



**Bible Readings**



**1 Corinthians 12: 12-31**

**Response after Bible Readings**

**Leader:** *In this we hear the word of God*

**Response:** *Thanks be to God who speaks to us as spirit.*



4th Sunday

After  
 Pentecost

**twitch.tv**

**Livestreaming at**

**8am, 9.30am and  
 9am in January each  
 year**

**Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.**  
 Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.  
**OPEN FROM 9AM**

**8am—Worship**

Led by Jon Humphries

**9.30am—Worship**

Led by Jon Humphries

**KUCA — Preschool,  
 Years K-2 & Years 3-8**

Followed by morning tea

**6.45pm—Worship**

Led by Jon Humphries

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**What's happening this week at St. Matthew's**

**MONDAY 22 JUNE**

**49th Anniversary of the  
 Inauguration of  
 Uniting Church in Australia**

**9am-sorting & pricing**  
 Lower hall

**7.30pm—Christian Meditation**

**TUESDAY 23 JUNE**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**9.30am-11am—Christian  
 Meditation**

community room and church

**7pm—SAMT meeting (Online)**

**WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**10am—Upstairs hall in use by  
 Pre School**

**THURSDAY 25 JUNE**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**FRIDAY 26 JUNE**

**5.30pm-7.30pm  
 Fusion— "Knight night"**

**SATURDAY 27 JUNE**

**9.30-12pm—Floral  
 Workshop**  
 Upstairs hall

**SUNDAY  
 28 JUNE**

**8am—Worship**

Followed by morning tea

**9.30am—Worship**

**KUCA — Preschool,  
 Years K-2 & Years 3-8**

Followed by morning tea

**5pm—Shine  
 Setup from 4pm**

**6.45pm—Worship**



5th Sunday

After  
 Pentecost

**MINISTER**

REV JON HUMPHRIES

Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au  
 jhumphries@nswact.uca.org.au

**PASTORAL CARE WORKER**

SARA WIENAND  
 SUNDAY am , MONDAY, TUESDAY  
 Email: saraw@nswact.uca.org.au

**CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARY**

LYNN SAMUEL : lynns@nswact.uca.org.au

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** 8AM-2.30PM  
 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

**OFFICE :** 9686 3003

Email: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

MIKE UNDERWOOD  
 Email: mikeu@nswact.uca.org.au

**CHAIRPERSON OF ELDERS**

HELEN OLLEY  
 Email: helen.olley@optusnet.com.au

**LOCATION:**

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS  
 BAULKHAM HILLS

**POSTAL ADDRESS:**

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# Something to think about 21 June *Pentecost 4*

## Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 21:8-21  
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 10:24-39  
1 Corinthians 12: 12-31

## *The Uniting Church Anniversary*

This Sunday we will mark the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inauguration of the Uniting Church in Australia. The Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) is Australia's third-largest Christian denomination. It was formed in 1977 by the union of the Methodist Church, most of the Presbyterian Church, and the Congregational Union. The inauguration took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, which is why we are marking it on the Sunday closest to that date.

The Church is not an 'it,' we are a 'we.' Just as the church is never the building but the people, we are the Uniting Church. We are not an institution. We may be classed as a denomination of Christianity and the Christian Church, but we are still part of the worldwide fellowship of believers and the faithful who seek to live in the way of God who was and is revealed in the person of Jesus,

the Christ/Messiah.

The UCA is the first Christian church to be created specifically in and of Australia. We strive to be and are known for being a progressive, inclusive, and socially active denomination. In using the word 'progressive' we don't mean it in the theological sense, for we have people in our Church both conservative and progressive theologically, but in the sense that our founding document, The Basis of Union, committed us to, which is a church that is moving forwards as we follow in the way of Christ.

This statement from the end of our Basis of Union is a good description of what it means to progress and grow in faith, hope, love, life and witness. "*The Uniting Church affirms that it belongs to the people of God on the way to the promised end. The Uniting Church prays that, through the gift of the Spirit, God will constantly correct that which is erroneous in its life, will bring it into deeper unity with other Churches, and will use its worship, witness and service to God's eternal glory through Jesus Christ the Lord.*" <https://uniting.church/basisofunion/>

What is the Uniting Church in Australia? What are we on about and called to be? On our National Assembly Website is the following description:

Continued next page

## Uniting Church Anniversary - cont'd

*"Since we began in 1977, we have been following Jesus, working for justice, growing as disciples and serving communities in these lands now called Australia. From our capital cities to the heart of the outback, you will find around 1600 congregations and faith communities joyfully worshipping in more than 45 languages, including First Nations languages. In Australia's 2021 Census, more than 670,000 people identified themselves as having an affiliation with the Uniting Church. In the work of our agencies, we serve alongside local communities and our Church Partners across the Pacific, Asia and Africa to inspire a better world.*

*We believe all people are made in the image of God and deeply loved. As members of the Church, we make up the one body of Christ. We encourage one another to learn more about and grow with God, to care for each other and God's creation, to seek justice and to live lovingly in the world."* <https://uniting.church/about/>

In the Uniting Church we don't have hierarchies of power. We have intercon-silliar councils. Our congregations are part of the regional church organisation called the presbytery. The presbyteries form together the synods. The synods, being formed by congregations and presbyteries form the National Assembly. Our leaders don't have authority in or of themselves in their role, but are there to help us all join together in discerning what God calls us to be and do. *"We take seriously our belief that every member has a part in the ministry of Christ - each of us contributes our gifts to participating in God's mission. That is why we use a model of consensus-decision making when our councils meet. The focus is on listening to the Spirit before we speak and discerning the will of God for the Church together."* <https://uniting.church/about/>

If we want to think about our future moving forward, I encourage us all to check back with the past and read or re-read the Basis of Union <https://uniting.church/basisofunion/> because it is an amazing statement of faith and it sets the ethos of the Church. Having set our foundations with this basis of being Church together, at our inauguration we the Uniting Church also proclaimed our desire to progress in following God whom we know in Christ and experience as Holy Spirit through a 'Statement to the Nation.' This was published in most of the nation's major newspapers. I encourage you to read the full statement. Here is a link [https://uniting.church/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/1\\_StatementNation1977.pdf](https://uniting.church/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/1_StatementNation1977.pdf)

The 'Statement to the Nation' is an amazing statement which is just as relevant in helping us think today about who we aspire to be as it was almost fifty years ago. It outlines the Church's ongoing commitment to social justice, human rights, environmental stewardship, and advocating for vulnerable and marginalised people in society. If we are to be a vital and active Church, faithful to the mission of God, then we should continually seek to live into this powerful vision in our life and witness at all levels of our Church.

The anniversary of the inauguration of the Uniting Church in Australia is not just a time for celebrating or reminiscing, even though these are good things to do. The anniversary, in this liturgical season of After Pentecost, when we are thinking about how we are going to keep going, growing and living out our faith as the Church, is a good time to revisit and reflect upon what it means for us to be the Church. Thus, the UCA anniversary gives us much to read and something to really think about.

*God bless.*

*Jon*

PEOPLE NEWS

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY



Craig Longmuir  
Miles Medcalf  
Bev Chivers  
Christine Haines  
Brayden Bell  
Jane Cole

*Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.*

### Thank you

We would like to say Thank you to all those who sent condolences on Geoff's recent passing, the phone calls, visits, flowers & cards with their comforting words and individual memories of Geoff helped immensely, as did the presence of those who attended the service at Castlebrook.

Margaret Benoit & Family

### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

21 —27 June

*Malawi, Zambia*

Weekly  
**SYNOD SPOTLIGHT**  
Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter

**For ( 12 June 2026) please see link to Synod weekly:**

[Synod Spotlight - 12 June |](#)

Dear Friends,

I recently participated in a fundraising bike ride from the Art Gallery in Sydney to the National Police Memorial in Canberra in aid of Police Legacy. Police legacy is the NSW Police Force charity, which provides care and ongoing support to the families of deceased police officers. Police Legacy offers a wide range of services including grief and bereavement counselling, education grants, youth and young adult camps, wellbeing programs, mentoring and social connection initiatives.

Having 2 of my sons currently serving in the NSW Police, it is a cause very close to myself and Melissa.

The ride was a challenging and rewarding 300 kilometres over the 3 days, experiencing very wet conditions in Sydney, to mechanical issues on my bike and constant head winds. We spent the first night in Mittagong, the second night at the Police training Academy in Goulburn and arriving in Canberra early afternoon on the third day.

I raised an incredible amount of \$2,975.00 in support of Police Legacy.

I wish to thank all who were able to donate towards this incredible cause. Your support is truly appreciated and goes along way in helping families of Police Officers who have suffered a loss.

I will certainly be signing up to complete the event in 2027.

Thanks and Regards

Hugh Darling

PIRATE DAY



# St Matthews Uniting Preschool Pirate Day Fundraiser Raising money for childhood Brain Cancer.

We are fundraising for Pirate Day because we want to help turn the tide on kids' brain cancer. More children in Australia die of brain cancer than any other disease and treatments can result in substantial and permanent side effects.

Every dollar counts, so let's make childhood brain cancer walk the plank!

Please look for the donation box in the church foyer

or

Head to the link below to donate or use QR code

<https://www.pirateday.com.au/st-matthews-preschool-baulkham-hills>



## Friends of the Middle East

Re: E-books for the  
Near East School of Theology  
(NEST) in Beirut.



If you would like to consider offering some financial assistance, please email: [library@nswact.uca.org.au](mailto:library@nswact.uca.org.au) with the subject 'NEST'.

Every donation counts.  
**Donations of over \$20  
will attract a tax deduction.**

The only way to donate specifically to the e-books is directly via the library as shown above and not via the FME website.



Please pick up the latest

*insights*

Magazine  
for

Winter 2026  
From the church  
foyer



Thank you so much for your recent donations of food items. Gifts such as yours help to keep our operational costs down. This enables me and my team to put resources into frontline services such as the Loaves & Fishes free restaurant, primary health care, and crisis support for our guests.

We know our approach works, and it's thanks to your kind-hearted support that we can continue achieving amazing things for the thousands of Sydney siders affected by poverty and isolation.

God Bless

Rev. Bill Crews

JUNE 13 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2026  
EVERY EVENING · 9.00PM - 9.15PM AEST

A NATIONAL CONTEMPLATIVE INITIATIVE  
**100 DAYS OF PEACE**

*One hundred voices. One hundred days.  
One shared moment of stillness each evening.*

**100**  
COMMUNITY  
VOICES OF PEACE

**3 MIN**  
CONTEMPLATIVE  
REFLECTION

**10 MIN**  
COLLECTIVE  
SILENCE

**FREE**  
NO REGISTRATION  
NEEDED

CONTRIBUTING VOICES INCLUDE

**FAITH & SPIRITUAL**

Archbishop Thabo Makgoba: Cape Town  
Fr Laurence Freeman OSB  
Archbishop Ric Thorpe: Melbourne  
Sister Jayanti & Sister Shivani  
Satsguru Uday Singh Ji  
Rabbi Ralph Genende  
Rev Sandy Boyce

**RESEARCH & WELLBEING**

Professor Craig Hassed  
Professor Mark Williams  
Professor Sara Lazar  
A/Professor Nicholas van Dam  
A/Professor Tilman Ruff AO  
Dr Ian Gawler OAM  
Pauline McKinnon OAM  
Dr Tami Roos  
Asher Packman

**CIVIC, BUSINESS & COMMUNITY**

Simon McKeon AO  
The Hon Bob Carr  
Commissioner Vivienne Nguyen AM  
George Savvides AM  
Hugh Mackay AO  
Sister Brigid Arthur  
Martin Hosking  
Dr Hyppolite Ntigurirwa

**SPORTS & ARTS**

Justin Langer AM  
Paul Roos  
Dr Hannah MacDougall  
Cody Weightman  
Simon Tedeschi  
Caroline Sharpen OAM  
David Jones  
Carmen Warrington

*And many more across faith, arts, civic and community life - see [website details](#).*

*"Now more than ever, we must focus on peace."  
— Clover Moore AO, Lord Mayor of Sydney*

Join us each evening from June 13th — no registration needed  
[www.calminthecity.org.au/100daysofpeace](http://www.calminthecity.org.au/100daysofpeace)  
FREE · OPEN TO ALL · [tiny.cc/100Days2026](https://tiny.cc/100Days2026)



QR CODE TO  
REGISTER FOR  
UPDATES



QR CODE  
TO JOIN  
ONLINE



## St Matthews Baulkham Hills

### Parallel Floral Workshop 2026 - Open to everyone!

**Date:** Saturday 27th June 2026

**Time:** 9.30-12 noon

**Venue:** St Matthews Upper Church Hall, Cnr Charles & Edgar Streets, Baulkham Hills

**Cost:** **\$20** if you bring your own container/ vase and flowers and foliage. **Or \$35** if you **don't** bring your own vase/container, flowers or foliage and they will be provided for you.

**Details** about materials to bring will be given when booking in. Morning tea will be supplied. A donation of \$8 per person will be forwarded to charity.

**RSVP:** by 23rd June 2026

**Contact:** St Matthews' Church Office or Katherine on (02) 9686 3003



### ***Help Needed***

If anyone has SANSEVERIA - Mother in laws tongue and red and brown CORDYLINA leaves, we require some for the Floral Workshop on Saturday 27 June. If you have access to either or both of these, Please call the church office.

Thank you

SALE



Mother-in-Laws Tongue  
Zeylanica



Sanseveria -  
Mother in  
Law Tongue

# *St Matthew's Social Action Missional Ministry Team*

How doing little things makes a big difference.

## **Topic: Act for Peace - Refugee Week: 40 years and one million stories**

Refugee Week takes place across Australia from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June. Refugee Week in 2026 marks two significant milestones for this important national event. This year marks the 40th anniversary of Refugee Week, as well as the milestone of Australia welcoming one million refugees since the end of World War II.

This Refugee Week, Act for Peace is inviting Australians and churches to look beyond the headlines and see both the realities and possibilities facing displaced communities around the world. According to UNHCR, more than 123.2 million people (approximately 4.5 times the whole population of Australia) are currently displaced and with conflicts rising, that figure is likely to increase. But this year's Refugee Week theme, 'A Million Stories', reminds us that while the scale of global displacement can feel overwhelming, behind every statistic and every crisis is a human story that matters.

When 'Maya' (her name has been changed for safety reasons) fled Syria for Jordan with her children, the future felt uncertain. Like many refugees, she faced the challenge of starting again in a new country with limited opportunities and growing debts. Providing stability for her family felt increasingly difficult. Through the FORSA project supported by Act for Peace (Christmas Bowl) and its local partners, Maya joined vocational training in food preparation and productive kitchens. The training gave her practical skills and the confidence to begin again.

With a small start-up grant, Maya launched a home-based catering business. Slowly, things began to change. Her income increased, allowing her to repay the debts that had weighed heavily on her family. For the first time in years, she was able to start saving money and planning for the future. Today, Maya is one of the most successful participants in the program. She continues to grow her business while supporting her children and building financial stability for her family. Reflecting on her journey, she says: "The FORSA program completely changed my life and helped me reach where I am today."

With gratitude and blessings,

Andrew Hassett

Chief Executive Officer, Act for Peace

From the Act for Peace newsletter 9th June 2026

[https://actforpeace.org.au/celebrating-refugee-week/?afp\\_cc=CJ26-NEWS-LNK&utm\\_campaign=CJ26-NEWS-LNK&utm\\_source=afp&utm\\_medium=edm](https://actforpeace.org.au/celebrating-refugee-week/?afp_cc=CJ26-NEWS-LNK&utm_campaign=CJ26-NEWS-LNK&utm_source=afp&utm_medium=edm)

### **How we can participate in Refugee Week:**

- **Learn:** reflect on the experiences of people who have been forced to leave their homes.
- **Pray:** for refugees, displaced people, and for communities rebuilding their lives.
- **Act:** give, advocate and stand alongside people who have been displaced and join with Act for Peace in working towards a more just and peaceful world.

Ness Williams-Henke and Jon are back with their all-age / intergen podcast, 'On the Way with Ness and Jon.' It has a new look to make it more appealing to all ages. This has taken some time to get set up. The latest season is ready for Pentecost and After Pentecost, looking at the Fruit of the Spirit.

Watch on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@OnTheWaywithNessandJon>

or listen wherever you listen to podcasts

**LET'S CHAT ABOUT  
LIFE AND FAITH**



## On The Way with Ness and Jon

@OnTheWaywithNessandJon • 7 subscribers • 10 videos

On The Way is all about having great conversations about life and faith. Jon and ...more

 Subscribed 

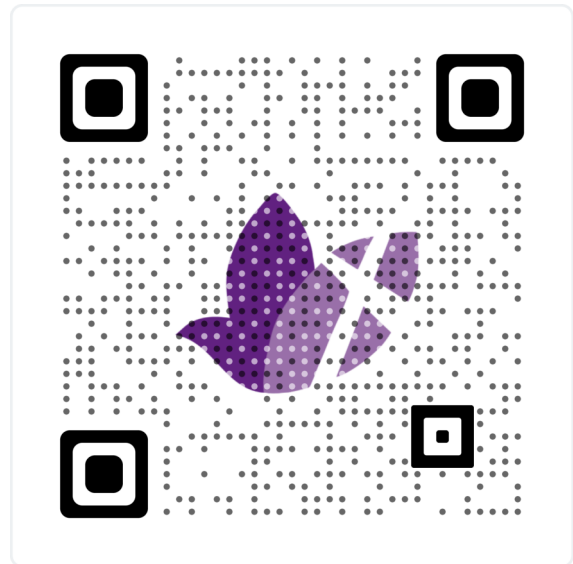


Why Is Love A Fruit Of The Spirit?



What Is The Fruit Of The Spirit?

Please see QR Codes for links for YouTube,  
Facebook & Twitch



**The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website**

**[www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au](http://www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au)**

**Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.**