this church which was only the second New Apostolic building in the state. Situated some 20 kilometres north of Adelaide, it became the home for the thriving congregation of the day.

Fifty years on, District Apostle Andrew Andersen (who had assisted in the building of the church as a young confirmand), Apostle Trevor Williams (who had been part of the congregation for many years and had been the Rector there) and Apostle Des Lodewick (the present Apostle for the district) were together for the celebration of its dedication which was marked by a special combined service in the church on Sunday 25 June 2017. Now retired Apostle Heinz Schmidt had also served as Rector of the congregation prior to moving to Melbourne.

On the Saturday prior the Elizabeth congregation had arranged an "Open Day" for the local community which was well attended. Many new acquaintances were made and the event set the tone for a very enjoyable celebration.



Youth Convention in Bundaberg, Qld

The 2017 QLD Youth Convention was a weekend spent under the banner "Glory to God".

Youth from South East Queensland travelled up to Bundaberg and were met by the youth from Gladstone and Mackay. Fun activities at the camp included the rock climbing wall, Jacob's ladder, leap of faith and other team building activities.

Saturday evening brought with it a competitive game of trivia and everyone's knowledge was tested and prizes won by the best team.

Sunday was a day filled with wonderful fellowship together with the Bundaberg congregation and a service full of blessings conducted by Apostle Williams. The text used was Luke 11: 13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

For this special youth service, the message given to the youth and the congregation was "God, our Heavenly Father wants to give us the best that will hasten our worthiness for the first resurrection". "You can do it if you really want to!" (Chief Apostle Schneider, Pentecost 2017).

After a fellowship lunch with the congregation the youth presented a concert with items from each youth group which was enjoyed by all. The day ended in closing remarks from Apostle Williams, a prayer and the long drive home.



NACYAC 2017

Gold Coast

The New Apostolic Church Young Adults Conference (NACYAC) was welcomed back to Queensland in 2017, but this time on the sunny Gold Coast, on the weekend of 7th to 9th of July.

The weekend kicked-off with a great deal of expectation and excitement. District Apostle Andersen addressed the young adults with a clear message of "do not play with your faith" it is something that we must defend and maintain as a top priority as we develop as young adults. This set a very clear tone and provided a smooth segue into the weekends theme of "God is Everywhere, His Glory is Evident 24/7". The young adults spent the evening defining this theme while engaging in fellowship together. The Saturday morning we shared a light breakfast before further defining key attributes of the weekends theme.

On Saturday we were all enthralled by our keynote speaker, Deacon Caleb Schulte, who relayed to the group about how having God by his side will always get him through. Following this there were two workshops to choose from before we ate lunch together to fuel up for the afternoon's activity, the inaugural NACYAC Commonwealth Games. Five countries went head to head, with "India" coming out winners.

Saturday night was the highlight of the weekend - dinner at the top of the Q1 Hotel in Surfers Paradise. Everyone dressed to impress for a 3-course dinner and of course a lot of dancing!

Sunday's divine service with the Ashmore congregation was the perfect way to wrap up an amazing weekend. A fantastic fellowship lunch was shared together following the divine service before the event closing mid afternoon.

Thank you Gold Coast; now it's time to get ready for Adelaide in 2018.





Sunday School Service in Morayfield, Qld



The Sunday School children and their families from South East Queensland were invited to a special divine service on Sunday, 20 August, conducted by Apostle Williams in the Morayfield church.

Prior to the commencement of the service, the children played an orchestra piece, and their talent was evident to all gathered. The children, together with some of their teachers and parents, then formed the choir for the service.

At the conclusion of the service, the Morayfield congregation provided lunch and an opportunity for fellowship for all in attendance. This was followed by an afternoon of activities for the children, during which time the parents took part in a seminar aimed at finding ways to support our children in their spiritual growth.



Youth Convention in Samoa

Around 32 youth members from the active congregations in Samoa - namely Mulifanua, Falefa, Afiamalu and Vailima - all attended a combined youth convention that was held in Vailima over the weekend of 26 and 27 August 2017.

The weekend started with an opening prayer, which was followed by a run down of the guidelines. Everyone introduced themselves and their rector and told the group which congregation they belong to. They were served breakfast by the brothers and sisters from Vailima congregation, and then headed over to the beach on the other side of the island for games and activities.

The youth were divided into three groups and given names for their group - Faith, Love and Hope.

In the afternoon the group left to head back to Vailima after a nice dip in the beach. Everyone enjoyed singing hymns on the way back. The supervisors organized prizes for all the teams and all then participated in some indoor spiritual games, question and answers about our faith. To conclude the day, choir rehearsal for next morning's divine service took place.

On Sunday morning everyone was up by 6:30am for breakfast and then headed to the church for a final choir rehearsal.

The divine service was conducted by Evangelist Luaai Tesimale, who was assisted by Evangelist James Eves, Priests Alfred Lewer and Lafoga Mauigoa and youth brother Eseroma Lewer. It was a blessed gathering full of joy and inspiring thoughts from the divine service.

The group enjoyed lunch together which was followed by some closing remarks, reciting the ten articles of faith. Each had to say something special about the fellowship and each other, before saying goodbye. They all gathered in the church for a video call to Apostle Lodewick to show their appreciation and thanks for the prayers for this annual special event. Everyone left singing "God be with you til we meet again".





Visit of Chief Apostle Schneider to Melbourne, Australia & Papua New Guinea

The Chief Apostle is currently preparing to travel to Melbourne, Victoria and on this great occasion he will be joined by District Apostles Urs Hebeisen (Phillipines) and Mark Woll (Canada). Also in attendance will be District Apostle Helpers David Devaraj (India), Edy Isnugroho (Indonesia) and Frank Dzur and John Sobottka (Canada).

After the weekend, the Chief Apostle will travel to Papua New Guinea with District Apostles Andersen and Hebeisen, and District Apostle Helpers Devaraj and Isnugroho. The brethren in these districts have been preparing for this visit for many months, and look forward to having Chief Apostle Schneider in their midst for the first time.

Saturday, 23 September 2017

All members are invited to an afternoon of fellowship. This will also be an opportunity for the choristers, orchestra, Sunday School children and youth to rehearse.

Venue:	Melbourne Girls' College	Yarra Boulevard, Richmond
Time:	11.30am - 2.00pm	Registration, lunch & children's activities
	1.30pm - 2.30pm	Orchestra practice
	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Children's choir practice
	2.30pm - 4.00pm	Choir practice
	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Concert choir practice

Sunday, 24 September 2017

Divine service to be conducted by Chief Apostle Jean-Luc Schneider.

Venue:	Melbourne Town Hall	90 - 130 Swanston St, Melbourne
Time:	Divine Service:	10.00am - 12.00pm (local time)
	Concert:	2.00pm - 3.15pm (local time)



**District Apostle
Urs Hebeisen**



**District Apostle
Mark Woll**



**District Apostle Helper
David Devaraj**



**District Apostle Helper
Edy Isnugroho**



**District Apostle Helper
Frank Dzur**



**District Apostle Helper
John Sobottka**

A TIME...

...TO SOW

...TO REAP

...TO BE THANKFUL



Stay up to date on Facebook!

Visit www.facebook.com and search "Chief Apostle Visit - Melbourne 2017"





Albury (NSW)



Ascot Park (SA)



Beverly Hills (NSW)



Box



Christchurch (NZ)



Coffs Harbour (NSW)



Hope Valley (SA)



Hallam



Leumeah (NSW)



North Shore (NZ)



Foster (Vic)



Hobart (Tas)



Morayfield (Qld)



Redcliffe (Qld)

Thanksgiving 2016



Hill (Vic)



Bunbury (WA)



Buranda (Qld)



Canberra (ACT)



(Vic)



Kingston (Qld)



Lae (PNG)



Newcastle (NSW)



Mackay (Qld)



Maryborough (Qld)



Mt Hagen (PNG)



Maidstone (Vic)



Rockingham (WA)



Seven Hills (NSW)



Silkstone (Qld)



Springvale (Vic)



Townsville (Qld)





Around the Congregations:

1. Apostle Williams with the children in Luganville, Santo (Vanuatu)
2. Apostle Pouru with members in Rainbow (PNG)
3. DE Witbooi visited Patmos (Solomon Islands)
4. Sunday School choir in Gosford (NSW)
5. Members gathered for a choir practice in PNG in preparation for the Chief Apostle's visit
6. Apostle Lodewick in Albury (NSW)
7. Blue Lake congregation (Solomon Islands)
8. Confirmation in Long Island (Marshall Islands)
9. Boneghe congregation (Solomon Islands)
10. Geraldton (WA) congregation
11. Bishop Yasi visited Owatanda (PNG)
12. Youth rally in Barasipo, Western Province (PNG)
13. Gosford (NSW) congregation held a Christmas in July event
14. Confirmation in Rita (Marshall Islands)
15. Members in Jinotivara, Santo (Vanuatu)
16. Bishop Yasi visited congregations in the Southern Highlands province (PNG)
17. Shark Bay, Santo (Vanuatu) congregation
18. Sunday School service in Tonga
19. Sunday School fundayin Gosford (NSW)
20. Brethren in Port Vila (Vanuatu)
21. DE Witbooi with members in Aureligo (Solomon Islands)





Celebrations:

1. Pr Warren & Sis Diane Teale received Silver wedding blessings in Maryborough (Qld)
2. Holy Sealing of Sis Vicky Jungherr in Gosford (NSW)
3. Br Joseph DeWet of Ascot Park (SA) celebrated his 80th birthday
4. Sis Lola Clark of Rockingham (WA) celebrated her 75th Birthday
5. Holy Sealing of Mya Dove in Rockingham (WA)
6. Holy Baptism of Skylar Pena and adoption of Sis Carlee Fox in Ashmore (Qld)
7. Holy Baptism of Ayisha-Lee Christians in Canberra (ACT)
8. Holy Baptism of Isla wyn Hughes in Honiara (Solomon Is)
9. Br Amboli Naphar celebrated his 105th birthday in Owatanda PNG
10. Holy Baptism in Barasipo (Solomon Is)
11. Holy Sealing of Lachlan Duenzl in Maidstone (Vic)
12. Holy Baptism of Micah Stanbridge in Hallam (Vic)
13. Holy Baptism and Sealing of Hazel Lodewick in Maidstone (Vic)
14. Br Gavin & Sis Melissa Vangelatos received wedding blessings in Gosford (NSW)
15. Sis Uri Pupalua Kamburu of Unumi (PNG) celebrated her 90th birthday
16. Holy Baptism in White River (Solomon Is)
17. Holy Baptism of Denzel Muyaya in Hope Valley (SA)
18. Holy Sealing of Hunter Keir in Wollongong (NSW)
19. Adoption of Sis Vicky Jungherr in Gosford (NSW)
20. Holy Baptism of Madison Grant in Hallam (Vic)
21. Holy Sealing of Ariana Carstens in Maidstone (Vic)
22. Br Arron and Taryn Burns wedding blessings in Gosford
23. Holy Baptism of Marley Lajoie in Hallam (Vic)
24. Sis Helena & Br Duane De Nysschen received Silver wedding blessings in Mackay (Qld)
25. Holy Baptism of Derek Lloyd in Elizabeth (SA)
26. Holy Sealing of Nkisu Temwani Mwape in Rockingham (WA)
27. Holy Baptism of Arlie and Kobe Cooke in Newcastle (NSW)
28. Br Brian & Sis Yvonne Theron of Hallam (Vic) received Ruby wedding blessings
29. Holy Sealing of Lilly-Beth Schmidt, Br Ken Lloyd, Sis Genida Peterson & Br James Azuala in Elizabeth (SA)
30. Holy Baptism of Taylon Fredericks in Howick (NZ)
31. Holy Sealing of Jr. Johnson Kundi in Rainbow (PNG)

For your Information

Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017
1: Port Moresby, PNG	5: Landau, Germany	3: Lübeck, Germany
15: Cape Town, South Africa	12: Raipur, India	10: Kinshasa, DR Congo
22: Nürnberg, Germany	19: Backnang, Germany	17: Leeuwarden, Netherlands
29: Dublin, Ireland	26: Essen, Germany	

District Apostle Andersen's schedule:

Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017
1: Port Moresby, PNG	5: Seven Hills, NSW	3: Ashmore, Qld
8: Calounda, Qld	26: Düsseldorf, Germany	10: Koondoola, WA
15: Riverleigh, Qld		24: Morayfield, Qld
22: Redcliffe, Qld		31: Beverly Hills, NSW
29: Gladstone, Qld		

Upcoming Events:

Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017
1: Thanksgiving	5: Service for Departed	3: Sunday School breakup
22: NZ Youth Convention	26: 1st Sunday of Advent	25: Christmas Day
		31: Close of year service

Ordinations / Retirements:

Name	Ordination/Commission	Ministry	Congregation
Pr Carl Arendse	Commission	Rector	Gosford, NSW
Pr Gerald Adams	Confirmation	Priest	Hallam, Vic
Pr Nolan Erasmus	Confirmation	Priest	Box Hill, Vic
Dcn Adam Loveday	Confirmation	Deacon	Box Hill, Vic
DE Geoffrey Barker	Retirement	-	V1, V2
Dcn Denzyl Opperman	Confirmation	Deacon	Koondoola, WA
Ev Quinton Mustapha	Commission	Rector	Springvale, Vic
Pr Gregory Selley	Commission	Rector	Hobart, Tas
Dcn Lukas Meyer	Confirmation	Deacon	Beckenham, WA
Pr Werner Bresler	Confirmation	Priest	Fairfield, NSW
Dcn Werner Kreutz	Confirmation	Deacon	Tauranga, NZ
Dcn Shanly O'Connor	Confirmation	Deacon	Windsor, Qld
Pr Johan van Deventer	Confirmation	Priest	Hamilton, NZ
Pr Claude Meyer	Retirement	Priest	Rivervale, WA
Pr Patrick O'Connor	Confirmation	Priest	Rivervale, WA
Pr Ian Smith	Confirmation	Priest	Rockingham, WA

In Memoriam:

Sis Ingke Splett of Elizabeth (SA)	7 Jul 2017
Sis Gillian Bond (Aunty Gillie) of Paihia (NZ)	15 Jul 2017
Sis Cynthia Tischendorf of North Shore (NZ)	4 Sep 2017
Sis Margaret (Peggy) Broadhurst of Box Hill (Vic)	7 Sep 2017

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Move-a-thon 2018

Planning is now underway for our Move-a-thon 2018 event. This event will be our major annual fundraising event for NACare.

- Start planning your activities, sponsorship, event location. Involve your friends, family, members, church neighbourhood, Sunday school, youth and seniors
- Plan events that all can participate in eg. pushing wheelchairs and prams. Run, jump, walk, swim, climb, race, games, and of course a little eating.
- Plan the fellowship as well - BBQ, tea, coffee, water, seating and talking.

State and Territory Event coordinators will be making contact with each congregational Rector soon.

Saturday 17th March 2018

Get ready to sweat for charity