



*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 8th of March 2024
Service on Sunday 10th March 2024
Message 9.15 & 11am: Michael Dowling
Worship Leader: Jane Bassham
Reader: Helen Blake
Live Streamed by Tim

Lectionary readings – Sunday 3rd March Lent 4
**** NM 21: 4-9 ** PS 107: 1-3, 17-22 ** Eph 2: 1-10 ****
**** Jn 3: 14-21 ****

Next Services
Sunday 17th March
Message: Michael Dowling
Worship Leader: Heather Lee
Reader: Una Robertson

Something to Think About . . .

God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness.

(Genesis 1:16)

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

(John 3:19)

We continue the season of Lent and our exploration of the days of creation. This week, the Old and New Testament texts speak of light and darkness, with our theme for the day, taken from the Lenten Study *God's Own Country*, being “The Illuminating exercise of walking backwards.”

The illuminating exercise of walking backwards????!!

Whoever came up with a title like that clearly has no future in politics!

Our politicians have a habit of inserting the meaningless filler words “going forward” into their public utterances, as if this were meant to impress us with their profundity of thinking. We are, by definition, “going forward” in time, regarding of their political machinations!

What about, for a change, “walking backwards”?

What about turning around to survey the landscape of where we have been, what we have learned, and examining the footprints of those who have gone before us?

This Sunday, we will explore life in its light and darkness, and we will explore what the past, and those who have gone before us, have to teach us.

Michael Dowling

Tony Otworowski’s Memorial Service

The Memorial Service for beloved Blackwood Uniting Church community member, Tony Otworowski, will be held at the church at 11am Tuesday 12 March.

You are invited to attend, as we remember Tony, and as we celebrate and honour his life.

Michael Dowling, Minister

Bryan Belling is doing well

At last Sunday's 11am service, one of our members, Bryan Belling, experienced a medical emergency, necessitating a 000 call and ambulance attendance.

Bryan is currently in hospital, doing very well and in good spirits, with medical staff running some tests to ascertain the cause of the episode.

It is hoped that Bryan will be discharged in the next few days.

Michael Dowling, Minister

Assistance for Tony’s Memorial service catering

As we are looking forward to a large group of attendees to this very special memorial service, you may wish to contribute a plate to the catering for the shared time after the service.

Please contact Jan Furness by Friday 8th of March 2024 to confirm what you will be bringing on Tuesday by 10am (to the church kitchen) on 0408 891 092.

Jan Furness

The Rev Michael Dowling is Retiring

With Michael deciding to retire, his service of “release” will be March 17 with a combined service at 10.00am. At that time, we will say a thank you to Michael and release him from his ministry to us.

If you would like to make a ‘thank offering’ for Michael’s service to Blackwood Uniting Church, you are invited to leave an envelope marked “Michael Dowling Thank you” containing your gift either at the office or in the large offering bowl on Sunday mornings.

Thank you.

Adrian Brown, Chair of the Church Council

BUC Walk – Walk around the Torrens

Michael and I are leading the next BUC Walk on Sunday 24 March. Due to Easter, we have moved the walk to a week earlier. If you would like to re-acquaint yourselves with a train trip to the city followed by a walk around the Torrens this is your chance.

We will meet you at 2pm outside The Guardsman at the Adelaide Railway Station. Michael and I will be travelling on the train leaving Coromandel Station at 13.21pm arriving ADL at 13.52 Hope you can join us. Janet 0410 323 010 and Michael 0415 698 663.

Janet and Michael Hughes

March Philosophers Lunch

The next scheduled Philosophers’ Lunch (17 March) will be the day of my farewell service, as well as the day of our first Journeying event for the year.

Because it will be a busy day, let’s give Philosophers’ Lunch a miss for that day.



Michael Dowling

**Mitcham and Hills
Wellness Education Session**

Simplifying Aged Care

**TUESDAY 12TH MARCH | 5PM FOR 5:30PM START
BLACKWOOD UNITING CHURCH (ROUNDAABOUT)**

RSVPs essential

Click to book

Blackwood Uniting Church

A centre for Community

a place for all
a place....
of love
of safety
of integrity
of compassion

to listen
to connect
to ask hard questions

to contemplate God

You are welcome

5 to 8pm

Beginning with drinks and nibbles

**Hosted by the Blackwood
Uniting Church Community**

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BlackwoodUnitingChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BlackwoodUnitingChurch)

Journeying...

17th March '24

***"Telling Truth"*
Art Exhibition**

**Hear non-Indigenous
artist, Colin Clarke,
talk of his journey of
discovering the
untaught truths of
Australian history.**

**This journey
developed into his
Telling Truths art
work.**

**There will be Q&A
opportunities**

**The work will be on
display until 14th April**

Word for the Week

“You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you cannot do.”



*Eleanor Roosevelt
1884-1962*

First Lady of the United States, writer, diplomat.

Looking ahead in 2024

Sunday 17th March
Sunday 17th March

Rev Michael Dowling's Last Day
Journeying

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GIVING back to God
<http://blackwooduc.org.au/giving/>