

Preaching

8.30am Peter Ireland
10.15am Peter Ireland

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 6: 1-8
Psalm: 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17



Welcome to AUC!

Please join us after the service for refreshments in the 'breezeway'.

Contact Us

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[Lord, Give Us A Thankful Heart](#)

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Whatever happens, give thanks, because it is God’s will in Christ Jesus that you do this.” (1 Thessalonians 1:16-18)

We have many, many things for which to be thankful, but not always do we take the time or make the opportunity to do so. This week Australians have been asked to take the time to be thankful and to express that thanks through three specific events. This week has been *National Volunteer Week*; the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation’s volunteers. While the church usually replaces the terminology of volunteer with Christ’s call to Servanthood- the heart and purpose of this event remains the same. We give thanks for those who offer their time, energy, wisdom and experience for the sake of serving God and each other.

This week is also *Chappie Week* – a time to recognise, and offer prayer and financial support to School Chaplains for their invaluable work with, and devotion to students – they bring light and hope to students in a way that school teachers are largely unable to.

Plus, the last Saturday in May is the *National Day of Thanks*.

It is a uniquely Christian celebration, a day for specifically thanking God for the Nation we live in, and the many blessings we enjoy. Each year there are different areas of focus. For 2018, we are encouraged to be particularly thankful for:

- People who contribute in a positive way to the vibrant cultural tapestry of Australia.
- People who work in Schools across our Nation (Principals, Teachers, Teachers Aids, Chaplains, Administration Staff, Volunteers, Cleaners and Maintenance staff, etc.)
- The Unsung Heroes in your life and community; those who help others and are seldom thanked for what they do.

Can I suggest that today you have a good look around you, because there are not many people in our church family who do not fit into at least one of the categories above. The call to put love into action is a natural part of Christian discipleship. So, let us give thanks, and pray unceasingly that Christ will continue to inspire us all to serve in ways that will express our gratitude to God by paying forward the love that he has placed on our hearts.

God richest blessings – Ps. Graham Huth

Please Pray For:

- ✓ School Chaplains, RE Leaders and Christian Teachers for wisdom, grace and guidance in the work they do in our schools.
- ✓ For leaders to help with our Children’s ministry and playgroup.
- ✓ For members of Presbytery as they meet this weekend



Serving others: giving of our time and talents

This week is National Volunteer Week, the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers. Its theme this year is *Give a little. Change a lot.* It is proper that we recognise and thank them. At Aitkenvale Uniting Church we recently recognised our volunteers at a thank you dinner.

For us in the Church, volunteering and serving within its life allows us to discover and develop our spiritual gifts. Bonhoeffer, the great German theologian, once described Jesus as "the man for others". He went on to suggest that to be truly Christian we must be "there for others".

1 Peter 4:10-11 says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms... so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." Serving is a form of worship, a way to express gratitude for what Jesus has done for us, and to share the love and grace we've been given.

Thanks to all our "faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms".

6K for water walk

Between 1990 and 2015, 2.6 billion people gained improved access to clean water which is an incredible achievement! However, there are still 844 million people without such access, which is why our youth group walked 6km last Friday night. We participated in World Vision's 6K for water walk – 6 kilometres being the average distance people (often women and children) in developing countries have to walk daily, to access water. 16 of us braved the "chilly" evening conditions to walk from Rowes Bay to Pallarenda. In the process, we raised an impressive \$300 to help World Vision improve water access overseas.

If you would like to contribute to our overall tally, please see Kate, Graham, Achamma, Geoff or any of our young people.
Kate Mills



Assembly and the Same-Gender Marriage Debate.

IN July this year, the Assembly Standing Committee are proposing to bring to the upcoming 15th Assembly a recommendation that the Uniting Church changes our understanding of marriage to include same gender relationships. As we saw with the plebiscite last year, this is a subject that is potentially divisive because people have very strong beliefs regarding the Christian ideals of marriage. While this is ONLY a proposal at this time, the Church Council feels that it is vital that members of the Congregation are aware of the situation and have a chance to provide any feedback on the proposal to the Council, and to Presbytery (meeting 25-27 May).

Copies of three documents are being made available this week to allow people to study, pray about and consider their own stance, but more importantly, God's will in this issue. The documents are i) the proposal to Assembly, ii) a Pastoral Letter from the Moderator, and iii) a Pastoral Letter from our Presbytery Minister. They will be emailed along with Outreach, and hard copies will be available in the church foyer. More resources are available on the Assembly Website:

<https://assembly.uca.org.au/resources/marriage/item/2826-dig-deeper>



Smile and say CHEESE!

Over the next few weeks, Don Adamson will be taking photos of everyone for a Photo Directory for the church. This will help the Minister, Elders and Pastoral Carers, but will also be a resource that will be made available to members of the Congregation. While it is certainly not compulsory, we encourage everyone to be involved. We adhere strictly to the Uniting Church Privacy Policy, and you can be assured of confidentiality and correct use of any photos taken. So, smile!



Entertainment Books are still available for purchase to help AUC Play Group raise funds for new toys and craft resources.

See Rachel Mudge our Play Group Coordinator

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Australia's biggest morning tea

- Trivia Morning Tea
- Tuesday 5th June
- 9.30 a.m.
- Kirwan U.C.

Entry by donation to the Queensland Cancer Council

RSVP Sheila 0437708975

Dates in June

3 June Combined morning tea in breezeway

17 June Church picnic

25 June Church Council meeting

Date Claimers

Tuesday 5 June Biggest morning tea

Trivia morning @ Kirwan UC

Rosters & Readings for 3 June 2018

8.30am Service

Preacher: Graham Huth

Reader: Ron Store

Stewards: Ennis Family

Minister's Steward: Lesley Northey

Sound Desk: Joan Gist

Data Projector: Ken Northey

Organist: Carmel

Flowers: Ailsa

Morning Tea: Bronwyn and Ken Adams, Jane Warton

10.15am Service

Preacher: Graham Huth

Reader: Margaret

Greeter: Hann/Izzy

Sound Desk: Geoff

Data Projector: Cath

Music: Naomi, Scott

Children's Ministry: Family service

Morning Tea: Kate, Judy

Lectionary Readings

1 Sm 3:1-10 (11-20)

Ps 139:1-6, 13-18

2 Cor 4:5-12

Mk 2:23-3:6