

TODAY @ BCUC—Communion

Sunday 30th November—"O come, o come Emmanuel!"

9am Contemporary & 10.30am Classic Linda Driver

10:30am Cafe: Rev Matthew Bond

Isaiah 64:1-9

UPCOMING WEEK @ BCUC

Monday 1st December

10am mainly music

1:30pm Adult Day Fellowship

Tuesday 2nd December

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

9:30am Playgroup

6pm Church Council

Wednesday 3rd December

7:45am Weekly Prayer Meeting

9am Early Beginnings Godly Play

7pm Young Adults

7pm Women's Fellowship

Thursday 4th December

10am Craft, Chat & Sew

12pm Friendship Group

7pm Band & Choir Practice

Friday 5th December

9am Early Beginnings Godly Play

7pm Youth

NEXT WEEK @ BCUC

Sunday 7th December — The Lord is Coming

9am Contemporary & 10.30am Classic Rev Matthew Bond

10:30am Cafe: Linda Driver

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

384 Portrush Road, Tusmore 5065



Burnside City

Uniting Church

Community, Faith and Purpose

Sunday November 30th 2014

WEEKLY NEWS

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.

MESSAGE FROM MATTHEW

Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, Awaken your might; come and save us. Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved. (Psalm 80:1-3)

These words of the Psalmist speak through the ages of the desperate longing God's people experienced as they felt far from God. Under the leadership of King Solomon and King David there was prosperity, great battles were won and a glorious temple had been built. The people knew God's presence in mighty ways, but now the Psalmist cries out on behalf of the people in lament. The people feel alone and vulnerable as they call out for a saviour.

This time of the year we are all busy with parties, shopping and planning how we will celebrate Christmas with our friends and families. Who has any time to lament – even if we knew what it meant?

I encourage you to find that time. Every day our souls long desperately to be nourished in God's presence. Every day we need to break out of the pressure to go, do & be busy. Just for a little while we need to stop, read, listen & pray. We are God's creation and we are called to be in relationship with our maker.

Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. (Isaiah 64:8) continued on page 3



A Vibrant Community, Committed to Jesus,

Passionately Engaged in Mission

THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

Carols @ Burnside City

Saturday December 13th

5pm sausage sizzle, crafts and games

6pm for Carols & Kids Christmas

Drama

Adult Baptisms

At 9am on Sunday December 7 here at BCUC we will be baptising Narges Asadi and Alina Lu.

Monday Day Fellowship

December 1st at 1:30pm. Christmas entertainment by Olga Strislak. Please bring special Christmas afternoon tea.

Women's Evening Fellowship

Your are invited to join us for Christmas Dinner on Wednesday December 3ed at 7pm. Cost \$15. RSVP to Di or Marlene by Nov 30th.

RiverInd Produce

Orders are due to Jocelyn by 30th November for delivery on 10th December. This delivery will include previously ordered Christmas cakes. This is the final for 2014.

BCUC Listens to God

Sunday December 7th, 4:30pm—5:30pm @ BCUC Chapel. Please join us as we pray and listen to God for guidance.

Teacher Appreciation Morning Tea, Tuesday 2nd December at Linden Park Primary School

Could you please provide a savoury or sweet plate of food for morning tea? The Christian Options program will be presenting their Christmas Play on this morning. Please leave you donation at BCUC before 10am on Tuesday Dec 2nd.

The Christmas Bowl

Today starts the time of the Christmas Bowl, when we remember those who will be unable to celebrate Christmas as we do because they are hungry, displaced, oppressed or living in poverty, and we are encouraged to share what we have with those who have so little.

Giving envelopes will be available from next Sunday, December 7th and can be returned to the bowl at the back of the church on any Sunday, (and on Christmas day), until December 28th . Please give generously to his worthy cause this Christmas. Gwen Mackenzie (Convenor, Mission Support Group)

Message from Matthew continued This relationship is made possible through Jesus Christ, God's own son given to us as a gift as we celebrate at this time of year. Emmanuel – God is with us. It seems that this gift is most readily accepted when we, like the people of Israel in times of old realise that we need more in our lives. No, not more presents or stuff, but more meaning. When we cry out to the heavens "why am I here?" we are open to hearing from God. When we learn that our bodies are mortal and we cry out "what more is there to this life?" we are ready for God to speak to us. When we offer a passionate expression of grief or sorrow – we lament.

God speaks to us in a small, still voice and God speaks to us in the roar of thunder. In the company of friends or family, God speaks to us when we come to God with open hearts ready to listen. **Then everyone will see Jesus coming on the clouds with great power and glory.** (Mark 13:26)

"O come, o come Emmanuel"

Home mission in action

CitySoul is a congregation of the Uniting Church that "exists to eradicate social and spiritual loneliness". We have started a home mission which is a Cafe that gives young people and new arrivals an opportunity to gain work experience to assist them in getting paid employment.

When I was visiting BCUC the other day someone asked me "*how do you talk about the gospel in a cafe situation*".

I said "*when people sign up to volunteer they are told that this cafe was started by a church, they do not need to be a Christian or even believe in God to work here, but they need to be ok with the fact that other people here do talk about God.*"

Then when we are working together and someone shares a problem with me I offer to pray for them, or if they ask me why I started the cafe I say because Jesus helped people and I want to do the same, and of course it is advertised that we do "feast: a Christian Spiritual gathering" (church) on Wednesday night and I have opportunity to share with them what we do.

These conversations can only take place because we work side by side and each person there knows that I honestly and deeply care about them." So that is what sharing the gospel looks like! Thanks be to God.

Ruthmary Bond is the Minister in placement at CitySoul Uniting Church and runs the Experience Café at 13 Hutt Street Adelaide City 7 days a week.