



st. matthew's
UNITING CHURCH
BAULKHAM HILLS
growing together

Thank you for worshipping with us today

Twitch.tv, livestreaming at 8am, 9.30am and 9am in January each year

Let us gather as a community to celebrate the blessings that surround us



*Good Things
to Think*

“Change your thoughts and you
change your world.” —
Norman Vincent Peale

I press on toward the Goal, toward
the prize of the heavenly call of
God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3: 14

Sunday Services

8am-Worship

Led by Jon Humphries

9am-Worship @
the Willow's

9.30am-Worship

Led by Jon Humphries

6.45pm-Worship

Community meal

KUCA in Recess for
school holidays

Bible Readings

Philippians 4: 1-9

Matthew 22: 1-14

Pentecost 20

Something to think about

11 October

Pentecost 20

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Keeping On Kingdom-ing On

Last Sunday I introduced the idea of keeping on Kingdom-ing on as part of our call to join in the mission of God. It was about maintaining motivation, resilience as we persevere and persist with grit and determination in faith and discipleship. The key Scripture reference was something we touched on the previous week with Philippians 2: 5 where Paul writes, "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus " and so he goes on to write in 3:14, "I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus."

Kingdom-ing on has several important facets. The first being that we are the Church individually and collectively and as The Body of Christ we should have the same mind that was in Jesus, the Christ - Immanuel: God with us. This is about unity in our diversity and cohesiveness in our differences and differing perspectives as we join together with God in God's mission. Kingdom means we are called to be Church together, and Churching together is a whole-of-life Kingdom-ing. For Jesus, as Christ, his mind was set in the mission of God which was making ever more real the Kingdom of Heaven.

The second is that Kingdom-ing is a work in the present. We keep on Kingdom-ing now, and then we continue onwards keeping on Kingdom-ing on. We are a people on the way to the promised end (Basis of Union, paragraph 18). Being on the way to that end means that in the present we work to that end. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand and amidst us. The mission of God is not to wait for some future appointed time and just power it in one burst of reality. The mission of God which we have in Christ and are blessed by God as Holy Spirit to help us in, is to join God in bringing the Kingdom further into being at all times. We keep Kingdom-ing now as well as onwards into the future.

The third is that the work of Kingdom-ing on is one of great effort and sacrifice. It is not called 'The Way of the Cross' for nothing. It is the work of love and that love is set before us in the work of Christ. 1 John 3: 16 and 1 John 4:10 teach us this. Therefore, motivation, resilience and perseverance, along with persistence with grit and determination in faith and discipleship are key to us keeping on. In this we have to work to have faith and maintain our connection and relationship with God, because God is who is our help in sustaining such faith and commitment

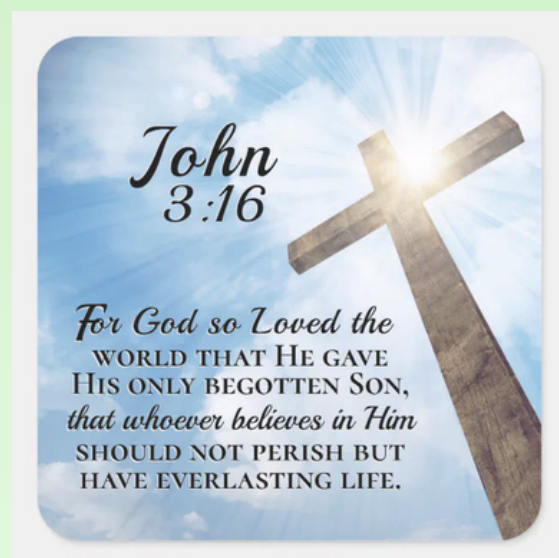
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Of course, there is more to Kingdom-ing on than just these three aspects. Yet, these are good starting points. However, there is one major final work in Kingdom-ing on that also needs to be clearly addressed. That is our ongoing work to understand what the Kingdom is. This calls us to the proclamation, teaching and example of Jesus. We need to keep going back to what God is calling us to and to understanding what God desires and defines as Kingdom-ing lest we end up being like the religious people in Jesus's time who opposed him, got in the way and stood against him.

Keeping on Kingdom-ing on is our calling. It is our work as the Church - The Body of Christ and the People of God. It is not easy and our discipleship is to learn, understand, and take up the call, whilst all the while also working to maintain being faithful in living out that calling. Keep on Kingdom-ing on is a nice catch-cry. It is easy to say, but hard to do, and is something that gives us much to think about.

God bless.

Jon



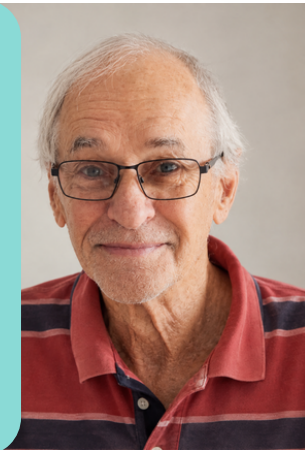
PEOPLE NEWS



Ted Page
Sandra Gordon

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

Sympathy to the Holden family and friends on the passing of Bruce Holden on Saturday 3 October. A Memorial service for Bruce will be held at St. Matthew's on Wednesday 14 October @ 1.30pm



weekly SYNOD SPOTLIGHT

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter
For (2 October 2026) Please see link to Synod Weekly:

Pacific Women Call for Climate Action that Begins with their Communities

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

11-17 October

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

Church Diary for 2027

A note to all group leaders- If your group is planning to use a part of the church property, please ensure the area is available before finalising your program.

This includes all areas. The church worship centre, upstairs hall, small meeting area in the downstairs hall, community room.

All bookings must go through the church office.

Thank you.

St Matthew's

HAPPY HOUR!



With a Twist

Come to our house

9 Attlee Place, Winston Hills

27 | **5:30 PM**
NOVEMBER | **FRIDAY**



PLEASE BRING A SALAD OR DESSERT AND YOUR OWN DRINKS. WE'LL SUPPLY MEAT.

Please RSVP to Belinda for catering
belinda.schuster0709@gmail.com



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

MONDAY 12 October

9am
sorting & pricing op shop
& garage sale
lower hall
7.30pm- Christian
Meditation

TUESDAY 13 October

9am-2pm Op Shop
9.30-11am- Christian
Meditation
community
room and Church
7.30pm
Property Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY 14 October

9am-2pm Op Shop
10am-12pm Women's
Fellowship
upstairs hall & church

THURSDAY 15 October

9am-2pm Op Shop

FRIDAY 16 October

5.30pm-7pm
Fusion Youth
"Mr Beast night"

SATURDAY 17 October

No Scheduled Activities

SUNDAY 18 October

8am- Worship
9.30am- Worship
KUCA Preschool
year K-2 & years 3-8
followed by morning tea
6.45pm-Worship



MINISTER

Rev Jon Humphries
Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au
Jonh@nswact.uca.org.au

MINISTERS

Everyone

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

Sara Wienand
Sunday am, Monday, Tuesday
Email: saraw@nswact.uca.org.au

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARY

Lynn Samuel
Email: 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

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WEB SITE: www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Weekly newsletter available on
website

FACEBOOK:

@stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills

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PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR 9639 8570

Sonali Wanigsekera
Po Box 321 Baulkham hills 2153
Email: director@stmatthewsps.net.au

MESSIAH

CHORUS CALLOUT

Join Beecroft Orchestra & Gente, Gente! for an abbreviated Handel's Messiah this December

- Rehearsals - Monday evenings
- Reduced run time <90 mins
- Work with conductor Dr Joanna Drimatis & sing with live orchestra
- Email gentegenteproductions@gmail.com with your name and voice type to register your interest.

JOIN OUR NEW LIVING LOVE MINISTRY TEAM

(Name yet to be finalised)
Showing God's Love to others through community service, charity fundraising and practical giving

Talk to Jane Cole or Jon if interested



JOIN OUR NEW CARING MINISTRY TEAM

Help us care for our community and share God's love through practical support, kindness and prayer.

Talk to Sara if interested



JOIN OUR NEW YOUTH & YOUNG PEOPLE MINISTRY TEAM

(Name yet to be finalised)
Exploring and encouraging ministry with those in the first third of life

Talk to Erin Matthewson or Jon if interested



JOIN OUR NEW SPIRITUALITY LEADERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Nurturing, growing and encouraging Christian spirituality

Talk to Katherine Pedersen or Jon if interested



Leading in Services Seminars

7.30pm Wednesday Nights in October

14 October – Leading Liturgy

21 October – Thinking About
Preaching

28 October – Praying With the
People – Leading
Intercessory
Prayer



ZOOM
Link
QR Code

In October Jon is offering some short seminars to help people who lead in services or are interesting in thinking about leading in Church services - particularly in the areas of leading liturgy, preaching and prayers of intercession.

The seminars are about Living Liturgy: Leading in Services and will run on Wednesday nights in October at 7.30pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time AEST) and will cover:

- Leading Liturgy
- Thinking About Preaching
- Praying with People: Leading Intercessory Prayer

They will be about 45-60min long. They are not designed to be full courses, but intro and refresher seminars - of course heavily weighted with his own learning and ecclesial/theological bias, drawing heavily on the Uniting Church in Australia's ethos as laid down in the Basis of Union.

Zoom Link: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/96316299798...>

Meeting ID: 963 1629 9798

Passcode: 290565

St. Matthew's Social Action Ministry Team

How doing little things makes a big difference.

Topic: Drug Reform – Report on the NSW Trial of Drug Testing at music festivals

From Uniting Fair Treatment media release 23rd Sept 2026

Unexpected substances found in 1-in-5 drug samples as new Australian research backs wider drug checking

Research from Australia's first comprehensive drug checking trial within a supervised injecting facility has found more than 1-in-5 drug samples contained unexpected substances including potentially life-threatening adulterants and synthetic drugs. [note: synthetic drugs include Fentanyl]

Importantly, researchers also found drug checking delivers benefits well beyond identifying unexpected substances. The additional service within Sydney's supervised injecting centre created more opportunities for therapeutic conversations about drug use, encouraged safer behaviours and connected people with treatment and health supports.

The trial results published recently in the International Journal of Drug Policy also revealed:

- Almost half (42%) of participants sought further drug treatment information.
- 1-in-5 (20%) of participants were directly referred to support services or into treatment.
- Nearly all participants (98%) wanted drug checking available on every visit.
- 75% of participants had drugs remaining post testing. Of these, 90% said they intended to use them, with 12% saying they'd now carry naloxone; 10% said they'd reduce their intended dosage.
- 98% said they'd inform at least one other person if unexpected substances were detected.

The trial results also echo the Federal Government's recommendations in its recent Report on the health impacts of alcohol and other drugs in Australia, which calls for expansion of permanent drug checking services and more supervised injecting facilities, opioid dependence therapy, take-home naloxone, and culturally safe harm reduction education in communities across the country.

Last month in NSW, the Minns government took an important first step towards a broader approach to reducing harm, by announcing permanent drug checking at 15 music festivals. However, we need to move beyond the festival gate.

Uniting is calling on the NSW Government to establish permanent fixed-site drug checking services and expand supervised injecting spaces beyond Kings Cross.

Uniting NSW/ACT runs the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre and has spearheaded the Fair Treatment Campaign for fairer drug laws for over seven years.

Link to the full media release: <https://www.fairtreatment.org/news/>

To ask about joining the Social Action Ministry team at St. Matthew's
email Alexander on alexander.lawless7@gmail.com

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 27 October 2026 @ 7pm in the lower hall.

To receive a copy of the weekly SAMt enews into your email inbox
email Amanda at agcm1960@gmail.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE EXPO



**MAKING CHANGE AT
A GRASS ROOTS LEVEL**



SHARING IDEAS AND PROJECTS



LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER



GROWING THE WAY WE DO
LOCAL-LEVEL ACTION

**SATURDAY OCT 17
2PM - 4:30PM**



**TURRAMURRA UNITING CHURCH
10 TURRAMURRA AVE.
TURRAMURRA**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
BILL THOMAS - 0404 151 305
BILL.RUTH.THOMAS@GMAIL.COM



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

