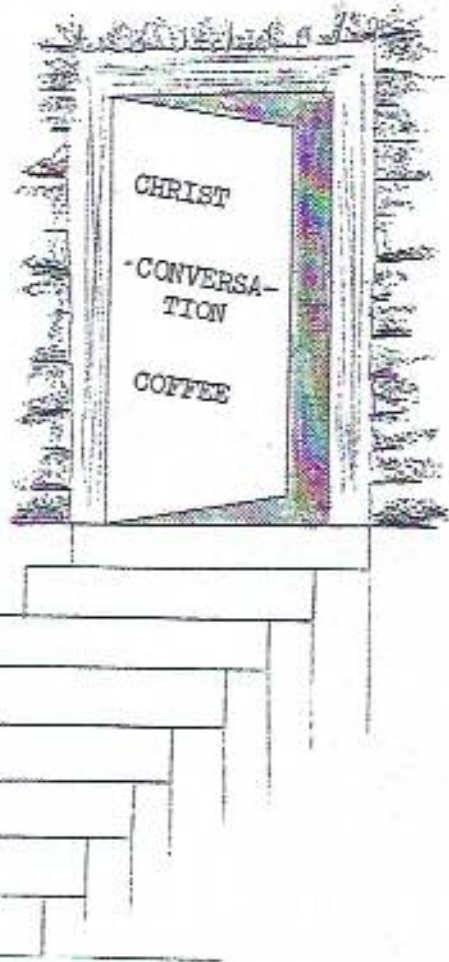


FILE
ATT: KARL BRUTTG

JACOB'S LADDER

COFFEE

LOUNGE



NEWS LETTER

JANUARY 1974

EDITORIAL

JACOB'S LADDER 1974 and beyond.

We say goodbye to 1973 and move into 1974. We will sift through the old happenings of three and a half years and what we have learnt that is good will be put to use in the future.

Doug Kuhl has arrived to take up the work with us at JACOB'S LADDER and the plans and challenges and dreams for the future will be ours as co-workers together, but the fulfillment and ultimate blessings of anything "we" conceive will be God's. All that will be done at JACOB'S LADDER, no matter in what form the outreach programme will take, must be firmly and confidently placed in Christ's hands. He alone will guide us along the path we are to take. This does not mean we must sit with prayer clasped hand and breath deep sighs of yearning and not budge from this position. We all must be up and doing and up and saying. Our hands and our elbows must get dirty, our knees bruised, our feet become sore, sweat must break out on our brows, and our lives must show an even greater witness to the Christ of Christmas - New Year - Easter; the Christ for all men for all time.

Together with Christ we take up JACOB'S LADDER work with renewed vigor and dedication. The latent talents of many dedicated young people must be marshalled and harnessed (to God's power house), so that they can be turned on for Christ. We must lift our horizons to new challenges and ideas; to new innovations and perhaps radical schemes (in the eyes of the establishment).

Where are the workers of 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973? Will they be around in 1974? Will you be involved in JACOB'S LADDER work in 1974? Do you want to become involved? Have some grown cold on the work at JACOB'S LADDER? Is the party over? If the Christ of Christmas is dead then we have no commitment over against our fellow man with whom we walk life's road. The problems that beset youth and all people in this our day need not really concern us or get us excited. But as concerned Christian workers at Jacob's Ladder we know that the Christ of our life is the same yesterday, today and forever. This Christ wants to reach the lives of so many people here in little old Adelaide, through us. Christ will use us. Christ will open up areas of concern. Christ will close doors for us and then open new ones. As workers at JACOB'S LADDER we go forward into 1974 with Christ as the helmsman of our life and let HIM lead us wherever He will. We must bury our egos and hangups and self-created images and let Him take over. We put our life totally in His hands especially in this JACOB'S LADDER work.

The Holy Spirit will breath into our lives new power to be daily born anew, to take up new challenges through prayer and trust in Him. Rightly motivated prayers are always answered. There are four ways taken by God: (1) Yes; (2) No; (3) Not just yet; (4) and when God says to us "How about doing it MY Way".

Let us commit the JACOB'S LADDER work to God in prayer. May He move each of us as individuals and then as a group to run the race with confidence that is set before us as we see it in the JACOB'S LADDER concept.

"BEHOLD, I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU AN OPEN DOOR, WHICH NO ONE IS ABLE TO SHUT" Rev. Chapter 3 v. 8.

ED.

CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER

EXCITEMENT ... WEAKNESS ... URGENCY ...

It is exciting to think about what the LORD would have us do in 1974 at JACOB'S LADDER. During the past three and a half years He has shown us many things and above all uncovered our many weaknesses as His children. We have learnt to come to Him for guidance, to trust Him and to obey His directions for the building of His kingdom. Yet there are still so many times when we fail Him - we certainly do not deserve the love and grace He continues to give us. There are, however, many things He has taught us and as we look forward to 1974 it is our prayer that we would remember these and act on them - because there are just so many people right here in Adelaide in so much trouble and confusion because they do not know the FATHER - through JESUS CHRIST.

THE YEAR JUST GONE 1973

The end of 1973 saw several exciting and instructive developments in the Adelaide scene. There was the visit of Michael Eastman and Jack Sparks from brother and sister families overseas. Their visit crystallized a lot of things in the minds of Christians here in Adelaide. Both of these men emphasized the call of God to establish a loving and a caring Christian community - and to speak, act and teach the Love of God in His gospel in that context. That involves commitment and sacrifice and prayer for sure, but do not forget that it also involves THE LORD'S PROMISE "Give first place to the kingdom of God and what He requires and all these things will be yours too." Matt. 6:33.

Following on from that visit a little over a month ago about thirty people met at Nunyara chapel, Belair, to hear from three interstate brothers who had been involved in a Christian happening in the streets of Canberra - called "KAIROS 1973". The aim was to get Eastern state brothers and sisters together and see whether the different communities could work together for Christ. It worked fairly well, they told us.

A KAIROS IN ADELAIDE IN 1974?

It was decided to go ahead with something similar during the Adelaide FESTIVAL OF ARTS in March, 1974 ... a festival of street culture was born. In a couple of meetings that followed some of its aims and areas were discussed and a co-ordinating committee has been convened. Some of the possible happenings in the air at this stage are such things as street drama, music, crafts, broadsheets, Jesus festival marching, etc. For Jacob's Ladder it will probably mean a step up of what we plan on doing anyway with the possibility of opening on most nights during the festival. This will require lots of people and suggestions from YOU are welcome.

OTHER GROUP INVOLVEMENT

We are beginning to introduce a fairly regular use of christian singers and singing groups, film and sound presentations of CHRIST into the coffee lounge. Broadsheets and pub visits and jail visits are all being used in God's service.

Anyone interested in a street drama group? Street singing? You might get some valuable experience in a production being directed by a Sydney Christian Theatrical musician for the festival auditions on February 1st and 2nd. More later.

URGENCY TO COMMUNICATE WITH NON CHRISTIANS A CHALLENGE

Behind all this is the conviction that we Christians need to get together

.../.

CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER continued

away from our jargon (words and actions that do not communicate with non-Christians in the way Christ would have it) and get to know the interests and needs of others and apply our faith to them, because that is the way Jesus did things. It all becomes exciting when we think of what HE will do when we are prepared to do this in His name.

1974 AND BEYOND

What is Jacob's Ladder future in 1974? It is a place or rather a community of christians which provides an avenue for you to serve the LORD in special areas of ministry to both brothers and sisters in Christ and more specifically to those who do not know Jesus Christ. We are all looking forward to having Doug Kuhl among us in 1974, and we are looking forward to your involvement.

K.B.

WHO IS THE LORD OF YOUR LIFE

So you work at JACOB'S LADDER. So what. What do you mean? Well what do you do before and after J.L.?

This is fairly typical of the start of a number of conversations I have struck up with J.L. workers. What I am trying to say is this: What do you do when you are not at J.L. is just as important, if not more important as what you do do at the Ladder. Let us face it, as christians and as J.L. workers, your actions outside are being placed beside your actions and witness inside J.L. These actions are being judged. Since you are on the front line of the war against Satan and his forces Christianity is judged by what people see in you. You have heard the saying: "you cannot judge a book by its cover", well christians are judged by their "cover". You cannot afford to have a lousy cover. In other words you must consciously strive to be aware of your sinful nature and the fact that you allow Christ to live in you and through you. Christian witness by example is one of the most effective forms of evangelism and to be able to witness by example you must know forgiveness and the love of Christ. Too often you do not even try to live in a state of "sin awareness" because you do not even bother (or perhaps conveniently forget) to find out about what the Bible calls sin -read Gal. 5:13ff. You cannot witness effectively if you do not try to live up to God-given standards inside and outside JACOB'S LADDER. God's Word in Galatians chapter 5 sets the standard and the challenge. WE must not as Christians wilfully keep on crucifying Christ by our wrong actions.

The year 1974 and the God given time ahead provides new opportunities to spread Christ's word by christian action and Christ centred service.

N.B.

BOOK REVIEW

JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL by Richard Bach

\$1.65 ... Pan Books.

Anyone who has an ambition of any sort, whether it be to please God, please oneself, become rich or just be an idealist, would do well to read this book!!

Briefly, Jonathan is a seagull who wants to do more than just fly around with all the other gulls fighting for scraps of food, and fighting with his fellow gulls.

He becomes an outcast, because he wants to do his own thing, and that is to fly, in the highest and most majestic meaning of the word. He practises, passes through many pitfalls and almost obtains perfection, only to realise that what he thinks is perfection is nowhere near the true perfection, and so he goes ever higher realising that there is so much more he can do; there is no limit.

When he has almost reached the limit (which does not exist), he goes back to his former haunts and is willing to pass on his knowledge to his fellow gulls despite persecution and contempt by most of the flock. He still strives to let them know the secret of true happiness.

It states on the back cover: This book is for "people who make their own rules when they know they are right ... people who know there is more to this whole question of living than meets the eye."

In short, it is for people who are interested in youth, because they have the ambition to tell youth about God to their utmost. This book will lift you if you are down, improve your ideals if you are idealistic and generally encourage you.

An added benefit is that it takes only about a half hour to read. The cost is \$1.65, which you might not appreciate when you first see the size of the book, but when you have read it and thought about it, and re-read it and re-thought about it you will appreciate that it is very cheap (that is the book, not what is written in it).

Buy it and read it (for your own good)!!!!

P.B.

Anyone who has read books which offer SOLID reading and food for thought and wish others to gain some benefit from the book you have read, submit a review for the newsletter.

Rev. Doug. Kuhl would like all coffee lounge workers to read widely, relevant books, Jesus papers, and current music in the youth scene, so that solid rap sessions can be sustained with young people in our OUTREACH WORK - know what they TALK and THINK about.

Suggested reading material from Doug Kuhl.....

The Jesus Kids	R.C. Palms
Counter Culture and the Vision of God	R.L. Johnson
(The Church before the Watching Word	F. Schaeffer
(The Church at the end of the 20th Cent.	
<u>All</u> current Jesus Papers being distributed in Adelaide	

...../.

Other books read by Workers:

Culture Class and Christian Beliefs	John Bonningham (Scripture Union \$1.95)
The Untapped Generation	Don and Dave Wilkerson
Coffee House Manual	Don & Dave Wilkerson
Spiritual Depression	Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones (Pickering & Inglis \$1.55)
Letters to Street Christians	Foo Brothers in Berkley
Jesus Person Maturity Manual	David Wilkerson (\$1.50)
Questions	Cliff Richards (Hodder & Stanton .80¢)
St. Francis of Assisi	G.K. Chesterton (Hodder .80¢)
The Cost of Discipleship	Dietrich Bonhoeffer (S.C.M. Press \$3.50 approx.)
To Munich with Love	Bob Owen (Chick Publications \$1.00 approx)
Life Together	Dietrich Bonhoeffer (S.C.M. Press \$1.40)
The Problem of Pain	C.S. Lewis
Mere Christianity	C.S. Lewis
The Making of a Counter Culture (a sociological analysis)	T. Rozak (Faber)
Christianity and the Occult	J. Stafford Wright
Demons in the World Today	Merrill Unger
The Medium is the Message	Marshall McLuhan
Escape from Reason	Francis Schaeffer
The God who is there	Francis Schaeffer.

NEWS TIP BITS

REV. DOUG KUHL'S installation on the Sunday, 13 January, 1974, at ST. STEPHENS Lutheran Church, Wakefield Street. 10.00 a.m.
All youth fellowships are invited that means YOU.

DAVE ANDERSON ... DIRECTOR of LUTHERAN YOUTH ALIVE in the U.S.A.
Coming to Adelaide, January 12th and 13th. - St. Stephens.
For more information pick a form up at J.L. by the 5th January or else see Neil Geer, 2 Garland Street, Glandore, 5037. Phone: 297 3957.

Coffee Lounge Workers Wanted. Are you able to give of your time and God-given gifts to take up the challenge in 1974?
Christ centred counsellors to tackle the many problems that beset people.
Workmen/women - electrical - carpenters - upholsterers - etc.

A BROADER CONCEPT FOR J.L. Is it possible - With God nothing is impossible - Dare we grasp the opportunity of enlarging the present area at J.L.?
Excitement is in the air - keep your ear to the ground - commit the challenge in prayer to God - ask around what is going on.

MONTHLY YOUTH SERVICES. St. Stephens Lutheran Church, Wakefield Street.
Last Sunday in each month. 7.00 p.m.

McNALLY YOUTH SERVICES (once a month?) Further details later.

ST. STEPHENS YOUTH. Outreach programme - Friday and Saturday evenings - pool tables - pub outreach - See Neil Geer for further details.