



**TODAY @ BCUC—Godly leadership**

**5th November**

9am Contemporary & 10:30am Classic: Rev Matthew Bond

Joshua 3:7-17, Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37, **1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Matthew 23:1-12**

10:30am Café: Colette Williams—Justified by faith Philippians 3:4b-12

**Sunday 5th November 2017**

**WELCOME**

*Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service,  
so that we can get to know each other better.*

**UPCOMING WEEK @ BCUC**

**Monday 5th November**

10am mainly music

1pm Monday Day Fellowship

**Tuesday 6th November**

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

9:30am Playgroup

2pm BCUC Cares

**Wednesday 7th November**

7:45am Prayer Meeting

9:30am Prayer Meeting

2pm Women's Ministry

**Thursday 8th November**

9:30am Craft, Chat & Sew

12noon Friendship Club

6pm Worship & Music Ministry

7:30pm Choir practice

**Friday 9th November**

7:15pm BICC Concert

**Sunday 12th November**

12noon Prayer Meeting

12noon Seniors Second Sunday Lunch

2pm AGM

**Next Sunday @ BCUC**

**12th November**

9am Contemporary & 10:30am Classic: Rev Gary Stuckey

10:30am Café: Rev Matthew Bond

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Psalm 78:1-7, **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13**

Prayer Requests: [prayer@burnsidecityuc.org.au](mailto:prayer@burnsidecityuc.org.au)

If you require more information please contact the church office or visit our website.

T: 8331 3914 E: [admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au](mailto:admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au) W: [www.burnsidecityuc.org.au](http://www.burnsidecityuc.org.au)

384 Portrush Road, Tusmore 5065



**Encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives  
worthy of God. 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12**

**Ministry Team Contacts**

**Minister: Rev Matthew Bond** Ministry Team Leader 0400 777 410

**Minister: Rev Dr Gary Stuckey** 0437 708 183 Supply Ministry

**Minister in Association: Rev Rob Williams** 0424 123 171

All Ministers are available for Pastoral Care as required

**Youth Coordinator: Ben Randall** —0403 369 154

**Administrator: Deb Mugford** Monday—Thursday 9am—2:30pm

**Office Hours** - 9am—12 noon Monday to Thursday



**A Vibrant Community, Committed to Jesus,**

**Passionately Engaged in Mission**

## A MESSAGE FROM MATTHEW

It's been reported that two out of three Australians think that religion does more harm than good in the world. That's not encouraging news.

The Ipsos Poll on which the report was based gives mixed messages about Australians and religion. While 63% agreed that religion does more harm than good in the world, 84% agreed with the statement, "I am completely comfortable being around people who have different religious beliefs than me". So, on the one hand, scepticism about the value of religion and, on the other hand, high levels of toleration for religious diversity. What might this poll be telling us about Australians and their religions?

But about a third of those Australians who were polled did not agree with the statement. They thought that, on balance, religion does not do more harm than good.

If they practice a religion themselves, they probably do so because they find or believe that it has some benefit for them. There are many studies now that associate religious practice with improved mental health and wellbeing. They might have been thinking of the community life and pastoral care that's made available to them in their faith community.

Christian congregations run drop-in centres, op shops, playgroups etc. Most religious organisations run schools, community services, and hospitals. UnitingCare Australia, for example, is a network of some 1,600 sites with 40,000 employees and 30,000 volunteers. Their impact for good on Australian society is huge.

In the light of the Ipsos Poll, a journalist asked whether religion 'should be trying to redeem itself' in the eyes of the Australian public. Andrew Dutney says, "I think not."

The place of religion in Australian society has changed dramatically in recent decades. The proportion of Australians participating in a religion is now smaller, and the religious groups that Australians are involved in is now much more diverse. The community no longer automatically looks to religious representatives for moral leadership – or even for rites of passage such as weddings and funerals.

In this situation, it's important that religious organisations don't pretend that nothing has changed, and don't try to steer things back to the way they once were – if that's what 'redeeming' themselves means.

Instead of trying to redeem ourselves in the eyes of the Australian public, religious organisations need to get on with doing what they do – developing communities, practicing their faith, serving their own members and the wider community at real points of need. And they need to do what they do with integrity, fairness and transparency. That will be more than enough for Australians.

*This article was originally published on Rev Prof Andrew Dutney's blog, Backyard Theology.*

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

### AGM

Please join us on **Sunday November 12 at 2pm** for our AGM. Reports are available today.

### Monday Day Fellowship

Next Meeting **Monday November 6**. Visit to the Planetarium and afternoon tea at Experience Café. Meet at the church at 1pm. Cost \$25 Please see Ruth Daws to book.

### Women's Ministry

On **Wednesday November 8th** starting at 2pm in the Hall we will assemble Pamper Packs followed by a Devonshire Afternoon Tea. The Packs will be distributed to Streetlink and other Uniting Care agencies in time for Christmas. They are particularly asking for essential feminine hygiene products as well as the usual pamper items and products for men. Contact Marlene Richards or Di Croft.

### Spring into Summer - BICC Concert

Please help Chaplaincy work in 'our' four local schools. **Friday 10 November, 7.15 for 7.30 pm** at BCUC. \$10 per person; \$20 per family. Pay at the door. Trading Table. Includes free tea and coffee.

### Norwood Christmas Pageant

Join us on **Saturday November 25** to help distribute balloons at the pageant. Meet on The Parade west of Wood St at 9:15am.

### BCUC Saturday Friendship Club

The Club Christmas dinner will be held on **Sat 18th November at 6:30pm**. The theme is Bon Bons and Holly. There will be very special entertainment, excellent food, plus Carols. The cost is \$35 and pay Helen Brooks. The closing date for bookings is 12th Nov. Everyone is welcome.

### Seniors Second Sunday Lunch

The next Seniors Second Sunday lunch is on **Sunday November 12 at 12noon**. Come and join us for friendship, fun and food. Chicken & Salad plus a fruit platter.

### eMAC

The next eMAC will be on **Tuesday November 14 at 7pm**. Plan to come and be a part of what is happening at BCUC.

### Prayer Chain

Is life a bit hard at the moment? Maybe concerns with health, family, friends, or feeling low? There is a group of 60+ BCUC people willing to pray for you. Your situation will be kept confidential. Send your request to [prayer@burnsidecityuc.org.au](mailto:prayer@burnsidecityuc.org.au) or speak to a minister or Jenny Olver. If you would like prayers for someone else please ask them or their family for permission first.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4: 6-7 NIV*

Please e-mail articles for the BCUC weekly news to Deb Mugford at [admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au](mailto:admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au) no later than 12noon on Tuesday