



Uniting Church in Australia
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS
Sunday 29 January 2022

Epiphany 4



5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes:

He said: ³“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely
say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in
the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This Week.

Book Club 1.30 pm Wednesday 1st February
Yarn Sisters 10am Thursday 2nd February
Meditation Session 2pm Thursday 2nd February
Covenant Service 9.30am Next Sunday 5th Feb.
Contemplative Worship 7pm Sunday 5th Feb.

What's News

SEACLIFF SPIRITUALITY PROGRAM - WHAT'S COMING UP?

Meditation

The first meditation session will be held on **Thursday February 2nd at 2:00pm** in the middle hall. No previous experience of meditation is needed, and all are welcome to participate in this practice of quietness.

Contemplative Worship... will be held on **Sunday February 5th at 7:00pm**. The reflection on this day will be on Jesus' call for us, his followers, to be salt and light in this world. Quiet music, silence, quiet reflection, and a contemplative communion offer the grace and peace to restore our soul. For those who wish to stay, there will be light refreshments after.

Quiet Day

There will be **four** Quiet Days (or Quiet half days really) in 2023. The first will be on **Tuesday February 21st commencing at 9:30am** and concluding at 12:30pm. For those who wish to, you can stay and share fellowship over a BYO lunch with other retreatants.

The theme for this year will be "*The Seasons of Life*". Every year we observe the cycle of the seasons, watching life germinate, sprout, blossom and grow, and then retreat into the waiting time before the cycle begins again. As the earth is transformed, so too can our lives be.

The first session, as it will nearly be Autumn, will focus on that season, the season of surrender and shedding. What can we learn about how to move forward in our lives from Autumn?

Lenten Reflections

As we have done for a number of years now, there will be the opportunity to take time on our journey through Lent to reflect together on this sacred season. As a resource, we will be using Rob Bos' little booklet, "*With You Always*", Lenten studies in Matthew's Gospel. For those with good memories, this is the resource we were using three years ago but did not complete because of COVID. There will be **five** sessions, commencing on **Tuesday Feb 28th at 10:30am and Thursday March 2nd at 2:00pm**. We will meet in the middle hall.

UPCOMING SERVICES

The beginning of each year seems, at least to me, to start with a flurry of activity as events for the year recommence. So it is with our worship services and we have a few 'specials' coming up early in the year.

Our service on **Feb 5th** will be a **Covenant service** with Communion. We start each year with this service, a time when we dedicate ourselves again to our worship and service.

On **Feb 12th** we will be having a **Harvest service**.

On this occasion, you are invited to bring along grocery items as an expression of our gratitude to God for the fruit of the earth.

These items will be given to "Grocer with a Heart" which is operated by Brighton Church of Christ Community Care. Cheryl Pinkess from that organisation will be part of our service to tell us a little about their work

Gary

Election to Church Council

Almost the final reminder that nominations for election to Church Council close **next Sunday, February 5th**: Nominations need to be with Rosemary by 10.45 am (before worship would be better!!). Nomination is open to people who are Confirmed Members or Members-in-Association of this congregation. As Council is part of the formal structures of the Uniting Church, this is one of those occasions where we need to be careful to follow the procedures that limit nomination to these two groups of people.

AGM – reports

A reminder also that the AGM will be conducted on **Sunday 19th February, from about 11.00 am**. The Council election mentioned above will be take place within the context of the AGM, and normally the result of the election is able to be announced before the meeting is finished.

Annual reports will be distributed beforehand: please read them and be ready for their discussion and reception on the day. We also have important decisions to make about our annual ***Special Mission Projects***.

If there is a matter of concern to you, or if you wish to propose a decision re our mission projects, or bring any other matter, please advise either Max or Rosemary. Please make sure that anything you bring is *in the form of a definitive proposal that you want to see adopted* – “something we need to talk about” will probably not make the agenda.

Max



Notes from the Treasurer

1. The **Christmas Bowl Appeal** will close today and I will collate and forward the total amount of cash given very soon.
2. The **UCA Ukraine Appeal** is still open, envelopes are available near the main Church door and can be forwarded to them directly.
3. Thank you to the **Stewards** for your faithful work and completing the ‘paperwork’ each week, these records must be accurate and are very important for the annual Auditing process.
4. In the Treasurers pigeon hole (top centre), or from me directly, you can obtain:
 - a. **Blue forms** to Claim reimbursement for any expenses incurred and
 - b. **Yellow forms** for ‘any other income’ such as Fundraising or from various Groups.
5. At present I am busy finalising records from 2022 which will be presented as part of a **Financial Report** to CC on Feb 14th and then to the AGM on Feb 19th.

David

Cogs n Coffee

Riding for cogs n coffee members commenced last Wednesday with a ride to the velo coffee cafe in the old Victoria Park grandstand. A Dozen riders turned up and appreciated the shade provided by the many trees along the way.

For next weeks ride, meet at Wattle reserve for a ride North.

Brian

Freedom, Only Freedom

Wednesday 8 February at 6.00 pm.

Online & Hall F: Central Building, Adelaide Convention Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide.

Join us for an in-conversation with Kurdish-Iranian writer, journalist, scholar, cultural advocate, filmmaker, and former Manus Island detainee, **Behrouz Boochani**, who will discuss his second book, *Freedom, Only Freedom: The Prison*

Writings. These stories highlight the plight of refugees around the world. Register for this free event or to watch live from home. If the time does not suit, a free video will be available a week or so later. Full details and registration

at www.unisa.edu.au/connect/hawke-centre/

Warwick

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Worship Leaders for Today: Brian Gepp
Lectionary for Today: **29 January 2023: Mic 6: 1 - 8; Ps 15; 1 Cor 1: 18 - 31; Mt 5: 1 - 12.**
Reminder for Stewards: 5 February 2023
Dave Rickard Bob Heywood

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. According to our **Covid plan**, please note the seating arrangements within the building for your safety.

Items for the Newsletter

Please email items to newsletter@seacliffuc.org by 5pm 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 :

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Church Office Information

Phone / Email contact only Thursday and Friday

9.30am – 12.30pm

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