

Develop your skills for reading the Bible, whether this be for the purpose of your personal study, preaching, leading, or giving an account of your faith at home or at work.

*For example, a study of the **Old Testament** is available by podcast on the website. This short course provides an outline of the Old Testament (78% of the Christian Bible!), giving special attention to the way God's purposes for creation and Israel are expressed. At the same time, the course is designed to explore how theological insights from the OT inform Christian faith today, so that you may discover and discern God's purposes for your own life.*

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

*Our beautiful old bookcase has been repurposed as our **BOOKSWAP LIBRARY** in the meeting room! Everyone is welcome to browse the shelves - take a book, leave a book. **All FREE!***



You will be amazed at what you will find on the shelves.....

*Have a look today.
More information next week.*

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It's **STOCKTAKE TIME**
at
ELANORA UNITING CHURCH

Newsletter - 28 July 2019



Week 4 - DISCIPLESHIP

Last week Rev John Cox preached for our FAMILIES MINISTRY SUNDAY on the Mary and Martha story – where these women were given a choice. Prior to this passage in Luke 10, we are asked to choose between talking about discipleship, or about paying the price to become a disciple. In another, we must choose between interrupting our lives to love our neighbour, or to just walk on by (Good Samaritan). The life of faith is a life of choices. With our families ministry we have a choice to accept the responsibility of nurturing our young people and providing a safe place for them to meet with Christ.

The Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse shone light onto the Church in some very telling ways. It has “told” the community THE CHURCHES CAN’T BE TRUSTED! With good reason... over two thirds of the abuse that was recorded by the Royal Commission was perpetrated in Church institutions. While the Uniting Church in Australia represented only 1.2% of those recorded instances, we are still church, and we are still guilty of not protecting Children. So we (the whole church- even if we’re not in youth/children leadership) need to learn and work towards a safe church for children and all people. We need to regain the trust of our wider community. We need to fully embrace and implement who we are ‘a caring community with Christ’ for our young people.

This Sunday our ministry team focus is DISCIPLESHIP. I wonder how you define this word? HINT: It has something to do with maturing in Christ.

So I will be asking the following questions....

- ❖ *How do you tend to your spiritual growth?*
- ❖ *How intentional are you about belonging to a learning community that deepens your spiritual life?*
- ❖ *For whom do you provide spiritual encouragement?*

Perhaps these questions are even a step ahead. Perhaps you've been coming to church for a short time or even for decades but have never committed your life to Christ. Maybe you've never been baptised and you're at the point where God is calling you into a deeper and more intentional relationship. If this is either the case, please contact me and we can talk further.

*Blessings to you
Rev Catherine Solomon*

Rhonda Coleman

*Church Council Chair
&
Discipleship Representative
on Church Council*



I grew up in a Christian family in Sydney, active in the Church of Christ. I was involved in Christian Endeavour, Sunday school teaching, Girls Brigade. The minister who baptised me after a Billy Graham Crusade taught me a valuable lesson that EVERYONE in the church has a ministry and a task to do. I played a LOT of sport and learned the piano, but I can only play one handed now.

After a challenging time living at Slacks Creek and Morayfield, we moved to W.A. where our daughter Allison was born. My lay preaching started in the Pilbara Patrol where our flying padre came to our town once a month prior to the formation of the Uniting Church. Living in a mining town taught me a Christian cannot sit on a fence - you are either a disciple or not, it is a commitment for life. After Bob had a back injury we returned to Sydney. We lived near Penrith then Ashgrove for 5 years each before going to Ottawa and Victoria British Columbia for 12 yrs.


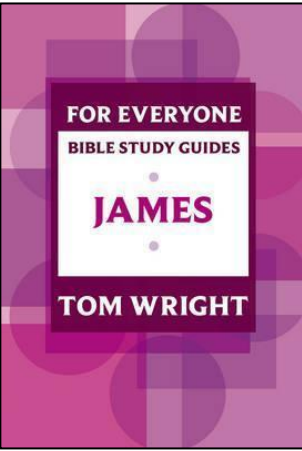
My ministry in lay preaching, eldership, Intercessory prayer and being an enabler with Crossroads showed me God uses me when I am willing to be used.

I was a Radiation Therapist and after more training in Canada moved into the management of cancer services. I ended a wonderful career as the Director of Cancer and Palliative Care in W.A. and in my transition to retirement I did some consulting when I moved to Queensland almost 5 years ago.

I have been blessed with the gift of faith and it was only when I was leaving Ottawa that I noticed many people commented on my wisdom. I had been given this gift and did not recognise it. Others often discern our gifts before we do. My faith has enabled me to be led by the Holy Spirit to go anywhere and to pray for those in need. The more I trust God the more my relationship with him grows and I want to share that wonderful relationship with everyone.

Bob and I enjoy being retired in Palm Beach and I look forward to chairing our Church Council. I am excited to see where God is leading us all in the coming years.

Rhonda Coleman

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|  <p>Andy Root From Bonhoeffer to Beyoncé</p> | <p>BIBLE STUDY Starting Monday 1:30^{pm} at 1/28 Murlong Street, Palm Beach. Register with Rhonda Coleman 0478 630 826</p> |  |
| <p>LEADERSHIP IN A SECULAR AGE: For pastors and leaders and for volunteers who reach youth and young adults. trybooking.com/BCPVP 8^{am} – 3:30^{pm}, 16&17 August St Stephen's Church, Coorparoo</p> | <p>MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUP Kingsley Neale facilitates this group. Please contact him on 5598 3821 for more information.</p> | |