



**TODAY @ BCUC— Jesus -God coming to us**

10th December

9am Contemporary: Ian Olver

10:30am Classic: Rev Rob Williams—Lessons and Carols

10:30am Café: Rev Dr Gary Stuckey

Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2 Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

**Sunday 10th December 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 11th December**

10am mainly music

**Tuesday 12th December**

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

9:30am Playgroup

**Wednesday 13th December**

7:45am Prayer Meeting

9:30am Prayer Meeting

**Thursday 14th December**

9:30am Craft, Chat & Sew

12noon Friendship Club

5:30pm Worship & Music Ministry

7:30pm Choir practice

**Friday 15th December**

7pm Youth Group

**Sunday 17th December**

12noon Prayer Meeting

**Next Sunday @ BCUC**

**17th December**

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

10:30am Cafe: Rev Rob Williams

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, Luke 1:46b-55, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

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

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

384 Portrush Road, Tusmore 5065



**....here is your God!**

*Isaiah 40:9b*

**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

*Get yourself up on a high mountain,  
O Zion, bearer of good news,  
lift up your voice mightily,  
O Jerusalem, bearer of good news,  
lift it up, do not fear.  
Say to the cities of Judah,  
"Here is your God!" (Isaiah 40:9 NRSV)*

These are the words of the Prophet Isaiah to the people of Israel some 700 years before the birth of Jesus the Christ. I wonder how we can respond to these words today.

At our school ministry this week, as we have been telling the story of the first Christmas, one little girl asked, "Why is it called Christmas?" My answer to her was that the first part "Christ" is the name for Jesus who came to the world to save us and that the second part "mas" is the word for worship and so Christmas is about showing our love for Jesus who came to save us.

I pray that in this Christmas season you will also find ways to say to the world, "Here is your God!"

In recent months, through the generosity of an individual donor, we have given away over 200 Bibles in the foyer of our church. More than 50 of these have been children's Bibles. Each gift has ensured that the message "Here is your God!" has been received. I have heard stories of grandchildren reading their Bibles and asking wonderful questions of their grandparents as they read. These precious moments are the moments when these children are discovering their God.

We have special Christmas services here at church in the coming weeks to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Saviour. This Sunday at the 10.30am Classic Service we are celebrating the truth of God with us in the Lessons and Carols. Next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> the Junior Church will lead us at 9am to celebrate the joy of God with us in dramatic form as the children dress up and act out the story of the first Christmas.

On **Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>** our worship will focus on celebrating the coming of our Saviour as we worship together at times that are a bit different than our usual Sunday practice.

**Classic will be at 10.30am,**

**Contemporary will be at 5pm** and Café will be at 11.30pm.

That's right – **Café Worship at 11.30pm!**

Then on **Christmas Day** we will worship together at 9.30am.

Each of these times of worship will be an opportunity to ***get yourself up on a high mountain and say "Here is your God!"***

This information is available on our Christmas postcards that have been delivered to 5,000 homes in the Burnside area and are at the reception desk for you to take home.

Here is a challenge for you. Think of someone you can invite to one of our Christmas services so that they too can hear the good news that Jesus the Christ has come to us to bring us joy.

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

### Special Meeting of the Congregation

There will be a special meeting of the Congregation on Sunday **December 17** at **10:20am** to accept the 2018 budget.

### Church Council Office Bearers 2018

Chairperson—Ian Olver

Deputy Chair—Gaynor Strapp

Secretary—Gill Cibich

Treasurer—Randolph Alwis

### Morning Tea at Linden Park Primary School

Thank you for your support, a lovely selection of morning tea was available for the staff. Thank you to Faye Eaton and Ros Duffett for helping deliver the food and set up the morning tea. Anita Wheaton.

### Breakfast for a Future

Thanks to all those who joined us for Breakfast for a Future last Sunday. We raised \$566.50 which will help provide a future for many Dalit children in India. If you would like to donate some money the jar will still be available this Sunday, or see Gaynor Strapp.

### Dr Jon's Pantry

During Advent, check out our festive produce! Ideal small gifts for a friend or neighbour.

### Seniors Second Sunday Lunch

**Today, 12noon until 2.30pm.** Come and join us for friendship, fun and food. Chicken & Salad plus a fruit platter. Please see Anita Wheaton for more information.

### Christmas Bowl 2017

Envelopes to support the Christmas Bowl appeal are available in the foyer. The leaflet describes the 3 ways you can donate using your credit card. Should you wish to make a cash donation, there is a box in the foyer which will remain there until Christmas Day.

### BCUC Cares for Families in need

The BCUC Cares team extends its deep gratitude to all who have so generously contributed to this appeal. As we draw near to the Christmas season Uniting Communities would value items that could be included in a Christmas Hamper. All donations are distributed to needy families by Uniting Communities at Clayton Wesley Church. Thank you for any items you are able to give.

**Suggestions Include:** Christmas Cake, Christmas Pudding, Cereal, Tuna, Canned Fruit, Longlife Custard, Spreads, Milo / Tea or Coffee, Soft Drinks, Chips/ Lollies, Canned Vegetables, Biscuits/Crackers, Soup, Canned Ham/Turkey, Toiletries

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