



*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 9th Feb 2018 ~ Service on Sunday 11th Feb 2018

9:15 am & 11am – Rev Dr Adrian Brown

Worship Leader – Thelma Pike / Bryan Belling

Lectionary readings – 11th February (Transfiguration)

2 Kgs 2:1-12 • Ps 50:1-6 • 2 Cor 4:3-6 • Mk 9:2-9

Next week – 18th February – Lent 1

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

Worship 9:15am – Judy & Ashleigh Lower & 11am – Bryan Belling

Reflections on the Reading

Having thousands of memories locked away in photo albums or stored on USB sticks or CD ROMs represent our stored memories. They tell us where we have been and with whom. But of what use are they after we have gone? After all, it is the experience which the photos or films provoke that give them meaning and, in truth, that meaning is only accessible to those who have had that experience.

Today's lectionary theme is the Transfiguration. It is one of those words that send shivers up and down a preacher's spine but it is simply another word for transformation. Those who went up to the mountain with Jesus were changed, transformed and all because of the experience not because of the "photos" they took.

Just as cameras can be programmed to print the date on the film in order to remember exactly when an event occurred, Mark's gospel tells us that Jesus took Peter, James and John up to this mountain exactly six days after reminding them that "those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it". It's not a bad idea to ask ourselves, "What are we really losing and what are we really keeping, in the big picture?" What will it profit us to preserve our life's history, if we forget the fundamental reason for remembering?

For another transfigured/transforming moment check out this YouTube film clip: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oehry1JC9Rk> when Martin Luther King talked of his experience of "having been to the mountaintop"

Read Mark 9: 2-9

The Rev Dr Adrian Brown

This Week

Worship Themes During Lent

Lent begins next Sunday and with it the path to Easter. To help us travel that journey each Sunday will take an event in Holy Week and reflect upon it. It often seems that Holy week rushes past and we don't get a chance to reflect upon its implications for faith and action.

It just makes good sense that if Jesus' final week begins on Palm Sunday in Jerusalem that we begin there. Each week afterwards we will spend our time examining a day-by-day account of what Jesus did during his final week before his crucifixion and resurrection.

Week 1 (February 18)

What Kind of King is Jesus? (Mark 11:1-11)

World Day of Prayer

This year the World Day of Prayer is being held at the Blackwood Church of Christ on Friday, 2nd March at 10am. The theme this year is Suriname = All God's Creation is Very Good! All welcome to attend.

Final Service at Eden Hills UC

After dedicated years serving the Eden Hills congregation Liellie McLaughlin will lead her final service with the Eden Hills congregation on Sunday March 4th at 9.30. Morning tea will follow . All are welcome.

Seen this type of "sponsorship" on an event your kids attend, recently?



FEB28

After Pine Gap - Margie Pestorius in Adelaide

Details

Margie Pestorius, one of the Pine Gap Peace Pilgrims, will be in Adelaide to talk about #WagePeace and #AustralianNonviolenceProjects for the upcoming year on 28 February. She would love to meet folk with ideas for grassroots projects, especially focussed on empowering young activists to address the emerging militarisation of our education system, from afterschool science clubs and holiday programs through to University courses.

(cont.)

Come along to The Depot Café in The Joinery on Franklin Street, anytime between 10am and noon on 28 February and join in the conversation! Bring along your passion and your knowledge about the Australian-US alliance, about weapons dealing and corporate profit making, about how this is affecting oz foreign policy, oz culture and oz institutions and NGOs.

Last year a group of Christians, some Quakers, was arrested at Pine Gap. Margie Pestorius was one of these. The event is being hosted by Peri Coleman, who is also a Quaker, whom I met through Love Makes A Way. I want to alert people to this event and so that they know things are happening around working for peace, and weapons manufacturing.

BUC Events

Book Club

Would you believe Israeli General Moshe Dayan's wife and the mother in law of Yasser Arafat are friends? An Improbable Friendship is the name of the book we will discuss on Tuesday 20th February at 10 Willowie Street Eden Hills. Anthony David the author gives us a look into this remarkable friendship. All are welcome to join the discussion. Gloria and Malcolm McArthur.

Walking Group – Sunday, 25 February 2018

MEETING PLACE – TBA (in the Brownhill Creek / Mitcham area).

TIME: **3:00 PM** (*Please note later timing*).

Please ensure you wear comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen and a hat and bring your own water.

CONTACT DETAILS: Janet Taylor-Hughes 0410 323 010 and Michael Hughes 0415 698 663.

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 at 7pm.

Walk for Justice for Refugees – Palm Sunday 2018

2pm Sunday March 25th 2018

Meet at Victoria Square and walk to Parliament House, Adelaide

Speakers to be confirmed.

Approximately 30,000 refugees are living on temporary visas in our community with their futures in limbo. Many families are separated by the harsh system, and people despair of ever being reunited. Many lack access to education and citizenship and fear being deported to danger.

Refugees on Manus and Nauru are approaching their fifth year languishing offshore.

The refugee movement is shifting public opinion. A majority of Australians are now opposed to the continuing detention of refugees on Manus and Nauru and believe they should be brought to Australia

We are calling for:

1. And end to offshore detention
2. Replacement of temporary visas with a pathway to citizenship and family reunion
3. An increase in Australia's humanitarian intake
4. The appointment of an independent Children's advocate

Join us and show your support for:

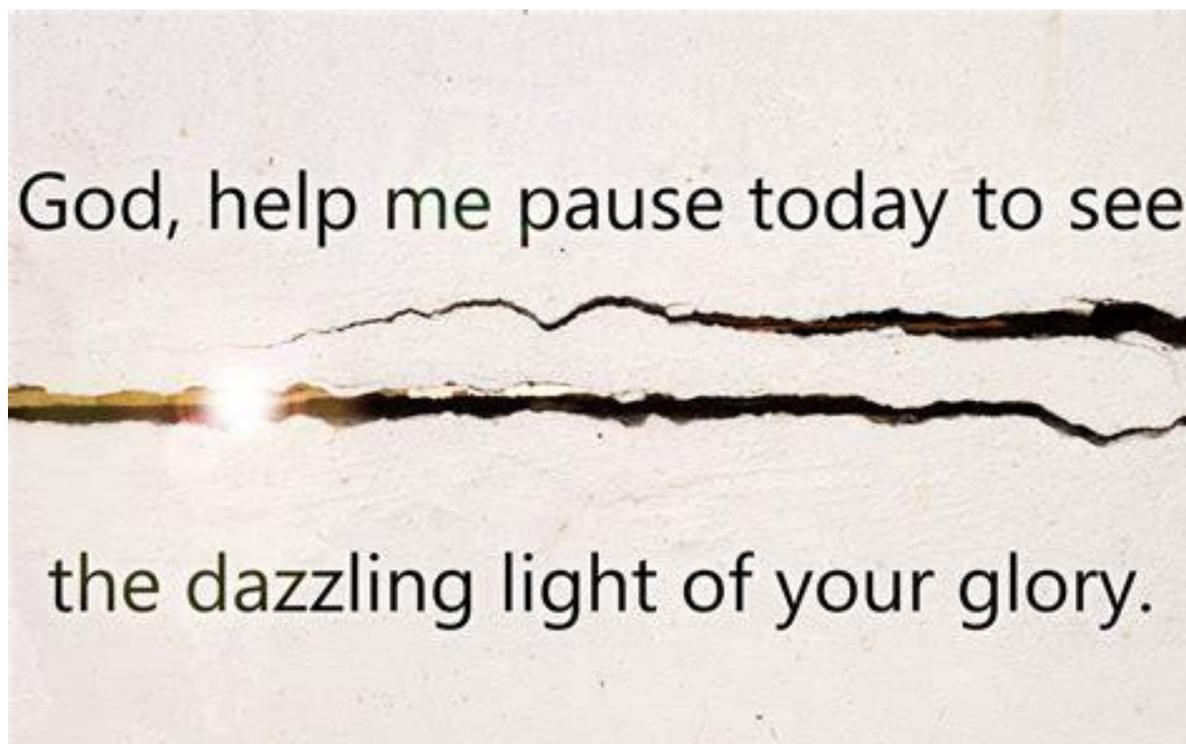
1. An Australia that treats people seeking asylum humanely and in accordance with Australia's international obligations ensuring access to a fair application process irrespective of mode or date of arrival.
2. An Australia where people are free to live in the community while their claims are transparently processed
3. An Australia that expands alternative migration pathways for refugees, increases access to family reunion and creates opportunities for increased community involvement in the refugee resettlement program
4. An Australia that shows leadership in working with governments and people in the Asia-Pacific to address the causes of refugee displacement and increase access to sustainable humanitarian solutions that include aid, active diplomacy and resettlement

Bring your family, friends, and workmates, bring banner and signs.



Looking ahead in 2018 ...

Tuesday	20 th Feb	2:00pm	Book Club
Sunday	25 th Feb	3:00pm	Walking Group
Friday	2 nd Mch	10:00am	World Day of Prayer at Church of Christ
Sunday	25 th Mch	2:00pm	Walk for Justice for Refugees
Saturday	21 st Apr	9:00am	Garage Sale



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