



14 JULY, 2019

Welcome to worship this morning, and a special welcome to Rev Geoff Stevenson, Strategy Minister and Chairperson for Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery, who will be bringing us the message this morning. Please join us for morning tea in the child care centre playground after the service.

Community Prayer Dinner

This year's Community Prayer Dinner will be on Tuesday 27th August at 7pm in the Swan Room at Merrylands RSL. The speaker this year will be Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, the Catholic Bishop of Parramatta, who will be speaking on "Refugees and Asylum Seekers, my story and the challenge today".

This is always an interesting dinner with the opportunity to pray for our local community and its people. Tickets are \$45 each and include a two course dinner and soft drinks. To book your tickets please call the office of Holroyd New Life Church on 9896 2514 or hmf@hnlc.org.au.

Church Fete

The Church Fete is coming up on Saturday 17th August.

We are looking for helpers to set-up the night before and to help on the day and for donations of goods to sell, if you have any questions please see Sue or Peter.

Sunday School

Sunday School is in recess for the school holidays and will resume on Sunday 28th July.

Prayer Support

Don't forget an elder is available after the service each week, at the back of the church, to pray with you if you any concerns you would like prayer for.

You can also put your prayer requests on the green form and the prayer chain will pray for you during the week. These can be confidential, and anonymous if you prefer.

Keep the Date

Rev Rob McFarlane will be leading worship here on Sunday 4th August. Following the service, he will be leading a brief get-together of any interested members of the congregation to look at what we see as Our Values. This will be helpful for the work of our Mission Strategy Group. More details to follow.



Greystanes Uniting Church

Cnr Cumberland & Eldridge Roads (P O Box 5064)

Greystanes NSW 2145

Minister: Rev Mark Beaton 0430 209 195
mark.beaton@greystanesuniting.org.au

Office Phone: 9636 3245
Email: office@greystanesuniting.org.au

Website: www.greystanesuniting.org.au

Mark's Message

The cost of calling: Earlier in June, a jury in an Arizona courtroom was deadlocked in a decision as to whether a man was guilty of transporting and harbouring illegal immigrants. Scott Warren is a volunteer who works with *No More Deaths*, an organization located in Southwestern Arizona that seeks to offer basic humanitarian aid to migrants who have illegally crossed the border from Mexico. Part of *No More Deaths's* objective is to leave food and bottled water in the desert for those entering the country, while also collecting the remains of those who do not survive the journey. Border Patrol agents arrested Warren after spotting him with two illegal migrants in a place known as the Barn, which serves as a headquarters for *No More Deaths*. Mr. Warren was accused of conspiring to provide the two men illegal protection from Border Patrol and directions that would help them avoid a border checkpoint. If convicted, Scott Warren would have faced up to 20 years in prison. Yet, after three days of deliberation, the jury could not reach a decision. When asked during the trial why he was spending his life helping strangers, Warren responded by saying: "It feels choice-less. How could you not do that when there are people dying around you? How could you not respond?" At what cost? Certainly, the full scope of Scott Warren's trial cannot be summarized in this one-page article, and whether his actions deserve praise or punishment can be debated from both sides. Yet regardless of personal feelings, this story compels all people to contemplate what fears and risks prevent us from pursuing what we feel is the right thing to do. Sometimes fear of authority and potential consequences can keep us from following through on what we believe is right. Other times our inner fears of embarrassment or self-doubt persuade us to avoid taking a risk. In such moments of internal conflict, we must consider what the Bible calls us to do and remember that Jesus is our first authority. *Ministrymatters/Brett Lamberth*

Roster for 21 July, 2019:

Worship Leader: Rev Mark Beaton
Elder: Lola
Bible reader: Pat
Welcomers: Laurie & Sabina
Morning Tea: Fero & Imi
Cleaning: Sue
Sound: Darryl
Powerpoint: Kaye
Kids Talk: Julie T

Lectionary Readings

This week 14 July, 2019:

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

Next week 21 July, 2019:

Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

Lord hear our prayers:

We pray for those who are new in our country and looking to make Greystanes their home. Help us to find ways to help them be part of this community by offering love and friendship.