

Future of Denbigh Rd Church Property.

The decision of the Romanian Church not to proceed with using the church for worship left the Parish and Prahran Mission in a difficult position. Prahran indicated a desire to use the church and the hall. A meeting of the Combined Council, attended by representatives of Prahran Mission and Nepean Presbytery, was held on 14 October. It was decided 'that the property be declared redundant to the future needs of the parish.' 'Presbytery was requested, as a matter of urgency, to establish a committee, with two members from Armadale, to determine future use of the property' and 'to consider the application of Prahran Mission.' In the event of the sale of the property, Presbytery was asked 'to ensure that stained glass windows, organ, memorials and liturgical furniture be made available to Armadale Parish.'

The first **Barbara Barrett Memorial Scholarship** for a theological student has gone to **Ms Lisa Stewart**. The \$500 award will be presented at Presbytery on 27 October.

Dr Len Tierney was honoured recently by the Department of Social Work, Melbourne University when a reading room, complete with his library, was dedicated in his memory.

Pastoral Concerns include Betty Terrell (broken leg), Zoya Borland, Stan and Nona Graham, Norma McNolty, Dorothy Garnett, Marjorie Lade, Dr Tom Steel, Mary Crosbie.

Ivy Duggan (all at MECWA Prahran), Mabel Robinson (Mont Calm), Edyth Rawson (St Joseph's), Betty Just, Rev Gerritt Peterschlingmann, Phyllis Comport and the families of the late Edna Carr and Dr. Derek Leon.

If you are unable to get to Church and would like to receive copies of the services or sermons, please let the minister know.

News from '**Cornwall' Units:** Committee meets 2 December, 4.30 pm. Christmas Party is 16 December, 4 pm.

Christmas Services:

13 December - Choral service led by the choir.

20 December - service includes singing by children from Good News Time. Christmas Day: 9.30 am.

Minister:

The Rev Dr Max Champion,
65 Denbigh Rd,
Armadale, 3143
Tel: 9509 3353.

Minister-in-Association:

Deaconess Lesley McMullin,
3 Grant Ave,
Toorak, 3142
Tel: 9822 7065.

Director of Music & Organist:

Mr Laurie MacLennan.
Tel: 9889 5016.



AUC NEWS

No 6 November-December 1998- January 1999

A Non-Religious Church?

The Church is facing great challenges today. The Christian message is unknown or has become too familiar. Recently, I came across some words of Bonhoeffer written from prison for a baptism. They sum up our predicament and our calling. I hope you find them provocative and helpful!

We are once again being driven right back to the beginnings of our understanding. Reconciliation and redemption ... cross and resurrection, life in Christ and Christian discipleship ... all these things are so difficult and so remote that we hardly venture any more to speak of them. ... Our Church, which has been fighting only for its self-preservation is incapable of taking the word of reconciliation and redemption to mankind and the world ... There will be a new language, perhaps quite non-religious, but liberating and redeeming ... as was Jesus' language; it will shock people and yet overcome them by its power; it will be the language of a new righteousness and truth, proclaiming God's peace with men and the coming of the kingdom ... Until then the Christian cause will be a silent and hidden affair, but there will be those who pray and do right and wait for God's own time. (Letters and Papers from Prison).

Rev Dr. Max Champion