Anglican Church St Luke's Ekibin

Church News

September 2020

From the Rectory Desk…



Much has changed since I last wrote for 'Church News'. We have been able to return to worship at St Luke's, albeit with the necessity of 'signing in' when we arrive and abiding by the government's physical distancing rules. But we are able to come together, sing God's praises, and break bread together, and that is a great blessing. We are continuing to make use of Zoom for an evening service streamed from the Rectory on a Saturday where we listen to the Sunday readings, pray and share music. The Sunday morning 9am service is also streamed from St Luke's and we are seeking ways in which the quality of this stream may be improved. In this we hope to enable those who are unable to come physically to St Luke's to remain connected with us.

You will have noticed that the two services on Sunday morning at St Luke's are more different now. The 7am is more traditional, following the APBA Order Two service, whilst at 9am there is a simpler structure, with fewer readings and the incorporation of children's ministry. The choice of hymns also reflects the style of the services. We are not all the same (thank God!) and so find different ways of worship helpful.

The other big activity in the parish has been the reconsideration of the proposal to build an Early Learning Centre on our site. You will remember that the previous proposal that the parish agreed to for one to be leased to C&K did not work out, so we were starting to explore other possibilities to further the mission of God in our neighbourhood. Then in June, the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) came to us with a proposal that they would like to partner with us to run an Anglican Early Learning Centre (an AngEL centre) here at St Luke's. Such a centre would be a great missional outcome, as well as providing a source of income.

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PARISH DIRECTORY – SEPTEMBER 2020

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PARENTS & PIPSQUEAKS

In recess

WORSHIP SERVICES

Join us to **worship at St Luke's at 7am and 9am each Sunday**.

You can also link to the 9am service by Zoom.

Join us on **Saturday at 6pm** by Zoom to worship together.

Evening Prayer by Zoom: 6pm Tuesday to Friday

(https://zoom.us/j/7210725462)

or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).

Contact the Parish Office for the password.

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HALL BOOKINGS FOR ST LUKE'S PARISH HALL

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Our Mission Statement:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to be a faithful, worshipping, caring community, committed to serving God by sharing His love and peace with others, in the name of His Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ

Sacraments and Rights of Passage

June, July and August 2020



Baptisms

nil

Funerals

Fergus George Edwards 27 August 2020

Memorial Service

Shirley Ann Spencer
(with Interment of Ashes) 28 August 2020

Marriage

nil

Continued from Page 1

Strong interactions between the parish and the ELC would be envisaged, with the possibility of a dedicated person acting as Chaplain to the centre as well as part of the Parish ministry team. It is also valuable to note that the redevelopment of the site would give us refreshed facilities in terms of a modern hall and meeting spaces and allow us to develop other ideas to reach out and be involved in our local community and share God's love with them.

A parish survey was sent out in July, and that is reported on elsewhere in 'Church News'. This showed a high level of support in principle. Subsequently representatives of the ASC spoke to the Parish Council and to the parish; an updated demographic survey and financial models have been obtained which shows that the proposal is viable, and discussions over changes to the previous C&K plans, to reduce the footprint of the ELC have occurred. I hope that we will be able to make a decision whether to proceed by the end of September.

If we go ahead, there will be much disruption and change. But we know that we can cope with this! Who would have thought back in January that we would have made all the changes to our way of life that the Coronavirus has brought? As I write this I have just officiated at two funeral services in two days, for Fergus Edwards and for Shirley Spencer. Both families asked for John 14:1-6 to be read. In this passage, Jesus is

speaking to his disciples on the day before Good Friday, when they are distraught over the changes and chaos that lay ahead of them.

Jesus tells them:

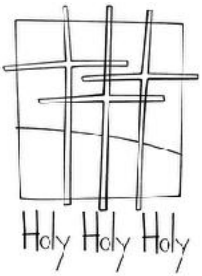
Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. (John 14:1)

Thomas asks the question on all our lips "how can we know the way?" And the answer from Jesus is clear. He will lead us and He will guide us. He is the way, and the truth, and the life.

Jesus is telling his disciples, and tells us today, that we should allow ourselves to recognize our fears regarding the future, but know that we can overcome these by abiding in Jesus' presence with us now.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Rev'd Timothy



Fellowship and Fund Raising Report

Our first Bush Ministry stall in four months was held on Sunday 9 August.

It raised a total of $284.45 for the outback parishes of Leichhardt and Tara.

Many thanks to all for your most generous support.
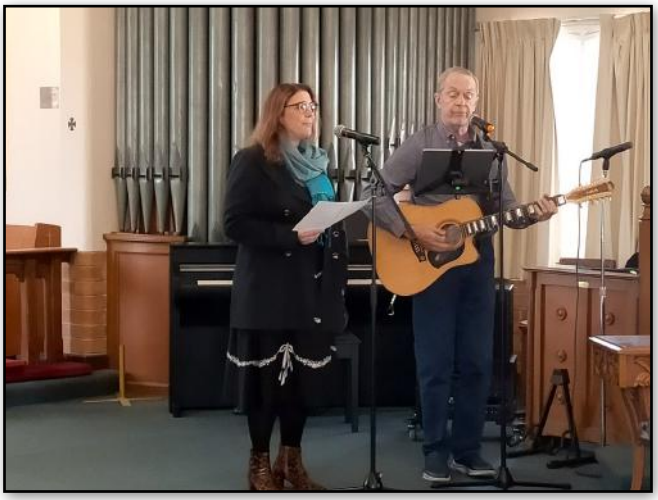
Proceeds from the sale of the latest batch of honey from the parish bees will be forwarded to ABM for one of their overseas emergency funds. This will total $120+. Our grateful thanks to Dimitri Markotsis for all his work with the bees. Plans are now underway to hold a Trivia Night on line. This will be held on Saturday 10 October 2020 at 7.30pm. Details will be advertised later.

Janette Hagerty

Music

"Music makes the world go round" or so it is said. Indeed, it is hard to imagine life without music. Think of St Luke's with no music.? Luckily, we don't have to. We are blessed with good and loyal musicians who play at our regular worship services, and no reflection on music at St Luke's would be possible without acknowledging and thanking Brian Wood, our organist, and Sue Vassella who also plays and leads the choir. Every hour they spend playing in church means hours and hours of practice at home every week. It is no small thing to make this commitment and we are forever grateful to them. Music evolves too. Those who have been regular in worship will know many of the traditional hymns well, some off by heart. Think of "Glorious things of Thee are spoken", "Fight the Good Fight", "Crown Him with many crowns", "Love Divine All Loves Excelling" and "Amazing Grace". In recent decades new genres of Christian music have come to us. Writers such as Graham Kendrick, Stuart Townend, Robin Mark, Brian Doerksen, Keith and Kristen Getty, Mat Redman and Michael Smith and many others have enlivened our worship with songs like "Shine Jesus Shine", "Make Way, Make Way", "Oh What a Morning", "Days of Elijah", "Bless the Lord O my Soul (10,000 reasons)", "From the rising of the Sun", "In Christ Alone" "Refiner's fire" and "The Power of the Cross".

At the beginning of the year Trevor Lunn joined us: a guitarist and worship leader from Geelong.



Trevor Lunn with Helen Hutchins

Then came Covid 19 which closed our church for four months. With the guidance of The Rev. Timothy we quickly adopted the Zoom online worship setting, which invited us to try new ways of doing things and perhaps trying new musical genres. Brian was able to pre-record hymns on his organ at home (ask him about his new organ ☺). Trevor was able to provide us with some recorded songs that he produced in his music studio at home. "Music studio" sounds very grand but these days it's not. It's just a laptop with some music recording software and a small digital input device into which a vocal microphone and a guitar can be fed (seen attached photo). This set-up enabled multitrack recording with many layers of voice and guitar and all sorts of digital effects which were then embedded in a PowerPoint presentation for the complete audio-visual presentation. All well and good. Then the question was asked, "How can we experience some of this in our live worship now that we're back in church".



So last Sunday, for the first time, a musical trio of Brian on piano, Trevor on guitar and Helen Hutchins led the singing for two of the hymns at the 9.00am service, and by all accounts it was very well received. Plans are now afoot for this to be incorporated into our regular worship, though the details are yet to be confirmed. Stay tuned…!

No word yet on when the choir will be able to start practising again. Hopefully we'll hear about that in the coming weeks. Again, stay tuned…!

Trevor Lunn

Redevelopment or better use of our site at St Luke's
What did the Parish say?

In July, St Luke's parishioners and the Theatre Society were invited to respond to a "St Luke's site development" survey to gain their views on the use of our site at St Luke's for enhancing the growth and mission of our church, the long term viability of our church and options to achieve those aspirations. Respondents were asked for their view on the future of St Luke's; a proposal from the Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) to establish an Early Learning Centre on our site, in conjunction with a new hall for parish and community use; and other suggestions for the use of our site to develop missional and growth activities and to improve the financial viability of our parish.

Responses were thoughtful and reflected love for our parish but also revealed concerns and unanswered questions. A summary of responses was provided to parishioners verbally at both 7am and 9am services on Sunday 2nd August. This article in Church News is another avenue to provide feedback to our parishioners and wider circle of parish friends.

There was remarkable **confluence in the key themes** mentioned by respondents and these themes shone through in response to a number of questions.

Where are we and what do we desire for our future? We want to be a **thriving, vibrant church with growth in numbers.** We want to be a flourishing centre for Anglicans AND the whole community with sufficient numbers to support the work and mission of the parish. A thriving place of worship with a continued focus and fellowship for parishioners of all ages. In short, we want a growing, loving multi-age faith community. **BUT we don't only want a growth in numbers, but also have an expressed desire for a growth in the spiritual / faith dimension of our church** - committed to God, worshipping God and serving our community with a renewal of our faith and spiritual maturity. We want to be a place for individuals to hear about GOD and to grow spiritually whilst developing friendships that last a lifetime. We need to continue to ensure diversity and inclusivity in all we do, utilising digital and other means to engage and inform. Thirdly, we want to be a **thriving community hub with an increased connection with our local community**, providing mission and service to cater for needs of local

suburbs. We wish to see a crossover of people coming to St Luke's for a range of reasons. We want people to be curious about our parish and feel drawn to it. There is a desire to see St Luke's Theatre Society as a thriving group within the parish and the community.

A **strong sense of urgency** was voiced. It is recognised that in 10 years, many of current congregation will have passed on or moved away and unless we can **attract new members** to the congregation or initiate **new sources of income** like the ASC Early Learning Centre, the future looks grim. **Our future depends on the choices we make now.**

Many missional and growth opportunities of the ASC proposal to parish and the wider diocese were recognised, helping us to become the thriving, vibrant parish we desire to be, with growth in numbers and a stronger connection with young families; facilitating a connection with our community; engagement with Diocese and ASC; financial viability with a source of external funding; and improved facilities.

It was recognised by many that we need to redevelop the campus with **more sustainable buildings, ensuring modern and low maintenance facilities** which are fully accessible and fully inclusive for use by the parish and its wider community. There was a commonly expressed view that the cost to renovate existing buildings would be substantial and not result in facilities offering what the development offers. A small number suggested that renovating and upgrading our current facilities to meet our needs was appropriate.



A number of concerns and queries were expressed. These concerns included viability of a centre in our area (a Childcare Needs Assessment has now been provided and is being considered by Parish Council). There were questions regarding the financial model, who pays for the development and who carries the risk (details still being considered but we know the Diocese pays for the cost of Childcare centre and parish, with a loan to the parish from Diocese and funds from sale of St Aidan's funding the Parish Hall component. The loan will be repaid from earnings for the childcare centre. In addition, the parish will be provided with additional income. The Diocese carries the financial risk). There were questions about operational issues relating to how the ASC and Parish would work together. The Parish will be heavily involved in guiding the operation of the centre, with leading from our priest, but we will not be responsible for day to day operation. We will be able to access some of the facilities after hours for use by the parish. The Parish will retain full control over who rents the parish hall. Design plan details are being explored by Parish council and will be impacted by the final size of the development.



We all agree that our church will remain central. The Memorial Garden is important to many parishioners. Some are happy for it to be moved to a location adjacent to the church and see this as a positive outcome, with an improved plan for the future of the garden in a secure location and with areas of the garden set aside for the future growth and use. A number feel very strongly that the Memorial Garden should not be moved. There is acknowledgement that if the Memorial Garden is moved, it must be done is a very respectful and appropriate manner.

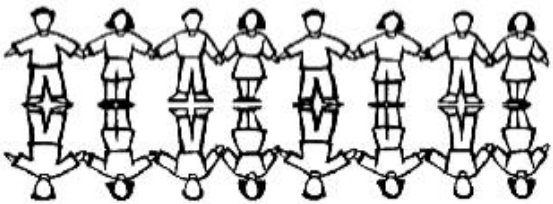
Maximising our access to outdoor spaces is important and will being considered in any negotiations. New facilities are proposed with a new deck adjacent to the church and safe fenced play areas. The Rose garden, in memory of Guild must be preserved, even if it needs to be moved. Parking and access from the street were of concern to some. The amount of parking available will be equal to our current paved parking areas.

Suggestions were sought for better use of existing or new buildings for missional activities and income generation. Many valuable suggestions and comments were offered for parish and community activities, including better advertising, ongoing hire of facilities, traditional fundraising and social events, stewardship bequests and donations and Community use. These suggestions, as well as suggestions for growth of parishioner numbers can be considered AS WELL AS, rather than instead of any development. Unfortunately, some suggestions for other development opportunities, such as accommodation and commercial facilities, are not possible because of the community zoning of our area which we are advised would not be changed by Brisbane City Council who view Community zoning as a premium. Other suggestions, while valuable, are unlikely to generate significant income and/or could be incorporated within the proposed childcare development.

As well as the opportunity to provide ideas and suggestions, respondents were specifically asked to **rate their support** (on a scale of 1 to 5), for the proposed Anglican Schools Commission (ASC) Early Learning Centre to be built on our site, in conjunction with a new hall. Of the forty responses received, 33 (82%) were either fully (5) or somewhat (4) supportive. A further 5 respondents voted “3” (neither opposed or supportive) and 2 were opposed.

It is the view of our Priest and the Wardens, that this provided us with a mandate to explore the ASC proposal in more detail.

Chris Bromwich



More Memories of St Aidan's

In the June edition of Church News, June McNicol provided a brief history of St Aidans. 'Memories' submitted by Judith Sawtell and Naiomi Tatzenco were included. Unfortunately, I had computer problems and could not include material by Desley Soden. Desley, has a strong interest in Parish History and provided me with more material which I hope to include in subsequent editions of the Church News.

David Moy

Father Don Bleakley

Members of the St Aidan's Congregation gathered with Father Don Bleakley for a special lunch at Barbara Johnson's house, Moorooka circa 2009 to celebrate his 50 years in the priesthood. (Photo probably by Jane Bannon)



Back Row from left: - Jan Moody, Mark Bannon, Bill Moody, Beverley Soden, Desley Soden, Maxine McElnea, Alan Goodwin, Jill Goodwin, Darryl Soden, Anne Edwards, Shirley Spencer, Colin Calder

Front Row from left: - Hazel Park, Alan Johnson, Fr Don Bleakley, Barbara Johnson, Bill Hamilton

Father Don continued to be Associate priest at St Aidans until ill health in 2014 resulted in his retirement. He had held the position of Associate Priest for 14 years. Following Fr Don's retirement, services were discontinued due to the dwindling congregation. Many of those pictured with Fr Don in 2009 remain as members of St Luke's congregation today.

Desley Soden

St Aidan's Indoor Bowlers

With the closure of St Barnabas Church at Tarragindi the Indoor Bowls Club moved to St Aidan's Church Hall where they met each Friday night.

We had two bowlers with impaired vision and they were incredibly skilful in determining length and bias when told what was required.

A couple of times a year our members visited the Blind Institute for bowling and fellowship and it was a great joy to see the enthusiasm and skill of those without sight.

The Uniting Church Indoor Bowlers at Vulture Street visited us at St Aidan's a couple of times a year and the St Aidan's players likewise reciprocated. Due to our numbers dwindling the club eventually closed.

Maxine McElnea

An Invitation

Finally, I invite you and/or your family to provide your own "memories" of St Lukes, St Barnarbas and St Aidans. Your memories will provide the 'human side' of our Parish History. Please do not hesitate to write, type or email your contributions. Also, do not hesitate to include a photo or two – but be sure to include relevant information eg date, names and location or event.

Also please note that your material eventually has to conform with Parish Editorial Policy and may have to be edited before it is published in the Parish News.

Thanks for your interest and other material I will submit for future editions.

Mobile 0411 871 460

Email: davidmoy@optusnet.com.au

David Moy

Parish Walk and Picnic at Minippi Parklands

Five little ducks went out one day

Over the hill and far away

Mother duck says "quack, quack, quack, quack"

And only four little ducks came back



I couldn't help but think of this lovely children's song at the Minippi Parklands lake. There before us were two beautiful black swans, and their brood of cignets and five little ducks lined up in a row, with one straggler. This was just the beginning of a most wonderful day for the parishioners who were there. The day was perfect; sunny but with a cool breeze. The scenery and the water were very calming, and the walk around the lake, flat and comfortable. There were relatively few gazebo covered picnic tables and when we arrived our favourite was occupied. So off we went for our walk which took about 30 minutes. When we returned to the starting point the previous occupiers of the table had graciously departed leaving us to enjoy our picnic together. Some came armed with some serious bird-watching equipment and there was no disappointment at the variety on display. It was just great to get out in the fresh air as a parish group after our extended period of isolation.

Trevor Lunn

Two Memorable Churches of the Holy Land

Some of the most lovely and inspiring buildings to visit in Israel are the many Christian churches all over the country. There are famous and magnificent ones like the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Basilicas and Cathedrals, but I would like to share two of the smaller ones that I found beautiful and interesting. The first is the Roman Catholic Church of the Eight Beatitudes. Set on a level and fertile area on a slope overlooking the Sea of Galilee, it seems a likely place for Jesus to have preached the Sermon on the Mount, as claimed in c.380 A.D. by Egeria, a Spanish pilgrim who identified the hill on which Jesus preached, and another area in which he fed thousands of people with the loaves and fishes. Based on Egeria's description, the Byzantines built a church there and many years later in the 20th century, the new church was built on the ruins of the older one.

The Church is constructed on an octagonal base, the eight sides each representing one of the Beatitudes and is surrounded by a pleasant garden with stones also inscribed with the Beatitudes lining the pathways.



The Church of the Beatitudes near the Sea of Galilee

Internally it is decorated very simply, with one of the Beatitudes inscribed on a separate window plaque on each one of the eight walls.




The simple interior of the Church of the Beatitudes

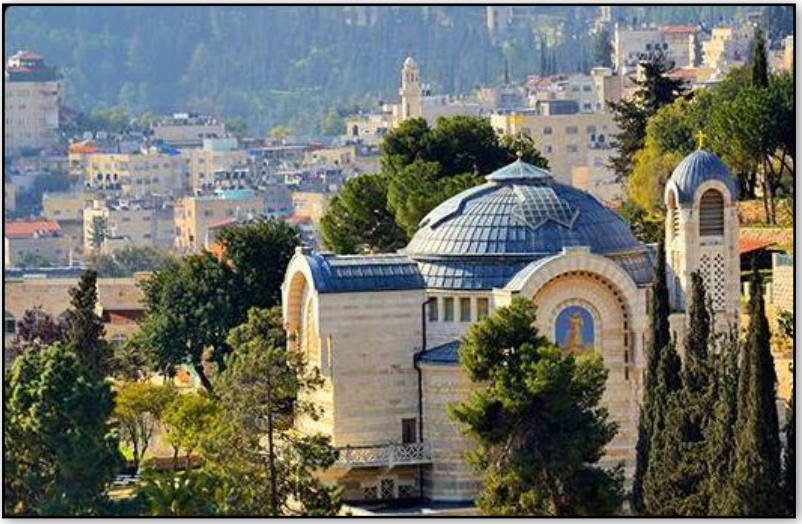
The church was built between 1936 and 1938 under the auspices of the Italian Mission Society who asked for, and received, funding from Italy's leader, Benito Mussolini. The Italian architect, Antonio Barluzzi, known as the "Architect of the Holy Land", was appointed by him as the designer.

Why Mussolini undertook to fund a Christian Church in Israel just before World War II is rather an enigma. Mussolini was a self-proclaimed atheist, and a fascist dictator, but in his rise to power, he knew that to completely control Italy he had to be in good stead with the Catholic Church and its millions of faithful followers. In 1929 he signed the Lateran Treaty acknowledging the Church's main role in Italy and founding the Vatican in Rome as a separate independent state. He may have seen his funding of a church in Israel as a gesture which would endear him to Christians in Italy. Sadly, his attitude towards Jewish Italians was the total opposite, resulting in the tragic cancellation of their Italian citizenship and rights, the formation of ghettoes, expulsion and death in German concentration camps.

However clouded the history of the benefactor of the church is, it is today a wonderful place to remember the moving words of Jesus in his Sermon on the Mount.

Another example of a beautiful church built over the ruins of a former Byzantine church, was also designed by Antonio Barluzzi and completed in 1955 for the" Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land" which had purchased the site in 1679. It is the Church of the Visitation and it is situated in the hills outside Jerusalem at Ein Karem, believed to be the birthplace of John the Baptist, and also the site of the home of his

mother Elizabeth, who was visited by her cousin Mary, the mother of Jesus, before their children were born.

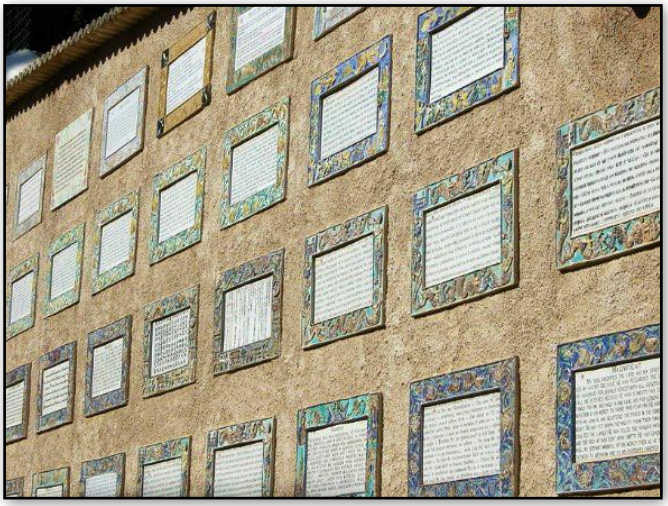


The Church of the Visitation, Ein Karem, Jerusalem

The view from the lovely gardens of the church is as stunning as is the building itself.



It was here too that Mary traditionally spoke the words of the poetic “Magnificat” and this is commemorated in the courtyard of the church by 58 ceramic plaques on which the verses of the Canticle are displayed in as many different languages.



Here in the courtyard too is a modern sculpture of Mary and Elizabeth

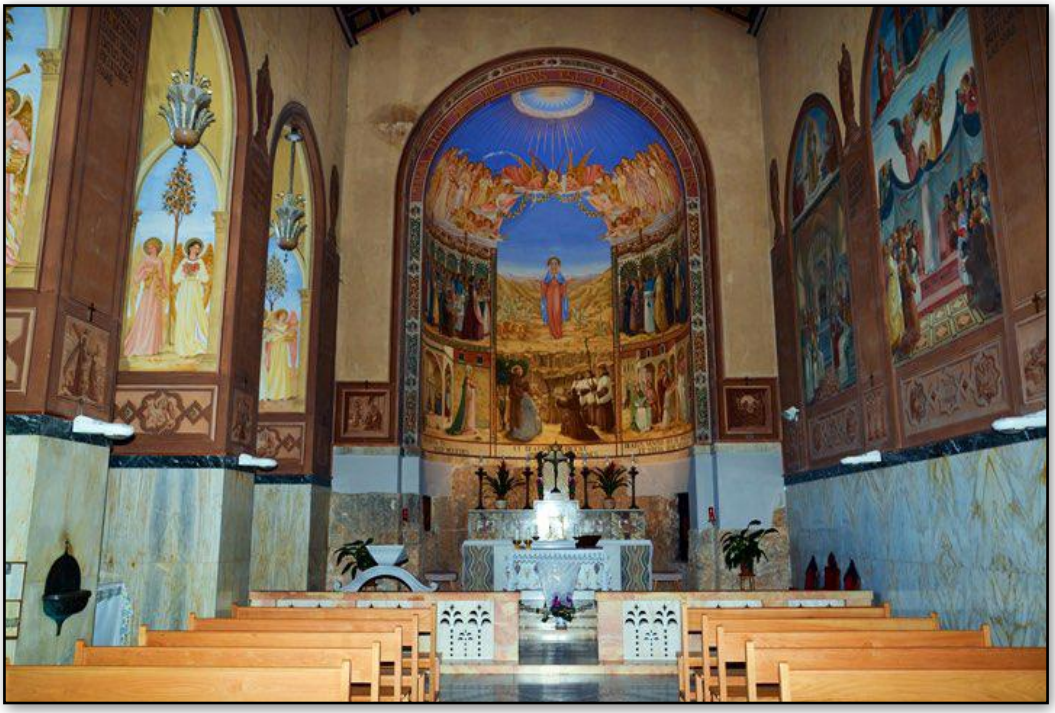


Inside the upper church are many fine frescoes painted in 14th Century Italian Tuscan style by the artist appointed by Barluzzi, Cesare Vagarini. During World War II the British Government considered this Italian painter an enemy alien, and so deported him to a detention camp in Australia.



The meeting of Elizabeth and Mary

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Some of the frescoes in the upper church

He was released in 1948, but he immediately returned to Israel to complete his work on the church.

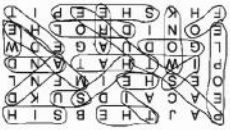
I wish I had been able to visit many more!

Llynneth Crawford

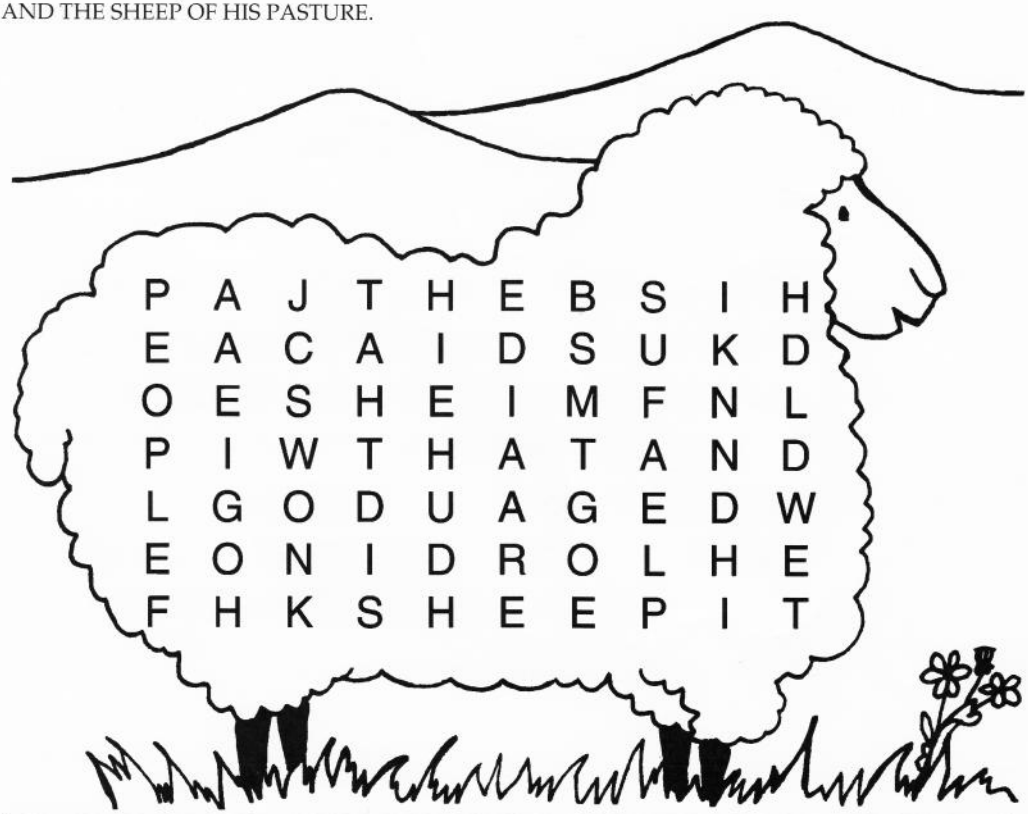


Word Find

Find the words of Psalm 100:3 in this word find.



KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD. IT IS HE THAT MADE US AND WE ARE HIS PEOPLE,
AND THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE.



Pasture Code

Here is a list of things that you might see in a pasture. Fill in the letters using the code.

Code: a = △, e = □, i = ○, o = ▱

1. Gr ___ s s (△)
2. F ___ nc ___ (□, □)
3. W ___ t ___ r (△, □)
4. Fl ___ w ___ rs (▱, □)
5. Tr ___ ___ s (□, □)
6. B ___ rds (○)
7. Sh ___ ph ___ rd (□, □)

Answers: Grass, Fence, Water, Flowers, Trees, Birds, Shepherd

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