## Cell Groups at Penshurst Anglican Church

Our church calls itself a 'cell church', built upon the Biblical idea that the primary way that God's people can truly live out the Gospel is through small, intentional communities (called 'cells'). It is here where Jesus is given a far more intimate opportunity to do His work of transformation.

Group name/leader	Day/time/frequency
Trinity Forum	Meets monthly, last Monday of the month
Dorcas Fellowship	Meets 2nd & 4th Thurs at 9:45am
Chapel Bible Study	Meets each Weds of term, 9:30 am
Kathie Johnson	Meets fortnightly on Tues evenings
Gaye Bishop	Meets fortnightly on Tues evenings
Cliff Seeto	Meets fortnightly on Tues evenings
Megan & Jeff Powys	Meets weekly on Thurs evenings
Bart & Kim VandenHengel	Meets fortnightly on Thurs evenings
PAC Youth Group	Meets Friday eve, 7:30-9:30 pm
U-ni'd Jesus	Meets each Sun. of term, 1pm in library

#### **Sunday School:**

Our Sunday School program runs during the 10:30am services, and only during school term. There are four classes available, based roughly on a child's age:

•	Ages 3-5	Coordinators: Karen Fu & Michelle Lee	(in basement of hall)
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- Years 1-3 Coordinator: Nancy Feng (in upper hall classroom 1)
- Years 4-6 Coordinator: Kim VandenHengel (in upper hall classroom 2)
- Years 7-8 Coordinator: John Oakes (in library)

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#### **Penshurst Anglican Church**

2 Carrington St, Penshurst, NSW 2222

Pastors: Bart VandenHengel (English speaking congregations) Stewart Leung (Mandarin speaking congregation) Sunday Services: (8am) Prayer Book Service w/ Holy Communion (10:30am) Celebration services in English and Mandarin (7pm) 'The Quiet Place'

Office Phone: (02) 9580-1217 Office Fax: (02) 9585-2943 Bart's Mobile: 0400-282-848 email: barty@exemail.com.au

PAC Bank details: Penshurst Anglican Parish St Johns BSB 704998, Acc't No 100008296 Website: www.penshurstanglican.org

# The Voice

### Penshurst Anglican Church

We welcome you to our celebrations this morning! If you are a visitor here today, we pray that the Triune God of grace will richly meet you where you are, in the fellowship of His people here at PAC. We also invite you to make yourself known to us through the visitor forms found in the pew holders.

## Merilyn Mayhew goes to Synod!

Now that I've been coming to an Anglican church for 10 years, it seems about time to get a bigger picture of what it means to be an Anglican in Sydney, so along with Bart and Gaye I went to Synod this year.

Synod makes laws for the Diocese of Sydney. We met for five days, over 500 of us, all the ministers from the Sydney churches and a couple of lay people from each church. For me personally, I come to this church because it is *this* church, and only incidentally because it's Anglican. At Synod I was surrounded by people who consider themselves primarily Anglicans, then Christians, and I got a sense of the history, and the substantial weight and heft of what it means to be Anglican, and especially a Sydney Anglican. I was impressed by how the participants behaved towards each other, in a mature, godly, co-operative way, even when expressing very different opinions, and I was particularly impressed by Peter Jensen as Chair - he's very gracious, with a light touch, but clearly on top of everything and very knowledgeable. The only time the goodwill slipped was when we discussed Sydney's relationship with the rest of the Anglican Church in Australia -Sydney with their strong evangelical position appear to see themselves as embattled and out of step with the other Australian dioceses, not surprisingly as many of them are guite liberal in their theology.



Sunday, November 27, 2011

#### Preaching programme

"Forever": Maintaining an Eternal Perspective			
Nov 27	What's the point?	1 Thess. 4:1-8 Matthew 24:15-25	
Dec. 4	Matters of life and death	1 Thess. 4:9-18 Matthew 24:26-35	
Dec. 11	(Combined Service) Like a Thief in the Night	1 Thess. 5:1-11 Matthew 24:36-44	

#### 10:30 Roster

Date	Service Leading	Keys	Guitar	Drums	Vocals
Nov-27	Cliff's cell	Rueves	Sun-Jae	Joshua	Sun-Jae/
Dec-04	Uni cell	Terence	Gordon	Sam	Karen/Tina
Dec-11	Combined Service	Greg	Bart	Michael	Kat/Bart

**Christmas Cookies!** Two years ago, we handed out hundreds of homemade Christmas cookies to our neighbours. It's time to do it again! This time, however, we are having our own baker, Barry, make us 1000 cookies and we simply need to wrap them in gift wrapping. Come and help us on SATURDAY morning, Dec. 17th, and/or help us distribute them to neighbours on SUNDAY afternoon, Dec. 18th.

This year's **Christmas Eve service** will be held outside in the cul-desac. We hope the whole neighbourhood will hear the music and come along. If you could help with setting up (from 6pm), preparing and/or serving refreshments (8pm) or putting away on the night (10pm), please let Bart know. We need all hands on deck!

**<u>Christmas Hampers</u>**– Each year, Anglicare organises Christmas hampers for needy families. They also deliver food parcels. The program is called **'Toys N' Tucker'** and we have a box at the back of the church for your contributions. Toys are to be new and not wrapped. Thank you.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nov 13– Dec 4	Stewart & Virginia on holidays
Sun, Dec. 11	End of Year Combined Service
Sat, Dec. 17	Christmas Cookie packaging party (10am to noon)
Sat, Dec 17	Open House at Leung's (3pm to 5pm)
Sun, Dec 18	Christmas cookie deliveries (3pm to 5pm)
Sat, Dec 24	Christmas Eve Service (8-10pm)

## Merilyn goes to Synod (continued from page 1)

Please pray for healing of the rift and a way ahead for Anglicans to get on with each other, in spite of different theological positions.

The Global Financial Crisis has caused Sydney Diocese significant financial loss. As a result, the Diocese has needed to re-structure itself and consider how it will fund itself, and there was much discussion around these issues. There was a strong sense we are all Anglicans together, and together we should bear the costs of the Anglican structure.

Pray for wisdom as these discussions continue and decisions are made.

We saw four parishes change their status from Provisional Parish to Parish - a measure of growth and financial independence. In every case, these churches had ministry teams that shared the load with each other and were able to provide specific ministries relevant to their area. I saw the value for us at Penshurst of doing something similar, so Bart is not responsible for making everything happen himself. Having Aisen join Bart opens the way for something like this to happen. **Pray for future team ministry to blossom in our church.** 

Synod considered how to meet the challenges of Sydney's changing population mix. Jesus told us to make disciples of all nations: now the nations are coming to Sydney, so we no longer have to go overseas to obey this command. Synod wants to ensure that the mix of cultures and ethnic backgrounds you see inside a church building is the same as you see on the streets outside that church. They will report back to next year's Synod with their recommendations. **Praise God for this awareness, and ask for His wisdom on how best to meet these challenges.** 

These are clearly just a few personal comments. If you would like more information, a full summary of the proceedings of the Synod can be found on the website of the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat at <u>www.sds.asn.au</u>.