



**Bible Readings**

**8am and 9.30am**



Mark 3:20-35  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Psalm 138

**Response after Bible Readings**  
Leader: *Hear the word of the Lord*



**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  
8am and 9.30am only**

**8am—Worship**  
Led by Pamela Leslie  
and Jon Humphries

**9am—Worship @ the Willows**  
Led by Daniel Gibb

**9.30am—Worship**  
Led by Hugh Darling  
and Jon Humphries

**KUCA** Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8  
Followed by Morning Tea

**6.45pm—Worship**  
**Community Meal**

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

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

**MONDAY 10 June**

**King's Birthday  
Public Holiday**

**7.30pm—Christian Meditation**  
**NEW GROUP**  
All Welcome

in community room and church

**TUESDAY 11 June**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**9.30am-11am—Christian Meditation**  
community room

**7.30pm—Thrive Bible Study**  
lower hall

**WEDNESDAY 12 June**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**10am-12pm—Women's Fellowship**  
upstairs hall and church

**THURSDAY 13 June**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**  
**9am-2pm—Setup for Bridal Expo**  
lower hall

**FRIDAY 14 June**

**No Scheduled events**

**SATURDAY 15 June**

**9am-2pm—Bridal Expo**  
**"Say Yes to the Dress"**  
lower hall

**SUNDAY  
16 JUNE**

**8am—Worship**

**9.30am—Worship**  
**KUCA** Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8  
Followed by morning tea

**6.45pm—Worship**



**MINISTER**

REV JON HUMPHRIES  
Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

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

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

**CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARIES:**  
ROBYN MORRALL AND LYNN SAMUEL

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** 9AM-3PM MON-FRI

**OFFICE :** 9686 3003  
Email: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**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  
Weekly newsletter available on website

**FACEBOOK:**  
@stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills

**PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR** 9639 8570  
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Thank you to all who have  
contributed to this publication.

# Something to think about

## 9 June

### 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

#### Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 8:4-11  
Psalm 138  
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
Mark 3:20-35

#### More Than We Know

There is a well-known story of St. Augustine walking along the beach one day, taking a break from writing his treatise on the Trinity, a doctrine that we celebrated a couple of weeks ago. Even as one of the most developed theological minds, he just couldn't get his brains around this great mystery. The story goes that he saw a little boy digging a hole in the sand, and then running to the ocean, filling up his hands with the seawater, running back to the hole and emptying the water into the hole. Augustine watched as the child went back and forth several times. Finally, he said to the boy, "What are you doing?" The boy said, "Trying to fill that hole with the ocean." And Augustine said, "You'll never fit the ocean in that hole. Your hole is too small and the ocean too large." To which the boy replied, "Neither will you be able to fit the Trinity into your mind." This story is told in a range of versions, sometimes with the interaction with the boy as a dream, but the point is still the same. Theology is not only our words about God, but it is our thinking about God and how our actions speak of our understanding and knowing of God, and we cannot ever know, understand or comprehend the fullness of God.

It is a good thing to think about God and to try to put our understanding into words so that we can share it with others who can, in turn, share their understanding with us and thereby helping us both to grow. However, sometimes we just need to pause and be with God. Knowing God is more important than knowing about God. Sometimes we need to be like the boy and dig a little and try to put as much as we can know about God in the hole of our minds. Yet, those of us who have dug holes on the beach know that the closer to the tide line that we go, the less we have to dig before water starts to fill our hole of its own. In this way the ocean fills our little hole for it is the same water as the sea. Having dug many a hole like this myself, I know that once I have dug down to the water, the hole starts enlarging itself. So, it is with God, once we make the effort to connect with a knowing of God, it is God who stretches our understanding and widens our minds to comprehend some more. It is better to move closer to God so that God can more easily fill our understanding.

Of course, what St Augustine and the boy get right is that the hole and our minds will never be able to fit the ocean in it. The ocean *is* too large. What we need to really do is to enter the ocean ourselves and dive into its vastness. It is one thing to dig a little and have some of the ocean fill our holes, just as it is one thing to do some theology and have God fill our minds. Yet, it is another for us to plunge into the being of God. Still we will never experience all of the fullness of God. However, just as swimming in the ocean, even though we only swim in one small part, is still swimming in the fullness of it, experiencing God, even though our small experience is just that of our limited perspective, is still an experience of God in God's fullness in some way.

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## More Than We Know

Continued

This is where such things as contemplative practices - such as Christian meditation - and the practice of living the love of God both take us from our minds and just thinking about God, to a more fuller being intentionally aware of our immersion in God. Contemplation centres us in stopping our trying to understand what we experience and just sit in the experience. Contemplative practices such as Christian meditation simply immerse us in the being of God and locate us in God's love as we seek to be more mindful of God who is present with us as Spirit. It is good to do the thinking about our experience. Theology is important work, just as is reading the Scriptures, prayer and joining in services as a gathered community. It is just that the theology is often best done as a reflection on the experience of God. Engaging in ministry joins us to the work of God as we love our neighbour as ourselves, and in doing so, live in God and allow God to live in us. Again, it is good to do theological reflection after engaging in ministry of serving others or allowing others to serve us. In this way we better come to understand what we have come to know in God.

Some may be familiar with the Wesleyan Quadilateral (see image) which seeks to represent our sources for doing theology. *Scripture* is at the top as it is primary source (especially in the Protestant tradition from which Wesley came from).



We experience better understanding of God as we read the inspired collection of writings about other's experiences of God. Tradition, which could also be the Church, is at the bottom, and in being the Church and sharing together our experience of God, past and present, we come to greater understanding. Experience of God ourselves stands to the left and it is where we come to know God directly. Reason is to the right, and is about our conceptualising about God, which is a form of experience itself. In all this, though, God is ultimately the source of revelation and is at the centre of any understanding of God.

So, God is something to think about and we can dig around in theology and play with God entering into and filling our minds, but it is better to mind the fullness of God by immersing ourselves in God by diving into God and allowing our being to be enfolded in God's being, always knowing that God is more than we can ever fully know or comprehend.

*God bless.*

*Jon*

## Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

9—15 June

Botswana, Zimbabwe



## PEOPLE NEWS

Faye Butel  
Anne Hanna

Margaret Gray

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

## JUNE 2024 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES at the church

2nd June - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm  
includes Communion

9th June - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm  
Community Meal

16th June - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

23rd June - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

30th June - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

Live streaming at morning services

*Sympathy* to Jacob and family, and John and family on the death of their mother Anne Mamutil on Friday 31 May.

## Weekly SYNOD SPOTLIGHT

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter  
for last week please see link :

[New Insights \(uca.org.au\)](http://uca.org.au)



## THANK YOU

**A HUGE THANK YOU** is extended to **everyone who** donated to our Biggest Morning Tea fundraising event either online or at our enjoyable morning tea event held on Friday 31st May, or cash/

online donations received since

**Every donation is very much appreciated**, and in feedback from the Cancer Council we have been congratulated for our support to their very vital cause. Together as at 6 June 2024 we have raised the amazing amount of \$2702.00

**Many Thanks for your support,**  
Barry Gregory  
& Dulcie Duncum



Katherine Pedersen has requested donations of used floral bowls. (See image).



If anyone has any of these bowls, would you please bring them in and leave them with the Op-shop. They will be used for a special project later in the year.

Thank you

## Farewell to Daniel

As some will know, the Church Council has received Daniel Gibb's resignation as our youth and young people's worker. Daniel has been a great asset and blessing to the congregation and leaves to take up a similar role at Turramurra Uniting Church. He will be very much missed, but we are excited for him and continue to pray for him as God leads him into this new ministry.

We will be holding some closure of ministry services on the following dates at the following times:

**16 June 8.00am & 9.30am**

**23 June 6.45pm (to celebrate with Shine)**

Daniel commences the new role in July, but his last day of ministry with us will be Sunday 23 June.



**st. matthew's  
UNITING CHURCH  
BAULKHAM HILLS  
OP SHOP**

*Presents*

# Say Yes to the Dress Sale

- New Bridal Gowns • Pre-Loved Bridal Gowns
- Evening • Special Occasion • Formal Occasions
- Mother of the Bride • Groomsmen • Accessories

Sale Starts: Saturday 15th June 9am-12noon  
Tuesday 18th June 9am-2pm, Wednesday 19th June 9am-2pm, Thursday 20th June 9am-2pm



## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

### Weekly Sessions

@ St. Matthew's Uniting Church  
Baulkham Hills

Cnr Charles and Edgar Street, Baulkham Hills

MONDAY EVENINGS

7.30pm

Starting 20 May

TUESDAY MORNINGS

9.30am-10.30am



st. matthew's  
UNITING CHURCH  
BAULKHAM HILLS  
growing together

## Op Shop Support Needed

### People to help with:

- Sorting and Pricing 'trash and treasure' for the Garage Sales
- Washing pre-loved 'treasures'
- Sorting & Pricing second hand clothing
- Serving customers
- Creating shop displays



For more Information please contact the church office.



## The Galston Concerts



Sunday 23 June 2024 @ 2pm

Galston Uniting Church  
11 School Road Galston

Andrew Blanch, guitar ... Spanish Magic

The Galston Concerts feature Australian international guitarist Andrew Blanch, recent #1 in ARIA's Classical Albums chart, just prior to his 45-concert Seattle-to-Miami coast-to-coast USA tour. Andrew's music for Galston



includes bubbly Baroque (a Vivaldi Guitar Concerto from Venice); solos with Spanish flair from Asturias, Granada & Seville; Latin American musical travels in Brazil, Cuba, Venezuela & Uruguay, before a fitting finale of



Argentinian folksongs, with mezzo-soprano Maria Eugenia Nieva, who will also feature in the pending US tour. Andrew's Australian triumphs lead to competitions success in Portugal & the USA; his international pedigree also includes recent recordings with the New Zealand Guitar

Quartet & concerto recordings in Brazil. A member of the Australian Guitar Quartet & President of the Classical Guitar Society Sydney, Andrew is acknowledged as "a complete artist ... a gift to the guitar ... a leading light of Australian performance."

Bookings trybooking.com (search Galston 23<sup>rd</sup> June)

Cash-only sales at the door on the day - \$40/30/10/12&u FREE

Enquiries phone 9653-2039

## LOST PROPERTY BOX

PLEASE CHECK THE LOST  
PROPERTY BOX IF YOU HAVE  
LOST ANY ITEMS WHILE  
AT THE CHURCH.

*THE LOST PROPERTY BOX IS  
LOCATED ON THE CABINETS AT THE  
BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS.*

**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](http://www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au)  
Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.**