



*We believe we are called by God to be an inclusive
Christian community, committed to justice,
learning, service and care.*



BLACKWOOD UNITING CHURCH

More than a Sunday Church...

Week of 2nd Feb 2018 ~ Service on Sunday 4th Feb 2018

**10am (Combined Service)– Rev Dr Adrian Brown
Followed by a Special Congregational Meeting**

Worship Leader – Peter Smith

Lectionary readings – 4th February (Epiphany 5)

Is 40:21-31 • Ps 147:1-11, 20c • 1 Cor 9:16-23 • Mk 1:29-39

Next week – 11th February – Transfiguration

Preacher 9:15am & 11am – Rev Dr Adrian Brown

Worship 9:15am – Thelma Pike & 11am – Bryan Belling

Reflections on the Reading

With the winter Olympics beginning on February 9th I was reminded of the effort and the excitement that athletes sense from participating in an Olympic Games. One of the key experiences seems to be that so many of them are able to achieve personal bests, which is surely what it is all about rather than either being excited by or deflated over the medal results.

On the other hand, there are the stories of those who do the unexpected. Stephen Bradbury won a gold medal in speed skating when he was never expected to do so. The fact that all of the other competitors had fallen is irrelevant as far as the record books are concerned.

What the Olympics do remind us of is the determination of the athletes to achieve and to turn their determination into success.

The people of Isaiah's day were discouraged, disconsolate and in need of hope and it is to them that the unknown prophet spoke these words:

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

As we face changes either in our own lives or in our Church community, be encouraged. Read Isaiah 40:21-31.

Rev Dr Adrian Brown

Normal Church service times (9:15am & 11am) resume next Sunday 11th February

Special Congregational Meeting this week (4th February)

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting this Sunday to approve the recently updated BUC profile and vote for a JNC (Joint Nominating Committee) for appointing a new Minister. Please note that Minutes and reports will be part of the normal Congregational Meeting in May 2018. If possible, could you please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea. The updated BUC Profile has been sent via email with hard copies available in the office and at the meeting.

Ministerial Supply Arrangements

We welcome Rev Doug Hosking on a 0.5 FTE Supply from this Friday until Easter. Rev Dr Adrian Brown has resumed 0.5 Supply now he's back from holidays at Victor Harbor. Thank you Doug and Adrian for your willingness to assist at this time. The Council are in discussions with 2 people to provide 0.5 FTE each from April to June – details will be advised asap.

Recent Additions to the Church Library

"The Future of Faith" by Harvey Cox.

"Set your hearts on the greatest gift: living the art of Christian love"
by Morton Kelsey.

"My beautiful broken shell: words of hope to refresh the soul" by Carol Adams.

BUC Events

Finding your Inner Monk

The Rev Dr Gary Stuckey is running a course "Finding your Inner Monk" – Enriching our Spiritual Journey on the Monastic Path on the first Wednesday of every month at the Blackwood Uniting. There will be an Information Night (with wine, cheese and nibbles) on Wednesday, 7th February at 7pm in the BUC Chapel. Everyone is welcome to come along and find out what the course is all about.

BUC Family Ministry

Family Ministry Thanks

Playgroup began again on Monday with everything looking sparkling clean. Thankyou to Penny for washing the smocks, Dave Smith, Jackie O and Jan Turner for washing (and where necessary mending) the cushion covers, Carys and Jenny Milstead for steam cleaning the toys, and the property committee for cleaning the carpet. It was lovely to see the families playing in the refreshed surroundings, and the Wednesday crèche, Mainly Music and Messy Church families benefit from the clean facilities too.

Marnie Agnew on behalf of the Family Ministry teams.

Supporting Family Ministry – ways you can be involved in 2018:

Playgroup:

- morning tea roster: in terms 2 and 3 we need extra people on the list when people go away during the winter; it involves once or twice a term.
Talk to Jean Potter if you can help.

Mainly Music: *talk to Carys Penny:*

- cake-making roster – make a cake once or twice a term; we have only just enough at the moment
- helpers in the kitchen preparing the fruit for the children & morning tea for the adults

Messy Church: *talk to Marnie Agnew or Carys Penny:*

- Musicians to play (or sing) for chapel time as part of a small ensemble once or twice a term (½ an hour, first Sunday of the month)
- Data projector: someone to share the load with Bryan Belling or fill in for him when he's away (chapel time, ½ an hour, first Sunday of the month); Jacqui Harrison usually uploads the PowerPoint for us.



Roundabout
Messy Church
Blackwood Uniting Church
4 February 2018
4- 6pm



Caring for our World



Craft  **Songs** 
Story  **Food** 
Fun 

Cost: \$10 donation per family including a simple meal

An alternative family-orientated church

Blackwood Uniting Church
266 Main Rd Blackwood ph 8278 7699
www.blackwooduc.org.au
"Inviting people to embrace the possibility of God"

Looking ahead in 2018 ...

Friday	2 nd Feb	1:00pm	First Friday Friends
Sunday	4 th Feb	10:00am	Combined Service followed by BUC Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday	4 th Feb	4:00pm	Messy Church
Friday	2 nd Mch	10:00am	World Day of Prayer at Church of Christ
Saturday	21 st Apr	9:00am	Garage Sale

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Minister

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