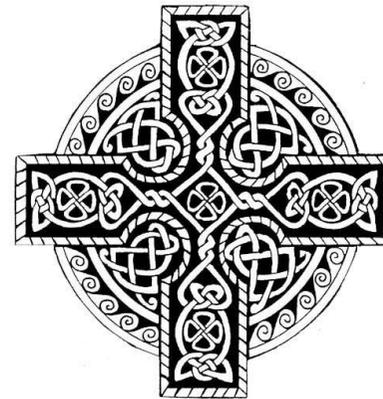


SEEDS

A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN LONG GULLY



PREAMBLE

Seeds is a small community of Christians living in the Bendigo suburb of Long Gully. Seeds members seek to support the life and mission of the church within the local community and to support each other in living out our discipleship in Christ.

Seeds began in 2005 to pursue a calling of mission amongst the marginalised. Since this time, Seeds members have sought to build relationships, as well as initiate or support projects within Long Gully.

Seeds members share the conviction that 'in Christ, God was reconciling the whole world to himself' (2 Cor 5:19) and that we have been called to join with God in healing the broken things of the world. This is the Biblical vision of shalom, the restoring of all things to right relationship. The Seeds community recognises the centrality of Christ's command to 'bring good news to the poor', and that he came to 'seek and save the lost', 'not the righteous, but sinners'.

We acknowledge the many ways in which our individual brokenness relates to social and economic dislocation in our time. We are also acutely aware that these dislocations damage the earth itself, and that 'all creation is groaning' (Rom 8). In pursuing our calling to be 'ambassadors of Christ' amongst people and in Creation, we are conscious of the intertwined social, economic and ecological dimensions of healing.

We seek to embody this calling within Long Gully in practical and modest ways, cultivating neighbourliness, living simply and generously, caring for the earth. These intentions are reflected in the Seeds Covenant, a twelve-monthly commitment we make to each other.

Seeds is a community who make decisions by consensus. Each year we nominate one member as Convenor, who takes on responsibility for facilitating our basic organising and planning needs. Seeds welcomes new members and has a discernment process to help those who might be considering this step.

We recognise that many people share our purposes, but may not feel able to commit to the Seeds covenant. We seek creative ways offer mutual support.

For more information about Seeds, please contact us:

seedsbendigo@godfoodpeople.org

THE SEEDS COVENANT

This covenant is agreed to on a twelve-monthly basis beginning with a dedication service early each year.

MEMBERS OF SEEDS COMMIT TO:

1. Living in Long Gully;
2. To share a meal together monthly;
3. To meet together at least monthly to discuss our life and mission, as informed by the 'Queries and Advices for Seeds Members';
4. To strengthen local Christian gatherings;
5. To serve those in the Long Gully community, with a priority for the poor and marginalised;
6. To seek to live simply, justly and generously;
7. To support one another as we seek to follow Jesus and deepen our relationship with God.