



Burnside City
Uniting Church

This Sunday @ BCUC

26th January

'Confession is

9:00am Contemporary, 10:30am Classic: Rev Rob Williams

10:30am Café: Rev Dr Benji Callen

Nehemiah 1:1-11

Sunday 26th January 2020

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 27th January

Australia Day Holiday

Tuesday 28th January

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

9:30am Playgroup

6:00pm HizBiz Movie Night

Wednesday 29th January

7:00pm Preaching Workshop

Thursday 30th January

9:30am Craft, Chat & Sew

12noon Friendship Club

6:00pm 9am Worship Practice

7:00pm Mission Trust Fund

7:15pm Choir Practice

Saturday 1st February

7:00pm Sri Lankan Christian Fellowship

Sunday 2nd February

12noon Prayer Meeting

Next Sunday @ BCUC

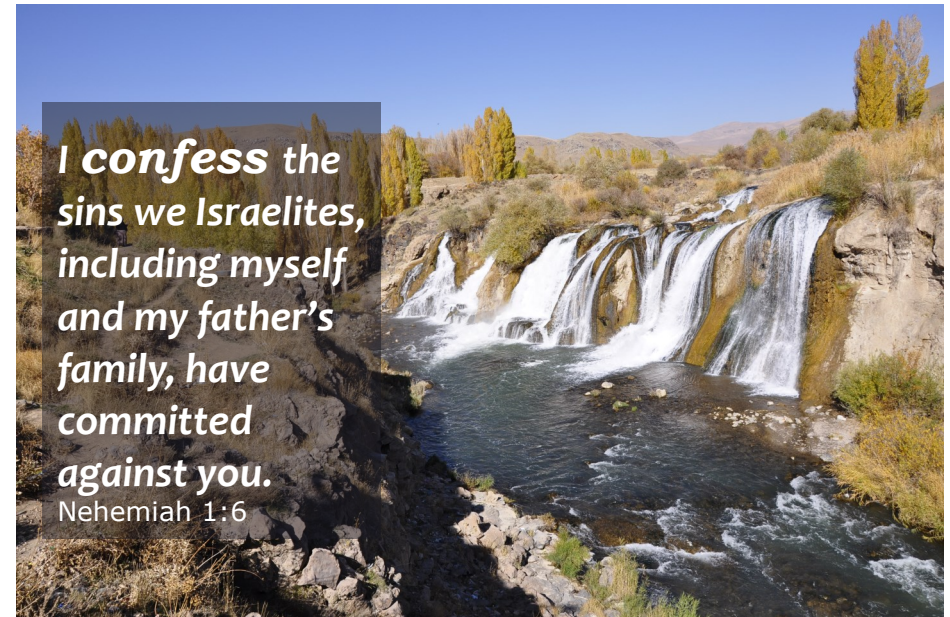
2nd February - Covenant Service

The Secret to Happiness : the Beatitudes (week 1 of 4)

Matthew 5:3-12

9:00am Contemporary, 10:30am Classic: Rev Dr Benji Callen

10:30am Café: Craig Schulz - Miracle Connect



Ministry Team Contacts

Minister: Rev Dr Benji Callen 0427 792 869 benjic@burnsidecityuc.org.au

Day off : Monday

Minister in Assoc: Rev Rob Williams 0424 123 171; robw@burnsidecityuc.org.au

Administrator : Stuart MacAdam 8331 3914 admin@burnsidecityuc.org.au

Office hours Mon-Fri. 9am-4:30pm (8331 3914)

Ministers are available for Pastoral Care as required.

Prayer Requests: 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 **W:** www.burnsidecityuc.org.au

384 Portrush Road, Tusmore 5065



BCUC
Raising Children of God



A MESSAGE FROM ROB

Today we come to the final topic in our series on Prayer – *Confessing Prayer* – and it's also Australia Day.

The key reading for today is Nehemiah 1:1-11. Nehemiah was a Jew who had risen to a prominent position as cupbearer to the Persian emperor Artaxerxes I, part of the Jewish minority living in Persia. As the king's cup bearer, he tasted the wine before the king drank.

Nehemiah inquired from his brother about the situation back in Jerusalem (vs2-3), empathized with those who were hurting (v4), humbled himself before God (v4) and prayed (vs5-11), expressing adoration to God (v5), confessing and sharing his nation's sin to the Lord that led to the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of many to Persia (vs6-7), and petitioning God for help (vs 8-11). God stirred the heart of Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. That story begins with our reading this morning.

However, in verse 6 we read: *I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against you (God)*. Nehemiah was aware that his nation had broken the covenant with God and they were being punished accordingly. Strange? Someone in exile confessing the sins of his nation to God and seeking God's help to restore Israel's relationship with God and rebuild the city walls of Jerusalem. And it happened.

Nehemiah had a sense of individual and corporate responsibility which many people lack today. He identifies with his people and his nation historically in a way that we don't identify with the church and our nation. We don't confess the failure of the church or of our nation as if we are the ones who have sinned, failed, or fallen short. We're more likely to say, "It's not my fault. I didn't do it. I wasn't even there."

On this Australia Day, to pray a prayer of confession like Nehemiah did on behalf of our nation and our church may seem too difficult. However, maybe we will be encouraged by Charles Swindoll who writes in *Hand Me Another Brick*, "I plead with you—as you go before God in prayer concerning any unresolved... conflicts, have the attitude reflected in these words: 'Lord, I bring before you these areas where *I* have caused an irritation. This is *my* realm of responsibility. I can't change (the other person – situation). But God, I can tell you that *this is my part in it; please forgive me*".

Confession prayer begins a renewed relationship with God. Knowing ourselves forgiven, we can better forgive others and pray for them, thus renewing our relationship with them, including our church and our nation.

Preaching Workshop

for all those that are currently on the preaching team or might be interested in the future, Benji will be holding a preaching workshop over 3 nights in 2020. The first evening is this **Wednesday, Jan 29th at 7pm** at BCUC. Contact Benji or Stuart for further details.

Kids Programme

Regular Sunday Kids Programme of Faith and Fun will begin **Sunday 2 February**. We will kick off with morning tea just for them, their family, friends and leaders. This will be held in the Hub garden (weather permitting). It would be appreciated if family and leaders brought a plate of something yummy to share.

Thank you for your grace and care of our younger BCUC 'Children of God'. I Look forward to catching up with you on the 2nd of February. - Heather

CAP Money - volunteer training in Adelaide, 29th February

CAP Money is a course that teaches a Biblical approach to financial wellbeing: How to build a budget, make wise spending decisions, and save well. BCUC holds courses each year but we are in need of volunteers to run them. If you are passionate about helping others, join us for a day's training and learn more. For further information contact Gaynor 0450310591.

HizBiz Movie Night

The Hizbiz new year will begin at BCUC on **Tuesday 28th Jan at 6 pm** for a seafood, chips and ice cream meal (\$15) before viewing "The Genesis Code" at 7 pm. Partners are also invited to attend. RSVP to Leigh Duffett or Rex King.

Dumplings Today

In celebration of Chinese New Year, we will be holding a dumpling making demonstration and tasting in the foyer after services **today**. There will be some dumplings available for tasting between services and there will be a light lunch after the 10:30 services. Feel free to bring a plate to share. Please come to taste, make your own dumplings and have lunch together.

BCUC Saturday Friendship Club

The programme for the BCUC Saturday Friendship Club will be available from Sunday 26th January. Details of the Mystery bus trip on **February 15th**, will be included with the programme. Looking forward to the year ahead and hope to see you at the meetings.

UC Fellowship and Mission Support

We invite you to join us on Sunday, **9th February**, 2pm at BCUC for the commissioning of Rev Brian and Mrs Jill Polkinghorne as As Co-Presidents. Followed by Afternoon Tea. Speaker: Mr Bronte Wilson. RSVP Mrs Janet Woodward (82364275, jwoodward@sa.uca.org.au) by 2nd Feb.

Uniting Church SA Bushfire Relief Fund

Visit the News section of our website for a link to the UC SA donation page and a letter from the Moderator. Donations will be used to support local congregations as they serve the people in their fire-affected communities, whether that be through the provision of chaplaincy, extra pastoral support, special events to assist in recovery or practical help in a myriad of ways.