

Australia District News

Edition 31/4- Summer 2016

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From the Desk of District

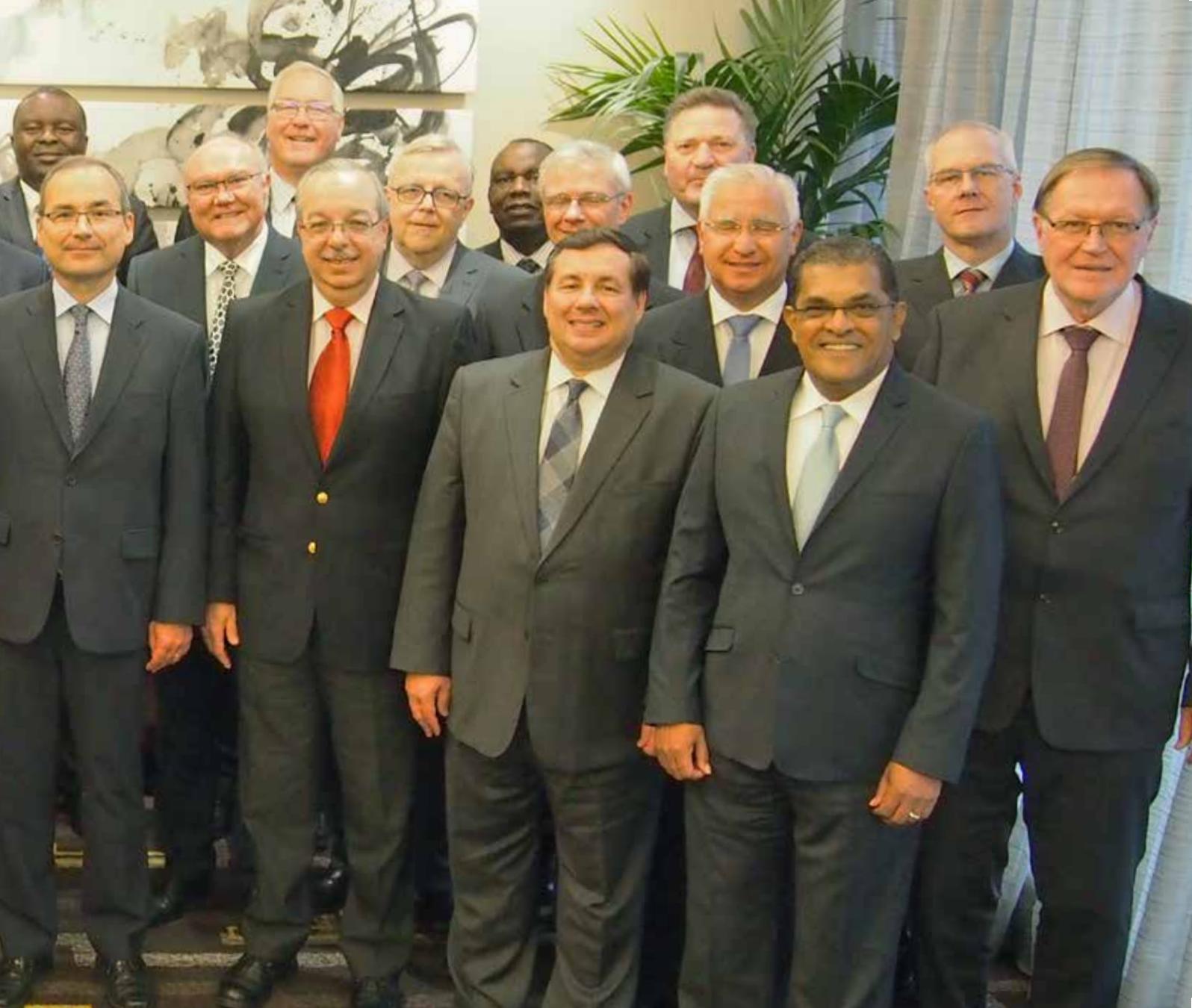
Dear Brothers and Sisters

The historic event of the District Apostles' Meeting conducted by our Chief Apostle in Perth, Western Australia in October was an unforgettable experience which will continue to bring joy to us into the future. I hope that the images on the pages of this edition of the Australia District News will make good impressions on our soul. To complement this, the website nac.today has very nice content relating to this visit.

Once again we step into the festive season of Christmas and all that it brings. I have recently urged our ministers to embrace the challenges that this busy time brings with it and not to allow deadlines and the extra demands

on our time to siphon away our joy. I would like to extend that urging to you, dear Brother, dear Sister. It is entirely our choice as to how we deal with these additional pressures at this time of the year and it would be a pity if we allowed anything to have a negative effect on either our peace or our goals. Rather, let us draw every joy we can out of Christmas and in turn give every joy we can to others.

Then, as the calendar determines it, a new year unfolds. It is natural that this brings renewed hope, renewed focus and renewed determination both naturally and spiritually. May this new year also bring that for us all.



Apostle Andersen

Among the many highlights planned for the coming year is a worldwide transmission of the Pentecost Service. Also, our Chief Apostle has kindly scheduled a visit to our district with planned divine services being hosted in Melbourne, Victoria and in Kombikum and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. I am happy to announce that the Melbourne Town Hall has been secured for the Chief Apostle Service on Sunday morning 24 September 2017 and we also plan to have a concert in the same venue on Sunday afternoon. The Melbourne Town Hall is conveniently located on the corner of Swanston and Collins Streets in the Melbourne CBD. Further details will be made available as they come to hand.

I now take this opportunity to wish you a very blessed and joy filled Christmas and a happy and successful New Year. I also wish to thank you for contributing to the joy in the congregation through the sacrifices and love that you bring to God's great work.

With loving greetings

Andrew H. Andersen

Chief Apostle visit to Perth

“In the spirit of unity”

The momentous visit of our Chief Apostle - which incorporated a District Apostles' Meeting - was conducted in Perth, Western Australia from 19 to 23 October 2016.

Staff from the church's international headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland began arriving already on Sunday 16th to attend to the many preparations required for the meeting which, according to church's constitution, must be conducted twice per year.

Over the next days (and nights) the Chief Apostle and the District Apostles and District Apostle Helpers from around the world, accompanied by their wives, arrived in Perth. The meeting commenced on Thursday 20 October and for a very full 2 days the matters on the Chief Apostle's agenda were discussed and dealt with.

Saturday provided a small opportunity for the delegates to experience the flavour of Australian life with a visit to a beach as part of a sightseeing tour. In the meantime, many brothers and sisters from other parts of Australia and other countries were afforded a

warm welcome by the brethren of Perth as they arrived for the divine service the next day. The Perth organising team had taken it upon themselves to really showcase their city and to ensure that no-one left without lasting memories. A picnic and fellowship enabled over 500 brothers and sisters to share valuable time together.

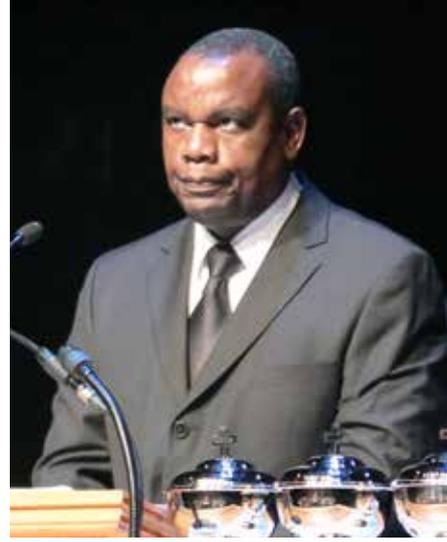
Sunday was the day all were focussed on and it did not disappoint. The Perth sunshine warmed the Chief Apostle and his companions as they entered the Perth Concert Hall where the Sunday School children greeted them with singing and flags of all the nations. The divine service was transmitted throughout Australia, New Zealand and to some points (where technology permitted) in Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa.

Our District Apostle expresses his gratitude to the brothers and sisters of Western Australia who planned, prepared and prayed for the success of this unique visit and then made it happen with true New Apostolic zeal and determination.









Silver Jubilee in Canberra

Thirty-eight years after the first divine service was held in Canberra, a church in the suburb of Mawson was built.

The dedication service was conducted by District Apostle Rosentreter on Sunday, 1 September 1991. The Apostles, Bishops and District Ministers from throughout Australia were invited to be present for that historic event. Due to the record rainfall during that year, construction of the church had suffered significant delays. However, even though it had been one of Canberra's wettest winters, the joy of the members of the Canberra congregation could not be dampened that day.

Twenty-five years later District Apostle Andersen, Apostles Williams and Lodewick and the District Ministers and rectors of New South Wales gathered in Canberra to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the dedication. It was conspicuous that Canberra once again had just experienced one of its wettest winters on record. As it was 25 years ago, the member's joy was undiminished as the festive service was long anticipated

and the congregation welcomed the many visitors, including those who, as youth, helped to plant hundreds of trees in the church grounds by digging through the rocky soil.

For the anniversary service District Apostle Andersen used a text from John 9:10-11 "Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to the pool of Siloam and wash." So I went and washed, and I received sight." Through the word, the congregation was shown how we can gain sight through listening to Jesus!

After the service, everyone enjoyed fellowship lunch together and a slideshow to relive the many memories of visits by the youth, combined services at various Canberra locations and of members who have moved interstate or have since passed away. Activities in Cooma were also remembered as Canberra supported services conducted there for many years.



NZ Youth Convention

The Piha Mill Christian Camp, nestled off the beautiful Piha beach, was the venue for the New Zealand Youth Convention 2016. Friday was a buzz of activity and laughs as the youth arrived for a long awaited weekend.

After dinner and orientation from the camp master the youth enjoyed an evening around the open fire, singing and catching up with each other. Youth were assigned to five different groups and group leaders to work with for the weekend. With youth travelling from Christchurch, Wellington, Hamilton and various parts of Auckland there were many new faces and lots of meeting and greeting that continued until midnight.

The Saturday events kicked off at 7am with an hour long walk to the local Fairy Falls, which was a great way to get the day started and soak up the beauty of Piha. Breakfast was followed by a range of outdoor activities including team work and an orienteering competition between teams.

Apostle Williams and district leaders then arrived and we started the presentation of the main topic for the day: Faith. This workshop and discussion was centred on feedback from the youth collated as a build up to the youth convention. The topic was enjoyed and the workshops gave each team points which were accumulated over the course of the weekend.

Lunch was followed by a choir practice for the Sunday service and was a good time to start reflection and some inner preparation. The next exciting event was a game of Bubble Soccer which became very interesting when the rain started, but this did not deter any of the youth from getting muddy and soaked. The afternoon was concluded with a discussion and Q&A session with Apostle Williams who answered many questions regarding his life of faith and many travels. One question prompted the Apostle to explain one of the biggest dangers for our life of faith today: we need to place a higher value in God and our life of faith over the many other activities in our lives. We need to prioritise.

The Sunday morning divine service was held at the camp hall and was a beautiful culmination of the weekend and certainly the highlight of the youth convention. The divine service was attended by 100 youth and some beautiful musical items added to the joy. The convention was concluded with lunch for all and a group picture, before everyone headed home spiritually enriched from an awesome weekend.



Moveathon 2016

On Saturday 10 September 2016, congregations around Australia participated in the second national Moveathon event. The focus this year was on fun and fellowship and, although some activities were washed out, everyone still managed to have an enjoyable day wherever they were. Here is a selection of photos from the day.

Bundaberg, Qld



Ashmore, Qld



South Australia



V2, Victoria



V1, Victoria



Gladstone, Qld



Townsville, Qld



Sydney, NSW



Apostolic Church of Qld celebrates 125 years

District Apostle Andrew Andersen, Apostle Trevor Williams and the brethren of the Mackay congregation were invited to join the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Apostolic Church in Mackay by Apostle Clifford Flor, the office bearers and members of the Apostolic Church.

On Saturday 1 October 2016, the Apostolic Church celebrated the first visit of Apostle H. F. Neimeyer to Mackay 125 years prior to that date. It was during that visit, on Sunday 20 September 1891, that Apostle Neimeyer sealed the first souls in Mackay. He also ordained a Deacon, Brother Wilhelm Flor on that occasion.

The celebration began with a Thanksgiving service that was followed by a generously catered lunch for all. During the lunch, members of congregation's families related their memories of congregation life and experiences growing up and being part of their community. A concert that included musical items and entertaining acts was held for all, young and old to enjoy that afternoon.



NACare update



The NACare foundation is continuing to develop. Thank you to all those who have donated their time and money for the charity so far.

It was very exciting when we were recently approached by a public donor with the desire to assist in the rebuilding effort in Fiji. We especially thank the donor for their very generous donation, and respect their request for anonymity. This generous donation will allow us to purchase sufficient material to assist in the rebuilding of a number of homes for those who lost everything in the cyclone. We will give a more detailed report when all donations have been distributed. It is quite likely that there will be an opportunity for a group of willing volunteers to assist in the actual rebuilding of the homes with the donated materials. At this stage this is envisaged for February/March 2017.

An honorary advisory board with a broad set of skills has been established to assist in the smooth, efficient and effective administration of the Foundation. The members of the advisory board and the skills they bring to the board are included below:

Name

District Elder Friedbert Kohler (chair)
District Elder Geoff Barker
Evangelist Craig Bosshardt
Evangelist Warren Riddle (secretary)
Sister Sandra Rosentreter
Sister Natasha Witbooi
Brother Bevan Moller
Brother Ray Bebendorf

Skills

Medical and medical disaster relief skills and mission activities
Experience in financial management and mission activities
Experience in promotion, event planning and mission activities
Experience in administrative, accounting and secretarial skills
Experience in legal matters
Experience in human resources and management
Experience in websites
Experience in working with charities and fundraising





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Around the Congregations:

1. Auckland (NZ) seniors gathered for a fellowship lunch
2. District Apostle Andersen paid a surprise visit to Beckenham (WA) and was joined by District Apostle Woll, and District Apostle Helpers Devaraj & Dzur
3. Members of Santo congregation (Vanuatu)
4. Divine service in Narota (Vanuatu)
5. Bishop Yasi visited Yalu (PNG)
6. District Apostle Andersen celebrated his birthday with members in Hackham West (SA)
7. Sunday School children in Beckenham (WA)
8. Bishop Yasi with members from Pakip (PNG)
9. Members of the Port Vila (Vanuatu) congregation
10. Confirmands in Auckland (NZ) went bowling
11. Members in Pipibon (Vanuatu)
12. Release of "One: Faith, Hope, Love" CD to Samoan radio
13. The congregation in Nuku'alofa (Tonga)
14. Box Hill (Vic) congregation with Evangelist Kevin Malan prior to his retirement

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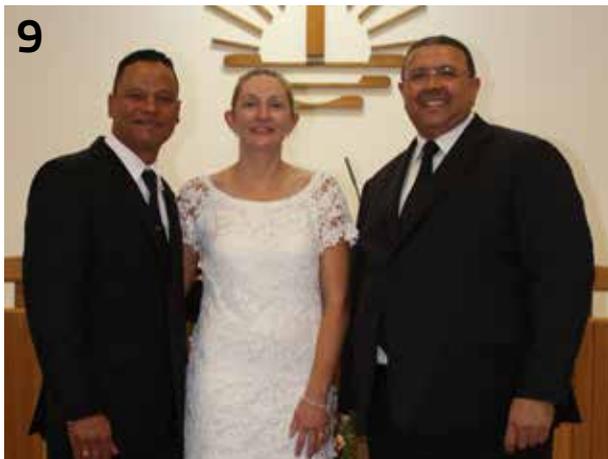
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Celebrations:

1. Holy Sealing of Lexi Chapman in Mackay (Qld)
2. Pr Gerald & Sis Charmaine Adams of Scoresby (Vic) received 40th wedding blessings
3. Br Ray Kenzler of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated his 92nd birthday
4. Sis Ingrid Heck of Buranda (Qld) celebrated her 70th birthday
5. Ev (ir) George & Sis Nell Kogler of Croydon (Vic) received diamond wedding blessings
6. Br Bruce & Sis Fay Moller of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary
7. Br Stan Laufer of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated his 75th birthday
8. Holy Sealing of Sis Sandra Bryce in Mackay (Qld)
9. Br Benjamin & Sis Elise Uys received wedding blessings in Toowoomba (Qld)
10. Holy Baptism in Mt Hagen (PNG)
11. Holy Baptism of Jack Edwards in Maryborough (Qld)
12. Holy Baptism of Amber Balding in Mackay (Qld)
13. Apostle Williams conducted a wedding in Nuku'alofa (Tonga)
14. Dcn Wayne & Sis Sue Faithfull received silver wedding blessings in Bundaberg (Qld)
15. Sis Dianne Bennett of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated her 70th birthday
16. Holy Baptism of Isabella Sorby in Maryborough (Qld)
17. Holy Sealing of Elena Vogler in Mackay (Qld)
18. Sis Erica & Br Wayne Miller received wedding blessings in Hallam (Vic)
19. Holy Baptism of Aiden Coughlan in Scoresby (Vic)
20. Pr Ross & Sis Lisa Schulte of Mackay (Qld) received silver wedding blessings



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For your Information

Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017
1: Bern, Switzerland	12: Kulmbach, Germany	5: Neumünster, Germany
8: Berlin, Germany	19: Sédhiou, Senegal	12: Saskatoon, Canada
15: Lomé, Togo	26: Durban, South Africa	19: Wuppertal, Germany
22: N'Djamena, Chad		26: Evreux, France

District Apostle Andersen's schedule:

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017
15: Caloundra, Qld	19: Morayfield, Qld	5: Geelong, Vic
29: Windsor, Qld		12: North Shore, NZ
		19: Ascot Park, SA
		26: North Ipswich, Qld



Upcoming Events:

Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017
1: New Years' Day service	25: District Ministers' Meeting	5: Service for Departed
29: Sunday School commences		12: Youth Convention - Sth Australia

Ordinations / Retirements:

Name	Ordination / Commission	Ministry	Congregation
Ev Kevin Malan	Retirement	-	Box Hill, Vic
Ev Peter Fleming	Commission	Rector	Elizabeth, SA
Sh Stephen Berney	Commission	Rector	Hope Valley, SA
Pr Ronald Wimmer	Retirement	-	Geelong, Vic
Dcn Adrian Lamprecht	Confirmation	Deacon	Beckenham, WA
Pr Heath van Zyl	Confirmation	Priest	Beckenham, WA
Pr Keith Riddle	Commission	Rector	Box Hill, Vic
Pr Jan-Jozef de Kock	Confirmation	Priest	Seven Hills, NSW

In Memoriam:

Dcn Derek Mayers of Leumeah (NSW)	† Oct 2016
Sis Elizabeth Sauer of Morayfield (QLD)	† 10 Oct 2016
Sis Florence De Lisen of Scoresby (Vic)	† 1 Oct 2016
Sis Carrol Joy Fletcher of Scoresby (VIC)	† 3 Oct 2016
Sis Alma Davis of Bundaberg (Qld)	† 6 Oct 2016
Sis Edna Dressels of Beckenham (WA)	† 12 Oct 2016
Sis Veronica Jonathan of Croydon (Vic)	† 12 Oct 2016
Sis Gabriele Kohl of Newcastle (NSW)	† 16 Oct 2016
Sis Jannie Boersma of Christchurch (NZ)	† 18 Oct 2016
Pr (ir) William (Bill) Dietz of North Ipswich (Qld)	† 19 Oct 2016
Sis Maggie Maneveldt of Alice Springs (NT)	† 31 Oct 2016
Sis Erika Lopa of Leumeah (NSW)	† 4 Nov 2016
Sis Erika Plecher of Werribee (Vic)	† 24 Nov 2016
Pr (ir) Alf Probst of Toowoomba (Qld)	† 26 Nov 2016
Pr (ir) Norm Rub of Toowoomba (Qld)	† 27 Nov 2016

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