



OCTOBER 2020

VALÉ BERYL STANLEY

The following tribute was provided by Claire Sierakowski and Wayne Myers for Beryl's funeral service.

The Stanley name has been part of the Drysdale Uniting Church for the past 66 years. Beryl and Claude as a pair were just so involved in all aspects of the church. Claude as an administrator, lay preacher and concert organiser; Beryl's talents were much more directed to people.

With Claude they set up and ran a Parish Youth Group for many years that gave a Christian grounding to so many of Drysdale's youth, including many not connected with the church. Their home became a second home for many. Jenni Nickelson remembers being amazed when their new house was built and the youth group met there, downstairs around the pool table.

At times Beryl was a Sunday School teacher, especially looking after the younger children. When a KUCA club was started as a junior youth club, Beryl became one of the leaders. As some of those children got older Beryl offered to run an older youth group if no one else stepped up, and someone did.

She was an Elder, member of the pastoral team, member of the communication, fellowship and fundraising team, member of Church Council, and involved in lay worship leading as part of Graeme's team. Beryl's pastoral care was special – she could easily talk to people and make them feel at ease. Beryl's soup is remembered by many for lots of social activities.

When Worship @ 9 was started twenty-one years ago Beryl decided it was important to support and encourage the younger members of the congregation and so she and Claude split their church attendance with Beryl going to the early Worship @ 9 services and Claude remaining with the later traditional service. As previously said she was regularly involved in the preparation and delivery of the service until more recent years.

Whenever a concert was being planned Beryl was always involved – in fact for the 150th anniversary, twenty years ago, she was the director.

She will be greatly missed as a major contributor to our church but she leaves us knowing that she has lived out the way of Jesus with love to all and a witnessing of the Good News.

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**Church Services
available on
Facebook and web
site.**

**Church building
closed until further
notice.**

Claire Sierakowski was Beryl's elder and sums up what Beryl meant to her. This expresses the feelings of many of the congregation. Claire says:

We moved to Clifton Springs five years ago, and the day after my first Sunday at Worship@9, Beryl (aged 91 at that time) struggled over the road on her walking stick to personally welcome us to the district and Drysdale Uniting Church in particular. We were still surrounded by packing cases of books and household effects, but managed to find enough mugs for coffee, and Beryl happily sat on a plastic chair at a camp table and showed us the loving friendship of Christ.

The first couple of years we were here, Beryl was still part of Graeme's team, and was rostered on for Bible readings during Worship@9 services. She would sometimes struggle to walk from her seat to the pulpit, but you never needed to follow the passage in the pew Bible when Beryl spoke. Although she had a soft voice, not a word was missed. Beryl wasn't just reading a passage of scripture – she was sharing her love and understanding of those words, and I always looked forward to hearing her speak.

There are many instances in the Gospels where Jesus shares a meal with his disciples or others on the fringes, and welcomed strangers and outcasts as he did friends. Beryl lived that message in her daily life. It was lovely to watch her welcome visitors or new members to the Church. Even when her health deteriorated she was still anxious to make sure that new people were greeted and invited to share morning tea. When we started Coffee and Chat at the Cafe Zoo on Thursday mornings, Beryl was always vigilant to make sure everyone was included. Over the last few months, whenever I visited, Beryl always wanted to make sure I had a cuppa, and would struggle to stand because it was important to her to make me welcome.

Beryl was my idea of what a Christian should be. She never pushed her beliefs in an off putting Bible bashing way – she was simply the embodiment of her Lord and Saviour here in this district - sharing her faith by living her faith, and those who knew her are better because of her. Beryl left an indelible imprint on all those she met.

We all say rest in peace good and faithful servant.

We also farewell two other members of our congregation who were equally important to us but did not undertake any special roles in the congregation.

VALÉ RITA KUIT

VALÉ BETTY GOLDSWORTHY



MESSY CHURCH @ HOME

September Messy Church happened on the “Fathers” theme. Father’s Day cards were displayed, the answers to the Father and Son quiz given, we sang “Father Abraham has many kids”, and we heard about the genealogy of Jesus.



CHURCH SIGN

If you haven’t had the chance to see it, this is the latest sign on the rear noticeboard thanks to Lynda Smith—

Be ye fishers of men. U catch ‘em. He’ll clean ‘em.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

After only one breakfast for the year we are going to hold a Zoom breakfast on Saturday 17 October. We will stay home and have breakfast, participate in a bible study and pray. If you would like to participate please contact Wayne so that the study questions can be forwarded. Even if you haven’t attended before you can still do so.



This months' services

4 Oct —9.30 am Communion service by Zoom.

All other services as Recorded services on Facebook and the Web site and distributed by email or printed form.

LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING

To September \$1156 = 23 stoves for the Kenya project.

10 Lessons I Want to Instill in My Kids

EVERYONE

- If you made a mistake, apologize.
- If you're thankful, show it.
- If you're confused, ask questions.
- If you learn something, teach others.
- If you're stuck, ask for help.
- If you're wrong, fess up.
- If you love someone, tell them.
- If you trip, get back up.
- If someone needs help, help them.
- If you see wrong, take a stance.

Raising Teens Today



Happy birthday!

OCTOBER

Bob Stevenson
Susan Duncan
Nathan Polley
Huyen Thi Dang
Marie Harris
Marg MacGillivray
Nicola Morrish
Sue Plummer
Archer Colley

Happy birthday!



OFFERINGS REPORT

Jan-Sep Total	\$33243
Needed	\$36000
Less JobKeeper	\$9000
= Net	\$27000

Web site: <http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

Facebook: [Drysdale Uniting Church](#)

Our Vision—Reaching out with God’s love and care

