



*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 28th June 2024

Service on Sunday 30th of June 2024

Services: 9.15am & 11 am

Message: Dr Craig Mitchell

Worship Leader: Dave Lister

Reader: Jan Wiseman

Live Streamed

Holy Communion

Lectionary readings – Sunday 30th of June (Pentecost 6)

**** 2 Sm 1:1, 17-27 ** Ps 130 ****

**** 2 Cor 8: 7-15 ** Mk 5: 21-43 ****

Next Services

Sunday 7th July (Pentecost 7) Holy Communion

Sunday 9.15 & 11 am Services

Message: Rev John Candy

Worship Leader: Peter Cranwell

Reader: Jan Wiseman

Reflection

Something to think about.

Mark 5:21-43

Seeking Grace

There is a kind of poetry to the human experience of suffering and loss. Not, of course, a sugary sweet greeting card condolence, but an unfolding narrative of shadows and light. Perhaps it is only months or years later that we discover this. We look back and realise that even when we felt captive to despair or grief, we were on some kind of journey. The many shades of grey, the occasional glimpses of brightness, tell a story flecked with grace, a slow movement through darkness to hope.

This week, two stories about Jesus speak of people seeking grace, seeking healing or wholeness - one a respected religious leader and one a woman deemed an outcast merely for health reasons. Jesus tells the man to wait and trust, and in the interim, the woman is healed.

The experience of suffering can leave us feeling not only bereft, despairing, but undeserving of the possibility of a good future - outside of the possibility of grace. How do we pray in times like these? This is neither an academic question, nor a simple one.

God is not a vending machine. Grace is not of our making: it is only to be received. Light comes to us as improbable hope, often as unexpected gifts of love. We find ourselves surrounded by those who carry hope for us, who express to us that God's love embraces all. May this be our story in such times.

Dr Craig Mitchell

P.S. There is a rumour that Frog and Toad may be making an appearance in church this Sunday morning.

Dr Craig Mitchell

BLESSING FOR THE BROKENHEARTED

"There is no remedy for love but to love more."

—Henry David Thoreau

Let us agree
for now
that we will not say
the breaking
makes us stronger
or that it is better
to have this pain
than to have done
without this love.

Let us promise
we will not
tell ourselves
time will heal
the wound,
when every day
our waking
opens it anew.

Perhaps for now
it can be enough
to simply marvel
at the mystery

of how a heart
so broken
can go on beating,
as if it were made
for precisely this—

as if it knows
the only cure for love
is more of it,

as if it sees
the heart's sole remedy
for breaking
is to love still,

as if it trusts
that its own
persistent pulse
is the rhythm
of a blessing
we cannot
begin to fathom
but will save us
nonetheless.

—Jan Richardson

From The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief

Walking Group



Please meet at Weymouth oval on **Sunday 30th June at 2 pm** for a gentle walk through Coromandel Valley with coffee along the way.

Claudia Cliff

First Friday Friends

Our next gathering will be on Friday 5th of July at 1.30 in the coffee lounge.

Carolyn Black from The Church of Christ will talk to us about “A visit to Palestine”.

We look forward to hearing about Carolyn’s experience.

Everyone is welcome.



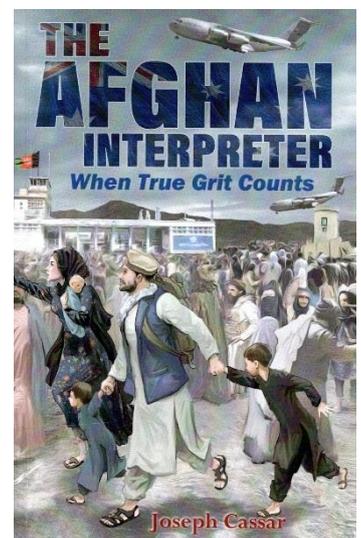
Helen Blake

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE CHURCH LIBRARY

"The Afghan interpreter: when true grit counts" by Joseph Cassar.

"Present on earth: worship resources on the life of Jesus"

"Living legacies: how to write, illustrate, and share your life stories"
by Duane Elgin.



Joy Belling

Preparing for storms is how you help

Sturt SES presents
'KNOW YOUR RISKS'
Free Public Community Forum

Sunday 21st July

3pm

Tiwu Kumangka Main Hall
Blackwood Library



Free fridge magnet torch, show bag and door prizes
Book your free ticket by scanning the QR code!



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Hosted by



Sewing classes teacher needed for refugee women.

Mehak, a counsellor at STTARS, is organising a sewing group for refugee women at their new Salisbury office. It will run for 2 hours on Wednesday afternoons each week during school terms. They have sewing machines for use at class.

They are looking for a volunteer teacher who will be able to teach the women sewing skills. Women who come to my mind are quilters, ex teachers, crafts

Can you ask your networks if anyone would be interested in taking on this volunteer role? Some reimbursement for costs, e.g. travel will be provided.

Contact Mehak KhanDeparkar at STTARS 0882068900 or 0447824205 or the email above

Carys Penny & Monica O'Wheel

Yanakanai: Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Covenant

This year the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Uniting Church of Australia celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the signing of the Covenant between the two groups.

The anniversary is during Assembly (10th July), so the SA UAICC and the Synod Covenanting Committee are celebrating the event with Yanakanai, at Adelaide West Uniting Church.

People can gather from 6pm, with a start at 6.30pm. The event will provide opportunities to listen, learn, understand, yarn and eat, and will finish at around 8.30pm.



The posters around the church, and following in the newsletter, provide information about booking, which is purely for catering purposes.

Anne Magarey

Yanakana

*Celebrating the 30th
Anniversary of the Covenant*

Saturday, 6 July 2024

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM ACST

Adelaide West Uniting Church

312 Sir Donald Bradman Drive,
Brooklyn Park, SA 5032



**UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER
CHRISTIAN CONGRESS**



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

As I sit here on the shortest day of the year, I have been asked to pen a few words about what the Bike Shed is up to these days. My usual answer of ‘nothing new’ is not quite correct. Many years ago a company trialled a bicycle share / rental system not unlike the e-scooters currently found all over Adelaide. Bright yellow, internal hub gears (no problems), solid tyres (no punctures), front wheel dynamos for lights (no batteries) and generally very robust construction. These bikes were soon to be found at the bottom of the Torrens, on the top of fences, hanging in trees and generally anywhere except riding around the street. The trial was not a raging success and eventually the unwanted bikes were gifted to Bike SA for their use.

Time moves forwards and Bike SA, who know a bit about what we in the Bike Shed do, offered us all we could use because we are here to help people not just turn a

Adelaide's Yellow Bike Epidemic Short-Lived

You would've spotted one around town



profit. Our immediate thought was they would be perfect to donate to Containers of Hope (a group we supply with refurbished bikes) for overseas use. The puncture proof tyres and minimal maintenance would be perfect in developing locations. Our donations to the refugee groups that we support would benefit from these as well for exactly the same reasons. Suitable for less hilly locations they would be perfect for people to keep at holiday homes near the beach. They are a readily accepted gift for us to gift to others.

So throwing caution to the wind I said Yes!

We would love your unwanted bikes. When asked how many we wanted I immediately said ‘all you can give us without us being greedy’ thinking 20 to 30 bikes. They offered us one hundred. Yes, that is a lot of bikes, but if we are lucky and can gift 50 to ‘Containers of Hope’ quickly and another 20 or so on to the refugee groups we will not have too many storage problems. However experience has shown us that not everything goes as we plan or wish - but we do live in hope.

In the meantime we beg everyone’s patience and understanding whist we wrestle with the logistics of collection, distribution and storage of these bikes. Especially the storage part.

PS - anyone want a yellow bike for their shack?

Word for the Week

MELIORISM

The belief that we can contribute to positive change and improve the world through acts of love, creativity, compassion and kindness.



Looking ahead in 2024

Sunday	30 th June	Walking Group
Friday	5 th July	First Friday Friends
Sunday	21 st July	Journeying

<u>John Candy weekly office hours</u> Tuesday 12.30pm – 5.30pm Friday 9am – 1pm minister@blackwooduc.org.au	Church Office 8278 7699 Interim Minister Rev. John Candy 0411 267 639 & Dr Craig Mitchell
<u>Craig Mitchell weekly office hours</u> Tuesday 2nd - 10am – 1.30pm Thursday 4th - 10am – 1pm worship@blackwooduc.org.au	Peta Workman Office & Community Program Coordinator Tuesday to Friday 9:00am – 2:30pm office@blackwooduc.org.au
MHICC – BUC representatives Carys Penny Tim Lee	Messy Church Coordinator Bonnie MacLaine-Mills 0405 455 567 bonniemaclainemills@gmail.com
	BUC website www.blackwooduc.org.au
	GIVING back to God http://blackwooduc.org.au/giving/

Order of Services to be emailed to buc.worship@gmail.com by Wednesday prior to the following Sunday.