

40 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMMANUEL FINNISH CHURCH IN PERTH

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Perthin seurakunnan 40-vuotijuhla pidettiin palmusunnuntaina 13.4.2014. Ohessa kuvia juhlasta ja puhe, jonka piti Henna Stanley.

We are gathered here today to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of our church, the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Perth, and to celebrate this special occasion.

Our church has grown from very modest beginning. At the beginning all there was, was a big shed which came with the land we as the Finnish community bought.

With determination in the fine spirit and tradition of the Finnish people, many in the Finnish community gave their valuable time and contributed their skills slowly but surely in building our church as it is today.

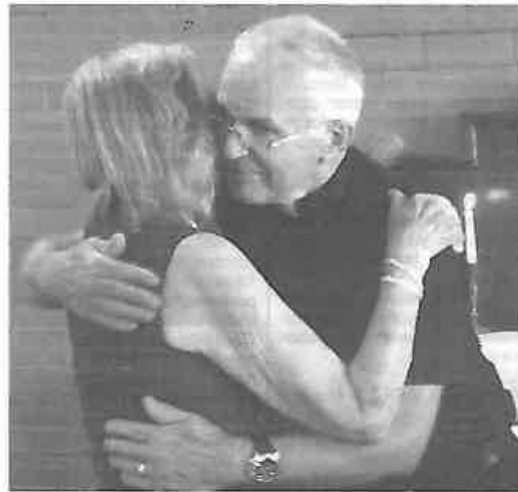
I came to know from those who knew about the church when it was founded that the first service was held in 1974 Palm Sunday and the church

itself was consecrated in 1977.

The fact that our church has survived for 40 years providing a place of worship and for the celebration of our Finnish traditional festivals is due to the financial and physical support which each of yourselves and others gave for its maintenance.

In particular mention must be made of the Finnish Womens Group of our church who regularly on a monthly basis held meetings and arranged fund raising activities and event selling various homemade Finnish things, such as cakes, bread, arts and craft items, fruits, flowers as well as tea and coffee and steadily contributing the money raised for the benefit of the church and its congregation. Such contribution and the contribution of others in different ways have kept our church going for the past 40

years. To all those who gave their support in their own way our church, we are grateful.



Kiitos pastori Jorma Jormakalle vuosikymmenten palvelusta.

We also participated with St. Luke Church in holding those sales. Our food festivals for special occasions were very popular.

Our Newsletter goes to over 100 homes with few

even going up to Finland, just to let them know that we still exist.

We have had several pastors in our 40 years history and Pastor Jorma Jormakka has been us rendering spiritual services for the past 30 of the 40 years, travelling from Melbourne to Perth about 3 times a year. His dedication to our congregation is much appreciated and we thank him for his valuable service to us. But, as all good things do come to end, our dear Pastor is retiring and is time for tears.

Now let us celebrate this day with coffee cakes and other finger foods which are on the festive table and let us enjoy ourselves in spirit of joy and goodwill.

