

# Western Pacific District News



Edition 37/3 - Summer 2022



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# From the desk of District Apostle Schulte



Dear brothers and sisters

As another year draws to a close, we have to accept circumstances that have transpired in the past year which haven't been enjoyable. However, it is healthy for us to focus on the enjoyable times we have experienced. As New Apostolic Christians we believe in the greatness, perfectness and the love of God. During the Christmas period we reflect on the gift God gave us in our Saviour Jesus Christ and celebrate His birth.

Christ promised and gave mankind a comforter and teacher in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to recognise and understand God more clearly. The Holy Spirit will not only teach us; the Holy Spirit will help us to comprehend the gift of our Saviour. The Spirit teaches us that God created mankind to live in fellowship with Him. Since the fall into sin, creation was no longer as God intended it to be. All that is of this world is imperfect and temporary. Mankind can only be fully and permanently happy by regaining perfect fellowship with God. For this to happen, mankind must once again become perfectly in line with God's will. The spirit shows us that we cannot achieve this by our own efforts..... We need our Saviour!

Our Chief Apostle has given us a series of mottos focusing on our relationship with Christ. In 2015 the motto was 'Joy in

Christ'. Our joy in Christ can be a constant in our life, unaffected by the roller coaster of circumstances that may influence our happiness. Let us recognise our Saviour and may we use our relationship with our Saviour as our source of joy during the Christmas period and throughout the coming year.

I would like to take this opportunity also to advise that at the close of 2022 District Elder Uwe Hoffman will retire from the administration staff. He commenced working in the Australia District church office in 2004 (which in 2018 became the Western Pacific church office). I would like to thank him for his good works in this time and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

Together with my fellow Apostles, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with God's blessing.

With loving greetings

Peter Schulte

# District Apostle visit to South Korea

It had been three years since District Apostle Schulte had had an opportunity to travel to Korea, a delay caused by the multiple complications arising from the Covid pandemic. Finally, however, the restrictions were eased sufficiently that he could make the journey to visit the members.

The District Apostle arrived in Daejeon, and joined the brothers and sisters gathered in the church. The time spent together in fellowship opened everyone's heart. The time was made even more special by the attendance of some members who had not been able to gather with the congregation in a long time. During the gathering the District Apostle spent time answering questions of faith that were posed by some of the members.

The following day the District Apostle participated in an online meeting to discuss arrangements for the planned Chief Apostle visit to the district in 2023.

A ministers and wives service was conducted by the District Apostle on Saturday evening, and on Sunday he conducted a service which was attended by 150 brothers and sisters, who had gathered from all over the country. The service was also transmitted to members in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Prior to returning home, District Apostle Schulte had the opportunity to also conduct a number of family visits.



# Senior's weekend trip to Albury, NSW

The senior members of New South Wales and Victoria enjoyed many hours of fellowship over the weekend of 8 - 10 October. From the commencement of the coach journey, there was a sense of community, inclusion, laughter, and real care for the more mature members of the district.

On arrival in Albury, members mingled and visited with each other, while the setup team commenced the preparation of the hall for the evening dinner. The theme was "Flower Power" where members got in touch with their inner "hippy". Many came dressed in the theme, and all enjoyed finding out who they were greeting, as many were unrecognisable at first glance. The seniors played a game of getting to know the Apostles and district leaders, and the joy shared was wonderful, as they discovered a poet, a humble angel, a sportsman or two, and a wild one.

At the completion of the evening, the members all received T-shirts with the motto: "In youth we learn, in age we understand", continuing the golden thread of an incredible weekend.

Sunday's special word was taken from Romans 16:19. When the District Apostle served Holy Communion for the departed, the presence of many who set the ancient landmarks here in this land was felt, as well as family and friends. This was truly a moment of heaven on earth.

The following day the farewells were filled with joy, love, and a desire to see each other soon. It was a genuinely wonderful weekend thanks to each and every attendee, and due to the grace of the Almighty Father.



# Apostle visits to Japan, Solomon Islands

The easing of Covid restrictions provided an opportunity for Apostle Lodewick to travel to Japan, after an absence of three years. Great joy was experienced to meet the brothers and sisters again.

On Saturday a ministers meeting was conducted, where numerous topics were discussed, and on Sunday during the divine service two babies were sealed. After service the congregation enjoyed fellowship together, and at the same time those present - both physically, and connected via Zoom - joined in a Q&A session facilitated by the Apostle. The members were also delighted to hear the news that the Chief Apostle will visit in 2023.



In November Apostle Lodewick visited the Weather Coast of the Solomon Islands. This trip was also the first after a three year delay. After a five-hour boat ride the group reached the first village, where a divine service with Holy baptism and sealing took place. The next days they continued from village to village with Holy baptisms, sealings and confirmation being carried out. The members and ministers were all joyful and appreciative of the visits. The trip concluded with a divine service for departed in the White River congregation of Honiara, where the sacraments were dispensed by the apostle, for the departed.



# 2023 motto: Serving and reigning with Christ

The Chief Apostle has announced the motto for 2023, and he will explain this further in his New Year's address. Each year, the various districts around the globe are invited to design a logo for this theme. In previous years, the logo for the Western Pacific district has been designed by members in South Korea, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Australia. This time, the task fell to our members in Japan.

The logo design has been explained as having the following elements:

王 is the Chinese characters for "king" and this is represented by the image in the centre of the traditional Japanese fan. The upper horizontal line represents heaven, the lower horizontal line represents earth, the middle horizontal line is mankind, and the vertical line governs all.

The images of the people on either side of the symbol are representative of serving with Christ.



## NACare: Latest news

After attending a number of early childhood development classes, a priest from the Boneghe region of the Solomon Islands has taken the initiative to start an early childhood centre in the village. NACare has provided teaching materials and some additional training. Parents joined their children and teachers for a close of year concert.



# Sunday School activities

**For the first time in three years, the Sunday School children of Victoria participated in a camp activity, at Kryal Castle.**

Despite arriving to near freezing temperatures, the mood was enthusiastic and the children (and adults) were keen to get the day started. After introductions, the group entered the castle and proceeded to explore all the various activities on offer, with plenty of free time for everyone to explore the castle at their leisure. The pantomime shows were popular as was the jousting on horseback and other horse related activities. There was also an opportunity to participate in axe throwing and archery.

A choir practice was held at the Ballarat church in the afternoon,

followed by a BBQ at a nearby park. The group then returned to Kryal castle to settle in for the night.

Apostle Lodewick conducted a divine service on Sunday morning in the Ballarat congregation, with the Sunday School children contributing to the service. Holy baptism and sealing sacraments were also dispensed. It was especially nice to have the children in attendance for this service, as it was the final service prior to the closure of the Ballarat church.

Lunch was provided and presentations made to the children to remember the weekend. After fond farewells, all travelled back home - looking forward to the next opportunity to gather together.



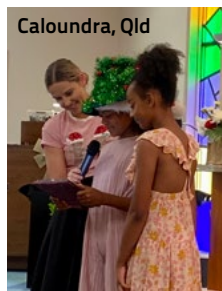
There have also been a number of Sunday School activities and breakups, and we are pleased to bring you photos of some of the events.



**Camp out, Kunabau, Chimbu PNG**



**Breakup in Caloundra, Qld**



**Caloundra, Qld**



**Breakup in Seven Hills, NSW**



**Breakup for Redcliffe & Morayfield, Qld**



**Children from Geelong, Vic**



**Breakup in Newcastle, NSW**



**Picnic in Seven Hills, NSW**



**Breakup in Hackham West, SA**



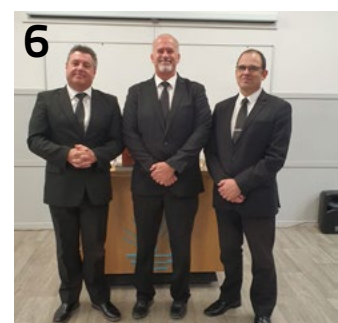
**Online lessons in NSW**



**District Sunday School service in New Lynn, NZ**

# Around the Congregations:

1. Youth convention in American Samoa
2. Apostle Williams visits Mt Hagen, PNG
3. Albury (NSW) congregation welcomes new members
4. Rainbow congregation (PNG)
5. Working bee in Seven Hills (NSW)
6. Pr Albert (2fl) released as rector, and Pr Nico Wright (l) appointed as new rector of Tauranga - Taupo (NZ)
7. Ap Williams with district rectors in New Zealand (fl): DEv Shaun van Wyngaard, Ap Trevor Williams, DEv Robert Thomas, Pr Shane Bruyns, Pr Walter du Plooy
8. Father's Day in Seven Hills (NSW)
9. Pr Nolan Erasmus was commissioned as rector of Hallam (Vic)
10. A divine service was conducted for senior members in New Zealand
11. Father's Day in Buranda (Qld)
12. Members after service in Kunabau (PNG)
13. Hackham West (SA) seniors enjoyed an end of year fellowship event



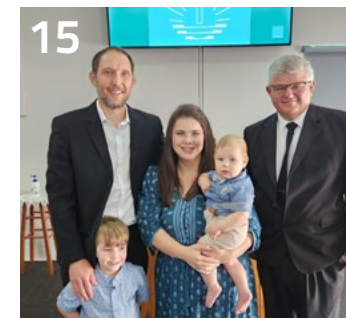
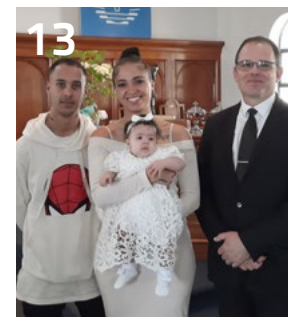
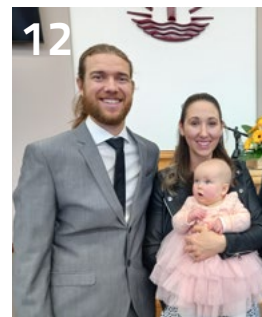
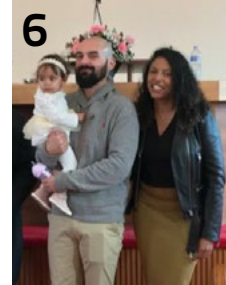


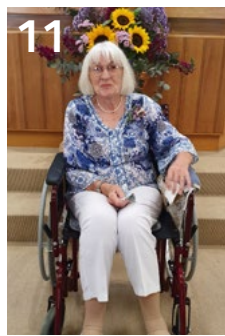
## Around the Congregations:

1. Thanksgiving decorations donated to Hope House by members in AM Samoa
2. Ap Lodewick conducted a divine service in Albury (NSW)
3. Ap Williams conducted a divine service in Leumeah (NSW)
- 4-5. Samoa youth convention in Mulifanua
6. Sydney youth service in Wollongong (NSW)
7. Father's Day in Croydon (Vic)
8. Pago Pago congregation (Am Samoa)
9. Retirement Pr Roger Thompson of Leumeah (NSW)
10. Departed memorial service in Ascot Park (SA)
11. Apostle Wiru with children in Mt Hagen (PNG)
12. Bishop Yasi with Ap Wiru's children in Mt Hagen (PNG)
13. Farewell to Pr Stephen Berney as rector of Hallam (Vic)
14. Maryborough (Qld) congregation
15. Townsville (Qld) congregation

# Celebrations

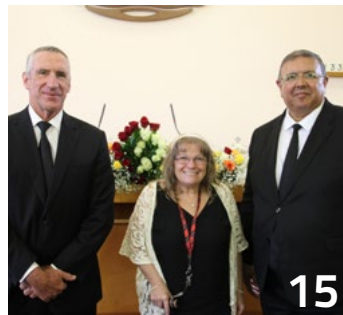
1. Br Sven & Sis Doris Alder of Morayfield (Qld) celebrated their Ruby wedding anniversary
2. Br David & Sis Jenny Heynes of Hallam (Vic) celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary
3. Sis Christel Zuecker of Geelong (Vic) celebrated her 90th birthday
4. Holy Baptism of Chloe Newcombe in Kingston (Qld)
5. Holy Baptism of Cody Fisher in Croydon (Vic)
6. Holy Baptism of Elosie Vu Selve in Lane Cove (NSW)
7. Wedding blessing of Sis Celesty & Br Daniel Goebel in Mackay (Qld)
8. Br George Kenzler of Morayfield (Qld) celebrated his 80th birthday
9. Holy Baptism & Sealing of Laith Soday in Perth (WA)
10. Holy Baptism of Fynn Kelly in Hallam (Vic)
11. Holy Baptism & Sealing of Victoria Lodewick in Buranda (Qld)
12. Holy Sealing of Marlowe Coughlan in Box Hill (Vic)
13. Holy Baptism of Namiko Holtman in North Shore (NZ)
14. Pr Peter & Sis Julie Rosentreter of Kingston (Qld) celebrated their Ruby wedding
15. Holy Baptism of Zachary Swanepoel in Rockingham (WA)
16. Sis Christine Cook of Kingston (Qld) celebrated her 70th birthday
17. Br James Innes & Sis Shareen Page received wedding blessings in Christchurch (NZ)
18. Br Percival & Sis Sheila Meissenheimer received Ruby wedding blessings in Howick (NZ)
19. Br Jeremy Miller & Sis Vanessa Funk of Kingston (Qld) received wedding blessings
20. Holy Baptism of Mieka Lajoie in Hallam (Vic)
21. Sis Irene Kirchner of Newcastle (NSW) celebrated her 80th birthday





## Celebrations

1. District Apostle (ret) Ernst & Sis Lya Graf of Ashmore (Qld) received blessings for their Platinum (70th) anniversary
2. Holy Baptism of Sebastian Hallal in Geelong (Vic)
3. Br Ted Schulte of Bundaberg (Qld) celebrated his 90th birthday
4. Holy Baptism and Sealing of Cameron Balding in Mackay (Qld)
5. Holy Baptism of Masen Maxwell in Geelong (Vic)
6. Sis Lyn Tickner of Buranda celebrated her 75th birthday
7. Holy Sealing in Mt Hagen (PNG)
8. Holy Baptism of Floyd Junior & Wale Thomas in Kunabau (PNG)
9. Sis Valma Marney celebrated her 70th Birthday in Hallam (Vic)
10. Holy Baptism of Daniella Yerro in North Shore (NZ)
11. Holy Sealing of Sis Fay Hamilton of Toowoomba (Qld)
12. Sis Ingrid Duenzl of Hackham West (SA) celebrated her 90th birthday
13. Holy Sealing of Mila Hungerford in Windsor (Qld)
14. Br Alain & Sis Natasha Merckel of Redcliffe (Qld) received Silver wedding blessings
15. Holy Sealing of Debbie Mason in Ashmore (Qld)
16. Sis Renate & Br Heinz Vietmeyer of Leumeah (NSW) celebrated their 85th & 92nd birthdays
17. Holy Sealing of Chloe Newcombe & Zahlia Watson in Ashmore (Qld)
18. Holy Baptism of Nathaniel Funk in Kingston (Qld)
19. Sis Uri Kamburu celebrated her 98th birthday in PNG.
20. Holy Sealing of Harvey van Etten in Leumeah (NSW)



# For your Information

## Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023
1: Eibenstock, Germany	5: Pointe Noire DR Congo	5: Bucarest, Romania
8: Nairobi, Kenya	26: Praia, Cape Verde	12: Woodbury NY, USA
15: Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany		19: Lüneburg, Germany
		26: Benin

## District Apostle Schulte's schedule:

Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023
1: Mackay, Qld	5: Buranda, Qld	5: Papua New Guinea
8: Mackay, Qld	26: Victoria	12: Mackay, Qld
22: Japan (via AVT)		19: Adelaide, SA
29: Townsville, Qld		

## Upcoming Events:

Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023
1: New Year's service		5: Service for departed

## In Memoriam:

Ev Ken Cunningham of Maryborough (Qld)	†	7/10/22
Sis Helen Schulte of Bundaberg (Qld)	†	29/10/22
Sis Evelyn Robinson of North Ipswich (Qld)	†	8/11/22
Sis Rosita Henry of Rockhampton (Qld)	†	13/11/22
Pr (ir) Norman Berney of Hackham West (SA)	†	23/11/22
Br Gerhard Barnack of Croydon (Vic)	†	29/11/22
Sis Johanna Sperling of Hobart (Tas)	†	15/12/22

## Ministerial Changes:

Name	Event	Ministry	Congregation
Pr Nico Wright	Appointment	Rector	Tauranga NZ
Pr Nolan Erasmus	Appointment	Rector	Hallam, Vic
Pr Johan Du Plessis	Assignment	Asst Rector	North Shore, NZ
Ev Ryan Labuschagne	Assignment	Asst Dist Rector	Rivervale, WA
Dcn Adrian Wyngaard	Confirmation	Deacon	Lane Cove, NSW
Pr Albert Backhouse	Confirmation	Priest	Christchurch, NZ
Dcn Lesley Bloomberg	Confirmation	Deacon	Wellington, NZ
Dcn Derek Bowers	Confirmation	Deacon	Rockingham, WA
Pr Earl Edson	Confirmation	Priest	Rockingham, WA
Dcn Shane Adams	Confirmation	Deacon	Ascot Park, SA
Br Pouono Tupai	Ordination	Deacon	Mulifanua, Samoa
Br Sione Lafoga-nuka	Ordination	Deacon	Afiamalu, Samoa
Br Abraham Loe	Ordination	Deacon	Falefa, Samoa
Dcn Tinoi Rokelika	Ordination	Priest	Ilili, AM Samoa
Br Mark Semeatu	Ordination	Deacon	Tafuna, AM Samoa
Br Maselino Paolo	Ordination	Deacon	Pago Pago, AM Samoa
Br Rico Calimgacio	Ordination	Deacon	Ilili, AM Samoa
Br Dawson Eves	Ordination	Deacon	Vailima, AM Samoa
Dcn Michael Thompson	Ordination	Priest	Fairfield, NSW
Dcn Shane Smith	Ordination	Priest	Leumeah, NSW
Br Nicholas Lage	Ordination	Deacon	Leumeah, NSW
Pr Peter Wilkinson	Retirement	-	Buranda, Qld
Pr Roger Thompson	Retirement	-	Leumeah, NSW
Dcn Lionel Cortereal	Retirement	-	Kingston, Qld
DEv Stephen Stellenberg	Retirement	-	Koondoola, WA

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