



**Burnside City**  
Uniting Church  
*Community, Faith and Purpose*

### **Christmas Eve @ BCUC**

#### **24th December - Christmas Eve**

10:30am Classic : Rev Dr Gary Stuckey—God of Surprises

5pm Contemporary: Rev Matthew Bond—The Saviour has come!

11.30pm Carols & Candles: Rev Matthew Bond -The Saviour has come!

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16, **Luke 1:46b-55**, Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

### **Christmas Day @ BCUC**

#### **25th December - Christmas Day—The Saviour has come!**

9.30am: Rev Matthew Bond

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16, **Luke 1:46b-55**, Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26, Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38

### **Next Sunday December 31 @ BCUC— Now is the time**

#### **31st December**

9am Contemporary and 10.30am Classic: Rev Matthew Bond

10:30am Café: Rev Rob Williams

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, **Luke 2:22-40**

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

**Sunday 24th & 31st 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.*



**You give them great joy**  
**Isaiah 9:3b**

#### **Ministry Team Contacts**

**Minister: Rev Matthew Bond** Ministry Team Leader 0400 777 410 (Annual leave 2-30 Jan 2017)

**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



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

***Passionately Engaged in Mission***

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

### A MESSAGE FROM MATTHEW

#### Merry Christmas

**This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. (1 John 4:9 NIV)**

The secret is out – God loves us! We know this because God sent Jesus to live with us. This is what we are celebrating all through the season of Advent and at Christmas. And the celebrations of God's love continue through the year because God's love is eternal – it never stops.

Did you know that we need to keep this secret? What would happen if everyone truly knew that God loved them enough to send Jesus into the world? Imagine if every single person you met every single day, was filled with the assurance of God's great love for them? Perhaps people would smile more? Perhaps people would be more generous, because they would know that the God who created the world and all that is in it loves them and cares for their every need. Perhaps there would be no fear, because people would know the love and protection of God and they would know that every other person in the world was also filled with that love from God. There is no fear in love. But God's perfect love drives out fear. Perhaps your imagination can take this thought and continue to dream of what our world would be like if everyone truly knew that God loved them?

This is not a secret! We can tell it to the world. Let that little spark of faith that burns inside your heart continue to grow to the point that you can share it with others without the fear of it being snuffed out by a rebuke or critical question that you cannot answer off the cuff. Imagine the newborn baby Jesus, so fragile and vulnerable in the manger – God put everything on the line by sending him into the world and hoping that he would survive to manhood to be the Saviour of us all. God is faithfully protecting that little spark of faith in you too.



### 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.

### Intergenerational Nativity Service

Many thanks to all who contributed to our very successful Junior Church Nativity service on Sunday 17th. It was wonderful to have such a broad section of our people contribute to the telling of this wonderful story. Gaynor Strapp.

We are excited to announce that Ben & Sarah Randall welcomed a daughter, Alyssa Jane on Wednesday December 13.

The church office will closed from Friday December 22, 2017 and reopen on Tuesday January 2, 2018.

**Wishing each of you a happy Christmas and a blessed 2018.  
Matthew, Gary, Rob, Ben & Deb**

### 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.

### Prayer Groups

Wednesday 7:45am prayer group will continue through January from January 3, 2018.

Wednesday 9:30am prayer group will resume on Wednesday February 7, 2018.

Sunday 12noon prayer group will resume on Sunday January 7, 2018.

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