

Western Pacific District News

Edition 38/1 - Winter 2023



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Confirmation 2023

Visit of Chief Apostle Schneider



From the desk of District Apostle Schulte



Sunset photo of the Riverleigh church in Queensland.
The building was dedicated in 1927 and the congregation still worships there today.

Dear Brothers and Sisters

In 1 John 3:1 we can read 'Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God'. Do we take the time to appreciate the fact that we are children of God? Our human understanding cannot comprehend the characteristics and nature of God. If we apply the gift of faith that God has given us, we are able to begin to see him as perfection and absoluteness.

Are we constantly aware of and do we value the environment of the closeness of God that we have? Already in the creation story it is evident that mankind can be tempted into thinking that 'the grass is greener on the other side of the fence'. To want to improve our circumstances of life is normal; our focus as children of God however is that we do it in a manner that is in line with His will, and do not diminish our connection to Christ.

There are situations in a family environment where the parents' character or behaviour is questionable. In contrast, when children see a great example and are given guidance and loving support, their growth and development is strengthened. The love and nature of God has been revealed to us through Jesus Christ's life and teaching, and spiritually He wants to give us guidance and loving support.

Jesus loves each and every human being unconditionally. He loves us whether we are strong or weak. He neither judges

or condemns us. He is always prepared to forgive us and is eager to save us. He listens to us, understands us, and helps us. He allows us to benefit from the merit that He alone was able to acquire – at the cost of His life. Everything He does is perfect. He allows us to obtain the same perfection as He has attained without requiring us to be perfect. He invites us to follow Him and encourages us to become like Him. He has promised that He would be our source of strength and comfort.

At the time of the early Apostles, the authorities didn't want the people to know about the great works and the teaching of Christ. They commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. Peter and John's response was 'Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard'.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, as children of God let us be filled with courage to profess more and more, our joy and happiness in the privilege of being a child of God.

With loving greetings

Peter Schulte

Connecting with JAPAN

Apostle Lodewick visited our members in Japan, conducting divine services in Tama and Matsuyama. Train travel is a convenient way to move around the cities, and Apostle & Sister Lodewick took full advantage of this mode of transport to go to the services.



Connecting with PAPUA NEW GUINEA

District Apostle Schulte conducted an evening divine service in the Rainbow, Port Moresby, church. He was welcomed by a choir of Sunday School children and parents.



In 2018 a class was set up to teach the sisters how to sew. Covid-19 meant that the class was suspended, however it has recently been restarted. The classes help the church members,, especially those who only have minimal skills in this area, to sew clothes and other items. This provides them with the ability to be self-sustaining within their families and communities.



Connecting with PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Apostle Elvis Wiru, who was ordained by Chief Apostle Schneider as an apostle during his visit in May 2022, has been active in the highlands region of Papua New Guinea. Here is a selection of photos from the many congregations he has travelled to recently.



Welcome to Amea



Amea congregation



Welcome to Kamal



Holy sealing - Kamal



Welcome to Mt Hagen



Holy sealing - Mt Hagen



Rector of Mt Hagen, with Ap Wiru & Bis Yasi



Welcome to Yebi



Ordination in Yebi

22 youth from Kerowil congregation accompanied Bishop Joseph Yasi to Jimi for divine service. After the service, they returned to their home, which involved walking for two days along a bush track.



Kerowil congregation



Connecting with QUEENSLAND

Earlier this year, the congregation of North Ipswich merged with Silkstone, to form the Ipswich congregation. Following the last service in the North Ipswich church, the members enjoyed fellowship and had an opportunity to take a walk down memory lane.



District Apostle Schulte conducted a combined service for the Q1-Q5 subdistrict congregations on Easter Sunday. During this service, District Elder Uwe Hoffmann was placed into retirement, after serving in ministry for over 41 years. District Evangelist Richard Graf was appointed as district rector for Q1-Q5, and Priest Craig Scott assigned as assistant district rector for Q1-Q2. Additionally, Priest Avron Dennis, Priest Scott Andrews, and Priest Tino Pena were assigned as assistant rectors for Windsor, Redcliffe, and Ashmore congregations respectively. Following the service, the congregation enjoyed lunch together, something that had not been possible on this scale for a number of years due to the pandemic restrictions.



Connecting with QUEENSLAND

In July, the district leaders from Australia & New Zealand travelled to Brisbane for a day long meeting. Following the meeting, an evening of 'Fellowship, with food and music' was hosted in the Redcliffe church, where those gathered enjoyed a delicious meal while being entertained by a number of musical renditions, including several from the district leaders and Sunday school children.

On Sunday, the district leaders travelled to a number of congregations around south-east Queensland for the divine services. District Apostle Schulte conducted the service in Redcliffe, which was followed by a fellowship luncheon for all members.



Connecting with NEW SOUTH WALES

District Apostle Schulte travelled to NSW in May, where he conducted a ministers and wives service on Saturday evening. On Sunday, the congregations of Leumeah, Beverly Hills, and Seven Hills combined in the Leumeah church for the divine service.



The Seven Hills congregation has enjoyed numerous congregational activities and fellowship events in recent months.

High tea before the Pentecost service



Fellowship BBQ dinner



Mother's Day



Connecting with VICTORIA

District Apostle Schulte conducted a divine service in Hallam, which was combined with all congregations in Victoria. Apostle Lodewick and District Evangelist Volkwyn accompanied the District Apostle on this occasion. During the divine service, the sacrament of Holy Sealing was dispensed. Additionally, Priest Oliver Hammacher was assigned as assistant district rector.



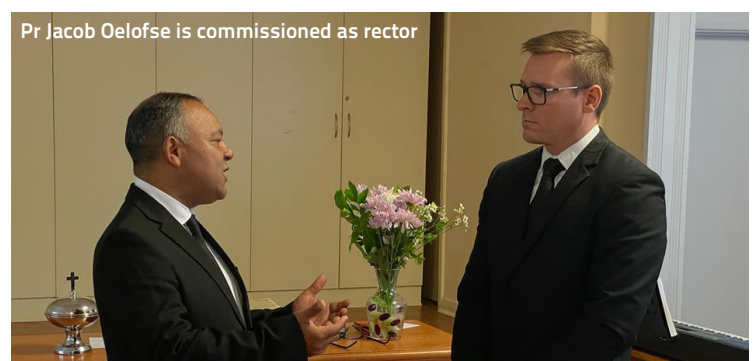
District Evangelist Eugene Volkwyn conducted a divine service in Albury, during which he relieved Priest Oliver Schlotz of the rectorship, as he and his family have relocated away from the area. Priest Jacob Oelofse was appointed as the new rector for the congregation.



Albury congregation



Pr Oliver Schlotz is relieved of the rectorship



Pr Jacob Oelofse is commissioned as rector

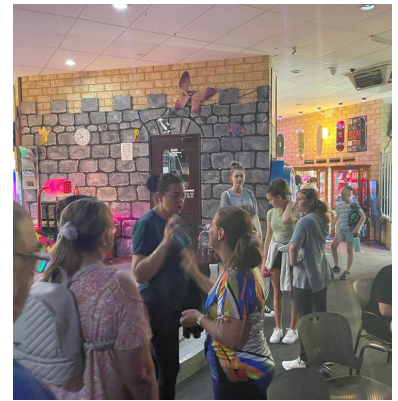
Connecting with WESTERN AUSTRALIA

District Apostle Schulte was accompanied by Apostle Lodewick and District Elder Witbooi for a divine service in Perth. All congregations in Western Australia were invited to the service. As it was held in the same hall where the Chief Apostle service will be conducted in August, the planning and audio visual team took the opportunity to use the occasion as a 'trial run'. During the service the District Apostle dispensed the blessing of Holy Sealing. He also ordained two sisters into the deacon ministry.



Connecting with WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Sunday School children, and members of the youth, have been participating in a number of fun activities, discussion groups, orchestra practices, and moments of fellowship. Here is a selection of photos highlighting some of the events that have taken place.



Update on NACARE

The NACare Early Childhood Development programme commenced in 2021 in the Honiara region of the Solomon Islands. The three focus points are children, parents and caregivers, and local government.



1. Children aged 4 – 7 years old are at the heart of our programme. We want to promote a quality and holistic programme that can assist in creating an enabling environment for children to achieve the best possible outcomes in life. It was intended that children would be 'school ready' at the end of their preparatory programme.
2. In consultation with our local representatives, we identified gaps in the competence of parents to both read and write. We noted that there were high instances of malnutrition, and that school attendance and performance was impacted by a lack of school readiness programmes. One of our objectives was to strengthen the capacity of parents and primary caregivers to be involved with, care for, and stimulate their children through training and support.
3. Local authorities are a key contributor to the success of the programme and before we commenced with the programme design, government was consulted to try and identify any areas for collaboration. Funding of this program will ensure that successful outcomes continue into the future, and provide a positive start for many young children.



Currently, the centre is operated by NACare Pacific at the New Apostolic White River church. While attendance fluctuates due to inclement weather and political volatility, at least 35 children access the programme on a daily basis. We do not have enough teachers or space at our White River facility and unfortunately have to limit our intake to avoid crowding that would negatively impact learning.

Recently, with the support of an anonymous donor, additional ablution facilities have been built to ensure that children are safe and separated from other activities which happen around the market vicinity.

Increasing pressure on our building has seen us initiate plans to build a separate structure, adjacent to the current building, which can be divided into 2 sections. This will see us increase our capacity to accommodate additional children into the programme.

An unintended but positive consequence of our programme in White River has seen the establishment of a similar programme in the village of Boneghe. These courses are taught at our church building by qualified teachers. The school currently provides education for 37 children who are drawn from five communities in and around the school. Donations towards the running costs can be made at <https://nacare.org.au/donate/>

Confirmation 2023

The 2023 confirmands received a special message from Chief Apostle Schneider:

Dear confirmands,

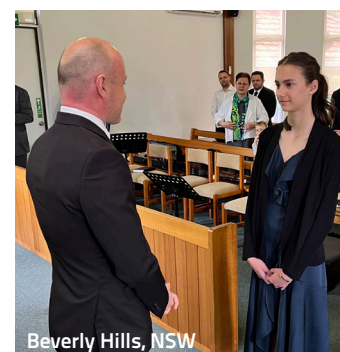
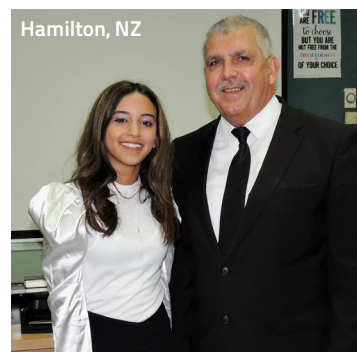
You are about to make a commitment to obey and serve Christ. You can be sure that this is the best decision you could ever make. By following Christ, you will never go astray. When you serve Him, you are guaranteed never to be disappointed.

The Lord will take care of you. And we, your brothers and sisters, will be there to support you. At this solemn moment, the congregation joins you in saying to God:

"Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness" (Psalm 143: 10).

Together we still have so many beautiful things to learn! I wish you great blessing and much joy in the Church and send you, dear confirmands, my most heartfelt greetings.

Jean-Luc Schneider



Visit of Chief Apostle Schneider

The Chief Apostle and his companions - District Apostle Michael Ehrich from Germany and District Apostle Edy Isnugroho from Indonesia - will soon arrive in Perth, Australia on the first leg of a week long visit to our district. Accompanying him to Perth are District Apostle Schulte, and the local apostles from Australia and Papua New Guinea.

The Chief Apostle and District Apostles previously visited Perth in 2016, when the International District Apostles' meeting took place in the city. Although the visiting group is much smaller this time, the anticipation and preparation taking place is no less sincere.

The group will attend the Moveathon event on Saturday, which is an opportunity for all those who are in Perth to enjoy some fellowship together, while engaging in some physical activity. The focus of the afternoon is to raise awareness of, and funds for, the Early Childhood Development programme in the Solomon Islands, which is run by our charity arm, NACare.

A divine service will take place on Sunday in the South Perth Community Hall, which will be streamed via YouTube to all nominated congregations. Details regarding the events, locations and times can be found both in your congregations and on the Facebook page: **Chief Apostle Visit - Perth 2023**.

An Apostles' meeting will take place during the time in Perth, before the Chief Apostle and his party travel to Adelaide - known as the city of churches. Here, he will conduct a divine service in the Hackham West church on Tuesday evening.

At this point in the trip, it becomes necessary to discard the jackets required for the cold winter weather in Australia, and prepare for the humid summer temperatures of the northern hemisphere.

On Wednesday evening, after a day of travel which already starts early in the morning, the group will arrive in Japan where they will have an opportunity to take in a few sights before the divine service, which will take place on Friday, 11 August.

The final leg of the trip takes place in South Korea, where a concert has been planned for Saturday, 12 August. This will be followed by a divine service on Sunday, after which the group will take their leave and depart for home.

Please continue to pray for a successful visit to our district.



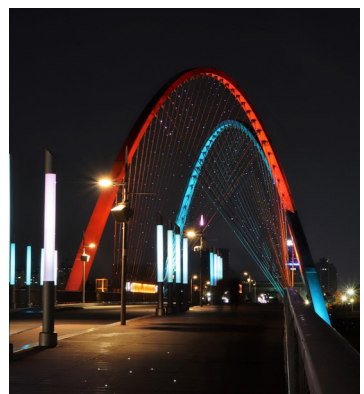
Perth, Australia



Adelaide, Australia



Tokyo, Japan



Daejeon, South Korea

MOVE-A-THON

FUNDRAISING-FELLOWSHIP-FITNESS-FUN



Registration

11:30am – 12:30pm

Sausage sizzle

12:00pm – 12:45pm

Group photo

13:00pm sharp

Block Activities

13:15pm – 16:00pm

- Walking
- High intensity challenge
- Kids activities
- Line dancing
- Kids gospel dancing

Close of day

Reflection, thanks
& prayer



**05
AUG
2023**

Shirley Strickland
Sport and
Community
Pavilion



100 Coogee Rd,
Ardross WA
6153

Parking available

**Let's MOVE to raise funds for
NACare.
Together, WE can!**

MAKE A
DONATION AT:

[HTTPS://NACARE.
ORG.AU/DONATE](https://nacare.org.au/donate)



DONATIONS OVER \$2.00
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE
IN AUSTRALIA

WHAT IS NACARE?

NACare was established in 2015 as the charity arm of the New Apostolic Church (Western Pacific district). NACare works to improve and strengthen communities in the Western Pacific region by funding local projects such as skills and education programs.

SOLOMON ISLANDS EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Over many years of visits to the Solomon Islands, a need was identified in the early childhood sector, and in 2021 an Early Childhood Development programme was established in White River. Increasing demand has seen us initiate plans to build a new structure adjacent to the current structure which will allow for greater capacity to accommodate additional children into the programme.

Achieving our fundraising goal of \$10,000 will assist in the academic development of the children, provide assistance to the building renovations required to ensure the children have an appropriate learning facility and also provide teachers with the necessary resources and training to deliver education programmes.



Around the Congregations:

1. Seniors service in Croydon (Vic)
2. Pr Terence Stevens (I) was appointed as assistant rector for Beckenham (WA)
3. Appointment of Pr Aubrey Hendricks as rector for Christchurch (NZ)
4. Mother's Day in New Lynn (NZ)
5. Sunday School breakup in Croydon (Vic)
6. Children's service in Mackay (Qld)
7. Mother's Day in Gladstone (Qld)
8. The rector of Bundaberg (Qld) travelled with his family to South Korea, where they attended the service in Seoul. They report that the brethren were very welcoming and a young Deacon translated the entire service into English. The congregation even prayed the Lord's Prayer in English for them.
9. Mother's Day in Buranda (Qld)
10. Mother's Day in Caloundra (Qld)
11. Apostle Lodewick with children in Beckenham (WA)





Around the Congregations:

1. Ap Lodewick at the altar in Lu Malu, Solomon Islands
2. Sunday school children and teachers in Lu Malu, Solomon Islands
3. Brothers in North Ipswich (Qld)
4. Dcn Lesley Bloomberg was confirmed in his ministry for Wellington (NZ)
5. Planning meeting for the Chief Apostle visit in Beckenham (WA)
6. Ashmore (Qld) congregation enjoyed a day of barefoot bowls
7. Mother's Day in Hallam (Vic)
8. Ev Warren Riddle (c) was placed into retirement in Windsor (Qld)
9. Retirement of Dcn Mark Schulte in North Ipswich (Qld)
10. Retirement of Pr Peter Rosentreter in Kingston (Qld)
11. Apostle Lodewick with members after a divine service in Bunbury (WA)
12. Retirement of Pr Stephen Berney in Hackham West (SA)
13. Mother's Day in Ipswich (Qld)



Celebrations

1. Pr Ken & Sis Kerrie Collins of Ipswich (Qld) celebrated their Golden wedding
2. Br Len & Sis Marietha Van Vuuren of Drury (NZ) celebrated their Silver wedding
3. Pr Shane & Sis Anne-Marie Smith of Leumeah (NSW) celebrated their Silver wedding
4. Holy Sealing of Connor Vogler in Mackay (Qld)
5. Br Greg & Sis Carley Love of Redcliffe (Qld) celebrated their Silver wedding
6. Sis Anne-Marie Martin of Ascot Park (SA) celebrated her 70th birthday
7. Holy Sealing of Charlene Singh in Hamilton (NZ)
8. Br Russell & Sis Estelle Smith of Mackay (Qld) received wedding blessings
9. Sis Jenny Heynes of Hallam (Vic) celebrated her 80th birthday
10. Br Eddie & Sis Maureen Brussouw of Hamilton (NZ) celebrated their Golden wedding
11. DEv (ir) Ivan & Sis Brenda Barendse of Gosford (NSW) celebrated their Golden wedding
12. Sis Hildegard Babst of Croydon (Vic) celebrated her 96th birthday
13. Ap Allen & Sis Maria Pouru received wedding blessings in Rainbow (PNG)
14. Pr (ir) Ralph & Sis Marilyn Davids and Br Brian & Sis Esme Davids received Golden wedding blessings in Leumeah (NSW)
15. Holy Baptism of Damon van der Merwe in Rockingham (WA)
16. Holy Baptism of Axell Wright in Tauranga (NZ)
17. Holy Baptism of Jessica Reimers in Tauranga (NZ)
18. Holy Baptism of Kaydin Nagel in Rockingham (WA)
19. Sis Erika Hammacher of Croydon (Vic) celebrated her 80th birthday
20. Engagement blessing of Sis Tiffany Thomas & Christopher Walden in Drury (NZ)
21. Adoption of Sis Caryn Fortune in Howick (NZ)
22. Sis Ingelore Sarros of Hackham West (SA) celebrated her 90th birthday
23. Sis Inge Bujak of Hackham West (SA) celebrated her 93rd birthday
24. Adoption of Sis Marita Callanan in Hallam (Vic)
25. Holy Baptism of Enzo Mollown in Rockingham (WA)
26. Ev (ir) Kevin Malan of Box Hill (Vic) celebrated his 70th birthday
27. Pr (ir) Jeff Guinea of Caloundra celebrated his 70th birthday





Celebrations

1. Holy Sealing of Sis Betty Gobbiie and Grayson Adams in Ascot Park (SA)
2. Br Neil & Sis Helena Katterns of Morayfield (Qld) celebrated their Ruby wedding
3. Holy Baptism of Samuel Fortune in Howick (NZ)
4. Holy Sealing of Taylor Adams in Ashmore (Qld)
5. Dcn Frank Appleton (ir) of Kingston (Qld) celebrated his 70th birthday
6. Sis Ferne Rosentreter of Buranda (Qld) celebrated her 85th birthday
7. Holy Sealing of Tori & Dan Winter, and Naomi, Rebecca & Bernard Mulamba in Gosford (NSW)
8. Birthdays in Gosford (NSW) - Sis Christel Klempert (I) was 75, and Sis Lorna Latham (r) was 76
9. Holy Baptism of Sis Betty Gobbiie in Elizabeth (SA)
10. Engagement blessing of Sis Naomi Schulte & Blake Atherton in Mackay (Qld)
11. Holy Baptism of George Vakatalesau in Beverly Hills (NSW)
12. Holy Baptism of Brandon & Josiah Tuakana in Beverly Hills (NSW)
13. Holy Baptism of Bernard Tshibambe Mulamba in Newcastle (NSW)
14. Holy Baptism in Beckenham (WA)
15. Holy Sealing of Adeline Ficks, Millie Gee and Miela Packwood in Christchurch (NZ)
16. Wedding Blessing of Br Henry & Sis Naomi Shibambo of Hamilton (NZ)
17. Holy Baptism of Kono Choromanski in Hamilton (NZ)
18. Holy Baptism of Leeja Terblance in Tauranga (NZ)
19. Wedding blessing of Sis Lisa Raythan & Peter Bennett of Beckenham (WA)
20. Holy Baptism of Grayson Adams in Ascot Park (SA)
21. Holy Sealing in Beckenham (WA)
22. Wedding blessing of Pr (ir) Michael & Sis Carmen Williams of Howick (NZ)



For your Information

Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023
6: Perth, Australia	17: Bern-Ostermundigen, Switzerland	1: Augsburg, Germany
8: Adelaide, Australia	24: Erie, USA	8: Moscow, Russia
11: Tama, Japan		15: Buenos Aires, Argentina
13: Daejeon, South Korea		22: Metz, France
		29: Paderborn, Germany

District Apostle Schulte's schedule:

Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023
6: Perth, Australia	10: Papua New Guinea	1: Mackay, Qld
8: Adelaide, Australia	17: Caloundra, Qld	8: Melbourne, Vic
11: Tama, Japan	24: Wellington, NZ	22: Canberra, ACT
13: Daejeon, South Korea		

Upcoming Events:

Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023
6-13: Chief Apostle visit	3: Father's Day	1: Thanksgiving

In Memoriam:

Pr Josateki Lomaca of Veisaru, Ba (Fiji)	†	26/12/22
Sis Marion Mack of Christchurch (NZ)	†	13/1/23
Sis Marlene Smith of Leumeah (NSW)	†	22/1/23
Br Harold Taylor of Maryborough (Qld)	†	22/1/23
Br Rainer Lethaus of Croydon (Vic)	†	24/1/23
Sis Hazel Williams of Elizabeth (SA)	†	2/2/23
Br Alfred Alder of Buranda (Qld)	†	6/2/23
Sis Gwen Bruiners of Kingston (Qld)	†	8/2/23
Br Christian Kleb (William) of North Ipswich (Qld)	†	10/2/23
Sis Monika Newman of Newcastle (NSW)	†	23/4/23
Ev (ir) Neville Thompson of Fairfield (NSW)	†	7/5/23
Br Charles Gamer (Harry) of Maryborough (Qld)	†	2/6/23
Br Allan Seager of Ipswich (Qld)	†	17/6/23
Sis Judy Bercza of Windsor (Qld)	†	17/6/23
DE (ir) Walter Haller of New Lynn (NZ)	†	22/6/23
Sis Dalene De Jager of Howick (NZ)	†	19/7/23

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Ministerial Changes:

Name	Event	Ministry	Congregation
Pr Justin Stephenson	Appointment	Rector	Ipswich, Qld
Pr Jacobus Oelofse	Appointment	Rector	Albury, Vic
DEv Richard Graf	Appointment	District Rector	SE Qld
Pr Aubrey Hendricks	Appointment	Rector	Christchurch, NZ
Pr Timothy Smith	Appointment	Rector	Timaru, NZ
Pr Samuel Mani	Appointment	Rector	Hamilton, NZ
Ev Ryan Labuschagne	Assignment	Asst District Rector	Western Australia
Pr Oliver Hammacher	Assignment	Asst District Rector	Victoria
Pr Scott Andrews	Assignment	Asst Rector	Redcliffe, Qld
Pr Faustino Pena	Assignment	Asst Rector	Ashmore, Qld
Pr Craig Scott	Assignment	Asst District Rector	Q1-Q2
Pr Avron Dennis	Assignment	Asst Rector	Windsor, Qld
Pr Terence Stevens	Assignment	Asst Rector	Beckenham, WA
Pr Joerg Ziegler	Confirmation	Priest	Beverly Hills, NSW
Pr Shawn Lewis	Confirmation	Priest	Fairfield, NSW
Pr Aubrey Hendricks	Confirmation	Priest	Christchurch, NZ
Pr Adrian Adonis	Confirmation	Priest	North Shore, NZ
Dcn Celestine Stowers	Confirmation	Deacon	Rivervale, WA
Dcn James McKeown	Confirmation	Deacon	Seven Hills, NSW
Pr Fabian Hendricks	Confirmation	Priest	Redcliffe, Qld
Dcn Arron Schulte	Confirmation	Deacon	Toowoomba, Qld
Dcn Richard Wentzel	Ordination	Priest	Maidstone, Vic
Br Riem Amram	Ordination	Deacon	Rita Majuro
Dcn Lesley Bloomberg	Ordination	Priest	Wellington, NZ
Br Daniel Bura'a	Ordination	Deacon	Luma Alu
Sis Arlene Van Zyl	Ordination	Deacon	Beckenham, WA
Sis Janalie Nelson	Ordination	Deacon	Rockingham, WA
Dcn Mark Schulte	Retirement	-	Ipswich, Qld
Ev Warren Riddle	Retirement	-	Windsor, Qld
Pr Stephen Berney	Retirement	-	Ascot Park, SA
Pr Peter Rosentreter	Retirement	-	Kingston, Qld
DE Uwe Hoffmann	Retirement	-	Morayfield, Qld
Pr Peter McSherry	Retirement	-	Hallam, Vic

CDs for sale

We have a number of CDs available for sale at a reduced price. To order, please visit the members website and select Products:

<https://members.newapostolic.org.au>

CDs are \$AU10.00 ea and will be sent to your congregation free of charge

Glorious Light
One: Faith, Spirit, Goal

Forward with Faith
Striving onward, pressing forward