



5 MAY, 2019

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

Healing Service

Our next Healing Service is tonight at 7pm in the chapel. Everyone is welcome to this time of prayer and communion.

Sports Breakfast 22nd June

Our next Sports Breakfast will be on Saturday 22nd June, commencing at 8am.

Our speaker will be Captain Michael Condon, who is a recently retired Qantas Boeing 747 Captain with 30 years experience of captaining Qantas' former "pride of the fleet", the 747.

Breakfast will be egg and bacon rolls and will be available from 8.00-8.45am and the morning should finish about 10am. Cost will be \$10 per person.

Music Group

Sue is looking for another pianist to join the music group and share the playing on Sundays. If you are interested in playing occasionally please see Sue. If you play another instrument and would like to join the music group, please talk to us!

Bush Dance

Holroyd New Life Church invite you to a Bush Dance on Saturday 18th May from 6.30pm.

The dance will be held at their church, which is in the community meeting room above the Greystanes Library in Merrylands Rd.

Cost is \$10 per head, or \$30 per family and includes a light supper.

Enquiries to their church office on 9896 2514.

"God's love shows us how to forgive, His forgiveness shows us how to love"

Kathy Carlton Willis





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

If you listen to pastors of rapidly growing churches preach, you'll notice a few things quickly. 1. They're generally really good speakers. People don't turn up to church for lousy preaching. And lots of people are turning up at these churches (e.g. Hillsong). Good preaching is necessary but not sufficient. Lots of good preachers blast away at empty pews. 2. They're very aware that there speaking to non-church people. That is, they don't preach like everyone is a believer. They seem to speak well to their own "inner sceptic." They tune in to their imagined listener who hasn't bought in to Christianity. They speak in a way that encourages one to think there may be something more than what we can see, touch and hear. Non-Christians have good reasons not to believe with all the terrible things Christians have done in history. Add in all the nut jobs who prophesy independently and other preachers who run off with money and women. The disillusionment caused by Pastors who preach one thing and act another way keeps the sceptical mind very busy.

The thing is, good preachers know that sceptical mind. In fact, they have one themselves. I don't mean they don't believe, of course they do. David Hume, an eighteenth-century Scottish philosopher and famous critic of Christianity, learning his companion on the road was off to a revival service of the great evangelist George Whitefield, said, "Come on, you don't believe any of that stuff, do you?" The man replied, "No, not really. But he does." The authenticity of Whitefield's faith itself bore witness. So it is with preachers. They must have a love for God that centres what they do, who they are, and is the most attractive thing about their preaching. But authenticity itself is not enough. If preachers preach as though there are non-Christians present, they may start showing up. If we do not, they will not. Church people will notice if they can bring their non-Christian friends or not. Good preachers know that the most beautiful thing is a person, the opportunity to turn a non-believer to believer is a desire that should fuel any preacher.

Roster for 12 May, 2019:

Worship Leader: Rev Mark Beaton
Elder: Laurie
Bible reader: Peter St
Welcomers: Mandy & Vicky
Morning Tea: Pat & Gwen
Cleaning: Sue
Sound: Imi
Powerpoint: Fero
Kids Talk: Mark

Lectionary Readings

This week 5 May, 2019:

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

Next week 12 May, 2019:

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Lord hear our prayers:

We pray for all the preachers in our church and praise you God for giving them a heart to evangelise your word. May you keep them strong in faith, engrossed in your love and committed to the truth that is seen in Jesus the Christ.