



Burnside City  
Uniting Church  
*Community, Faith and Purpose*

### **This Sunday @ BCUC**

**7th October**

***What God has joined together let no-one separate***

9:30am Combined Service : Ian Olver

*followed by CHATS Live at 11:00am*

Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; **Mark 10:2-16**

### **Upcoming Week @ BCUC**

#### **Sunday 7th October**

9:30am Combined Service

11:00am CHATS Live

12noon BYO lunch

2:30pm Appreciation Afternoon

Tea for Pastoral Contacts

#### **Monday 8th October**

9:30am Christmas Shoebox Packing

12:45pm Monday Day Fellowship Trip

#### **Tuesday 9th October**

9:30am Ladies Table Tennis

#### **Wednesday 10th October**

7:45am Prayer Meeting

9:30am Prayer Meeting

9:30am Women's Ministry

2:00pm Dr. Liz Boase - Psalms

#### **Thursday 11th October**

9:30am Craft, Chat & Sew

12noon Friendship Club

6:00pm Worship & Music Ministry

7:30pm Choir practice

#### **Sunday 14th October**

12noon Prayer Meeting

### **Next Sunday @ BCUC**

**14th October**

#### ***Hard Lessons – Good Teacher*<sup>b</sup>**

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

#### ***Know yourself – the beginning of true spirituality*<sup>ab</sup>**

10:30am Café : Rev Trevor Klar

Job 23: 1-9, 16-17; **Psalm 22:1-15<sup>a</sup>**; Hebrews 4:12-16; **Mark 10:17-31<sup>b</sup>**

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 7th October 2018**

### **WELCOME**

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

**Therefore, what God has joined together  
let no-one separate Mark 10:9**



### **Ministry Team Contacts**

**Supply Minister:** Rev Trevor Klar 0437 708 183; Mon. (am), Tue., Thu. (from 2pm)

**Minister in Association:** Rev Rob Williams 0424 123 171

All Ministers are available for Pastoral Care as required

**Administrator:** Deb Mugford Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2:30pm

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

**Office Hours:** 9am-12 noon, Monday - Thursday



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

***Passionately Engaged in Mission***

## A MESSAGE FROM IAN OLVER

When I looked up the lectionary a few weeks ago and found that Mark 10: 2-16, the passage about divorce, was the Gospel reading, the irony was not lost on me given the current same sex marriage debate. Divorce was a hot topic of the day but rather than seek his counsel the Pharisees were trying to trap Jesus into speaking against the teaching of Moses that they held as sacred; and Jesus did not disappoint them. Moses had said in Deuteronomy 24:1 that if a wife fell out of favour you could write a Bill of Divorce. In Mark, Jesus indicates that in effect Moses was trying to protect women who were regarded as just possessions against being easily discarded by men for any reason. He was introducing structure in that time, not issuing a permanently method for divorce. Jesus wanted those of his day to understand the context of Moses statement, that the joining in marriage was meant to be a lifelong bond and not something to be taken trivially. He goes further back to Genesis where the bond between husband and wife is to be stronger than between parents and children. In Mark's time divorce, predominantly still only available to the man, could still be on trivial grounds. Jesus was restoring marriage by showing that God meant it to be a permanent bond which could not be broken by man's laws and regulations. There were no exceptions. But here again, in an object lesson those who just pluck versus out of the Bible out of context without interpreting them, Jesus had to explain Moses' statement Furthermore, if you refer to the same story in Matthew 19: 3-9 Jesus does make an exception for adultery, since that has broken the bond and divorce is simply a consequence. This version is considered more accurate than the version in Mark.

My focus is on "what God has joined together let no-one separate"

Why would God join us together in marriage? It is not just for procreation but fulfils a universal human need to belong, as part of living life to the full. In attachment theory intimate relationships between human beings are what life revolves around and if denied anxiety and depression result.

So, how do we know what God has joined together? We have all seen marriages which end in divorce where it seemed there was a mismatch right from the start. It seems convenient to suggest that it was not a marriage where God joined the couple together. However, we often making decisions without trying to discern God's guidance.

How do we approach deciding what God has joined together? Jesus gives us a clue in the second part of the reading where he puts the emphasis on children. Children are usually non-judgemental of others but simply trust people, they have humility and they show obedience.

We are facing 2 important questions about "what God has joined together". One is around same gender couples and the other is around the Uniting Church itself.

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS & NOTICES

### Missionary Visit

Austin House, of Farthest Corners Ministry in Burma and Thailand, will be speaking at a combined morning tea between the 9:00am and 10:30am services, on Sunday, **November 4**, in the foyer.

### Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes will be packed tomorrow, **October 8**, in the Hall from 9.30am. Please consider joining us for a fun morning. Children especially welcome! Enquiries to Di.

### Elder/Church Councillor Nominations

Nominations are now open for Elders / Church Councillors. If you feel that God is calling you to serve BCUC in this role, please pick up an information sheet and nomination form from the table in the foyer. Nominations close on **October 21**.

### Introduction to the Psalms - Praise, Lament and Thanksgiving

Dr Liz Boase, Uniting College

*Repeat Afternoon Session*

**Wednesday October 10, 2 – 3:30pm**

### Seniors Second Sunday Lunch

**- Cancelled -**

This month's lunch, scheduled for next Sunday October 14 has been cancelled with apologies from Anita Wheaton.

### Mission Trust Fund Nominations

Nominations are now open for members of the Mission Trust Fund. If you are interested in serving in this role, please pick up a nomination form from the table in the foyer. Nominations close on **October 21**.

### Monday Day Fellowship

On **October 8**, we will be taking a bus trip to Tickle Tank home and garden in Mount Barker. Be at the church at 12:45pm. Cost \$22. Please contact Ruth Daws for more information.

### BCUC Saturday Friendship Club

The **October** club meeting is on the **20th** and we have engaged "The Cantorae singing group". It will be a time of harmony & humour. Usual \$3 donation. 7:15pm for a 7:30 start. Basket supper and **visitors welcome**.

### Women's Ministry

The Women's Ministry Group invites all Women to a free Pancake Brunch on Wednesday **October 10** at 9:30am at the home of Ruth Daws. Donations will go to the Frontier Services Drought Support Appeal. Please contact Ruth Daws for further details.

### New at Dr Jon's Pantry

Pear and Ginger chutney. Taste, . . and let me know what you think! - Anneke.

Please e-mail articles for the BCUC weekly news to Stuart MacAdam at [info@burnsidecityuc.org.au](mailto:info@burnsidecityuc.org.au) no later than 10am on Wednesday