

TODAY @ BCUC - Love

Sunday 20th December— Communion

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

10:30am Café— Pastor Linda Driver

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

CHRISTMAS EVE @ BCUC— Journeying together this Christmas

Sunday 24th December

7pm — Pastor Linda Diver

11:30pm—Ben Randall

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

CHRISTMAS DAY @ BCUC— Journeying together this Christmas

Sunday 25th December

9:30am Combined— Rev Matthew Bond, Rev Rob Williams & Ps Linda Driver

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

NEXT WEEK @ BCUC— Be Thankful

Sunday 27th December

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

10:30am Café— Rev Nita West

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

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

T: 8331 3914 E: admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au W: www.burnsidecityuc.org.au

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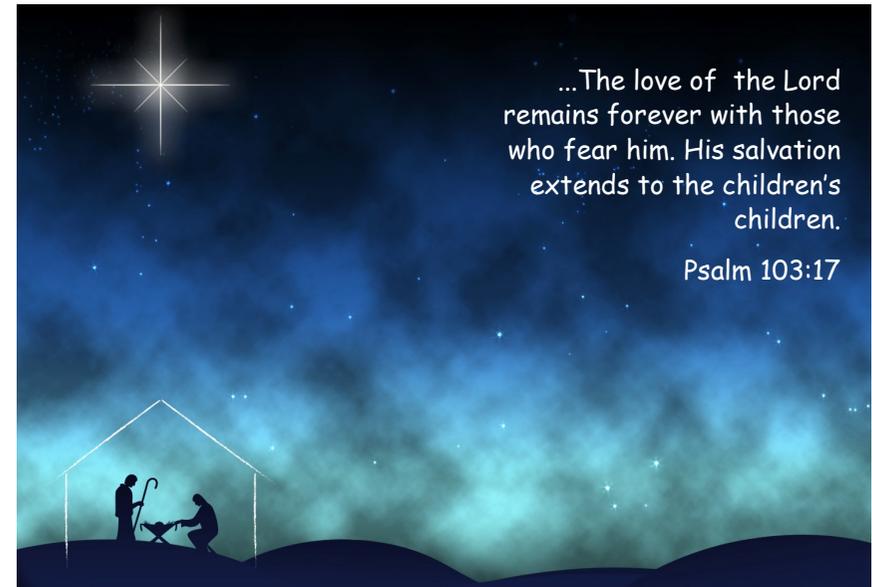


Burnside City
Uniting Church
Community, Faith and Purpose

Sunday December 20th

WELCOME

We have Connect Team members to welcome new people at each service who will introduce you to our church and assist you in any way they can. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee, so that we can get to know you better.



*...The love of the Lord
remains forever with those
who fear him. His salvation
extends to the children's
children.*

Psalm 103:17

Ministry Team Contacts

Minister: Rev Matthew Bond Ministry Team Leader

Monday—Thursday 0400 777 410

Minister: Pastor Linda Driver Children, Youth and Families

Monday—Wednesday 0437 708 183

Minister in Association: Rev Rob Williams

Available for Pastoral Care as required— 0424 123 171

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 LINDA



A Call to Prayer

I'm guessing that everyone has someone, at least one person, if not more, who makes them smile when they think of them. Perhaps it's your partner, or a member of the family, like a grand-ma or a grand-son, maybe it's a friend you don't get to see often enough, but when you do, it's like you've never been apart. Can you think of someone now? Just take a moment to picture them... are you smiling? What is it that makes you smile when you think of them?

In recent weeks the Lectionary has led us through Paul's letter to his dear friends in Philippi. His friends who he is thankful for, his friends who he prays for, his friends who bring him joy when he remembers them. The joy that comes from human relationships.

Paul does a lot of rejoicing: in his friends, in the Lord... and he encourages others to do so too: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)

Paul's path to joy is to bring every situation to God in prayer and in his letter he prays for his dear friends:

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:3-6 NRSV)

Paul's prayer for the Philippians is for their love to overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help them determine what is best – this is wisdom through discernment.

That brings me to our own church family here at BCUC. Full of people who make me smile when I think about you, full of people who serve, worship joyfully, pray together and demonstrate their Christian love for each other.

We heard from the consultation team that we have many reasons to rejoice and we heard that they have picked up some concern which warrants more time and energy for the team to discern.

Let us take up their call to prayer: as individuals and as a community – for the team in their discerning and for BCUC – for a culture where God's grace abounds.

Taking Paul's words to the Philippians, let us pray that our love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that we may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

7pm Family Service

11:30pm Carols & Candles

Christmas Day

9:30am Combined All-Ages Service

Christmas Office Closure

Please note the office will be closed from 12noon December 24 and reopen on at 9am on January 4.

A note from Matthew & Linda

During January Matthew will be taking some well deserved time off as he takes Annual Leave from Monday January 4 to Wednesday January 27.

To acknowledge the extra workload while he is away, Linda will work an extra day of the week during January and will be in at the church Monday through to Thursday as well as Sunday mornings.

A note from Linda

Commencing in the first week of February, there will be a small change to which days I will be in at church. Currently, my regular days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday-mornings, plus a half day working from home on Thursday mornings (sermon writing).

From 1 February, my regular days will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday-mornings, plus a half day working from home on Fridays (sermon writing).

This change has been initiated because I will have lectures on Wednesdays. I am looking forward to the change as I understand that there is quite a bit of activity here at BCUC on Thursdays and I will get to spend some time with some folk who I haven't normally seen during the week.

Newsletter Deadlines December & January

There will be no newsletter on December 27 or January 3. Please have any items for the January 10 newsletter to me by noon on Tuesday January 5. Thanks, Deb Mugford, Administrator.

Carols in the Park

Thank you for the hard work and understanding from our team as the event was cancelled due to the extreme heat.

Taxi

If you require a taxi after worship, please ask for the taxi to pick you up from the church carpark in Fisher St. Further details are available near the reception desk.

Deb will be on leave from December 29 until December 31.

Please e-mail articles for the BCUC weekly news to Deb Mugford
admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au no later than 12noon on Tuesday