

Holy Cross



Annual Report 2015 – 2016

Annual Meeting of Enrolled Members
Sunday, 29th May 2016
Anglican Church of the Holy Cross
56 McLean Street
MELVILLE WA 6156



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Locum Priest's Report

The Year That Was

1 May 2015 to 30 April 2016

I actually took my first service at Holy Cross on Christmas Day 2014. My next one was 3 May 2015 as a Supply Priest and I began as Locum mid May 2015. It suited both Holy Cross and me that the arrangement was for two days a week. I think together we have achieved quite a lot with those two days! However, a lot wasn't able to be done and that is always a shame. A recent survey within the Church of England, England showed that today clergy are required to spend over eight hours a week on administration matters! That would be no less true for the Anglican Church in Australia. Of course, we must be accountable and we must have good procedures and processes in place, but sometimes I wonder when enough will be enough.

Others may expand in their Report on some of the areas I mention but I wanted to personally acknowledge the work done by various people.

Lay Ministry

The role of Warden is becoming increasingly demanding with the Diocese expecting much more of them. The danger as I see it is people won't nominate for Warden if the role becomes much more demanding as not all Church leaders have lots of time on their hands. Holy Cross is truly blessed that Jill as Warden takes her role very seriously and responsibly. But Jill has other important responsibilities away from Church and so we need to pray God will raise up another Warden to support Jill in this role. Unfortunately Lillian undertaking the role of Warden did not continue for very long because of her increasing work and study demands. And Lillian has now chosen to worship elsewhere. So my personal thanks go to Jill for the enormous amount of work she does as Warden.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Our Parish Councillors this year have been Adele Arnold, Tom Berg, Peter Bowman, David Dawson, Sheri McCarthy and Pat Tebbutt. Betty Smith-Gander has been in attendance at most meetings as a support person but Betty cannot be a formal member of Parish Council because she is the Parish Auditor. Not all positions were filled this past year and so hopefully more people will nominate for the 2016/2017 year to bring fresh energy and new ideas. Parish Council makes decisions on behalf of Holy Cross so the more input we have to ideas and decisions the better. In accordance with Diocesan requirements – and indeed national standards – all members of Parish Council (and anyone else in a leadership role) must participate in a Protective Behaviours/Churchsafe workshop.

Peter Bowman has continued as Parish Treasurer and seems to have a good understanding of all the Diocesan requirements. The Treasurer's role is a constant one in that there are always money issues to deal with – and it can be quite demanding at times – so thank you Peter for keeping Holy Cross' finances up to date. Not only that though – Peter prepares and prints the Newsletter – updates the website – does media – collates the reports for the Annual Meeting and then prints the actual report - moves the pews forward and back again for mainly music - and many other little tasks that come up from time to time. Thank you Peter for supporting Holy Cross so faithfully. However, it is never healthy for one person to carry such a load so if you feel you could assist with any of these tasks please see Peter or Jill. Every bit of assistance helps – such as David Dawson taking over doing the monthly rosters – one less task for Jill.

Jenny Stone attended Parish Council as Minute Secretary until this year but is unable to continue. Thank you Jenny for your contribution as it was a huge help.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Jill Bowman and Beryl Shooter are our Lay Pastoral Ministers – with Adele Arnold and Betty Rushforth our Liturgical Assistants. With Betty's ill health she has not been able to fulfil that role since January but she is always welcome to return to it if her health permits. The LPMs and LAs carry out their roles with great care and reverence.

I am very aware of the many and varied tasks that just seem "to happen" and yet require someone to do them. For example, the dedicated team who month-about faithfully set up the Credence table in readiness for Holy Communion. Those who ensure we have a cuppa and nibble after Church – and the Welcome team that is doing a wonderful job. But there are many other tasks that happen so please be assured they are all - big and small – noticed and very much appreciated.

Aged Care

Beryl Shooter diligently and faithfully conducts a monthly Church service using Reserved Sacrament at both Opal Aged Care and Aegis Aged Care. This is a hugely important ministry to our older citizens so thank you Beryl for your commitment to these people.

Fresh Expressions

Jill's vision for this is slowly starting to come to fruition in some small ways. But as she has said, Fresh Expressions is a long term project so faithfulness and perseverance are requisites. The 5 C's Craft Group has great potential to develop into a genuine Fresh Expression of Church.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Children's Ministry

Emma Charlton does a great job each month teaching our young people about Jesus. Her planning and preparation is very obvious and it became very clear to me that the children are listening attentively to Emma and learning through her creative lessons. Emma is ably supported by Sheri McCarthy.

Jill and the mainly music team provide a wonderful and important opportunity for parents/caregivers to gather with their children to sing and dance and jump around. After their morning tea the children enjoy play time whilst the parents/caregivers chat and enjoy their morning tea. Those on Welcome and on Morning Tea excel each week – and Sheri has diligently taken on the “Mrs Music” role and prepares and plays the songs on the computer so Jill is free to lead the sessions.

Lynne Holmes presents an amazing KidsPlus programme. Lynne is ably supported by Claire Tebbutt – with Jill and myself as “floaters”. And I understand Tony Holmes gets allocated numerous and varied tasks at home in preparation for each week! As I said in one Newsletter – to see the children running into the building with such enthusiasm and anticipation is a joy to behold.

So thanks to Emma, Sheri, Jill and the mainly music team, and Lynne and Claire for your ministry to our young people.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Baptisms, Confirmations, Funerals and Marriages

	2015/2016
Baptisms	5
Confirmations	2
Marriages	1
Funerals	0

That there have been no funerals is a reflection of families preferring to use Civil Celebrants rather than Ministers of Religion. Funerals are an important means of connecting with the community and so it is unfortunate this trend is increasing.

Worship And Liturgy

The introduction of the Alternate Liturgy once a month has proven popular. It is good to have some fresh liturgy to help keep our worship fresh. Apart from the major Festivals – we had a Celebration Sunday (celebrating Holy Cross) with Bishop Kate Wilmot, celebrated Father's Day, recognised All Saints Day and Defence Force Sunday, had a Blessing of Pets and a Harvest Festival, Carols in the Courtyard, and a second visit from Bishop Kate Wilmot.

We would be lost without Peter Bowman and Mike Arnold looking after media. Joel Daniels was able to assist for a while but with Year 12 studies he could no longer continue. I think everyone is aware our music ministry is inadequate – although we must be grateful for the system we do have that at least allows us to sing. Please do keep the music ministry in your prayers – especially that God will provide some “real life” musicians to enhance our worship.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Spiritual Growth

Pat Tebbutt is marvellous the way he leads a fortnightly bible study at Church. I'd love to have been a fly on the wall sometimes to hear what they talk about!! Small groups are an integral part of a faith community's spiritual growth so well done Pat for keeping this group together. An Advent Group met and had some interesting discussions around "Little Town, Big Story" – a study based on the hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem". A Lent Group this year studied and discussed "Life Attitudes" that took us on a journey through the Beatitudes.

Jill leads Morning Prayer Wednesdays prior to mainly music and this provides a wonderful opportunity to gather as a team and prepare spiritually for the session ahead. Morning Prayer is open to everyone though.

Social

I have really enjoyed the Happy Hours. They are a relatively easy way of gathering to meet and chat and enjoy a relaxed, informal evening. They perhaps haven't drawn in some of the Hall Users as hoped but that may happen over time. They have nonetheless provided a great evening for us Holy Cross folk. Thanks to Jill for this great initiative. Sounding like a broken record – I again remind everyone that hospitality to new people and/or visitors at morning tea is very important so please always be mindful of that.

Fundraising

A Chocolate Fundraiser raised over \$300, the Mini Market \$1,600 and Christmas Kids Market \$705. Whilst some fundraising can be good in that it can draw the Church and community together, it is never a positive sign if a Parish has to survive on fundraising. One or two events is generally sufficient. Fundraising is usually very labour intensive and takes the focus away from mission and outreach.

Locum Priest's Report (cont'd)

Users of Holy Cross Facilities

Holy Cross' facilities are well used and therefore generate very good income. The tennis courts remain popular – and our thanks go to Norm Kidd for his oversight of the courts. The Church hall is used by an interesting variety of groups on a very regular basis. And from 1 May the Indian Orthodox Church will be using the Church and hall on a weekly basis. So we give thanks to God for the income stream generated by the use of Holy Cross' facilities. It is proving a real blessing. That said, it is also not healthy to rely on these groups to be our primary means of financial support. We need to remain attentive to our own offering to God through Holy Cross.

Conclusion

Thank you for the time I have spent amongst you. I've always maintained that clergy come and go and whilst their particular leadership is important, it is the good folk of the Parish who provide the consistency and stability. So stay faithful and hope-full good people of God.

I give my final words to Catholic Priest, spiritual writer and theologian Richard Rohr....

Faith does not need to push the river because faith is able to trust that there is a river. The river is flowing. We are already in it.

(<https://cac.org/trust-the-river-2016-02-04/>)

Keep flowing in the river of God's love, grace and strength dear people.

Revd. Julie Barrett-Lennard

(Now retired) Locum Priest

Wardens' Report

The past year has seen the number of church and hall users grow. With this there is some extra maintenance required.

The building continues to be in good repair however there are some major maintenance projects that the Parish Council (PC) are budgeting for, two being the painting of the outside of the building and the repair or replacement of the cracked tiles in the toilet area.

Because of the construction taking place next door to the church, there have been challenges keeping the grounds looking good. The contractor continues to keep the lawns and trees well groomed, doing a particularly good job with the pruning of the olive trees. We have lost two of the very large and old grass trees this year, which is a shame as they added to our gardens. Thanks to those who continue to prune the roses and maintain the garden beds however, we need more volunteers to assist with these jobs.

The cleaners continue to keep the interior looking good however occasionally you will notice some dust or small cleaning jobs requiring attention – any assistance that can be offered in these areas would be greatly appreciated.

God has blessed us in so many ways maintaining the church building is a small way we can give thanks to the Good Lord.

Jill Bowman
Warden

The Way Forward (Fresh Expressions)

Revd. Julie Barrett- Lennard was a great supporter of the work being undertaken by the PC and the Fresh Expressions team in developing the Way Forward. Several of the planned strategies were put in place including:

- A prayer and fresh expressions team being developed meeting regularly.
- Engaging with hall users and increasing the number of community groups using the hall.
- engage with our neighbours and neighbouring parishes.
- Worked with Revd. Alison Gilcrest to help develop a plan.
- Started our first “fresh Expression” –called the 5 “C’s” – which stands for:
 - church,
 - Craft,
 - Coffee,
 - Community.
 - Chat (about life issues and how as Christians we deal with them)

The group meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month @9.30-12.30pm and is attended by 6 – 15 people. The group has room to develop, the people who attend love it and friendships are developing. A past parishioner, Lynne Fergusson is an integral part of the group, sharing her knowledge of craft and theology. She is a role model and support.

Our challenge now is to keep moving forward, listen to the soft whisper of God to direct us while we wait to see who our new part time locum will be. Please pray that the team can discern what God wants us to do at Holy Cross and ask what part you will play in it.

Jill

Treasurer's Report

Once again I am pleased to be able to present the financial reports to parishioners.

This year's report differs to previous reports I have presented as treasurer; this one shows our income exceeding our expenses, there was a surplus of \$24,113.58 this year. Optimistically, the budget for next year forecasts a small surplus of \$184.00. This is a substantial turnaround in the parish's financial position. In 2014-2015 the parish ran at a deficit of \$15,485 and the year before that at a deficit of \$57,478.

At the start of the year we had a significant debt to the Diocese of Perth for unpaid stipends. This debt has been repaid.

If the above is the good news, the bad news is the reason for the surplus; the parish does not have a full time priest.

I would like to thank three people:

The Reverend Julie Barrett Lennard. Revd. Julie worked for two days per week in our parish but achieved so much in that time. I will miss the help she provided and I wish her well in her retirement.

Mrs Betty Smith – Gander. Betty has retired/resigned as auditor of the church accounts. I do not know for how long Betty has been our auditor, but I can't remember a time when she wasn't. Thank you Betty for providing this valuable service and oversight of the parish's financial affairs.

Mr Norm Kidd. Norm has discovered that he is not as young as he once was and has had to cut back on some of his activities. One of these activities is the management of the tennis court. Norm, your assistance over the years is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Peter Bowman
Treasurer

Treasurer's Report (cont'd)

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

	As at 30/04/2016	As at 30/04/2015
Assets	\$	\$
Cheque Account	10,122.08	16,621.89
Building Fund	2,507.30	2,463.18
Term Deposit	20,635.79	20,034.75
Rectory Trust Account	1,174.90	1,154.22
Undeposited Funds	50.00	50.00
Total Assets	34,490.07	40,324.04
Liabilities		
GST	263.95	-251.77
City of Melville (Grant)	0.00	6,187.47
Synod Assessment	0.00	-59.50
Stipend ¹	-2,000.00	22,266.00
Sundries	0.00	69.30
Total Liabilities	-1,736.05	28,211.50
Nett Assets	36,226.12	12,112.54

Note

1. Holy Cross was in arrears to the Diocese for the Rector's Stipend. These arrears have been paid in full. The amount shown is an overpayment made to the Diocese. This will be refunded to the parish.
2. The figures presented in the Treasurer's Report have not been audited. Due to the recent retirement/resignation of Betty S-G I was unable to find a suitable auditor to have the figures audited before the Annual Meeting.
3. In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, the receipts and payments of the Worshipping Community for the year ended 30 April 2016 and its cash and bank balances as at that date.

Treasurer's Report (cont'd)

Income

	budget 2016-2017	actual 2015-2016	actual 2014-2015
Income	\$	\$	\$
Giving	32,230	40,177.70	36,566.40
Anglican Messenger	60	111.30	56.20
Weddings	0	200.00	0.00
Fund Raising	3,200	5,900.72	10,415.20
Hall Hire	13,668	10,054.56	9,760.81
Tennis Court Hire	4,680	5,079.91	4,296.36
Children's Programs	4,595	5,287.00	15,465.75
Adjustments & Roundings	0	0.15	0.11
Unallocated Income	0	0.00	1720.70
Total Income	58,433	66,811.34	78,281.53
Other Income			
Grants	0	3,053.76	-6,187.47
Interest Earned	660	837.94	1,219.10
Total Other Income	660	3,891.70	-4,968.37
GROSS INCOME	59,093	70,703.04	73,313.46

Treasurer's Report (cont'd)

Expenses

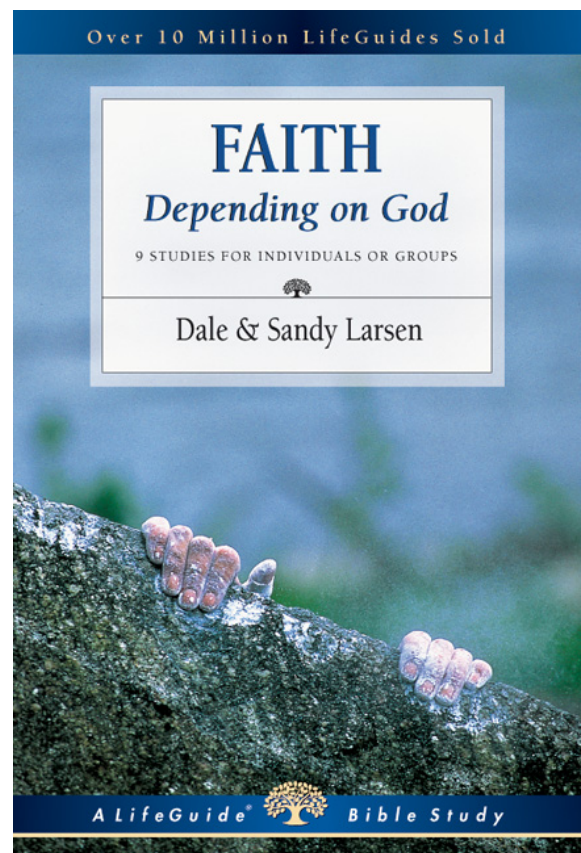
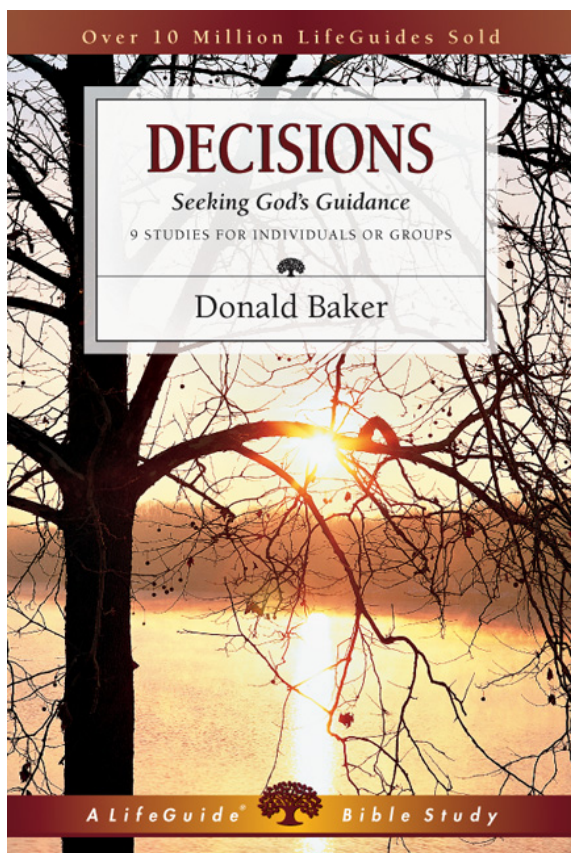
	budget 2016-2017	actual 2015-2016	actual 2014-2015
Expenses	\$	\$	\$
Clergy	26,038	16,552.52	47,187.5
Synod Assessment	6,520	9,059.50	8,881.00
Anglican Messenger	264	302.90	254.10
Church Stores	300	219.82	622.79
Cleaning	3,744	3,918.00	3,724.16
Cursillo	0	0.00	285.00
Donations	600	450.00	0.00
Equipment Purchases	240	229.00	77.27
Fund Raising	640	640.13	1,862.91
Insurance	2,000	1,621.44	3,904.42
Internet	850	590.88	619.87
Children's Programs	1,843	1,561.99	6,009.39
Licences & Copyright	600	707.59	288.19
Maintenance	6,000	3,904.77	2,316.74
Morning Teas/Kitchen	530	580.01	409.33
Photocopier	900	754.33	348.59
Postage/Printing/Stationary	240	95.54	58.54
Security	240	0.00	0.00
Sundry Expenses	240	130.55	735.77
Synod Expenses	500	390.00	289.25
Training	720	0.00	851.16
Utilities & Rates	5,900	4,880.49	10,071.87
Total Expenses	58,909	46,589.46	88,797.85
Surplus/(Shortfall)	184.00	24,113.58	-15,484.39

Bible Study Group

We have conducted Bible Studies at the church, monthly, whenever possible on every first and third Tuesday of the month. We commence at 9:00 am, study for an hour and then have a delicious morning tea.

We use studies from Koorong's Lifeguide Bible Studies. They are both interesting and informative. The past year we have drawn upon Faith and Decisions.

Pat & Norma Tebbutt



Children's Ministry

Melville Kids plus+

It is my great pleasure to let you know about KidsPLus+ in 2015/16

We have a great bunch of children and parents and most weeks we have between 12 -14 children present.

Our programs cover a wide variety of themes. Some of them have been:

- Making a Difference
- God Made Me special
- Christmas (of course)
- The Amazing Bible Bus
- and many others..

The programs are planned using ideas from the GFS /KidsPLus+ office. Thanks to Noeleen for her help and encouragement and for always being there when we need her advice.

Each week we have activities that include crafts, stories, games, songs, verses and prayers. Did I forget anything, yes the SNACKS which are always the favourites.

Our program aims to give children strong Christian values such as Love, Faith in God, Responsibility, Honesty, Kindness, Peace and Humility, Loyalty, Patience and Perseverance and Thankfulness

On Thursday afternoons between 4 -5.30 pm we have so much fun and the children show all of these values in one way or another each and every week.

Please visit us if you wish or admire our notice board presentations in the hall.

Children's Ministry (cont'd)

Melville Kids plus+ (cont'd)

Finally there are some very valued people to thank.

- Revd. Julie (we will miss her terribly)
- Jill
- Noeleen
- Claire who has been my wonderful volunteer (what would I do without her?)
- Tony (my long-suffering husband who prepares nearly all the craft activities)
- The parents and of course the CHILDREN who are just wonderful to work with.

Lynne Holmes

Mainly Music

Mainly Music continues, supported by a fabulous team, although 2016 has seen a few of us struggling with health issues. We have two new volunteers.

We regularly have between 10 and 20 children attending. We continue to see the families bring their new babies and wave goodbye to the babies who have grown before our eyes and are heading to kiddie or school. Several of the families are now bringing their 3rd child to mainly music.

Our prayer is that as we sow may the Good Lord Reap. Thanks to all the team for the love and support offered to the families.

Jill

Children's Ministry (cont'd)

Sunday Club Report

We have the Children's Ministry / Sunday school gathering 1st Sunday of the month at the Holy Communion Service at 9:00am. Our current attendance varies only slightly, but mainly involves 6 - 8 children per session (aged 6 & above), with 2 - 4 infants.

This has been a vital learning opportunity to the children of the parish to discuss not only aspects of the bible, but how it relates to our everyday life within our family, school and community.

They learn about the teachings of Jesus, how to develop a loving and close relationship with Jesus and God, and how to apply Christian values in our thinking, whether we are interacting with others, or whether we are dealing with situations on our own.

The children feel secure and protected by the other parishioners, and are given a sense of belonging when welcomed back into the parish after Sunday Club teachings, and the fellowship displayed during morning tea.

They are given the opportunity to develop a sense of occasion and tradition when included in communion, and learn more of the parish workings and its members when involved with the notices and hymns.

As evident in other parishes with the closure of children's Sunday programmes, the survival of the church becomes a point of discussion. Families will seek churches that provide an environment for their children to learn about God relative to their age.

Emma Charlton.

The Order of St Luke the Physician Perth, Melville Chapter

Chaplain's Report 2015-2016

The Perth Melville Chapter meets on the first Sunday, monthly at 4 pm at The Anglican Church of the Holy Cross, 56 McLean Street, Melville

A Ministry of healing, follows the morning service in the Holy Cross Anglican Church, monthly on the last Sunday of the month with an attendance of 28.

Between April 2015 and March 2016 there were 10 services held and one cancellation and an average attendance of 5 to 7 at the healing services. We also had 17 visitors.

The number of full members is 8 and membership has not increased this year.

Pastoral Visits

Mrs Val Collins remains associated with OSL and appreciates the contact. Sadly, Mrs Val Collins has had a stroke. Val and her husband Tom have moved to a nursing home in Bunbury, where she continues to enjoy OSL ministry.

Mrs Betty Rushforth: visited during her hospitalization. We thank God for her recovery and continue to pray for her present progress to continue.

The Order of St Luke the Physician (cont'd)

Current Issues

- Permission has been granted to use Facebook
- Enquiries were made by the locum rector Revd. Julie Barrett-Lennard regarding insurance cover for OSL. This insurance cover has not been an issue to date.
- Mr Theo Bruinsma has provided Revd. Julie Barrett-Lennard with a copy of the Certificate of Currency from Ansvar Insurance, Policy Number 03.025.0254302 and this is valid till 1st July 2016
- OSL has national insurance cover.
- An email dated 14th April 2016 from Revd. Julie Barrett-Lennard, states that Archbishop Rodger Herft has granted permission to Perth Melville Chapter to continue using the Anglican Church of Holycross for OSL services and meetings.
- Hall Hire License Agreement for the use of the Church Hall has been signed and returned to the property department.

Achievements

The chaplain has attended all State Executive meetings during 2015-2016.

Healing Ministry Talks

The chaplain was invited by the Rev'd Kathy Barrett-Lennard to give a talk about the Order of St Luke Healing Ministries on Sunday 20th September 2015 in St Peter's Anglican Church, Wongan Hills. The chaplain was accompanied by the convener Mrs Margaret Pickering from Peel Chapter.

The Order of St Luke the Physician (cont'd)

Personal Learning

The chaplain has attended the following 'Personal Learning Days' at Wollaston College

1. Church Safe Workshop - Vicarious Trauma Lay Training 18th November 2015
2. LPM Mandatory Training Day Saturday 12th March 2016 - 'Hearing and telling God's Story'.

Perth Melville Chapter members have been a faithful group throughout the year.

Hospitality is very much enjoyed and appreciated by members and visitors.

Spiritual growth within the chapter remains a source of encouragement.

It would appear that the future of Perth Melville Chapter is now of considerable concern.

A new year is being embraced in faith, in the name of Christ.

Mrs Beryl Shooter
Chaplain

MU Australia – Melville Branch Report

Our theme for 2016 is 'Find Joy Everyday'.

We have not had many meetings this year owing to poor health, however we continue to be active in the life of the church such as Mainly Music, Kids Plus and Craft.

Even though we are a group that cannot always get to meetings once a month, we find joy every day in our daily lives.

Betty Rushforth
President Melville Branch



Multi-Media Team & Church Website

Michael & I have been the media team, putting together & presenting the media at church each Sunday. It is not a difficult job once you have been shown how the equipment & software work. The challenge is doing it week in and week out. To Michael, thank you for a job well done, your efforts over the year are appreciated.

If any of our congregation would like to join the team, please contact me. As I have said above it's not difficult.

Last year I commented on the age of our equipment & the problems that were arising such as the projector not being compatible with the latest video standards and the radio microphones not meeting current standards. These problems have not changed.

The Multi-Media equipment is a vital part of our church worship & children's programs and maybe not this year but soon there will have to be money spent upgrading or replacing the equipment & software.

The Church Website is being updated on a regular basis & is a source of information for happenings in and around the church. Copies of the monthly newsletters can be downloaded from the website & when possible, transcripts of sermons are available.

Peter B

Tennis Report

The tennis court continues to be a good source of income for the Church. Usage has increased somewhat and the annual income is expected to be over \$4,000.

The court is used mainly during the day by groups comprising senior ladies, who are always looking for new members.

Night tennis has increased with 4 nights booked regularly.

The lines have now been re-marked and, together with a new net installed last year, the court is in good condition.

The court is functioning well, and with a regular income being received, it is now time for someone else to take over the management.

Owing to personal circumstances, please accept my resignation as from 30th June 2016. However, I will still be available to advise as required.

Norm Kidd

