



17 FEBRUARY, 2019

Welcome

Welcome to worship, please join us for morning tea in the playground area after the service.

Sympathies

Our sympathies are with Greg and Michelle, Luke, Jonah and Summer following the passing of Greg's dad this week. Please keep the family in your prayers at this difficult time.

Mission Strategy Group

Church Council has formed a Mission Strategy Group to look at possible mission opportunities for our congregation, including the projects that were suggested at our ABCD planning workshop. The group is Mark Beaton, Adrian Pearson, Julie Truscott, Ayesha Sadiq and Tegan Stenning, with two ministers from outside our congregation assisting as well. If you have any ideas to share about either current ministries or possibilities for the future, please speak to one of the group members.

SRE Celebration Service

The annual service for SRE (Special Religious Education in Schools) will be next Sunday 24 February at 6pm at Toongabbie Baptist Church, 180 Toongabbie Rd, Girraween. We will be praying for the teachers and the students they will teach and all are welcome, please bring a plate of food to share for supper.

World Vision Child Sponsorship

We are still collecting donations to support the three children we currently sponsor with World Vision. Please feel free to give what you are able, with the most common donation amount being \$20. Our sponsorship helps provide support for child protection and child rights education, educational support and training for teachers, assistance to youth and adults to improve incomes and increased access to health education and care.

Thank you for your support,
Karen Seargent

Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for the year commencing 3 March, 2019 are now available on the back table, please take a box if you would like one.





Greystanes Uniting Church

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God's values

"Values" is a term we all think we understand, but I'm not so certain that any of us really has a clear idea of what the term means.

We tend to judge others values in terms of what we think and believe ourselves. We see others as not having any values, when, in fact, their values are simply different to ours.

As Christ's followers, you would think that we might all have the same set of values. Yet there are Christians in many different denominations, and even within individual congregations, who differ markedly on what they believe and why. Especially when it comes to what we perceive as "Values." In today's Bible reading from Luke 6, we read about Jesus teaching his disciples some of God's values. Jesus is suggesting that the values of this world are all upside down and so different to what God sees. Let me set the context for you, because this is important to understanding what Jesus is saying.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples, who, after his death, will all follow him to their own suffering and in most cases, death. He is giving them hope for the future.

What he is really saying is that not only will we find joy and happiness in heaven, but by contrast to the rich and spiritually poor now, we will find happiness now. We have already begun our eternal life. We don't have to wait until after death to be with Jesus. It may not look like we are happy and being fed when we are hungry. We may not look happy when we have tears in our lives, but we can laugh through the storms of life. When people hate us, we love them. We are the happy and blessed ones.

There is much more to true happiness than success, shelter, clothing and wealth. God does not value these as we do. He warns, do not make these things idols for your worship. Rather, surrender to Christ. Riches or poverty will be neutral. Be sure you are a follower of Christ, and in this, and only this, will you find true happiness.

Adrian

Roster for 24 February, 2019:

Worship Leader: Rev Mark Beaton
Elder: Hani
Bible reader: Elizebeth
Welcomers: Fay & John
Morning Tea: Peter & Elizebeth
Cleaning: Sue
Sound: Imi
Powerpoint: Fero
Kids Talk: Karen S

Lectionary Readings

This week 17 February, 2019:

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Next week 24 February, 2019:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Dates For Your Diary

Wed 20 Feb -7.30 pm -Elders
Tues 26 Feb -10.45am-Allity Aged
Care
Thurs 28 Feb -7.30pm - Church
Council
Fri 1 Mar -10am -World Day of
Prayer at Our Lady Queen of Peace
Fri 1 Mar - 7.30pm - Ladies Bible
Study