



17 MARCH, 2019

Welcome

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

New welcomers

We are looking for some new people to join our team of welcomers. This is an important part of making visitors feel valued and included in our congregation and would suit anyone who enjoys meeting new people. If you are interested please talk to Sue or one of the welcomers.

Retiring Offering - Sunday 31st March

On Sunday 31st March, we will be having our next Retiring Offering for the work of Side by Side Christ Ministries in Uganda.

Their work with needy children in Kampala is continuing to grow and more than 200 children now attend their school each day. The money we raise helps to provide the children with meals at school and this costs about \$1 a day for each child.

Please consider if you can help and bring your money for the offering on the 31st March.

Lenten Bible Study

Our Lenten Bible study will commence this Thursday morning at 10am in the chapel. We will be looking at a study called "The Mystery of God", and copies of the material will be available on Thursday. Please put your name on the list on the back notice board if you would like a copy. If you are unable to join the group but would like to do the study at home, that's fine, just add your name to the list so we can print a copy for you.

Church Treasurer

Thank you to Jac for volunteering to take on the role of treasurer for an interim period of up to 15 months. We are still looking for someone long-term and Jac is happy to have someone working with him to learn the ropes.

Church Council has split up the treasurer's role and the day-to-day payroll and bookkeeping functions are no longer part of the job, so if you are interested in taking on the treasurer's role please see Peter Stenning or Jac.





Greystanes Uniting Church

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Mark's Message

We follow an itinerant rabbi. Homeless might be one description. That's basically how Jesus described himself to potential disciples. When a Jewish religious leader offered to follow the Saviour "wherever you go," Jesus warned, "Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20). Throughout his ministry, Jesus moved from town to town, even when people begged him to put down roots. "I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent" (Luke 4:43). And not just other towns, but places in those new communities far beyond the normal worship sites. Jesus preached in synagogues but was equally willing to take church to a crowded marketplace, a hillside, or even a house party thrown by a tax collector.

Worship is not just what we do in our service! Church doesn't only happen in our building. Where are the lost sheep in our community? What are the spaces where they already feel comfortable? Could we take worship to them? Let's reclaim our heritage! We are followers of a wandering rabbi. A homeless Saviour. The one who did not call us to stay put and wait, but to "go and make disciples of all the nations. And yet, when we think about reaching "the lost" we invariably beg them to come to us. We try to make it as appealing as possible, of course: modern music, updated worship space, slides, and relevant sermon series. "Please come over here!" we call out to the lost. This isn't wrong. But it's certainly not the only way to worship. Jesus did not glue you inside your church building. It's okay, even important to also worship outside the walls, in the places ordinary people already go: the modern markets, community gatherings and homes. When you start to see the world as your church, the opportunities for innovative worship are endless. Where does God want our worship service to be? I suspect it's where it is needed the most.

Roster for 24 March, 2019:

Worship Leader: Rev Mark Beaton
Elder: Lola/Julie W
Bible reader: Karen M
Welcomers: Laurie & Sabina
Morning Tea: Gwen & Elly
Cleaning: Peter & Heather
Sound: Brian
Powerpoint: Shelby
Kids Talk: n/a - baptism

Lectionary Readings

This week 17 March, 2019:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17 - 4:1
Luke 13: 31-35

Next week 24 March, 2019:

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13: 1-9

Diary Dates for this week

Wed 7.30pm - Elders
Thurs 10.00am - Lenten Study
Sat - State Election - don't forget to vote!!

Lord hear our prayers:

We pray for those who are searching and haven't yet found the life-giving light of Jesus. Help us to be a church that searches diligently for those who are looking but are unsure what they are looking for. We ask you to put the name of Jesus on their minds.