A windmill on top of a dry grass field

Description automatically generatedNotes from the Ministry District Priest, Yorke Peninsula

Windmills

**January 2020**

Greetings

Another year begins with all the expectations that brings. For us as a district, 2019 was a year of great change and I expect 2020 will be a little less unpredictable. This coming year should be one of consolidation. Now we have the district up and running, it is time for us to put in place the structures and systems to keep things going and to stabilise our activities.

As the New Year is often a time for taking stock of our personal lives, resulting in the making of the “New Year’s Resolutions”. We think in terms of the **better me** that I can make myself into. The description “resolution” implies that the source of achievement is through personal will power and explains our potential to fall short.

But as God’s people, we live in a different framework. In the ordination service, the ordinand often replies: “I will with God’s help”. This is more than just an interesting set of words with which to frame a response. It is actually a theology that who we are and what we can do and be, is in the hands of our heavenly father. So let us not talk of resolutions – what we can do for ourselves but let us call them *aspirations -* it is still our vision of who we would like to be, but we allow the change agent to be God*.* Rather than struggling with our own motivation, we are called to submit to the will of God. Submission to God’s will is not easy, but it is the journey of faith. It begins as we recognise who Christ is and what his call is upon our life.

We may need to think about adjusting our life pattern. This may mean taking time to pray more and joining with God’s people more often. Or taking time to study and read God’s word. As we begin a new year, let us aspire to strengthen our faith and devote ourselves to find out who God wants us to be.

*Andrew*

**Upcoming Events**

**SU Family Mission**

Sunday, January 5. – January 12

Port Vincent

**Blazeaid Catering**

Tuesday, January 7, 5pm

Light Church Edithburgh

Contact: Bev Litster (08) 8853 2373

**Learning Circle**

Wednesday, January 15, 7pm

Maggie’s Place – Port Victoria

**SYP Book Circle**

Thursday, January 16, 4:30pm

Flying Angel Centre

**Soup Luncheon**

Wednesday, January 22, 11:45 for Noon

St Benedict’s (Cost $5)

**Australia Day Breakfast**

Sunday, January 26 7:30am Service

Full Cooked Breakfast to follow $15

RSVP Cheryl 0428 527 004

Event will be at the Carmichael Shed

**Big Bash Cricket Challenge**

**Hurricanes v Strikers**

Sunday, January 26 at Rectory

5 pm. BBQ – Meat provided

– Bring and Share a salad or sweet

Cricket about 7pm

**Men’s Breakfast** *(Resumes)*

Saturday, February 1. 7:30am

Kristen Murdock

from YP Community Transport

$5 - St Benedicts, Minlaton

**Ministry District Meeting**

Sunday, February 2. 3:30pm

St Benedicts, Minlaton

*Contact. Coralie 0455 839 885*

**Church Meetings**

Thursday, January 2 - 7:30 pm

Church Council – St Benedict.

Wednesday, January 22 – 4pm

SYP Vestries – Boardroom

**Advanced Notice**

**Ash Wednesday Services**

*Wednesday February 26.*

10am St Benedict’s, Minlaton

10am St James, Ardrossan

5pm St George’s, Yorketown

**Coffee and Craft** *(Resumes)*

Friday February 7, 10am (St Benedict)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Gael Training Dates for 2020:**

*10am – 3pm BYO Lunch @ St Benedict’s*

**Friday, March 20**

Connecting Through Conversation

**Friday, August 14**

Radical Hospitality

*(Mandatory for LLM’s)*

**Friday, November 6**

Year of Mark *(Getting ready for 2021)*

*This training is scheduled for all members of our congregations, not just Clergy and LLM’s. Plan to be part of it and put these dates in your diary.*

***Mission Support Team 2020***

*Clergy and LLM’s.*

* *Friday, February 14*
* *Friday, May 8*
* *Friday, June 12*
* *Friday, July 10*
* *Friday, September 11*
* *Friday, October 9*

*At the Rectory: 10:30am and ending with Bring and Share Lunch*

**Aled Jones Concert**

I am sad to report that I have been advised by the Cathedral that the organisers have chosen to cancel this event.

**Anglicare Willochra**

The Reverend Louise Lang has accepted an invitation to take up a paid coordinating role with Anglicare Willochra from the beginning of 2020. Rob Foggo will conclude in his role across the rural areas of the province and his support role with the Anglicare Willochra Committee at the end of 2019.

**Shrove Tuesday**

**Pancake Celebrations**

*Tuesday February 25.*

At this stage we are planning celebrations at the following locations.

St Benedict’s, Minlaton

St James, Ardrossan

St George’s, Yorketown

*These will happen when we get volunteers willing to help and make this happen*

**Bush fires**

*Our prayer book offers this prayer during the time of bushfire:*

All thing look to you, O Lord, to give them their food in due season:

look in mercy on your people, and hear our prayer for those whose lives and possessions are threatened or have been destroyed by fire.

In your mercy restore your creation and heal our land.

So guide and bless your people, that they may enjoy the fruits of the earth and give you thanks with grateful hearts, through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

*From the APBA*

**Through Their Eyes Training,**

**Safer Church Communities Training,**

**Working With Children Check**

**and/or Police Check –**

For a number of months, culminating in Synod, the bishop has made it clear that the window of opportunity to ensure that LLM’s, members of Parish Council, Managers of Op Shops, and Ministry District Councils & Church Councils in Ministry Districts will need to have up to date training certificates and either a current Police Check or the new Working With Children Check lodged with Diocesan Office. The number of those compliant and not was reported to Diocesan Council and those who are non-compliant are suspended from office.

**Current Diocesan Expectations**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
| Clergy | X |  | X | X | X |
| LLM working with Children | X |  | X | X | X |
| LLM (Other) | X |  | X | X | X |
| Synod Members | X |  | X | X | X |
| Church & District Council | X |  | X | X | X |
| Op Shop Managers | X |  |  |  | X |
| Op Shop Volunteers | X |  |  |  |  |
| MU Members | X |  | X | X |  |
| Church Office Workers | X |  | X | X | X |
| Others working with Children | X |  | X | X | X |
| Other Volunteers |  | X |  |  |  |

1. Working with children check

2. National Police Check

3. Ensuring safe church communities

4. Child Safe – Through their eyes

5. Affirm Faithfulness in Service

WWCC is free for volunteers.

Contact: *screening.sa.gov.au* to commence the process.

Documentation should be submitted to the District Priest.

**Looking towards General Synod**

The Bishop Writes…

We are all faced by the choice of whether we react or respond to the events (or people) that occur that impact our work or personal lives. This is as true about the areas where we find ourselves in disagreement with others – shall we respond to the opinions of others that are at odds with our own opinion or will we react?

Reaction comes out of a very basic human response to a situation where we feel, at the worst, threatened, or at the least, in a place of unease with another person or a given situation. This is often referred to as 'flight or fight' – in reality, it is a choice between fight, freeze or flight. These reactions are driven by the release of adrenalin in the body. Some would say it is driven by the most primitive part of our brain and instinctive reaction.

Response is a more thoughtful process which commences with a willingness to 'take a breath', to think about what has occurred and to have a more reasoned way of dealing with the presenting issue or person. That is not to say that reaction is always instantaneous, sometimes we have 'stoked the fires' of reaction by rehearsing the event and the associated feelings.

I believe that it is better to respond than to react in most situations. To take time to consider how best to move the matter forward or to address the sense of threat that I may be experiencing. It is, of course, right to react if we are crossing the road and a truck is bearing down on us.

The Anglican Church of Australia has been brought to a point where at next year's General Synod meeting, we may very well be asked to make some very hard decisions about same-gender orientation as it relates, in particular, to same-gender marriage. General Synod can either respond to this matter or react. In some ways this issue has become polarised. If we think of it this way we forget that often there is a large group between the two extremes.

I have been and will continue to pray for the General Synod meeting (May 31 –June 5), for the 'conference time' using Open Space Technology and the following debate of motions. May it be a grace guided process; response rather than reaction.

+ John

District Priest District Deacon

The Venerable Andrew Lang The Reverend Louise Lang

districtpriest@alcress.com deacon@alcress.com

0417 556 848

Facebook: Anglican Ministry District of Yorke Peninsula

Website: http://anglicansonyorkes.org.au

