

Religion is of life, and the life of religion is to do what is good

(Doctrine of Life 8)

The New Church is an international organization of people striving to improve their conscious relationship with the Lord, Jesus Christ, the one God who rules heaven and earth.

We extend a warm welcome to everyone, and invite you to take what you like and return it freely. We use the Bible and the Heavenly Doctrine revealed by the Lord and published by Emanuel Swedenborg to guide us in our lives, especially in our relationships. We freely share our love and understanding with each other, and try to give one another support in our spiritual journeys.

Temporarily the Hurstville Society is without a **Pastor**. During this period the Society will be served by lay leaders and visiting preachers.

Worship Services are held each Sunday at 10:00 AM except the first Sunday of each month. But please check the calendar for each month in case of changes.

Young People's Group is held once a month in conjunction with the Young People's Group at the New Church at 2 Shirley St, Roseville.

A tea and social in conjunction with **discussion** meets on one Friday of each month (January excepted) beginning at 7 00 pm. This will be conducted by visiting ministers when available or lay led as appropriate. Please check the calendar for the month for the exact date.

The Swedenborg Bookroom, at 22 Dudley Street, Penshurst, contains books by and about Emanuel Swedenborg for sale or loan. It is open by appointment.

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The New Church Newsletter

Hurstville Society October 2010

Love Is Not A Feeling

A Review by Norman Heldon

A booklet on the shelves in Baringa by Rev Erik Buss has that intriguing title. I puzzled over that title and finally decided to read the booklet and very glad that I did, for indeed there are many useful thoughts in it that we need to think about.

To quote, "Here's the reality: what we feel and what we love are not necessarily the same thing. Our feelings come from what we love but they are distinctly different things. Our feelings do not always accurately tell us what we love. What we love is deep inside of us and defines who we are. Our feelings are in a relatively external part of us."

Feelings don't tell us what we truly love. We might be angry with someone

perhaps quite close, someone we love. We say or do things that hurt that person. However in a short time, an hour later perhaps, the angry feeling has gone and we are sorry. Sexual desire is another. If it comes from a chaste love and is expressed within the bonds of marriage that good feeling comes from a good love, but that same feeling can arise from a destructive, selfish desire.

Rev Buss gives other examples. Also on some pages he leaves space for us to note things that are good and that we make time for. He points out too that we can recognise mistakes we have made and are sorry for, and that can take courage to confess such things to the Lord and resolve not to act that way again.

If we are to make it to heaven we will have to endure some temptations but never so severe as those suffered by the Lord while on earth. Most terrible of all was that between what He loved and what He endured in the Garden of Gethsemane. He knew He was about to be deserted by His disciples and as Rev Buss writes, “even the angels had despaired and were telling Him to give up on humanity.”

To His three disciples, Peter, James and John, He said “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful even to death . . . He went a little farther and fell on His face and prayed, saying “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”

My we have the courage to bring these words to mind when we are being tempted.

On The Way to Nirvana

In 2006 from June to September the Hurstville Society was blessed with the services of **Rev Frank Rose** and his wife **Louise**. One of his many talents that we remember was his painting. Not just his paintings but his desire to share this talent which led to many of the society enjoying painting classes and discovering talents they did not realise they had.

Summer Camp 2011 at Greenhills Near Canberra

There are still spaces available for next year's Summer Camp. If you plan to come and haven't sent in your booking we urge you to do so urgently. If you know others who might come but haven't decided encourage them to put in their bookings. To ensure we get the best facilities at this year's camp we need to get bookings finalised ASAP. The dates are Monday 3rd January to Sunday 9th January. Brochures are available on request or online at: <http://www.newchurch.org.au/news-and-events/news/>

News Notes

The happiest news of the month is that **Sam** and **Kristen Johnson** have a new baby boy **Liam Davis Johnson** who arrived safely on 10th September. Liam is a brother for two and a half year old **Dylan** who is apparently quite protective of his little brother.

Many thanks to all those people who were able to give their time on Sunday 19th September at the **Work Day**. The lawns were mowed, gardens weeded, cleaning done inside Baringa and a lot of rubbish was placed out for the council cleanup due the next day. It was also quite amazing to see the speed at which the vultures swooped to scoop up our rubbish and place it inside their cars, trailers etc. Some even helped us carry the discarded items out!

It was a pleasure to have **Jan Lindsay** back at church recently and to meet her daughter **Donna** who made it possible with transport. Keep up the recovery Jan.

Returning recently from an overseas holiday was **Kerry Lockhart** who visited Sri Lanka.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to **Vera Buck** (8th), **Stuart Heldon** (10th), **Murray Heldon** (13th), **Alyssa Wende** (14th) **Darren Kermond** (20th) **Cameron Walsh** (20th), **Sonia Hicks** (22nd), **Shirley Taylor** (27th)

Visit of Rev David Lindrooth

Rev David Lindrooth, Director of General Church Outreach plans to visit Hurstville and will take the worship service on **Sunday 24th October**. Additionally we have scheduled a **Society Dinner** on **Monday 25th** after which Rev Lindrooth will give a talk. We understand a visit to Perth will occur the following Sunday.

Society Meeting

The main item on the agenda for the Society meeting was a phone call from **Bishop Brian Keith** during the meeting conducted over a speaker phone. This had been arranged at the bishop's request for mutual benefit – so that he could explain where he was at in the search for a new minister and individual members of the society were free to voice their concerns/hopes etc to the bishop directly. The contact will continue with an email group drawn from the congregation as further information/ developments occur. Hopefully there will be much more to report next month. The hope is for a new minister by July 2011.

Pause Make Space for God

At our Friday dinner and class on 17th September we took a look at the next *Journey* Program and experienced a sample of the program. After watching an introductory video the sample pre-course material was presented. The group then decided that the Hurstville Society would do the course over seven consecutive weeks starting at the **end of January 2011** which is the second of the world-wide launch dates. Hurstville will thus join with a number of other societies who will be studying the course material simultaneously. **Kerry Lockhart** has kindly offered to take on the role of facilitator. A bonus is that this program also includes sermon material and Sunday School projects for a number of different age groups.

More information at:

<http://www.newchurch.org/materials/programs/pause>

Our attention has been drawn to an article published in the *Arizona Daily Star* in May 2010 entitled "A Talent That Just Blossomed" by Bonnie Henry. We found it fascinating and thought it would interest readers many of whom got to know Frank and Louise quite well but will almost certainly find a lot more of interest here that they didn't know. Part of the article reads:

We are on our way to nirvana. Or close to it. Ahead of us grow desert chicory, scorpion weed, silver puffs and blue dicks. All are wildflowers found in the lower reaches of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Flowers photographed, and in at least one instance painted, by Frank Rose.

"I used to look at a dandelion and say, 'What is this?' " says Rose. Not anymore.

A retired minister, Rose, 82, has over the last decade made it his mission to photograph and often paint every species of wildflower growing in the Catalinas - about 600 in all. So far, he's identified more than 500 of them, photographing each one four times - entire plant, leaf, flower and, eventually, seed. Out of those photographs have come 185 paintings, all watercolours, all gorgeous.

Little wonder that Rose was asked to illustrate Charles Kane's "Herbal Medicine of the American Southwest," a job that took him a year. He's now working on several other books, including one for the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum titled "Mountain Wildflowers of Southern Arizona," due out later this year. "It's the first-ever field guide to wildflowers in Southern Arizona," says Rick Brusca, director of the ASDM Press.

Worldwide, there are between 300,000 and 600,000 wildflowers, says Rose. "I'm just doing this one area." It's a task that will easily keep him busy for the rest of the summer. For while our glorious desert flowers have gone to seed, prime wildflower season is still in full swing in the Catalinas. "The best wildflower shows in the mountains are from March to September," says Rose, who, as the temperatures climb, shifts from Molino Basin - site of 300 different species of flower - all the way up to the mountaintop."

Best of all, the devastating fires that swept the Lemmon a few years ago were actually good for wildflowers. "Flowers love fire," says Rose. "It clears the canopy and usually doesn't destroy the seed. We had the best flower shows ever after the big fires."

Frank Rose was born in 1927 in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, the ninth child of Don and Marjorie Rose. He began painting in his teens. He served for 51 years as an ordained clergyman in Europe, Canada and the United States, doing painting on the side before he and his wife moved to Tucson, Arizona in 1982. He served as Pastor of Sunrise Chapel until his retirement in 2003. He is a past President of the Southern Arizona Watercolour Guild, and a member of the Arizona Native Plant Society. Since his retirement he has devoted himself to his art, combining it with an interest in botany. For many years his artwork was available in Tucson from El Presidio Gallery.

It appears Frank's talents really developed in the last 10 years. The article continues.

The epiphany came in the summer of 1999, after he and his wife, Louise, rented a cabin on Mount Lemmon. "I thought, what if I started photographing the flowers?" says Rose. From that came the paintings.

Trouble was, he was clueless. "I had photographed maybe 100 flowers and painted 20 of them," says Rose. "I still had no idea what they were." And then he met Joan Tedford, who volunteers at the University of Arizona Herbarium. She helped identify a list he had of mountain wildflowers. She also invited him to join the Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists, who take weekly hikes in search of mountain wildflowers.

"I knew the least of anybody in the group," says Rose, who now easily points out the botanical and common names of every flower we spotted during a recent trek up Babat Duag Trail, between Mileposts 2 and 3 on the Catalina Highway. On an average hike, he may find 30 or 40 plants to shoot. The challenge, he says, is to pick the ones in bloom - and ones he has yet to identify. Rose seldom plucks the flower he's photographing. Instead, he gently photographs it against black velveteen. The photo then goes into his computer, which prints out an outline that Rose fills in. "I want it as exact as

possible," he says. He also paints in the black background.

We have recently had framed a painting Frank did while in Australia entitled "Whale Watcher" painted at South Cronulla. Money donated to Theta Alpha Guild after the deaths of Dot Heldon and Lorelle Taylor has been used for this purpose. It will be hung in Baringa.

Frank has also recently published a little book *Reflections on Providence*. In this book the author takes the reader through the book: "Divine Providence" by Emanuel Swedenborg, with a reflection on each of the eighteen chapters. It is pocket sized, attractive, and easy to read and includes 23 nature photographs. This is something you could feel comfortable sharing with people who have little or no knowledge of the Writings of Swedenborg. If you are starting to think of Christmas it would make a wonderful gift.

Interested in Presenting at the General Church Assembly?

June 23-26, 2011 Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania

"Helping people grow closer to the Lord God Jesus Christ in His Second Coming."

During the General Church Assembly in June, 2011 we hope to explore the ways New Church teachings can impact every aspect of a person's life from personal relationships to succeeding in a professional capacity without sacrificing morals. Help us make this Assembly relevant to all Church members, from youth to seniors. If you have a great concept and would like to lead an exciting plenary session, an engaging workshop, a stimulating panel discussion, a youth or young adult targeted session, or local community service project please fill out a presenter application found at www.GCAssembly.org

For more information, please contact Hannah Lermite at hannah.lermite@anc-gc.org or (267) 502-4864.