This Sunday @ BCUC

29th April

9:00am Contemporary and 10.30am Classic: Rev Dr Gary Stuckey
Finding Our True Centre (Love)*

10:30am Café: Rev Rob Williams

Easter is about us**

Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31, 1 John 4:7-21*, John 15:1-8**

UPCOMING WEEK @ BCUC

Monday 30th April

10:00am mainly music 1:30pm Christian Meditation

Tuesday 1st May

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

9:30am Playgroup

7:30pm Christian Meditation

Wednesday 2nd May

7:45am Prayer Meeting 9:15am Mission Focus Group 9:30am Prayer Meeting Thursday 3rd May

9:30am Craft, Chat & Sew 12noon Friendship Club

6:oopm Worship & Music Ministry

7:30pm Choir practice

Friday 4th May

7:00pm Youth Group

Saturday 5th May

7:30am BICC Prayer Breakfast

Next Sunday @ BCUC

6th May

Chosen

9:00am Contemporary and 10.30am Classic: Rev Rob Williams 10:30am Café: Rev Dr Gary Stuckey

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, **John 15:9-17**

Prayer Requests: prayer@burnsidecityuc.org.au



Sunday 29th April 2018

WELCOME

Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service, so that we can get to know each other better.



Ministry Team Contacts

Supply Minister: Rev Dr. Gary Stuckey 0437 708 183 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 Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2:30pm

Administration Assistant: Stuart MacAdam Monday & Wednesday 9am-2:30pm

Office Hours - 9am-12 noon Monday to Thursday

A Vibrant Community, Committed to Jesus,
Passionately Engaged in Mission

A MESSAGE FROM GARY

It's All About Love

Throughout the centuries and across the world, people have used many and various means to show others they are Christian. For example, there was the sign of the fish which I wrote about a couple of weeks ago. Others, such as monastics, wear special clothes to not only show they are Christian but also to disclose something of their lifestyle choices. Today the cross is often worn by people as a sign of their faith. Less popular now but once quite common were bumper stickers.

All of that is fine in its place.

But throughout the NT there is another means by which we who follow Jesus are to show the world that we are Christian. That identifying sign, the better mark that reveals our Christianity is... love.

This was the mark, Jesus said, by which we are to be known.

'By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' (John 13:35)

Love is a theme picked up in many places in the New Testament. Perhaps most famously, Paul wrote about it in the great love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13: "And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing." (verse 2)

And in the short letter of 1 John we read: "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:11)

Jesus consistently focused on and drew people back to the centre-love. That's why he shocked people, especially the religious leaders. He wasn't about to let people get away with holding on to false and illusory markers as signs of their faith. He just wanted to know one thing; are people moving toward love of God and people or away from it? Because basically, that's all that matters.

Later in life, so the story goes, the apostle John, who wrote so much about love, was asked to give a word to the people who had gathered around him. "Little children, love one another." This became too much for one listener who had grown tired of hearing this message, and said, "Why don't you talk about something else? All you ever talk about is love." "Because," replied John, "there is nothing but love."

THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

Meeting of the Congregation

A Meeting of the Congregation will be held **TODAY at 2:00pm**. The Agenda and attachments have been emailed to members of the congregation; copies are also available in the foyer. To keep informed on what is happening at BCUC, please plan to attend.

Baptism – Charlotte Mei Bolto

Infant daughter of Simon and Anelle will be Baptised during Classic Worship on **Sunday May 6th**. Charlotte is the grand-daughter of Ockie and Annerine Bosch.

Learning Christian Meditation

Three weekly sessions introducing people to the practice of Christian meditation will be led by Gary and held at BCUC. **Starting this week,** Monday afternoons or Tuesday evenings. See flyer on the table at the entrance.

BICC Prayer Breakfast at BCUC

Burnside Interchurch Council is having a prayer breakfast at BCUC on **Saturday May 5th** at 7.30am. Do you smile at breakfast time? Come and enjoy eating with others who do too!! Then join in some singing and a time of prayer for our Schools Ministry, the needs of our community, our nation and the world.

Monday Day Fellowship

lan Olver will be speaking on the Galapagos Islands on Monday May 7th at 1:30pm. Members should invite friends and bring a plate for afternoon tea. See Ruth Daws for more information.

Women's Ministry Group

will meet on **Wednesday May 9th** at 1.30 in the church hall to pack Mother's Day gifts for distribution to Estia Health and Clayton Church Homes. Packing will be followed by afternoon tea. Please bring any spare ribbon and wrapping paper.

Suggested items include – socks, bed socks, magnets, small vases, shower caps, soap, coat hangers, combs, note pads & biros, pocket tissues, playing cards, hand cream.

BCUC Cares

Uniting Communities thanks BCUC for their continued generosity in providing food & toiletry items each month. Along with the usual items, there is a current need for shampoo, conditioner and coffee. Donations should be brought to service each 2nd Sunday of the month.

Lost & Found

If you have lost it, we may have found it. See the Lost & Found box at the reception desk.

Please e-mail articles for the BCUC weekly news to Stuart MacAdam at info@burnsidecityuc.org.au no later than 12noon on Tuesday