



Bible Reading

8am & 9.30am:
Luke 17: 11-19



6.45pm:
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17: 11-19

Response after Bible Readings
Leader: Hear the word of the Lord
Response: Thanks be to God



Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.
Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.
OPEN FROM 9.30AM

Livestreaming

at all . 8am
three . 9.30am
worship . 6.45pm
services

8am—Worship

Includes Communion
Led by Pamela Leslie
and Dean Drayton

9am—Worship at the Willows

Led by Warren Arthur

9.30am—Worship

Includes Communion
Led by Hugh Darling
and Dean Drayton

KUCA in Recess

6.45pm—Worship

Led by Alexander Lawless
and Daniel Gibb

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

What's happening this week at St. Matthew's

MONDAY 10 OCTOBER

9am—Sorting & pricing for
Op Shop lower hall

12pm—Upstairs hall in use by Preschool

TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop open
9.30am-11am—Christian Meditation
in the church

12pm—Upstairs hall in use by Preschool

7.30pm—Thrive bible study lower hall

WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop
10am-12pm—Women's
Fellowship upper hall & church

THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER

9am-2pm—Op Shop

FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER

7pm-9pm—Youth Group **ALIVE**
upstairs hall

SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER

2pm-4pm—Church and
community room in use

SUNDAY

SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER

8am—Worship

9.30am—Worship

KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8

6.45pm—Worship

Includes Communion



SUPPLY MINISTER

REV. CLIVE PEARSON 0409 523 024
Email: minister@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS
MINISTRY WORKER**

DANIEL GIBB Part Time
Email: daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

SENIORS PASTORAL CARER

MICHAEL STRONG Part Time
Email: mike@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARIES:

ROBYN MORRALL AND LYNN SAMUEL

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM MON-FRI

OFFICE : 9686 3003

LOCATION:

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS
BAULKHAM HILLS

POSTAL ADDRESS:

BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH
PO BOX 773 BAULKHAM HILLS 1755

WEB SITE: www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

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EMAIL: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

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SONALI WANIGESEKERA
PO BOX 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

EMAIL: director@stmatthewsps.net.au

Gratitude / 'To the glory of God'.

2 Timothy 2:8-15 Luke 17:11-19

One might have imagined that Paul had every reason to be bitter. He is writing to his 'beloved child' in the faith—Timothy—while he is 'chained like a criminal'. The apostle has undergone many hardships for the sake of his life in Christ. In the midst of his setback and suffering he discerns purpose: he advises Timothy to be an 'approved worker' and not to be ashamed of the message he is to proclaim.

The way in which Paul repeatedly calls upon the followers of Christ not to be ashamed of the gospel should be seen in the light of first responses to the claims of this 'new' faith. It was a stumbling block for Jews, a scandal—and a folly, a madness for Greeks. Some of the more sophisticated of pagans in the classical world thought that members of the church were 'cannibals' because they ate the body of Christ and drank his blood; it was rather easy to misrepresent the 'truth' Timothy is commended to death: was the crucifixion a sign of how Christians preached infanticide?

Paul writes as he does because he has experienced grace; his letters are full of thankfulness. That should be expected as a matter of custom. The standard practice of a Greek letter was to give thanks after acknowledging who you were and to whom you were writing. Except – Paul transforms the sense of gratitude because his thankfulness is always bound up with how those in Christ nurture the life of the gospel. There is gratitude for the life of faith.

This theme of gratitude is also present in the Luke reading. In this gospel those from other cultures play a significant role—none more so than the despised Samaritans. In this account Jesus and his disciples are *en route* to Jerusalem; they pass through Galilee where they encounter ten men with skin diseases—presumably lepers. They are healed: Jesus tells them to 'show' themselves to the priests—hence, all but one must have been Jews as this was stock response to healing. They had asked for mercy from Jesus; they recognize that he has a power to heal but only one—the Samaritan—returns to say 'thank' Jesus.

The Samaritan would not have been able to go to the priest or enter the Temple.

This Samaritan leper is the only one in all of the gospels who thanks Jesus. In response Jesus alters the verb from 'thanks' to one of 'giving glory to God'.

This account of the Samaritan leper stands alongside the parable of the good Samaritan. The one who gives thanks like the one who helps the victim on the side of the road is the one who is not expected to do so. It illustrates how the gospel of Luke reaches out into the Gentile world and embraces the one who is 'other'. According to the gospel of John (4:9) 'Judeans have no dealings with Samaritans'.

On-line:

Works of art:

Jean Marie Melchior Doze, Jesus healing the leper (1864).

<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/jesus-healing-the-leper-jean-marie-melchior-doze.html>

Songs / hymns:

We cannot measure how you heal

Salisbury Cathedral Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyObEKmMg7s>

Grosse Point Memorial Church (Michigan)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ocifpe3Ex_I

'O Christ the healer'

First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln, Nebraska.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1O5vdLNE-Gw>

'It is well with my soul'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHe_qmo3gX4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYrL9ea1XUg>

'In gratitude we come' The Celebration Choir

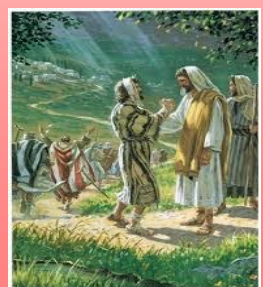
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNdcBF6kq2g>

Leonard Cohen shows how to thank his fellow musicians. The Anthem.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8-BT6y_wYg

Yours in Christ,

Clive





PEOPLE NEWS

George Haines
Ted Page

Dirk Van Doorene
Geoff Benoit

Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

9—15 October

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

TURN OUT YOUR CUPBOARDS

Do you have too much clutter in your home? The Church Op Shop is in need of good quality nick-nacks, ornaments, Christmas goods, shoes and men's clothing.

We appreciate all donations of clean, quality clothing, without your donations we would not be able to operate.

Many thanks.

The Op Shop Team.

OCTOBER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

at the church

PLEASE NOTE:

Changed days for Communion this month

2 October - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

9 October - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

* includes Communion at morning services

16 October - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

* includes Communion at evening service

23 October - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

30 October - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

Live streaming continues for all services



Being prepared for next week's worship:

16 October 2022

Pentecost 19

"The heart of Faith"

Sunday

16 October:

8am, 9:30am & 6:45pm

Bible Readings:

Jeremiah 31: 27-34

Luke 18: 1-8

The power of this parable to do with not losing heart depends upon some reversal expectations. It is usual think of a judge been an upholder of the judicial system and carrying out his responsibilities with integrity, That is not the case here: he is described as 'unjust' and as having 'no fear of God and no respect for anyone'. There were two classes of cases that would come before the courts – criminal and civil. The latter would have to do with matters of property, money, everyday litigation. There would have been a court of three judges. The more serious cases, the criminal, would be held before the Sanhedrin Council.

The other reversal of expectation concerns the widow. In the ancient world widow had few rights and were very vulnerable. Luke explains that the purpose of the parable is to encourage prayer and not lose heart. It presumes as such the capacity to forget prayer and lose hope. The widow persists; at face value the odds against her. It is not as if she has initiated a complaint against

someone else; her vulnerability lies in how someone has accused her (of what we do not know). She is not in a position not to respond.

There is a sense where 'we' are the widow. The unjust judge is contrasted with a God who is just. The parable does not seek to supply the details of a court case or establish an expression of legal precedence. It is speaking into the character and one of those distinguishing attributes is justice.

Of all the prophetic books where there could have been a loss of heart, Jeremiah stands out. It is a book full of lamentation; Yahweh will not relent; and Jeremiah's eyes are like fountains of tears. In the midst of this grim turmoil comes the home of a new beginning—'the days are surely coming'. The promise of a new covenant written on the heart will be realized and the people will know that 'I will be their God and they shall be my people'.

Update from the Joint Nominations Committee (JNC)

St. Matthews' JNC is made up of two Presbytery appointed representatives (Grant Atkins from Quakers Hill Uniting and Carmel Ieraci from Wesley Castle Hill), together with six congregational representatives – Alexander Lawless, Dean Drayton, Eulalie Herat, Helen Olley, Karen Vandenberg and Mike Underwood. The role of the Committee is to find a new minister for our Congregations.

On 20th September, the NSW Synod ACOMP Placements Committee approved our Church profile and provided approval to fill our vacant Ministerial position. The next step in the process is for the ACOMP Placements Committee to propose names of appropriate ministers, who shall be invited to a conversation with the JNC.

Unfortunately, the Placements Committee were not able to provide any names to the JNC at this time. We are hopeful that they will soon have some suggestions for the JNC to consider.

In the meantime, the JNC request your prayerful support of this process. Please continue to pray that God will lead the right person to minister with us at St. Matthew's.

If you have any questions, please contact one of your JNC members.

Making Sense of the Bible



- How did the Bible come into being?
- How (and when) was it translated into English?
- Why do we have so many versions?
- How do we 'use' the Bible (an ancient book) in our world today – or let it 'use' us?
- How might we seek not to 'misuse' the Bible?

The studies advertised above will be held at the following times:

Tuesday – 18 and 25 October onsite 7.30pm.

Tuesday – 1 and 8 November onsite 7:30 pm.

Wednesday – 19 and 26 October.

Wednesday –2 and 16 November.

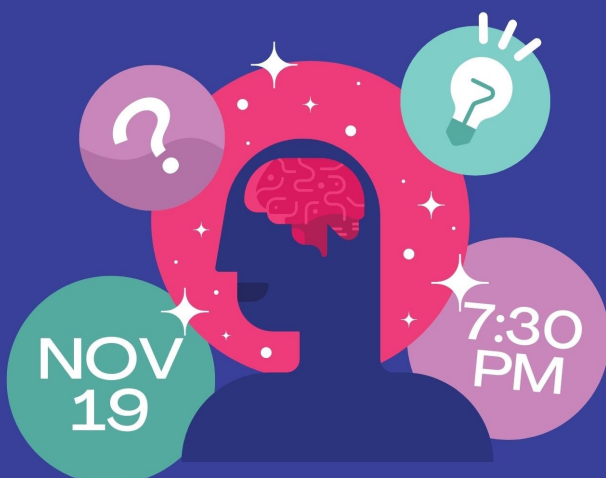
online 7:30 pm.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3602745736>

Clive

ST MATTHEW'S TRIVIA NIGHT 2022



TABLES OF 8 - \$15 PER PERSON

**ST MATTHEWS
UNITING CHURCH BAULKHAM HILLS**

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT | DANIEL@STMATTHEWSUNITING.NET.AU

Extended Tenure

It is my great pleasure to announce that Church Council have been able to extend the tenure of the Rev Dr Clive Pearson with us at St. Matthew's until the end of April 2023. We look forward to sharing with Clive during this period.

Barbara Gibb

The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Click on the metal bird image / publications.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

You are invited to come along to the church on

Tuesdays at 9.30am—10.30am

All are welcome

The Muscle of Attention

During September and October the Tuesday morning Christian Meditation Group will be listening to these 10 - 20 minute talks given in 2021 by Laurence Freeman as part of the hour long session.

We then do the work of silently repeating our mantra, giving attention only to the mantra to take the attention off our distracting thoughts.

We meet in either the Community Room or Church Sanctuary.

Everyone is welcome to join this group to find out how exercising our muscle of attention produces love and community.

Please contact Rosemary Sexton or Katherine Pedersen
043 777 2011

kathped56@gmail.com to find out more about the World Community for Christian Meditation.

There are groups all over the world and you can join many online groups, watch podcasts, seminars, introductory sessions and undertake courses online.

<https://meditationtalks.wccm.org/cd/cwkSXCfLd4mXPGb6pFGc>

Daily Wisdom

We have to understand how we have become such a distracted civilisation. On the one hand, we have this inability to pay attention, to make healthy relationships that demand attention to the other and to take the attention off ourselves in order to make relationships. How can you make a relationship if you are only thinking about yourself all the time? So we have to learn to take the attention off ourselves, which is why meditation bears fruit in all our relationships and the first fruit of the Spirit.

(Attention and Love 1 by Laurence Freeman OSB)

St. Matthew's
BAULKHAM HILLS
UNITING CHURCH
growing together



PARRAMATTA NEPEAN PRESBYTERY
UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP



invites you to the next gathering at

GRANTHAM HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

on Saturday 22nd October

from 10am to 1pm

Guest Speaker is Rebecca Andrews
from Pitt Town Uniting Church

'Building Water Wells in West Papua'

Retiring offering to Water Wells
will be collected



ALL FOOD AND DRINK PROVIDED

for specific dietary needs contact Barbara Maxwell 9636 2252

Please RSVP before 15th October to either

Gail Kalaitzis: 9670 4602 or

Kevin Harkness: 0408 218 964

Nearest railway station is Seven Hills. Let us know if needing a pick up.

COVID SAFE RULES APPLY. PLEASE REMAIN AT HOME IF YOU ARE UNWELL.



GRANTHAM HEIGHTS UNITING CHURCH

cnr Mackenzie Boulevard
& Nipigon Road SEVEN HILLS

Uniting Church Hawkesbury Zone:

"TWILIGHT OF JAZZ"

On the banks of the Hawkesbury River -
at Ebenezer Church

SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER

4:00PM - 8:00PM
Gates open at 3:00pm

Featuring:
HARMONIX BIG BAND

TICKETS \$20 per head - School students free
To prebook your tickets call or text Rebecca on
0439 309 303 or visit our Facebook page.
Tickets will be available on the night 7.7.19.21.22.23.24.25.26.27.28.29.30.31.2022

Bring your chairs, blanket or a picnic.
Sausage sizzle, cake stall, tea & coffee
will be available to purchase.
BYO Alcohol

Find Us on Facebook: Ebenezer Uniting Church - Twilight Jazz
Funds raised go to the West Papuan Development Company - for clean water wells.