



CONSIDER LENT EVENT

Lent is traditionally a liturgical season for reflection on our faith and discipleship, particularly being a season of penitence and preparation for Easter. It echoes the 40 days which Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism, which were a time of testing and preparation for his ministry. Lent goes for 40 days not counting Sundays.

Traditionally one of the spiritual disciplines that people take up is fasting, abstaining, and charity. Fasting and abstaining is way of strengthening will, exercising sacrifice and being mindful of what we hold to be important. Jesus taught that we should put on an positive disposition. Rather than it being about a great lament and struggle because we are missing out, the idea of fasting and giving up luxuries is that when we feel the pangs of hunger or miss that which we have given up it is a reminder of why we have given that up. Thus, each time we feel that pang of hunger or sense of missing it is a call to prayer and mindfulness of the love of God so deeply expressed in the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

Feeling hunger or that feeling of missing is also a prompt to compassion. As we feel hungry or feel that loss of those luxuries which we have voluntarily given up, we can be mindful of those who go hungry because of lack of food or do not have the essentials needed for living.

Lent Event was developed by Sarah White from West Epping Uniting Church as way to weave some of the disciplines of Lent together. The simple idea is to give up a luxury or some luxuries, be prompted to prayer and reflection and then put aside the money that we would have spent on them to then give to charity. Lent Event was partnered with UnitingWorld as the national agency of the Uniting Church for aid and development.

This year UnitingWorld has chosen climate action as the focus for Lent Event. Many of our Pacific Island church partners are facing the very real and ongoing struggles to do with the effects of a changing climate. Money raised through Lent Event will be used to support and aid vulnerable communities who have been affected by climate events and who face increasing difficulties as climate changes.

They have a great website that is worth checking out

https://unitingworld.org.au/lent-event-is-coming/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCCQiAw6yuBhDrARIsACf94RWnkxp1Q9iF5FV4KGXUywerxd-p2eA5-5bagqtE4q4nocMGq_WxPs0aAnn2EALw_wcB

Lent can also be a time of taking something up. The Lent Event website also has a full list of action ideas that we can consider taking up as an additional spiritual discipline. The ideas are divided into three domains; Personal, Practical and Political. Some, might question religious engagement with political issues. However, if the Kingdom of God is about anything, it is certainly about change in society as we seek to live together in the way God guides us. We can't have strong and passionate values, believe that loving our neighbour is essential, and hold compassion and justice that God calls us to in the Scriptures as being important without that impacting on the way we view our society what it should look like.

Of course, no one is compelled to take up Lent Event. If fasting or giving up luxuries for Lent is something that you feel is helpful, and like the idea of giving money that would otherwise be spent on those things, but don't wish to support Lent Event in particular, then please consider supporting the charity that you normally support or some other charity or aid organisation.

Continued next page





Lent event ACTION IDEAS

There's so many ways to take faithful action for God's creation!

Take up a climate commitment for the 40 days of Lent. Make change for yourself, for creation, and raise funds for vulnerable communities on the front lines of climate change impacts.

When we act for justice, no matter how large or small, we inspire hope and courage in others.



Personal

Faith-based action

- **Study what the Bible says** about God's creation (hint: it was very good) and humanity's role in caring for it.
- **Pray for people and communities** on the frontlines of climate crisis. Learn about what they are facing and what local communities are doing, then support mitigation projects and emergency response.
- **If you choose fasting or another spiritual discipline during Lent,** add a practical or political action. There's so much each of us can do to build the world we all want to see.



Practical

Financial support

- **Donate through Lent Event**
Your donation will help resource communities working to mitigate climate impacts, build food security, prepare for disasters and inspire faith-filled climate action.
Perhaps donate from what you save by adopting a climate commitment for Lent?



Political

Collective action

- **Get involved with (or set up) an environmental group** in your church or organisation so you can work together and make a bigger impact.
- **Participate in clean-up events:** Join local community efforts to clean up beaches, parks, and natural areas. (**Clean up Australia Day** is on during Lent!)
- **Participate in citizen science projects:** Contribute to scientific research on local ecosystems and climate so you know what is going on in your area. Check your local council website.



lentevent

14 FEBRUARY – 28 MARCH 2024

40 DAYS OF FAITHFUL ACTION
FOR GOD'S CREATION



UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

Receive daily reflections and our weekly video series straight to your email inbox.

[Subscribe here.](#)

WWW.LENTEVENT.COM.AU



lentevent

14 FEBRUARY – 28 MARCH 2024

40 DAYS OF FAITHFUL ACTION
FOR GOD'S CREATION



UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

WWW.LENTEVENT.COM.AU

Supports critical climate action in vulnerable communities who are fighting to build resilience and mitigate climate impacts.

By supporting Lent Event, you're making a real difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Support Lent Event go to the website : [here](#)



Easter Services

@ St. Matthew's

Palm Sunday
24 March
8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

Maundy Thursday
28 March 7.30pm

Good Friday
29 March 9am

Easter Sunday
31 March
8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

Ministry Report

By Jon Humphries

**November 2023
to
February 2024**

Settling In

I am continuing to settle into the placement, but as we head towards five months, I think much of the work is done. I am still learning names and still learning how certain things are done. People are still getting used to my style and approach. The majority of the feedback that I have received is positive. I have in response to some of the feedback moderated the pace of which I present different styles of things.

Services

As per rosters I have participated in the leadership of services, taking up weekly preaching in the 8.00am and 9.30am services and in the evening service. We saw a very well-attended and meaningful set of services for Christmas. There was also many comments that the January services had attendance levels higher than last year (or even some past years). I continue to deliver content in the services through a range of intentionally varied strategies as part of a conscious provision of a hook to helpfully engage people in the content.

I continue leading music in the evening service with the help of my daughter, Rachel and Bradley Demartino twice a month. I also continue to assist the band at the 9.30am service on occasion.

I lead the learning together section of the service on a rostered basis and try to link it with the theme of the sermon and service.

Faith and Discipleship

Bible Study

I prepared and led the Advent Bible Studies which were held once a week in the day and nighttime. Whilst not many people turned up in person. There were a number of people who reported taking them and doing them at home.

KUCA

I have worked with Daniel Gibb to develop a new KUCA program which has engagement from the wider congregation and encourages the young people with a degree of agency. I prepared a journal booklet to assist the young people know what has been scheduled.

We had a blessing of those returning to school in a recent service. Next year we will look to expanding this as an offering to the preschool. The idea being initially that parents and kids would come for a short gathering at drop off time. We might then consider how to further link this with our Sunday services and congregation.

Fusion

I joined the meeting of the families ministry team. We looked at the feedback around Fusion. Daniel and I have worked, along with the leaders, to prepare a program for Fusion for the term. This has started and I continue to attend and assist in the leadership of the group.

Sunday Service Related Resources

My contribution to the newsletter continues to follow the pattern established by Clive of providing material related to the theme and readings of the service each week. I have of course adapted it to my own style, but this offering provide content around faith and discipleship for those who may miss the service – in person, online or on YouTube. It also augments and provides further material to enhance learning around the theme and readings of the services.

I have maintained providing Active Discipleship/Applied learning activities to assist people apply what they might be learning in our gathering. The space in the sacred space for activity where a table has been set up with chairs and equipped with drawing and colouring implements along with a box of Lego, is used to a degree. I had been creating activity cards to scaffold the use of the Lego in ways which connect with the Bible readings that day and the theme of the service, but have not done this so far this year. It will be interesting to explore how they are utilised or helpful (or not).

Continued next page

Pastoral

Funeral and Weddings

I have done one funeral, two weddings and one baptism since the last report.

Visiting

I created a sign-up sheet for pastoral visits and have started booking in times to meet with people. I have made some visits. However, my visiting people in the congregation has not been to the degree that I would have hoped for or I am sure people were hoping for. This was partly due to Christmas, my taking of leave and assisting in renovations. It has also got to do with developing a pace and rhythm for working and preparing for services etc. My hope is to increase the number of visits over the coming months.

Baptism

We have one baptism booked in for March and I am talking with and meeting with a family for a further possible baptism.

Prayer and Care

I continue to attend the Prayer and Care Group Meeting. I have done one of the Healing Ministry training session that Rosemary Sexton and Dean Drayton led.

Mission and Outreach

SRE (Scripture)

I helped develop and lead the Jasper Road Public School Special Religious Education Christmas Service.

I have joined the SRE team at Jasper Road Public and at this stage will be teaching a kindergarten class. I am currently undertaking the mandatory required training.

Preschool

I helped lead the Preschool Christmas Service where they came into the Church space and we took them through the Christmas Story. Daniel and I developed the service and shared leadership of the two services.

I am talking with Daniel about how we might coordinate our visits and engagement. I visited the preschool on their opening day. I have spoken with Sonali about my visiting regularly. She is keen for that to happen. The plan is for me to work with Daniel in developing a schedule.

Christian Meditation

I am participating in the Christian Meditation Group meeting each week. This is a group which sees members from other churches and the wider community come into our church space for weekly meditation and fellowship. The group has seen some growth. I am meeting with leaders in March to discuss growth and ideas for building.

The Willows

I have helped develop a roster for St. Matthew's volunteers to lead a service at the Willows Retirement. We currently provide leadership once a month. We are thankful for Warren Arthur for his many years of leading this.

Synod Missional Leadership Hub

I have signed up for the year-long Missional Leadership Hub which will meet several times during the year. The first session will be on Saturday in person, and then there will be a number of Zoom meeting throughout the year.

Digital Ministry

I have taken over the curation and moderation of the St. Matthews Facebook page. I am seeking to promote the various activities of the Church. We have seen some engagement with this. I will be discussing with the Digital Ministry Group about developing possible digital media strategy.

I visited the local radio station and met with the station manager. We toured the facility and talked about the potential for a regular radio show or using their newly created podcast studio to develop and produce a regular podcast.

I am meeting with someone in the wider Uniting Church about an idea that they had for a short, limited episode series podcast.

Strategy

Ministry Groups/Teams

I am seeking to attend the meetings of all the key ministry area groups.

I have been intentional in attending meeting of as many of the groups in the Church as I have been able to. I am regularly attending the meditation group and Men's morning tea, and Fusion, having helped lead or prepare resources. I have been to one Coffee and Discovery and one Shine meeting, as well as a prayer and care. I have been to the Digital Ministry, Hall Renovation, Elders, Church Council Executive.

I regularly meet with Daniel Gibb and Mike Strong to discuss aspects of their roles, issues arising and for planning. We met as a combined team in January and discussed the good things that we had achieved last year and to start the process of goal setting for this year. We also checked in our wellbeing.

Continued next page

Future Planning

Taking the example of the Finance Committee, where at the last meeting we talked about some forecasting of budgeting going forward. I will be encouraging other groups/teams to develop a strategic mapping of future needs and the estimated costs and the timeframe associated with those needs. I will be assisting in a review of the manse with the property committee as part of this. I will work with the Digital ministry group to do an assets check and replacement plan and future strategy. With the property committee we will be also looking a mapping future needs in terms of renovation and repair. All these projections will then aid the finance group in their forecasting.

Renovations

I assisted with the recent renovations of the lower level of the Church with the painting and with some assembly of new furniture. I assisted in the setting of the space so that it has a more open and roomy feel. I have assisted in the tidying up and improving the community room. I have worked to neaten the room, adjust the furniture and its arrangement and acquire some new furniture. This included the removal of the basin and I worked with Bruce Court to remove the tile splash back. I have also tidied and arranged the sound tech and the storage room next to the community room. I have also assisted in clearing and decluttering the main hall.

Wider Church

Presbytery

I was a part of the consultation with the Presbytery around the finance situation and the payment of levies and rent for the manse. We had a productive meeting and identified key issues, addressed problems which existed and sought to build a strong sense of common purpose and good will as we move forward together. We identified and resolved some communication issues which might have contributed to the situation. One of which is that a copy of presbytery minutes will be sent to the secretary of the Church Council. Overall, the outcomes achieved were positive and there was a small windfall for the congregation. As mentioned in previous report, I have connected with the ministry leaders in our zone to explore what is happening in our neighbouring congregations and to begin to explore if there may be synergies or scope for our congregations engaging in ministry together.

Transforming Worship Circle of Interest

I have continue in my role as National Advocate. This mostly involves curating the Facebook group. I have shared some of the things that have we have been doing at St. Matthew's along with prayers that I regularly write or have written. I have had a Zoom meeting with the new National Consultant, Rev Kath Behan. I will be meeting with her in person next month to learn about what was talked about at a gathering of the Advocates for all the Circles. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend that gathering. We have had one meeting this year of the Circle of Interest Panel which I chaired. I have helped coordinate and prepare a resource for the 2024 order of service for Frontier Services I am working with the Circle of Interest to revise a resource for 2024 Uniting in Prayer which I helped coordinate and develop last year.

Personal Growth and Learning

Supervision

I have met with my commitment to regular supervision around ministry practice.

Days Off

Whilst not set in stone, there is a developing pattern for days off which allow for a degree of flexibility around needs and other commitments. Currently, the pattern (particularly during term time) is to have Thursday and Friday off in the weeks where Fusion does not meet.

Annual Leave

I took ten days annual leave after Christmas. Whilst it has not been a long time to be in a new role. I did take up the role with no break from the previous role. It was a good and refreshing time and I have returned with renewed energy and vision.

Ministers Growth Group

I am a part of the local Presbytery ministry hub for the Hills. I have met twice with colleagues to shared ideas, pray, and encourage each other as we seek to lead, encourage and grow the congregations with whom we work.

Routine Duties

I have produced material for both the weekly newsletter and In Focus. I process and answer emails and phone calls as appropriate. I help set up the Church for our Sunday services, and ensure that things are packed up and ready ahead of the following week. There are probably other things that I have forgotten to mention. Please let me know what detail or information you require or can be helpful in future reports.

Blessings,

Jon

St Matthew's **HAPPY HOUR!**

At NBC

166 Windsor Rd, Northmead

**15
MARCH**

**5 PM
FRIDAY**



**COME AND SHARE IN SOME HAPPY
CONVERSATION, A DRINK AND SOME FOOD
WITH FRIENDS FROM ST MATTHEW'S.**

**RSVP to Belinda or just come along
bdschuster@optusnet.com.au**



WORLD DAY of Prayer 2024 PALESTINE

**7.30pm
Friday 1st March**

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Catholic Church,
Canyon Road, Baulkham Hills.**

*It is important that people understand
that this year's event was prepared
by **Christian Women living in
Palestine** approximately 10 years
ago and has nothing to do with the
disastrous current conflict that is
happening now as we speak.*

BACKPACKS TO BEANS

Now in our tenth year, St. Matt's mission to the Philippines grows.

The small island of Guimeras, just south across the Iloilo Strait from our home away in Iloilo is home to a small school... Ravina Elementary School.



The pupils there are poor, the island is subject to cyclones and earth tremors and living is not easy.



The community is so grateful for the help given to their children in providing goods that they wouldn't otherwise have. As a way of saying thank you, they planted a vegetable garden in the school grounds to help feed the mal



SHINE, helped by St. Matt's, regularly send backpacks filled with educational items and toiletries to these children. We send backpacks as their school "stuff" stays dry during the storms and extras such as a change of clothes can be packed in it if they need to take shelter.

nourished children when they do come to school.

**Good work
SHINE and St. Matt's!
You continue to make God smile.**

Jane Cole



Thursday
**7th
March**

10am—12noon

Entertainers

**NOELEEN & DAVID
NEIDECK**

Noeleen and David will present some keyboard duets and oboe solos, and we are very excited to welcome back a **guest vocalist Henry Wilden** who performed with Noeleen & David some 10 years ago at St. Matthew's. Henry will choose some show tunes and ballads in the style of Anthony Warlow and Josh Groban. All will be very welcome.



These informal morning gatherings include devotions, morning tea and guest speakers which cover a large range of interesting and informative topics.

***** ALL WELCOME *****

Garage



**Saturday
2nd March
9am-12pm**

*Pre-loved Household Items,
Electrical, Toys & Books
(Fiction, Non-fiction & Childrens Books)*

St. Matthew's lower hall Edgar St

KUCA CAMPOUT

12TH – 14TH APRIL

AT WEDDERBURN
CHRISTIAN CAMPSITE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT DANIEL GIBB



st. matthew's
BAULKHAM HILLS
UNITING CHURCH
growing together

News From the Finance Committee

Church Budget 2024/25

Here we are in March already, where did January and February go? The Finance Committee will soon be commencing work on the church budget for the next financial year. Groups and committees at St. Matthew's should start estimating their budgets for the next financial year. During March, Amanda from the Finance Committee will again be contacting leaders of groups and committees to gather their budget information so that the church budget can be compiled for the next financial year.

Roof Fundraising

The Finance Committee gratefully acknowledges the extra contributions that church members are giving towards the cost of the roof loan repayments. The loans for the new roof are in two parts, the Schofield Loan and the repayment to Presbytery. The total cost of both loans is currently \$1500 per month. We are most grateful that, thanks to the generosity of church members, we have enough in the offset account to reduce the interest payable on the Presbytery loan to a minimal amount. All roof donations help to offset our outstanding loans and reduce the amount of interest payable.

New Members of the Finance Committee

Are you interested in helping to guide the financial decisions for St. Matthew's? St. Matthew's Finance Committee is actively seeking new members. We meet on the first Wednesday in February, May, August and November, to review the previous quarter's financial accounts and to make suggestions and decisions on financial matters occurring within our church. We also have a special meeting in mid-June to finalise the church budget for the following financial year. If you are interested, please make yourself known to Dom or Alastair or any of the other members of the Finance Committee.

Best wishes

Dom Schuster and Alastair Burn



St. Matthew's

Saturday

16 March

8.30am

to

12pm

**Many hands
make light
work.**

**Please come
along and
lend a hand.**

**Morning tea
supplied.**



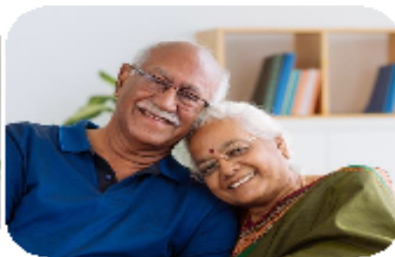
Advance notice of Coffee & Discovery for
Thursday 11 April 10am

Please note new date.

C&D *will be held on the 2nd week of April* and not the first.

Guest Speaker will be **Dr Meredith Gresham**
who will speak on ***Dementia and brain health.***

FREE Community Seminar



Worried about dementia and brain health?

This is your chance to have all your questions answered.

- Learn about dementia and how to recognise the early signs and changes.
- Hear about **NEW** treatments and supports.
- Find out how, why and when to get an assessment.
- Learn how to reduce your risk of dementia.
- Get tips to improve your brain health.
- Learn from people with lived experience and dementia researchers.

DATE: Thursday 11 April 2024
TIME: 10.00am
VENUE: St. Matthew's Uniting Church, Baulkham Hills
Cnr. Charles & Edgar Sts, Baulkham Hills NSW
2153
CONTACT: Dr Meredith Gresham
mgresham@uow.edu.au
www.facedementia.au

A special message from Rev. Bill Crews

Give kids a miraculous gift this Easter

When you think about Easter at my Foundation I'm sure you imagine lots of meals for the hungry. Indeed, we now serve over 42,000 meals a month! It's a testament to your remarkable support.

Not so well known is the work we do with children to divert them from our food queues in the years ahead. I'm excited by this prospect. Moreover, I think it embodies the spirit of Easter; giving a child a new life. In this case through the miracle of literacy.

I have come across so many children from impoverished backgrounds who are absolutely brilliant, but because of their circumstances they find themselves held back.

So we provide literacy programs for the poorest kids in the poorest schools of Sydney and Darwin. You might wonder why the schools can't do it themselves? Sadly, the funding they get simply doesn't allow for the sort of intensive nurturing these children need to break out of the poverty trap.

Decades of teaching

Thanks to my Foundation's literacy program, in the past 20 years thousands of children have been transformed from class-clown to splendid achiever. David was one such student. After completing our program he said to me: "Now I don't feel stupid anymore."

It is a joyous event when a child like David completes our program. They write me moving letters about how their lives have changed and their dreams for the future. I dutifully bind these letters into books which are available if you would like to read them.

Sometimes those dreams are fulfilled in amazing ways. I remember when a medical student asked to meet me. As I greeted her at my Foundation she became emotional. She said: "Bill, if it wasn't for this place I wouldn't be at university now. God knows I might never have even learned to read!"

Some children need extra care and nurturing

Remarkable as our life changing literacy program is, it is not enough for some children; kids with traumatised backgrounds find it difficult to learn at all.

I'm sure you can appreciate how their experiences can lead them to feel unsafe – especially in the classroom. They are hyper-alert; always looking for the way out if the trauma happens again.


So my Foundation also offers a remarkable intervention known as play therapy. It is a child-centered program that uses a child's natural language of play to help them make sense of difficult experiences, thoughts and feelings.

It warms my heart to see children gradually settle down and feel safe enough to learn. It's more than a fresh start, it's a pathway to a better future.

Together, these two child-centered programs are paramount in our mission to address the cause and effect of poverty and disadvantage. They change lives and bring hope where there was none. I'm determined to never let these kids stop dreaming. In fact, many of them have grown to live the Australian dream; they are tradies, professionals, doctors and even social workers. Each contributing to society thanks to the life changing programs you've supported.

It's humbling, especially as I reflect on the meaning of Easter; of hope rising out of despair. Which is why I'm asking you to give. Your gift can bring hope to so many children. I'm not overstating the situation when I tell you it can bring them a new life. So this Easter please be part of a child's future by making a generous donation.

God Bless



Rev. Bill Crews

Calendar of Events for March 2024

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

				<p>1</p> <p>7.30pm—World Day of Pray @ Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Canyon Road, Baulkham Hills.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9am-12pm Op Shop  9am-12pm Garage Sale lower hall </p>	<p>3 </p> <p>8am—Worship includes Communion</p> <p>9.30am—Worship includes Communion Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8</p> <p>6.45pm—Worship includes Communion</p>
<p>4</p> <p>9am Sorting & Pricing for Op Shop lower hall </p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  9.30-11am Christian Meditation Community Room  11.30am Care & Prayer Community Room  7.30pm Thrive Bible Study lower hall</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  10am-12pm In Stitches upstairs hall </p>	<p>7</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  10am-12pm Coffee and Discovery Guest Musicians: Noeleen & David Neideck Guest Vocalist: Henry Wilden</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5pm-7pm Fusion Youth Group upstairs hall </p>	<p>9</p> <p>No scheduled events</p>	<p>10 </p> <p>8am—Worship</p> <p>9am—Worship @ the Willows</p> <p>9.30am—Worship Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8</p> <p>6.45pm—Worship Community Meal</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9am Sorting & Pricing for Op Shop lower hall </p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  9.30-11am Christian Meditation Community Room </p>	<p>13</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  10am-12noon Women's Fellowship in the upstairs hall & church </p>	<p>14</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop </p>	<p>15</p> <p>No scheduled events</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8.30am-12pm Church Working Bee </p>	<p>17 </p> <p>8am—Worship</p> <p>9.30am—Worship KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 Followed by Morning Tea</p> <p>6.45pm—Worship</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9am Sorting & Pricing for Op Shop lower hall </p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  9.30-11am Christian Meditation Community Room  7.30pm Thrive Bible Study lower hall</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  10am-12pm In Stitches Upstairs hall  10am-12noon Men's Morning Tea McKels Café Bella Vista  7.30pm Elders meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop </p>	<p>22</p> <p>5pm-7pm Fusion Youth Group </p>	<p>23</p> <p>No scheduled events</p>	<p>24 </p> <p>8am—Worship</p> <p>9.30am—Worship includes Baptism KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 Followed by Morning Tea</p> <p>5pm—Shine</p> <p>6.45pm—Worship</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9am Sorting & Pricing for Op Shop lower hall </p>	<p>26</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  9.30-11am Christian Meditation Community Room </p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop </p>	<p>28</p> <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY</p> <p>9am-2pm Op Shop  7.30pm  Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>GOOD FRIDAY Public Holiday</p> <p>9am  Good Friday Service</p>	<p>30</p> <p>No scheduled events</p>	<p>31 </p> <p>8am—Worship Followed by Morning Tea</p> <p>9.30am—Worship Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8</p> <p>6.45pm—Worship</p>

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and REGULAR GROUPS



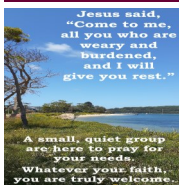
Wednesday 13th March @ 10am
Decorate an Easter Plate
Please bring a dinner size paper plate
Enquires: Dulcie Duncum & Margaret Gray



3rd Wednesday of the month 10am to 12noon
Mckel's Café, Shop 14, Circa Boulevard Bella Vista
Every third Wednesday of the month Enquiries Alan Wright



Meeting Dates March 6 and 20
1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays of the month
in the upstairs church hall. **10.00am to 12.00pm**
Bring your craft along to do.
Share fun and fellowship with other crafty ladies.
Morning Tea supplied. Enquiries: Jane Cole



Care and Prayer

All Welcome
11.30am on the first TUESDAY
of each month at St. Matthew's
February to November

Next Date:

4th March

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION



Tuesdays at the Church 9.30am-10.30am

All welcome

For more information or to express your
interest in attending please contact

Katherine Pedersen. Facilitator of the Tuesday 9.30am sessions
and for information. kathped56@gmail.com



OP SHOP

Open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am-2pm
and 1st Saturday of the month 9-12pm

Pre-loved clothes & accessories, Books,
Haberdashery, Bric-a-brac, Pot Plants.



Saturday
2nd March
9am-12pm

Pre-loved Household Items,
Electrical, Toys & Books
(Fiction, Non-fiction & Childrens Books)

St. Matthew's lower hall Edgar St



SHINE is a special needs social group for all ages after High school.
Meets Sundays Monthly for dinner & fun. Cost \$5

Still collecting in 2024 for their shoebox appeal supporting a school in the Philippines. Donations of small educational items, soaps & combs are greatly appreciated. Please place donations in the box provided at the top of the stairs in the church foyer.

Giving From time to time, we receive questions on how someone can make donations to St. Matthew's Uniting Church Baulkham Hills, to further support God's work through the Ministry team and congregation, in the wider Community. To assist with this, we have set up the following account with Uniting Financial Services:

Account Name: Baulkham Hills Uniting Church
- Giving Direct
BSB: 634634
Account Number: 100025924

If required a Direct Debit Request Form is available in the foyer or speak with Barry Gregory.

For your support of God's work here at St. Matthew's, a big thank you!

To include your activity in the
APRIL
In Focus
St. Matthew's
Monthly Newsletter
please send details to Robyn and Lynn in
the Church Office by **15 MARCH**
Thank you

Maintaining contact with you and your family is very important to us.
We would be grateful if you change your address, phone/mobile or email details that you let us know by phoning and leaving a message on 9686 3003

YOUNG FAMILIES

KUCA.....

@ **9.30am service during term**
for Preschool, Years K-2, and Years 3-8

YOUTH and YOUNG ADULTS

Fusion Youth Group.....

Years 3 to 8. Meet Friday evenings at the church during term time. 5pm-7pm

Contact Daniel Gibb

daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

THRIVE BIBLE STUDY.....

For young adults

Fortnightly on Tuesdays

Contact Daniel Gibb

daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Thank you to all who
have contributed to
this publication.

MINISTER

REV JON HUMPHRIES

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY WORKER

DANIEL GIBB

Part Time

Email: daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

SENIORS PASTORAL CARER

MICHAEL STRONG

Part Time

Email: mike@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARIES:

ROBYN MORRALL AND LYNN SAMUEL

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM MON-FRI

OFFICE : 9686 3003

LOCATION:

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS
BAULKHAM HILLS

POSTAL ADDRESS:

BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH
PO BOX 773 BAULKHAM HILLS 1755

WEB SITE: www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Weekly newsletter available on website

EMAIL: office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

FACEBOOK:

[@stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewsunitingchurchbaulkhamhills)

PRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR 9639 8570

SONALI WANIGESEKERA

PO BOX 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

EMAIL: director@stmatthewsps.net.au