**A Tribute to Hazel Amos**

How shall we continue to remember our friend Hazel Amos?

She was committed to this church, generous, disciplined, loyal and faithful

And if you asked her how she was, her reply would be ***“Not bad for an old’en”***

Finance guru Scott Pape, may think he was the first one to order his finances to be most effective. He never met Hazel, or perhaps he secretly consulted her, if so, she would have told him how to do it: with jars and envelopes not bank accounts and the stock market.

This enabled Hazel to be a such a generous person, not only to her family but to her Church and the community.

Each week she would buy some groceries for the Church’s food collection, to support Diamond Valley Foodshare. If she couldn’t get out to shop, she would put the same amount of money in an envelope and donate it.

She also supported a World Vision child for many years.

Hazel was not only genereous with her money but also with her time.

Hazel spent many years doing volunteer work and produced knitted garments for various charities. She worked for over thirty years in the Brotherhood of St. Laurence Opportunity Shop, firstly in Greensborough, then at Diamond Village. Among the jobs she did was: emptying bags and boxes, stocking the shelves matching up odd earrings, tidying racks of clothing and serving customers.

Hazel was a member of the Diamond Valley Probus Club for decades.

Hazel migrated to Australia, with her husband Stan and children, Peter and Linda, in 1949. They arrived in Melbourne and eventually bought a block of land in Doris Street Greensborough. They moved there in 1950. Their accommodation was a borrowed caravan, a wooden hut, a car case and a tent. Stan worked for two years to build their house. The roads were unmade and there was no sewerage or gas, so life was pretty basic. Both Stan and Hazel worked to make ends meet.

On Sunday mornings, Hazel would send the two children to the Church ofEngland Sunday School. Hazel was shocked when one day she decided to pick them up after class only to find that the Anglicans had never heard of them. She was surprised to discover that they had gone to the Methodist Sunday School with friends. When Stan and Hazel attended a Sunday School anniversary they liked what they saw and joined the congregation becoming active members.

Hazel served as a Sunday School teacher in the 60’s & 70’s.

Their son Peter married in 1966 and their daughter Linda married my brother Alan in 1967.

Stan died in 1987. Peter died of a brain tumor in 1994

Hazel joined the Ladies Guild in 1953 and participated in all their activities.

The Guild was formed in the 1930s for ladies to have friendship together and to raise money for things the church needed

Each year the Guild ran a fete. They had speakers, and visited guilds at other churches. When the Church moved from Main Street to our present site, the Guild bought items of furniture, curtains for the play‑group room, and other things too numerous to mention.

The Guild changed its name to the Ladies’ Church Fellowship and in 2000 Hazel was the President. Unfortunately the group no longer exists. Their last meeting was held at Hazel’s home in Doris St. Greensborough.

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Hazel continued to be an active member of the Church.

Everyone at Living Faith Church were privileged to help Hazel celebrate her 90th birthday. Over the years she enjoyed sharing her life stories and faith with others.

Last year we sang happy birthday and wished her well for her 98th birthday. We were all looking forward to the next 2 years. Hazel rarely missed attending Church.

On a recent visit she told me that she was ready to go at any time that God wanted to take her.

“I have believed in God all my life and he has always been with me” she said.

Hazel had a strong faith in God, who had supported her through all her life. Through the hardships and the joys

Well, God kept his promises to **Hazel** through this life and into the next.

He has taken her to be with him and all the members of her family and friends who have gone before her.

Tonight they will be enjoying each other’s company and dining at the Lord’s Table.

***Mind, so long as it’s on the table at 6 o’clock.***

We are going to missHazel.She was an inspiration and a valued member of our church and community.

*Bryan Henderson. 26th April 2018.*

***A summary of Hazel’s service to the community***

Member of Greensborough Methodist/United/ Uniting Church 1952 -2018

 -1952-2000 Ladies Guild. Served as secretary and President

 - cleaned church and flower roster

 - Sunday school teacher 1960’s

 - Play group helper for 6 years

 - regular worshipper

Brotherhood St. Laurence

* Volunteer in Op shop for 31 years

Gabonia Ave Pre-school

 -Kinder granny for 5 years

Plenty Mental Hospital

* Volunteer in Kiosk for 12 years

Austin Hospital

* Visiting patients, reading to them and writing letters for them

Macleod Senior citizens

* Bingo caller 3 years

Received an Australia Day Jaga Jaga Volunteers Award