



**Uniting Church in Australia
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS
Sunday 26 January 2020
EPIPHANY 3**



Ex-Moderator Rev Sue Ellis.-

‘As Lent approaches and residents of Australia are left in shock and turmoil, it feels like an opportune time to pray for people to turn to Jesus for hope, healing, comfort and courage to face the future,’ says Sue. Sue knows firsthand what it is like to experience the devastation of bushfire. A scene she will never forget is the wall of flame that roared down the mountain behind her hometown of Melrose in the summer of 1988. The scene brought to mind scripture from Joel 2:2, as Sue recalls watching the fire challenge residents like a great and powerful army; it was something Sue had never seen before, nor to see again.

“... a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness. Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.” Joel 2:2

Join Sue in praying for fresh hope and new beginnings: *UC e-News*

Welcome to Seacliff Uniting Church!

If you are new to the area, visiting friends or family, or on a holiday, to you we extend a warm welcome, and invite you to share fully in worship and fellowship. Our Minister is Rev. Gary Stuckey.

This Week at Seacliff

Most regular activities recommence from 2nd February.

What's News

A Note from Gary

Lent Reflection Groups

I know we are only just over Christmas but it is time to start thinking about Lent Reflection Groups.

These will run for 6 weeks from the first week in March (the first week of Lent) and conclude in Holy Week. Today you will find a 'sign up' sheet on the cupboard door in the morning tea room. There are three options for the time of the groups. Whether they all go will depend on numbers involved.

If you intend to participate could you please put your name down on the day and time which is your first choice ASAP. As previously, if on any week, you cannot come on that day you are welcome to come on one of the other days. And if you can't come to them all that is okay too - come to those you can make.

We will be guided in our reflection by the Rev Rob Bos' Lenten studies for Matthew's Gospel entitled "With You Always". (As the lectionary Gospel readings for Lent this year are from John's Gospel they will not match the Scripture in the reflection guide which will be from Matthew's Gospel.)

The cost for the reflection guide will be about \$11 or \$12. The Church Council has agreed to purchase a number of copies for use in the groups so you don't need to purchase one. However, if you would like to have your own copy (for example, to use during the week) please put your name down on the appropriate sheet on the door and I will order one for you.

Rev Bos' material from last year was very well received and I have no doubt this material will enrich our Lenten journey in 2020.

Contemplative Worship

It seems to me that we are living in an increasingly busy, noisy and fast paced world. Where and how can we find some peace and quiet?

One way is in Contemplative Worship, a service of stillness, silence and reflection.

On February 23rd I will be offering a Contemplative Service at Seacliff, the first of four planned for this year. It will be at 6:00pm and run for about an hour.

The service will include quiet music, often from the Taize community, readings, a short reflection followed by a period for personal reflection in silence, Holy Communion and prayer.

This is an opportunity to come into the quiet and find grace and peace to restore your soul.

If you have any questions please ask me. Gary Stuckey (Rev)

CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

A Congregational meeting set for 11am on the 16th February will consider the membership of the Council with nominations for new members. Nominations close **next Sunday 2nd February**. Please contact Rosemary for a nomination form.

Uniting Church SA Relief Fund UC e-News

Currently there are three different ministry areas which are supported from the Uniting Church SA Relief Fund.

Bushfire Relief SA : Donations to the Fund will be used to support local congregations as they serve the people in their fire-affected communities,.

Mental Health Chaplaincy: Your gift will help alleviate suffering and develop networks of care and concern.

Prison Ministry Chaplaincy: Your donation will help us support chaplaincy to our prisons in South Australia .

BACK PAGE

Worship Leader for Today: **Rev. Jim Winn**
Lectionary for Today: **26 January 2020: Is 9: 1- 4;**
Ps 27:1. 4 -9; 1 Cor 1: 10 - 18; Mt 4: 12 - 23.

Reminder for Stewards: Check new roster.

.Welcome to our Church.

Things you need to know, especially if you are a visitor.
Fire exits are marked. Please take note. In the case of an emergency evacuation please gather on the Western Lawns under the Pine Tree. **St John First Aid Kit** - on top of the pigeon holes up from the ramp. **Toilets** are available through the door front right of the Worship Area or out through the turn around point on the ramp. **Morning tea** is held after the service – we hope you will join with us. More information is available from the Steward's Table and displays scattered around "The Middle Hall".

Items for the Newsletter

Please email items to
newsletter@seacliffuc.org
by 9.30am on Wednesdays.
If you do not have access to email, please phone or call in at the church office and it will be forwarded for you.

Our Minister is Rev. Gary Stuckey.

Contact :

Mobile : 0488 017 187,
Home phone : 8270.2862
email :
minister@seacliffuc.org

Church Office Information

Open Thursday and Friday

9.30am – 12.30pm

☎ 8296 1517

Email: office@seacliffuc.org

Website: www.seacliffuc.org