

Readings

Issue #14

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18



Preaching

9am Rev David MacGregor

WELCOME TO AUC!

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

CONTACT US

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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 our church.

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

Many of our number who
are in need of healing,
comfort and strength of
heart.

The youth of our city.

An end to the hostilities in
Ukraine and for actions that
will bring about a just and
lasting peace. And an end
to the Israel-Hamas conflict.

The Good Shepherd

Hello!

Dale and I are here, unpacked, sorted and ready to share ministry and life as disciples of Christ among you all at Aitkenvale Uniting! Looking forward to these next three months ... and getting to know you all!

In churches around the world that follow (as we do) the Revised Common Lectionary, today is *Good Shepherd Sunday*. Our two focus readings of Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18 point to and celebrate God as shepherd. In fact Jesus proclaims himself in John 10:10 and 14 as the "good shepherd". I'll unpack that some more in my sermon.

In both of these passages, the pastoral nature of God shines through. That word "pastoral" is interesting. We perhaps, rather than the old-worldly word "shepherd" are more used to terms like "stockman" or "grazier" or "sheep farmer".

Did you know that the word pastor and pastoral have the same origins. The word "pastor" derives from the Latin noun *pastor* which means "shepherd". Present-day usage of the word is rooted in the Biblical metaphor of shepherding; being pastor of the "flock" which these days we prefer to know as the people or family of God ... the body of Christ, the church, the congregation, community in Christ.

In my all-too-short time among you, I will seek in God's strength and Spirit resources to be your pastor. Dale will be alongside me in this journey. Yet, it's my hope we'll seize the opportunity, perhaps in fresh ways, perhaps in risky ways, to be "pastor" to each other – all the while drawing our life and purposes from Christ, the good shepherd. Remember, Jesus memorably said to disciples at the Last Supper,

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A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35 ESV

Who are the sheep in our community, in our life circles, in our day and age who Jesus is calling us to enfold into his grace ... into his loving embrace? Let's grow more and more each day into the pastoral, Christ-centred, outreaching community we're called to be at Aitkenvale UC; which we already are in so many God-blessed ways.

Shalom,

David

Rev David MacGregor

0414392802, dmacgreg2@gmail.com

POCKET PRAYER QUILTS

STILL AVAILABLE FOR A **GOLD COIN DONATION**. THEY ARE JUST A LITTLE SOMETHING TO GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO IS STRUGGLING AND REMIND THEM OF GOD'S COMFORTING LOVE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THESE, FABRIC IS ALWAYS WELCOME.

THERE WILL BE A BUNCH DONATED TO THE HOSPITAL CHAPLIN TO DISTRIBUTE AS NEEDED. IF YOU CAN THINK OF ANYWHERE ELSE THAT COULD BENEFIT FROM SOME OF THESE PLEASE LEAVE A NOTE IN THE BASKET OR IN THE MONEY JAR.

Aitkenvale Brekky Club

A big thank you to those who have generously purchased items or donated to the Aitkenvale Brekky Club, this year. Items currently required - Full Cream Long Life Milk

Grace Frankling

Sunday Service 21 April 2024

Live Streaming:

We welcome and thank **Rev David MacGregor** for bringing the message to us today. Welcome to our service here and to those at home. To participate in worship, please click on the link below and sit back and wait for the service to start.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM_yuTGxZEXsdQPd3XEQbtA/live

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

Church news bulletin bloopers

- † I need three every hour
- † The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.



LAST CALL: Ladies, we are really looking forward to the Women's Retreat next Saturday. If you have not yet put your name down to attend, could you please do so today, or at any time up to Wednesday (for catering purposes) Kate. You can phone me at 0429 609509 with your reply. Shalom.

Baptism of Isobel McAuliffe



Last Sunday we welcomed Isobel Grace McAuliffe through baptism into the life of our church here at Aitkenvale. It was very special to Ruth who conducted the baptism because of her long friendship with Rhonnie, Isobel's grandmother, and Ngairi, Isobel's godmother. Both live in Hobart and travelled to Townsville especially for the baptism.



And farewell to Ruth

We also said goodbye to Ruth who finished her supply ministry with us on Sunday. During her time with us her energy and commitment has been inspirational. Ruth's preparation of worship services, administration of the sacraments and pastoral care as well as her involvement in the work of some of our Streams, have been appreciated by us all. We will miss her and Gordon. As an appreciation the congregation gave her a wood bowl turned locally with raintree timber, and some of Bill and Vi's jams and chutney.

We have just received news that Pastor Graham Huth is in Wesley hospital in Brisbane with severe abdominal pain. Investigations of the pain are ongoing. Let us all pray for Graham, Ann-Louise and their families and that they know the peace of God's presence.

Lenten Follow Up

Because for the first time a Lenten Devotional was conducted via email, the Discipleship Stream would be grateful for your response to this method. A Lenten Follow up has been emailed to you with a request that you complete the 6 questions in the way indicated in the document. If you used a hard copy sheet, please place it in the clearly marked box available for you in the foyer of the church.

Bill and Vi's jam and chutney for sale

Bill and Vi's jam and chutney are for sale again.

A jar only costs \$5. If you wish to buy a jar, they will be located in the foyer.

All money raised goes to the Distress Fund



Offerings to date 16 April 2024

Week \$1,777.12

Budgeted Offerings \$73,278

Offerings year to date \$ 73,63311

Difference plus \$355.11

Donations Year to-date \$6,607.10

Organ Fund \$14,250

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 28 April 2024

9am Service

Preacher	David M
Reader	Carmen
Greeters	Lola C
Offering	Greg S, Ian D
Livestream	Carmel S
Data	Reg D
Organ	Don A
Morning Tea	Beth & Mal H

Lectionary Readings

*Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31,
1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8*

AUC Prayer Network.

(aucprayer@bigpond.com)



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