

Outreach 22nd May 2022

a place to belong

Preaching9am Rev Wendy McHugh

Readings

Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67, Rev 21:10, 22-22:5, John 14:23-29



WELCOME TO AUC!

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

CONTACT US

Church Office

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Please pray for:

Leaders at Assembly, Synod and Presbytery for wisdom and discernment in making decisions affecting the wider church.

Our elders and members of the Church Council as they make decisions affecting the life of the church.

The Joint Nominating Committee and Presbytery as they seek to discern the calling of a new ministry agent for our congregation.

Nursing home residents in lock down. Ailsa Reid, Betty Jackson and others for loneliness.

Fred and Alison – for healing, comfort and strength of heart in this difficult time.

Comfort and strength for Jan Morcombe and family after the death of Richard.

Discipleship stream members.

The work of Prison Chaplin's.

Wisdom for all who go to the polls on Saturday.

Peace I leave with you!



When Jesus departs from his disciples, there will be significant changes and this text makes a promise that despite this fact the disciples will not be left alone.

This is a promise that surely made a huge difference to those for whom Jesus' departure is both immanent and potentially confusing.

And this is what the disciples are likely to

fear most: isolation from their teacher and friend. All that they have done has been about being part of Jesus' life and journey. But Jesus' promises mean that they will not be alone.

Jesus has, on several occasions, been preparing the disciples for his departure; he has not kept them in the dark about this fact (verse 28). But knowing he will be leaving them soon and understanding what that meant for them personally were probably two different things.

Into this reality of impending absence comes the Spirit, the Advocate, sent by God in Jesus' name to be present with the followers of Jesus (verse 26). This is the first time we read about this presence as the Holy Spirit. The Advocate is a presence the disciples will need in order to love as they are called to love. It will, as Jesus promises, be as if he is still with them. Additionally, the Spirit will serve as their teacher in Jesus' absence (verse 26). Jesus as teacher has been a profound presence in the Gospel message and continuing this teaching — his teaching — will be the Advocate's role.

One of the profound moments in this passage comes in verse 27: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." Peace is a commodity we sorely need in our world and is absent for far too many. But into this discourse about absence, Jesus reassures the disciples, who were rightly feeling fear about his departure, that they will not be left alone and bestows peace on them.

This is not a passive peace. It is an active working toward peace in multiple situations. This Spirit and peace will propel the disciples and later the church into active discipleship and mission. The presence of this peace reminds me of one of my favorite quotes in life: "breathe in peace, breathe out love." It is with the presence of this peace, given by God in Jesus' name, which enables the disciples and us to live lives of faithfulness (verse 26).

(continued over)

Peace I leave with you! (continued)

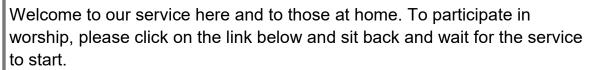
Part of the amazing reassurance comes in verse 28: "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I." Jesus boldly proclaims that he is not just going away from them — he is going to the Father. And those who know him, who have walked the roads and have been on this journey with him, know that this is what he was meant to do.

Into this moment we are called to preach a word about peace and presence. After this discourse, Jesus intended for the disciples to feel his peace and presence always — through the Spirit, in the continued teaching to come, and in the connectedness of the community of believers.

(From Commentary on John 14:23-29 by Karyn Wiseman at https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/sixth-sunday-of-easter-3/commentary-on-john-1423-29)

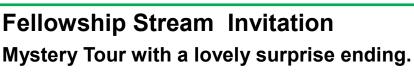
Sunday Service 22-5-2022 Live Streaming:

We welcome and thank **Rev Wendy McHugh** for bringing the message to us today.





If you miss it, or would like to share it with someone, the recordings are on our website.



Saturday 28th May 1-5pm

Meet at the church 12.45pm ready to be able to leave at 1pm.

Bring a small plate of afternoon tea food to share and a chair.

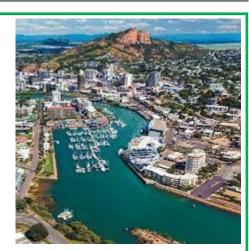
Tea and Coffee etc will be provided.

Please advise Margaret Finter, Joan Gist, Jayne Jackson or Glenda Dodge if you will be attending. Can we please have names of folk willing to be drivers so that we can allocate passengers to each car.

We will carpool as much as possible to enable as many of our congregation to be able to come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon of fellowship.

For any information see either of the team members listed above.









AITKENVALE STATE SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT:

Do you like getting your hands dirty? Come and be connected!
Do you like working with others? Come and enjoy fellowship!
Do you have a green thumb? Come and share your wisdom!

Do you like making a difference? Come and be a change maker!

Aitkenvale State School Community Garden needs you!

When: Every Thursday during school term

Time: 4.00 to 5.00pmBring: Gloves, willing heart,

water bottle

The May 2022 Edition of Frontier News is Out Now!



You can download your copy of Frontier news by going to their website. (web address below)

The May edition is filled with incredible stories of courage, optimism and resilience as Frontier News talks to farmers, Outback Links volunteers and Frontier Services Bush Chaplains on weathering drought, foods, a pandemic and the challenges that come with living and working in the bush.

frontierservices.org/news-media/our-resources/frontier-news/

The 16th Assembly



The 16th
Assembly meeting wrapped up on the Sunshine Coast on Monday afternoon after four days of joyful Christian community, worship, prayer

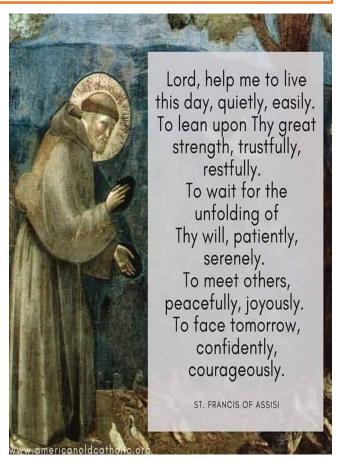
and discerning the will of God for the Uniting Church in Australia. Over four days from May 6-9, 200 members from around the country came together on the lands of the Gubbi Gubbi people to continue the business of the triennial meeting which first met online in July last year. You can read more on this wonderful and important event here.

You can read more on this wonderful and important event on the following website.

https://uniting.church/dwelling-in-love-at-the-16th-

assembly/





A prayer from St Francis of Assissi, shared by Kate Dix in our Prayer chain. Pray for our world and each other in this time of many needs and concerns.



Stable 2022 How you can help out now!

QDOUBLE DONATIONS: For the month of May, your donation will be doubled to the value of \$7000. Can't make it to the fundraiser, donate today and double your impact!

The Auction is live! Start bidding today knowing that the proceeds or what you will buy will go to Stable. There is some fabulous items, including entertainment packages, holidays, kids' parties, and fishing trips. Check them out today!

For lots more information or to buy tickets go to : https://www.stableonthestrand.com.au/

Offerings to date 17 May 2022

Week \$1,647.22

Budgeted expenditure year to date. \$38,440

Offerings Year to date \$39,412.73

Difference plus \$972.73

AUC Bank Details:

Bank: ANZ

BSB: 014-010

Account Number:

General Acc - 287295271

Distress Fund Acc - 287295327

Account Name: UCA Aitkenvale

Reference: Offering, Donation (no need to include your name or any

other details)

Rosters & Readings for 29 May 2022

9am Service Rev Kate Dix **Preacher** Reader Lesley **Door Stewards** Merle Offering Greg S, Peter Livestream Don Joan Data Carmel Organ . **Morning Tea** Jillian &

Lectionary Readings

Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97, Rev 22:12-14,16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26

<u>AUC Prayer Network.</u> (aucprayer@bigpond.com)

If you wish to have a prayer request circulated across the AUC Prayer Network, or

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would like to be included in the prayer network notices, please email your request to our direct email address: aucprayer@bigpond.com, or phone

Kate on: 0429 609 509.

(Important: requests for prayer on behalf of others requires their personal permission. This is due to confidentiality requirements and government legislation. Please ask first.)