



## God's Mission is Our Mission

**Missional ministry** is at the heart of our life and witness as the Church. It should be our primary form of worship, for we truly worship God who calls us to join in God's mission by honouring that call and through our loving service of others bring glory to God. Being missional is at the heart of our spiritual DNA. It is at the core of our purpose in being a Church. It is understood that this is central to our life and witness as a congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia.

As I shared in a recent newsletter, "The Congregation is the embodiment in one place of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, **worshipping, witnessing and serving** as a fellowship of the Spirit in Christ. Its members meet regularly to hear God's Word, to celebrate the sacraments, to build one another up in love, to share in

the wider responsibilities of the Church, and **to serve the world.**"

- Basis of Union: Paragraph 15a

In fulfilling its purpose a Congregation shall:

(v) **equip the members and adherents for engagement in worship, witness and service in the world as they participate in the MISSION OF CHRIST;**

(viii) **encourage each member and adherent to participate**

**in the life of the Congregation and endeavour to provide opportunity for that participation;** and

(ix) provide means whereby the members and adherents may be sustained in fellowship, in prayer and in confession, in baptism and in the Lord's Supper, in **mutual reception of and mutual exertion in the Gospel proclamation and service.**

- Uniting Church Regulations: Section 3.1.1.b

Many people in the Uniting Church are becoming aware of the fact that "business as usual" is no longer serving God or progressing God's mission. A Sunday service centric model of being Church in and of itself, even if there are other associated ministry activities, is not sufficient to achieve much progress in the mission of God. For this reason, congregations right across the Synod of NSW and ACT are rethinking their missional strategy. Re-thinking requires a plan and a process. If missional ministry is to be at the centre and the focus of our life and witness, then we need to better understand this and then develop strategies and plans for ministry to help us to do this to the best of our ability and be effective.

**"Mission is not ours; mission is God's... it is not so much the case that God has a mission for his church in the world, but that God has a church for his mission in the world. Mission was not made for the church; the church was made for mission - God's mission."** - Christopher J. H. Wright, 'The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative'

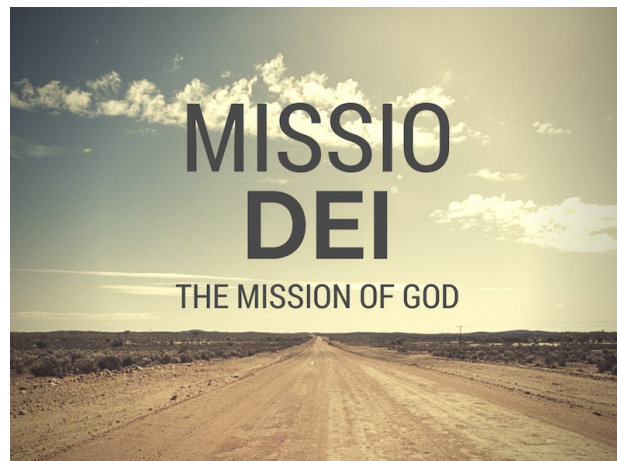
**A mission is a task or purpose which is set to be achieved.** Our mission is set by God. It is about joining God in God's mission – that is God's purpose – to redeem the world and transform all of Creation. God's mission is to bring the Kingdom of God/Heaven further into being as humanity is brought into right relationship with God, each other and the whole of creation. In theological terms it is often referred to as 'missio dei' – the mission of God. Thus, it is not something we do, but is a call to a task and purpose we join God in. We don't do mission. We are given a mission to carry out. Our carrying out of our mission is referred to as our ministry. Our ministry is the whole of our life and witness as a community of faith, not just certain activities or initiatives.

Our own Assembly document on mission notes: "The Church is brought into existence by God and is **called to serve God's mission**. It neither creates itself nor its mission but is to recognize its dependence on God's Spirit for its life and purpose."

*National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia, Towards a Theology Relating to Mission (2010), §18*

Our mission as the Church, being part of the Uniting Church in Australia and part of the holy, catholic [meaning universal] and apostolic Church, is to join in God's mission. God's mission is about bringing further into being the Kingdom of God and bringing it nearer into being in our context and community along with the redemption and renewal of all people as part of the redemption and renewal of all creation.

**Mission is not something we do. It is a tasking or work which we are given to achieve a meaningful goal. For us as the Church it is our call by God to join in God's mission through our life and witness expressed in missional ministry.**



If God is love and those who live in love live in God and God in them [1 John 4: 16] , and if we are created in the image of God [Genesis 1:27], and if we know love through how God has loved us by becoming the Christ [John 3: 16] and laying down that life as an atoning sacrifice [1 John 3: 16], and if the greatest of all commandments is to love God with all our being and love others as ourselves [Matthew 22: 38-39, Mark 12: 30-31 both of which are drawn from Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18] then our mission is to live a life of love, loving God in worship by laying down our lives in love for others [1 John 3: 16].

**Our core mission is to join God in God's work, to be God's people as we use our gifts and talents to lay down our lives in love for others as God, as Christ, laid down his life for us. God is love and when we live love to others we live in God and God lives in us. This is what we are called to be and do, and as part of this life and witness, we are called to be a channel through which others come into right relationship with God and are invited to join God in God's mission.**

This is our mission should we choose to accept it. It certainly gives us something to think about.

God bless  
Jon

# It is Not Good for us To be Alone



**Genesis chapter 1** tells us the ancient story of the creation of the universe. In six days, God creates the heavens and the earth, the oceans, the land, the plants, the animals and finally "God created humankind in his image" (Genesis 1:27). Seven times we are told that God looked on his work and saw that it was good, indeed it was very good. In Genesis 2, however, we hear of something that is not good.

**Genesis 2** zooms in on the creation of humankind. God creates a man, places him in the garden, then sees that he is alone and says "It is not good that the man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18). Many animals are brought forth, until finally another human is created, Adam's wife Eve.

It is not good for us to be alone. Sometimes the loneliest places are those full of other people - people who are in relationship with each other, with families and friends sharing life together. Being on the outskirts of the group, seeing the interactions, but not sharing in them is isolating. Having no way into the group is devastating. There are many reasons people may be isolated. It might be due to physical or mental health, age, language and cultural barriers or other causes of exclusion.

We are made to be in relationship, not only with God, but with each other. In John 17, Jesus speaks of himself being in the Father, the Father being in him and us being in them

and says "I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them. (John 17:26). With God's love in and amongst us, let us welcome and love each other. How tragic would it be if someone came into our midst and yet felt lonely.

**On Sunday 21st September,** we will be having another combined morning tea at 9am. I encourage you to stay behind or come along early (or even super early if you attend 6:45pm!) so that we can have this time to actively be in relationship with each other. Even if you can't make it, perhaps consider how you can strengthen your connection with others this month, maybe through a quick phone call or text message to someone you haven't seen for a while, because it is not good for any of us to be alone.

*Peace,  
Sara*

The 55th session of the General  
Assembly of the United Nations  
designated 21 September as

# International Day of Peace



To celebrate this day, you are  
cordially invited to join an

***Interfaith Prayer Service***

on Sunday 21 September 2025 at 3PM  
at Knox Cultural Centre, Knox Grammar School,  
2 Borambil Street, Wahroonga 2076 (a stone's throw  
distance from Warrawee Train Station)

Mr Gawaine Powell Davies, former President of the Federation of Australian  
Buddhist Council would deliver the occasional address.

Religious leaders from Aboriginal, Bahai, Brahmakumaris, Buddhist, Christian,  
Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Quaker, Sikh and Zoroastrian communities will offer  
prayers for peace which will be interspersed with musical performances. There  
will be an opportunity for lighting a candle for Peace during the service. A light  
refreshment would be provided at the end of the service. Please RSVP to

**Rev. Dr. Manas Ghosh** by 10 September

By text message on 0429 892 548 or by email: [revmanasghosh@gmail.com](mailto:revmanasghosh@gmail.com)

# *From the St Matthew's Social Action Missional Ministry Team*

*'Doing little things can make a big difference'.*

## **Educating ourselves about modern slavery and human trafficking Unmasking the True Cost of Online Scams**

We know that we need to be very careful to avoid becoming a victim of scams and we wonder what sort of people could possibly perpetrate such crimes, often against the most vulnerable people in our community. However, the people who are working for the criminal organisations running scams are often enslaved people who are trafficked to work for them. It is estimated that there are currently at least 100,000 trafficked persons working in this industry in Southeast Asia and other parts of the world. Below is an excerpt from an article by the Centre for Strategic International Studies in Washington DC, (released on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024) explaining how the criminal syndicates operate:

*'Cyber Scamming Goes Global: Sourcing Forced Labor for Fraud Factories'*

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/cyber-scamming-goes-global-sourcing-forced-labor-fraud-factories>

"So-called "fraud factories" have their roots in Southeast Asia's gambling industry and are closely tied to Chinese organized crime groups. When the casinos built by Chinese transnational criminal groups were effectively shut down by the Covid-19 pandemic, the criminal organisations were forced to seek out other means of generating income. In many cases, abandoned casinos and hotels were converted into large-scale forced scamming centres, where trafficking victims are forced to scam unsuspecting individuals across the globe.

Victims of this form of trafficking are usually job hunters who respond to fraudulent employment opportunities in fields such as customer service, information technology (IT), and computer programming. Traffickers pose as job recruiters and target individuals with exploitable technological or language skills, convincing victims of their legitimacy with interviews and live communication. After the victims travel to the location of the "job," traffickers confiscate their passports, lock them in heavily guarded compounds, and force them to conduct scams.

People from over 100 countries have been trafficked to Southeast Asia's fraud factories. The U.S. Department of State's 2024 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report specifically highlights the trafficking of victims from Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Peru, Brazil, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), among other countries. Many of these victims are young and tech-savvy and hail from regions where unemployment rates are high and there is a surplus of freshly minted tech graduates."

To learn more about people who have been trafficked to Cambodia, here is the link to the Amnesty International website article 'Cambodia: Government allows slavery and torture to flourish inside hellish scamming compounds': <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/06/cambodia-government-allows-slavery-torture-flourish-inside-scamming-compounds/>

*Blessings,  
Alexander  
SAMMT*

# *News From the Finance Committee*

## **St Matthew's Uniting Church Budget for 2025-26**

The Finance Committee presented its budget for the 2026 financial year at the Church Annual General Meeting on Sunday 17 August 2025.

The outcomes for 2025 and projections present a more promising view of Church revenues than we have seen for some time. The 2025 financial year returned a better than expected result, with an \$80,000 surplus against a significant budgeted deficit. In particular, revenues benefited from: a strong direct debit and Push Pay donations (+\$76k against budget); loose and envelope donations that were above budget (\$10k), and a strong showing again from the Op Shop (+\$10k). Overall expenses were some \$90,000 lower than budgeted, resulting from a consolidation of employment costs and deferral of some church maintenance projects.

Looking forward, these results have underpinned a budget result for 2026 of around a \$45,000 surplus, with similar results projected into the next few years.

Also notable is the significant ongoing contributions that we receive from the highly regarded St Matthew's Uniting Preschool, and the very successful Op Shop. Starting from 2025, St Matthew's has elected to contribute 10 per cent of Op Shop revenues to the broader community, with these being channeled to support people escaping domestic violence in the Hills District.

There was congregation interest in the status of the roof replacement loans. We reported that a kind member of the congregation had placed funds as an offset against the loans, meaning that we do not have any debt servicing costs for the main loan. In addition, some \$4,500 had been specifically donated during 2025 against the roof replacement fund and has been allocated against the outstanding principal.

At the Annual General Meeting, we especially thanked the congregation for their response to the call during the year to consider their giving habits in the context of the Church's mission. Their generous support has greatly assisted in shoring up the Church's projected financial position. We also observed that direct debit offers a more convenient option to donate than in times gone by and has the advantage of not attracting fees payable against donations.

Finance Committee Chair, Dom Schuster, thanked the efforts of the volunteer Finance Committee, including Alastair Burn as treasurer, Amanda Manson as secretary, and members Barry Gregory, Hugh Darling, Denis Bell, Peter Wienand, Alexander Lawless and Jon Humphries. He acknowledged the contribution of Leith Lawless, who has recently stepped down from the Committee. Members of the St Matthew's community are encouraged to nominate themselves for the Finance Committee if they feel that they can assist the work of the group.

The Finance Committee has recently discussed the use of offering envelopes and has decided to continue using them for the foreseeable future.

Regards,

*Dom Schuster & Alastair Burn*



## **Thursday 4 September**

**10am—12noon**

*Guest Speaker:  
Jon Humphries*

Thursday 4 September  
10am - 12noon

St. Matthew's  
Uniting Church  
Baulkham Hills

Paddling into Peace and Wellbeing  
Jon Humphries, his paddling adventures and  
how it is good for his soul



*These informal morning gatherings include devotions, morning tea and  
guest speakers which cover a large range of interesting and informative topics.*

\*\*\*\*\* ALL WELCOME \*\*\*\*\*

## **Parramatta Mission**



Thank you everyone who donated  
beanies and scarves for  
Parramatta Mission during our  
winter appeal. Thanks to your  
kindness and generosity we were  
able to deliver several hundred  
warm beanies and scarves to be  
given to homeless and  
disadvantaged people.

*Combined*  
**MORNING TEA**  
**9AM**

**21  
SEPTEMBER  
2025**

**BETWEEN THE MORNING  
SERVICES**

# The Past for Today

## Episode 4 'Allah'

**When: Saturday 27 September 2025**

**Time: 10am-11:15am**

**Where: St. Matthew's Uniting Church Baulkham Hills.**

**Led by Clive Pearson: All welcome**

**How the Christian faith engaged with Islam over time.**

The word 'Allah; means God; it is the word used by Arabic Christians; it was used long before the English word 'God' was used.



**1st Saturday of the month  
9am-12pm**

### Upcoming dates

- **6 September**
  - **4 October**
  - **1 November**
- Pre-loved Household items, Electrical, Toys & Books (Fiction, Non-fiction & children's books)*

*St. Matthew's Lower hall*

## THE HILLS FAIR TRADE market

**Saturday 6th September  
10am-2pm**

[stpauls.church/fairtrademarket](http://stpauls.church/fairtrademarket)



Find all events on the  
Church Center App





# Daily Wisdom

Daily readings with John Main



*The Stages of our progress in meditation will come about in their own time. God's own time. We in fact only hinder this progression by becoming too self-conscious about our stage of development. This is where a teacher is of immense help for keeping you on a straight course. But basically your teacher has only one instruction to give you and that is: to say your mantra. More that this is simply encouragement and comfort until the mantra is rooted in your consciousness. The path of enlightenment is one we tread for ourselves. Each person wins wisdom for himself. The teacher is there to keep you steadily going forward. The word 'guru' itself, dispeller of darkness, means the one who is steady.*

*The greatest temptation of all is to complicate ourselves. 'Unless you become like little children...' Meditation simplifies us, simplifies us to the point where we can receive the fullness of truth and the fullness of love. It prepares us and enables us to listen with childlike attention to the Spirit of Jesus within us. As we persevere in meditation, we enter ever more deeply into relationship with this Spirit, with God who is love dwelling in our hearts, enlightening us and vitalizing us.*

## *Word into Silence*

In response to Jon Humphries' last month's piece on Praying Prayer, I want to thank him for his words. The St. Matthew's Christian Meditation Groups have been offering prayerful spaces which embody what Jon wrote about through times for prayerful meditation for the past 23 years.

The groups were started by Betty Carmody who recognised in herself what this practice of being silent and still in the presence of God's Spirit could do for everyone.

Since 2016, myself and others who learnt from Betty, have continued to facilitate one, now two groups every week of the year where anyone can come to learn how to begin and continue the discipline of sitting in silence giving our full attention to God in our hearts. We find attending the groups helps us to remain faithful to spending time with God every day and how the fruits of the spirit generate within as a result- how we do not know.

Each person receives a book of daily readings by John Main that offer gentle encouragement and wise inspiration for every day of the year. Some of these

readings are included in the Christian Meditation Article that appears in this monthly IN FOCUS.

There is ample warm, welcoming space for anyone to join on a casual or regular basis. It costs nothing and we strictly adhere to the hour session including up to 30 minutes of silence.

You may socially distance, wear masks if needed, wrap up in a blanket, wear comfy, casual clothes. We meet on Monday in the Community Room upstairs and in the main Church space on Tuesday.

St. Matthew's offers this peaceful, quiet space for all ages to do the work of communing with God in silence, stillness and the simplicity in Baulkham Hills.

Monday Evenings 7.30-8.30pm.  
Tuesday Mornings 9.30-10.30am.

*Katherine Pedersen.*

Elder of St. Matthew's Uniting Church BH with a focus on Spirituality including Prayer. Facilitator and learning mantra based Christian meditator.

# Book Launch



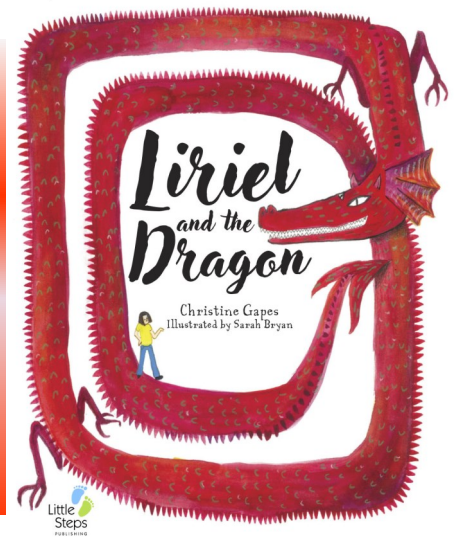
*Liriel and the Dragon*, a book written by Christine Gapes and illustrated by Sarah Bryan, will be launched at Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus, Wednesday 10 September 2025 at 1pm, arrive after 12.30pm.

Paul Hawker, a non-fiction television writer/producer will be launching the book. His films have covered topics from social issues to shipwrecks. Recent screen credits include the Discovery Channel's *Mythbusters*, Animal Planet's *Buggin with Ruud*, and National Geographic's *Green Car*. He has also made numerous programs and documentaries for Australian and New Zealand television networks. In addition to his writing for the screen, Paul is the author of *Secret Affairs of the Soul: Ordinary People's Extraordinary Experiences of the Sacred* and *Soul Quest*.

Christine is the Uniting Church Chaplain at Western Sydney so come and see where vibrant ministry is happening. All are welcome to attend and of course buy the book. There'll be light refreshments. Details are on the website:

[lirielandthedragon.com](http://lirielandthedragon.com), or email Christine at

[Lirielandthedragon@gmail.com](mailto:Lirielandthedragon@gmail.com). Park in the streets for free or take the new Light Rail to Rydalmere.



***Book Launch: Wednesday 10 September 2025***

***Where: Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus***

***Time: 1pm, arrive after 12.30pm***



st. matthew's  
UNITING CHURCH  
BAULKHAM HILLS  
growing together

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

ST MATTHEW'S UNITING CHURCH  
AND PRESCHOOL'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**Celebrate with us In October/November 2025!!!**

## SAVE THE DATES

### SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2025

SYDNEY WELSH CHOIR PERFORMANCE 2:00 PM

### SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES WITH GUEST PREACHERS 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 6:45 PM

### SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2025

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE – FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA 9:00 AM

PICNIC LUNCH AT JOHN CURTIN RESERVE WINSTON HILLS FROM 11:00 AM

### SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2025

SOCIAL EVENTS AT CHURCH

- DINNER, OPEN MIC & GAMES NIGHT FROM 5:30 PM  
(SHARE FOOD, STORIES & GAMES)

### SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2025

WORSHIP SERVICES WITH GUEST PREACHERS 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 6:45 PM

### SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2025

50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY - CHURCH & PRESCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM

- CHURCH & PRESCHOOL SHOWCASE (AFTER WORSHIP)
- MUNCH (SHARE FOOD & STORIES) (AFTER WORSHIP)
- YOUTH SERVICE (INCL SHINE CELEBRATIONS) 6:45 PM



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

ST MATTHEW'S UNITING CHURCH  
AND PRESCHOOL'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**Celebrate with us In October/November 2025!!!**

## PHOTOGRAPHS REQUIRED

IF YOU HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS OR STORIES FROM ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FROM THE LAST TEN (10) IN PARTICULAR WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COPIES THAT WE CAN INCLUDE IN OUR PHOTOGRAPHIC SHOWCASE TO BE PRESENTED DURING NOVEMBER'S CELEBRATIONS. IN PARTICULAR WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING PHOTOGRAPHS AND STORIES:

- DIRK VAN DOORENE CLOSURE OF MINISTRY SERVICE & MORNING TEA
- JON HUMPHRIES INDUCTION SERVICE
- ACTIVITIES & EVENTS DURING COVID
- VARIOUS CHURCH GROUPS ACTIVITIES AND PEOPLE
- SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES AND MORNING TEAS
- ANY OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS OF ST MATTHEWS (LAST 50 YRS)
- SHORT STORIES IN THE LIFE OF ST MATTHEWS (LAST 10 YRS)

**IF YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORABILIA TO CONTRIBUTE,  
PLEASE SEE GREG GIBB OR CALL HIM ON HIS MOBILE [0414 764 437](tel:0414764437)**



st. matthew's  
UNITING CHURCH  
BAULKHAM HILLS  
growing together



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

ST MATTHEW'S UNITING CHURCH  
AND PRESCHOOL'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

JOIN THE CELEBRATIONS & GET CREATIVE

AS PART OF THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE 50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS WE WILL RUN A COMPETITION INVITING HELP TO CREATE AN ANNIVERSARY THEME AND LOGO THAT REFLECTS THE CHURCH'S JOURNEY AND THAT INSPIRES HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.

SHARE YOUR VISION AND CREATIVITY  
TO CHOOSE A THEME AND DESIGN A LOGO.

ALSO, WE ARE LOOKING TO PREPARE A BANNER TO ADVERTISE OUR  
CELEBRATIONS – IF THIS IS SOMETHING YOU COULD HELP WITH LET  
US KNOW.

IF YOU FEEL YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CREATIVE, PLEASE SEE GREG GIBB,  
CALL HIM ON HIS MOBILE [0414 764 437](tel:0414764437)  
OR SEND AN EMAIL TO [greg.gibb1955@bigpond.com](mailto:greg.gibb1955@bigpond.com)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE COMPETITION IS 15 AUGUST 2025.  
A SMALL PRIZE WILL BE OFFERED FOR THE WINNING THEME AND LOGO.

TWO EXCLUSIVE FILM SCREENINGS

# THE GOLDEN CHAIN OF MERCY

A ground-breaking documentary reveals the untold story of the Australian and New Zealand connection to the Armenian genocide. A story of survivors, and of the Australian heroes who came to their aid.

**United Theological College**

16 Masons Dr, North Parramatta  
3 September @ 7pm

**Pitt Street Uniting Church**

264 Pitt St, Sydney CBD  
26 November @ 2:30pm



*Refreshments will be served at both events.  
Donations upon entry are welcome.*

*Presented by the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly in partnership with the Armenian Missionary Association of Australia, and co-hosted with United Theological College and Pitt Street Uniting Church.*



# Calendar of Events for September 2025


**Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday**

<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9am <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall</p> <p>7.30pm <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9.30-11am <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p> <p>11.30am <b>Care &amp; Prayer</b> Community room &amp; church</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>10am <b>Funeral service for Ida Batten</b> Morning tea will follow in the upstairs hall</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>10am-12noon <b>Coffee &amp; Discovery</b> Guest Speaker: <b>Jon Humphries</b> "Paddling into Peace and wellbeing"</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>No scheduled events</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9am-12pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9am-12pm <b>Garage Sale</b> lower hall</p> <p><b>Garage SALE</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>13th Sunday After Pentecost</p> <p>8am— <b>Worship</b> Includes Communion</p> <p>9.30am—<b>Worship</b> Includes Communion <b>Followed by Morning Tea</b> KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 &amp; Years 3-8</p> <p>6.45pm <b>Worship</b> Includes Communion</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>9am <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall</p> <p>7.30pm <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9.30-11am <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>10am-12noon <b>Women's Fellowship</b> Upstairs hall</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>5pm-7pm <b>Fusion Youth Group</b> @ Holey Moley mini golf @ Castle Hill</p> <p><b>HOLEY MOLEY</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>12pm <b>Netball presentation day</b> All day in Upstairs hall and church</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>14th Sunday After Pentecost</p> <p>8am— <b>Worship</b> 9am—<b>Worship @ the Willow's</b> 9.30am—<b>Worship</b> Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 &amp; Years 3-8</p> <p>6.45pm—<b>Worship</b> Community Meal</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9am <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall</p> <p>7.30pm <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9.30-11am <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>10am-12noon <b>In Stitches</b> Upstairs hall</p> <p>10am-12noon <b>Men's Morning Tea</b> McKels Café Bella Vista</p> <p>7.30pm—<b>Elders meeting</b> Upstairs hall</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>No scheduled events</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>No scheduled events</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>15th Sunday After Pentecost</p> <p>8am— <b>Worship</b> 9am—<b>Combined morning tea</b> 9.30am—<b>Worship</b> KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 &amp; Years 3-8</p> <p>5pm—<b>Shine</b> 6.45pm—<b>Worship</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>9am <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower</p> <p>7.30pm <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9.30-11am <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>5pm-7pm <b>Fusion Youth Group</b> "Lego Masters"</p> <p><b>LEGO MASTERS</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>No scheduled events</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>16th Sunday After Pentecost</p> <p>8am— <b>Worship</b> Followed by Morning Tea</p> <p>9.30am—<b>Worship</b> Followed by Morning Tea KUCA in recess for school holidays</p> <p>6.45pm—<b>Worship</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>9am <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall</p> <p>7.30pm <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9am-2pm <b>Op Shop</b></p> <p>9.30-11am <b>Christian Meditation</b> community room</p>	<p><b>Season After Pentecost</b></p> 				<p>st. matthew's <b>UNITING CHURCH</b> <b>BAULKHAM HILLS</b> growing together</p> 

**Bible Study**  
**Tuesday Evenings**  
**7pm-8.30pm**  
in church or community room

***IN RECESS***

**Bible Study**  
**Tuesday Evenings**  
**7pm-8.30pm**  
in church or community room

 **Wednesday 10th September @ 10am**  
**“Our past” talk about our occupation**  
Dulcie Duncum & Margaret Gray

**“Our past” talk about our occupation**  
Dulcie Duncum & Margaret Gray

**Every third Wednesday of the month    Enquiries Alan Wright**

Share fun and fellowship with other crafty ladies.  
Morning Tea supplied. Enquiries: Jane Cole

**All Welcome**  
**11.30am** on the **first TUESDAY**  
**of each month** at St. Matthew's  
*February to November*

**NEW GROUP**  
**MONDAY**  
*Evenings*  
7.30pm—8.30pm

**Tuesdays** at the Church 9.30am-10.30am  
For more information or to express your  
interest in attending please contact  
Katherine Pedersen  
Facilitator [kathped56@gmail.com](mailto:kathped56@gmail.com)  
**ALL WELCOME**

Pre-loved clothes & accessories, Books,  
Haberdashery, Bric-a-brac, Pot Plants.

**Saturday  
6th September  
9am-12pm**

***Pre-loved Household Items,  
Electrical, Toys & Books  
(Fiction, Non-fiction & Childrens Books)***

## St. Matthew's lower hall Edgar St

**SHINE** is a special needs social group for all ages after High school.  
***Meets Sundays Monthly for dinner & fun. Cost \$5***  
***Still collecting*** for their shoebox appeal supporting a school in the Philippines.  
***Donations of small educational items, soaps & combs are greatly appreciated.*** Please place donations in the box provided at the top of the stairs in the church foyer.

**Giving** From time to time, we receive questions on how someone can make donations to St. Matthew's Uniting Church Baulkham Hills, to further support God's work through the Ministry team and congregation, in the wider Community. To assist with this, we have set up the following account with Uniting Financial Services:

**Account Name:**  
Baulkham Hills Uniting Church-Giving Direct    **BSB:** 634634    **Account Number:** 100025924  
If required a Direct Debit Request Form is available in the foyer or speak with Barry Gregory.  
**For your support of God's work here at St. Matthew's, a big thank you!**  
**If you wish to find out more, please contact the Church Office.**

To include your activity in the  
**OCTOBER**  
**In Focus**  
**St. Matthew's**  
**Monthly Newsletter**  
please send details to Lynn in the Church  
Office by **15 September**  
Thank you

**Maintaining contact with you and your family is very important to us.**  
We would be grateful if you change your address, phone/mobile or email details that you let us know by phoning and leaving a message on 9686 3003 or by email: [office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au](mailto:office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au)

Thank you to all who  
have contributed to  
this publication.

**EMAIL:** [director@stmatthewsps.net.au](mailto:director@stmatthewsps.net.au)