



*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 19th of July 2024
Service on Sunday 21st of July 2024
Services: 9.15am & 11 am
Message: Dr Craig Mitchell
Worship Leader: Marion Wicks
Reader: Robert Corbett
Live Streamed

Lectionary readings – Sunday 21st of July (Pentecost 9)

**** 2 Sm 7: 1-14a ** Ps 89: 20-37****

**** Ephesians 2: 11-22 ** Mk 6: 30-34, 53-56 ****

Next Services

Sunday 28th July (Pentecost 10)

Sunday 9.15 & 11 am Services

Message: Rev. John Candy

Worship Leader: Jane Bassham

Reader: Robert Corbett

Reflection

Something to think about.

This Sunday's Gospel readings speak of Jesus teaching and healing on the eastern side of Lake Galilee, and then crossing to the western side, to the country of the Gerasene's, the Gentiles, also responding with compassion to people who flock to him in need.

I could not read these texts of Jesus freely moving among both Jews and Gentiles, bringing comfort and healing, without thinking of the horror that is still unfolding in Palestine and Israel. Destruction, not healing. Restriction, not freedom of movement. Retribution, not peace-making. How do we even begin to understand from so far away, let alone offer assistance? Who is doing the work of Jesus in this divided land?

This Sunday evening in our *Journeying* series, our guest is Andrew Telfer from Seacliff Uniting Church. For years, Andrew has been involved in EAPPI - the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel. This program of the World Council of Churches recruits and dispatches volunteers to Palestinian towns and villages to monitor the interactions between the Palestinian inhabitant and the Israeli military. Much more than that, they learn on the ground about people's lives, cultures, faith and hopes. It has been a powerful a life-changing experience for many young adults and adults. I hope you can join us as we seek to better understand life in the Middle East.

On Sunday morning we will be focusing closer to home and asking where would Jesus be about God's mission in our community today.

Craig Mitchell

URGENT ACCOMODATION REQUIRED – CAN YOU HELP.

“WANTED! – Urgent accommodation sought for Karen and Shanoa for about 3 months. Current accommodation has severe water damage that requires a huge fix!! Maybe someone needs a house/pet sitter or even has a granny flat?

Please contact Karen on 0475157508 if you can help or require further info. Or contact me on 0419844687

Peter Cranwell

CHURCH TREASURY VACANCY

The Council invites expressions of interest for the role of treasurer of the church.

Before making an appointment, it will be important to review how this was undertaken, so we might make it less onerous.

If you have the skill and interest in this position, please contact Adrian Brown on 0417 785 370.

Rev. Adrian Brown, Chair of Church Council

Lunch for 11 o'clock Worshippers - July 28th.

Dear friends,

You are invited to gather after Worship on Sunday July 28th, to enjoy a simple lunch together!

To enable us to cater efficiently, please let us know if you can join us, by July 21st.

As usual, a donation of \$5.00 per person will be appreciated, and any profits will be forwarded to Frontier Services in , memory of our wonderful friend and founder, Mary Thomas!

Looking forward to enjoying your company.

Helen Blake & Bev Eccleston

bjecleston70@gmail.com

Philosophers' Lunch

Next Sunday is going to be a very busy indeed! Whoever thought of referring to it as a "Day of Rest" isn't part of our BUC Community! We have come up with our own philosophy for Philosophers Lunch: due to popular demand, we are NOT cancelling our Philosophers' Lunches when they fall on the same day as the Journeying events.

Please feel free to join in with your own lunch and thoughts to the Coffee Lounge at 12:15ish on Sunday the 21st of July 2024.

If you have a philosophical topic (or topics) that you'd like to throw in for discussion, please let Tim or Heather know: tim@eucalypt.online or heather@eucalypt.online. See you there!

Heather & Tim Lee

July Journeying: with Palestine

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 invited to explore many different expressions of Spirituality in a relaxed atmosphere

5 to 7pm

Beginning with drinks and nibbles

Hosted by the Blackwood Uniting Church Community

266 Main Rd, Blackwood S.A.
Phone: 08 82787699
Email: office@blackwooduc.org.au
www.blackwooduc.org.au
Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/BlackwoodUnitingChurch>

...with Palestinians

21st July 2024

Hear some remarkable stories from **Andrew Telfer**

an Adelaide local who has spent time in Palestine, journeying with them in their daily lives as a human rights observer

Journeying...

The BUC New Music Singalong

On Saturday 27 July we are inviting our members, worship leaders, musicians and anyone who loves to sing to a singalong to learn some new music for worship from 3.00 - 4.30pm in the church.

We have some wonderful new contemporary music published by the UCA SA Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts. We figure that the best way to teach it will be if we have a big singalong. This will then help more people on any Sunday to know the songs and join in.



Our Conductor and Choirmaster on the day will be Craig Mitchell, who promises an experience of inspiration, fun and soul-stirring worship. Bring a bottle of water. We will also be joined by some folks from Rosefield Uniting Church. Please come and join us!

Craig Mitchell

First Friday Friends

Our next gathering will be on Friday August 2nd at 1.30 in the coffee lounge.

Ashleigh Lower is going to be our speaker. Everyone is welcome to come and hear Ashleigh and join us for a cup of tea and a chat afterwards.

Helen Blake

Prayer Cloths

On 30th June during the morning worship services, Craig invited people to hold a cloth while praying, as a reminder of biblical story of the woman who held onto Jesus cloak and prayed for healing.

People were then invited to take their piece of cloth home and use it in their prayers if they wished. A couple of people who viewed the service online have since asked if there are any spare prayer cloths available.

The answer is yes, and we have some in the church office if anyone would like to come and get one.

Craig Mitchell

BUC Travel Survey

Do you travel to Blackwood Uniting Church for things like congregation worship, meetings, fellowship and working bees? Great! Please complete this anonymous, 1 minute survey.

Use this QR code below to get to the link, or click [here](#)



One of the ways BUC is caring for each other, our community and all God's creation is having a goal to find ways we can reduce our carbon footprint towards net zero carbon by 2040.

The BUC Zero Carbon by 2040 Committee (Peter Cranwell, Tim Lee, Tony Dyson, Jane Bassham) is working on getting baseline information to help. We have already got over 60 ideas from our church members about how to reduce waste and unnecessary carbon emissions.

This travel estimate survey will help us learn more. Thanks for completing it and emailing it to office@blackwooduc.org.au or putting a hard copy in the box for completed surveys at the church office.

Want to know more?

Contact Peter Cranwell, Tim Lee, Tony Dyson, Jane Bassham or email office@blackwooduc.org.au



2024



Need a mission trip?

GOOD NEWS!

RED DOVE CAFE

Short term mission

Royal Adelaide show

August 31- 8 September

*Come by yourself
Come with a friend
Come as a small group*

*Come for a day
Come for a week!*



Serving those visiting from the country plus others visiting the show
Sign up with our QRcode or email
volunteers.rdc@gmail.com

Cost:

Your time: 5 hour shift
You receive: free show entry and a meal on the day you serve

All money raised for mission

Prayers for others

And the little boy nestled further into the warmth of his mother's arms and in a quiet voice, asked, Mummy will I die?
And his mother held him even closer and softly replied.
One day, yes , but not for a long long time. The child considered this for a few minutes and asked again.
But some children die.
Well that's because they are sick or hurt or hungry.
I don't want anyone to die Mummy.
Well it happens all the time.
But that's not fair.
His mother fell silent.
Well that's just the way things are.
Can't we change it, Mummy?
We try. Lots of people try, but there are too many people who need help and we can't reach them all.
Why don't we try harder then?
He was only five years old but was searching for answers to questions he would spend all of his life asking.
When we think that the challenge is too big, we pray.
What do we pray?
We ask God to protect them.
But they still die.
You know Tom, it helps. It changes things.
What does it change?
Well you know we prayed for rain to fall on Uncle Bob's farm because his sheep needed grass to eat and it didn't rain and the sheep were taken away, well, uncle Bob's neighbour let him work on his farm, repairing fences and their friends supplied them with enough food until the rains came again.
That's not God though.
The boy was confused.
You don't think so?
Maybe. But what about the people who get hurt in countries that fight each other? Why doesn't God do something?
Do you remember last week we prayed for people in a country called Ukraine and we asked God to help? Do you know what happened yesterday?
Some people, not far from here, had a big market and raised lots of money to help build a new school for the children there. Don't you think that was special? Tom, listen, that was God working. You see, whenever people want to help each other, even if it means giving away something they own, that's God working.
Mummy, will you die?
One day but not before we've helped lots of people.

This prayer was spoken last Sunday by Jan Furness and Judy Adami.

It was written by Ashleigh Lower.

! COME ALL!!

Come join the **Blackwood Hills Circle of Friends for Refugees** at a preview performance of the play, **“THE SILENT SKY”** on **Wed., the 7th of August!**

It was written by Lauren Gunderson and tells the story of a very talented woman astronomer and what happened after she discovered something amazing!

The play will be performed by the **St. Jude Players** at **St. Jude’s Hall at 444 Brighton Road, Brighton**, and it will begin at **7:30 pm.**

It **costs only \$20. per person**, and the proceeds are shared between the Players and the Circle of Friends. (You might also want to bring some change as there will be a **raffle** drawn during the Interval.)

Tickets are being sold by members of the Circle of Friends for Refugees or you can buy them at the Blackwood Uniting Church office.

You can also call me on 0438 700 474 to buy some, **but please leave your name, phone number, and how many tickets you want** if I don’t answer.

We look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

Beth Shepherd
member of the Blackwood Hills Circle of Friends for Refugees

Word for the Week

*“Don’t save anything for a special occasion.
Being alive is a special occasion”*



Mary Engelbeit

Looking ahead in 2024

Sunday	21 st July	Philosophers' Lunch Journeying with Palestine
Saturday	27 th July	New Music Singalong
Sunday ^{^^}	28 th July	Lunch for 11 o'clock Worshippers
Sunday	4 th August	Messy Church
<u>John Candy weekly office hours</u> Wednesday 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> Wednesday- 11am – 2pm Thursday - 11am – 2pm 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 & office@blackwooduc.org.au by Wednesday prior to the following Sunday.