



## 2023-2024 Annual Ministry Report

Jon Humphries

*Submitted as part of healthy reflection on ministry practice and as per Regulation 2.2.1.c*

### Preaching of the Word

- Preaching in each of the three services at St. Matthews Uniting Church as per the preaching roster. This usually takes the form of me being the predominant preacher in the two morning services, and a shared load in the evening.
- Leading special services for Easter and Christmas as part of the Special Religious Education (SRE) program at the local school
- Newsletter contributions each week which have a sermonic element which complement or augment the Sunday sermon

### Presiding at the Celebration of the Sacraments

- Monthly presiding over the Eucharist as per the tradition of the congregation
- Presiding over 3 baptisms as per the request of families who have approached the Church

### Providing for Other People to Preside in Worship and Preach and Participate in the Leadership of Sunday Services

- Helping organise a roster for liturgists who lead the service up until the Bible Reading and sermon/ message
- Supporting the tradition of the St. Matthew's Congregation for leading in the service through Bible readings and prayers
- Encouraging other members of the congregation to preach and ensuring that there is space in the preaching plan for this.
- Inviting people to share in the leadership of Communion, on top of the participation of Elders in serving the element.
- Inviting guests to come and lead services and preach, including a pulpit sharing in our local ministry zone.

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### DUTIES OF A MINISTER

**2.2.1.a** Within the ministry of the whole Church, Jesus Christ calls men and women to proclamation of the gospel in word and deed through the ministry of the Word and the ministry of Deacon. This calling is exercised by:

- (i) preaching of the Word;
- (ii) presiding at the celebration of the sacraments;
- (iii) providing for other persons to preside at worship and/or preach within the pastoral charge in which the Minister is in placement;
- (iv) witnessing in the community to the gospel of Jesus Christ;
- (v) guiding and instructing the members of the Church and equipping them for their ministry in the community;
- (vi) nurturing candidates for baptism and confirmation;
- (vii) pastoral oversight and counsel wherever needed;
- (viii) serving in the community, especially among those who are hurt, disadvantaged, oppressed or marginalized;
- (ix) careful attention to administrative responsibilities;
- (x) due observance of the discipline of the Church;
- (xi) the enhancement of the Minister's own gifts for the work of ministry;
- (xii) pioneering new expressions of the gospel and encouraging effective ways of fulfilling the mission of the Church.

**b.** Every Minister shall participate fully and regularly in the public worship of God and the mission and fellowship of the Congregation with which the Minister is enrolled (See Reg. 2.9.3).

**c.** Every Minister shall report annually to the Presbytery with which the Minister is enrolled on the ways in which the duties of a Minister as prescribed in Regulations 2.2.1.a and 2.2.1.b are being exercised.

## Witnessing in the Community to the Gospel of Jesus Christ

*This is area for further intentional growth.*

- Preaching as part of weekly services
- Publishing an article each week in the Church's newsletter
- The sharing of services and sermons on YouTube
- Teaching Special Religious Education in local public school to Kindergarten and Year 3
- Maintain a public Facebook page which shares prayers and things to think about related to the Gospel
- Leading of funerals and weddings for members of the wider local community

## Guiding and Instructing the Members of the Church and Equipping them for their ministry in the community

- Intentional teaching element in services and sermons
- Publication of supplemental discipleship material in weekly newsletters which augment the theme and message of the weekly service/sermon.
- Weekly applied learning / active discipleship worksheets to encourage people
- Encouraging the use of 'With Love to the World' and other such resources.
- Development of an Advent Bible Study series

## Pastoral Oversight and Counsel Wherever Needed

- Visiting members of the congregation
- This is an area for further intentional growth.*
- Meeting people in groups
  - Intentional connecting with people in the community
  - Participation in the Elders Council
  - Being a part of the pastoral care focus group

## Nurturing Candidates for Baptism and Confirmation

*This is an area for further intentional growth. No confirmation process was held in 2023-2024 period.*

- Meeting with and talking with baptismal families as they prepare for their children's baptism

## Serving in the Community, Especially Among Those Who are Hurt, Disadvantaged, Oppressed or Marginalized

*This is an area for further intentional growth.*

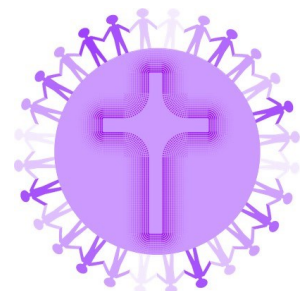
- Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network – Chaplain
- Assisting with the St. Matthew's Op. Shop
- Providing funeral services for the community on request
- Visiting people in the wider community on request.

## Careful Attention to Administrative Responsibilities

- Monitoring and maintenance of practical things such as email and calendar
- Promptly and properly responding to communications
- Developing rosters in a timely manner
- Completion and submission of this report
- Setting and keeping to budgets and the required record keeping

## Due Observance of the Discipline of the Church

- Attendance at Ethical Ministry Refresher seminars
- Being in regular supervision
- Maintaining Current Safe Church Accreditation
- Maintaining Special Religious Education (SRE) Training and accreditation
- Maintaining Working With Children Check
- Completion of this report as per Reg. 2.4.4



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## The Enhancement of the Minister's Own Gifts for the Work of Ministry

- MissionFest  
– 23 July 2023  
@ Adamstown Uniting Church
- Preachfest 2023  
– 1-3 November  
@ St Stephens Uniting
- Grief Following Trauma Seminar  
- 9th & 16th November  
via Zoom.
- Special Religious Education Accreditation Training (7 Modules)  
January 2024 online
- Missional Leadership Hub Training  
- Monthly in person & via Zoom  
@ Centre for Ministry
- Care and Prayer Healing Ministry Course  
- 10 & 17 February  
@ St Matthews Uniting
- UME Ministry Masterclass: Preaching - 24 April 2024  
via Zoom
- Introduction to Christian Meditation Weekly  
from 7 April - 12 May  
@ St Matthews Uniting
- Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Training (full course as refresher)  
- 22 & 23 May 2024
- Fresh Expressions Connect Seminar  
– 12 June  
@ Centre for Ministry
- NCLS Seminar - Planting the Future: Innovation in Church Life 27 June via Zoom
- UME Ministry Masterclass: Music 24 July via Zoom

## Pioneering New Expressions of the Gospel and Encouraging Effective Ways of Fulfilling the Mission of the Church.

*This is always an area for further intentional growth.*

- Seeking to present the message in the Gospel in creative and interactive or at least ways which practically illustrate themes or ideas in learning together segments and sermons
- Participation as a guest presenter in the 'Filthy Hope' Podcast which is a ministry of Uniting Heart and Soul in Woollahra
- Exploring the potential of creating own YouTube Channel and Podcast.  
- Visited local radio station  
- Met with Jonty Cornford and Rev. Vanessa Williams-Henke to discuss how to set up podcast and what is needed and how they might share wisdom and resources.

## Participate Fully and Regularly in the Public Worship of God and the Mission and Fellowship of the Congregation with which the Minister is Enrolled

(Regulations 2.4.12-14).

- for each week, except on occasional exceptions, I attend and assist in the leading of the three services at St. Matthew's – 8.00am, 9.30am & 6.45pm. As per the rosters I share in various roles.

- Lead, preach and preside over sacraments in weekly Church services. With a shared leadership roster with a 'liturgist' who leads the first half of the service, my role in each service varies. I am a person in roster and will lead when no-one else is available.
- Presentation of 'Learning Together' segment in each service. Previously, this was shared with Youth and Young People's Worker, but since their departure, this has been mostly led by myself. However, we are recruiting more people for this role.
- As a guitarist and singer, I assist in the leading of music in both 9.30am and 6.45am services.

## Contributing to the work of the wider Church

- Advocate and Panel Member for the National Assembly Transforming Worship Circle of Interest  
- Assisting in the preparation of worship resources for such things as Uniting in Prayer, Intercultural Neighbouring Sunday and the 2024 liturgical resource for Frontier Services  
- Facilitating a Facebook group for this circle and contributing content  
- Charing meetings of the panel  
- Attending advocate meetings
- Panel Member of the National Assembly Growing in Faith Circle of Interest
- Accredited chaplain as part of the Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network

(The Rev)

Jonathan (Jon) Humphries  
30 July 2024



# Jean Arnot Award to Betty Carmody



In the past few weeks, the media has thrown our way large chunks of Olympic champions, wars and well worn details of the bad behaviour of the usual suspects.

At NSW Parliament House on Monday 12th August, over 200 people, led by the National Council of Women NSW acknowledged 20 champions of our community.

Not an effort of ten seconds or two hours, but in some case, over 70 years of service.

Not a single event but many combined in their own lives skills development, fundraising, counselling, unpaid teaching, multi-levelled community liaison, spiritual leadership, intercultural activities, artistic acumen and professional success.

As if this wasn't enough, many came from past and present war torn countries, tragic family circumstances, personal disabilities, unfriendly communities and atmospheres of prejudice. Financial reward? You guessed it.

Do you shake your head when you are told of conflicting nations? Well spare a thought for these magnificents who have made substantial contributions to world peace and acknowledged by the Jean Arnot Recognition Awards.

Betty has led Christian Meditation at St. Matthew's and Eremos groups for many years and her faith, determination, independence and hard work in difficult circumstances has been a shining example of good news.

John Nichol



So did you of course rejoice when our young people did so well? Well rejoice for these women who have qualified by reaching 90 years of age and provided outstanding service to the community!



# BBQ and BOX NIGHT



Lots of chat and laughter as SHINE met for their annual BBQ in order to pack boxes of educational and hygiene items for their friends in the Philippines.

26 boxes were packed with love, a Christmas card written to be popped inside each one, messages written on the outside of the freight box with an assurance that our friends would read them and be very happy knowing that SHINE cares for them.

Hard work builds up an appetite, the BBQ sizzled the sausages to perfection thanks to Ron McIntosh and hunger was assuaged.



Each year SHINE pack shoeboxes for the Philippines, throughout the year, those at Warrah, a disability service, wrap the boxes, Op Shop and so many others donate wonderful goods to help fill them.

A wonderful outreach to those in need, A SHINE vision ten years ago supported by St. Matts so amazingly.

SHINE meets each month and has done for over 20 years now. This inspirational group knows no bounds and I'm sure makes God smile.

***Come join us  
anytime.***

*Jane Cole*







Channels of Peace



*"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few"*

*Matthew 9:37*

# Invitation

Please join us for an

## 'Afternoon Tea with a Sri Lankan flavour'

as we celebrate 10 years of Channels of Peace (COPE) in Australia.  
We support Evangelism in Sri Lanka through the Methodist Church  
and all proceeds from this event will go towards the expansion of  
evangelism projects in Sri Lanka.

*Enjoy some tasty afternoon tea  
with light entertainment, trivia and prizes.*

*We will begin the event with a short thanksgiving service*

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30 p.m.**

**at St. Matthew's Uniting Church, Baulkham Hills**

**Donation: \$50**

Channels of Peace Inc.

NAB BSB # 082186

Acc # 398648404

Please reference your name



**Please RSVP by 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Eksath Perera

Shamali Perera

Jimmy Buultjens

Maeve Buultjens

Rohan Wijesinghe

Patricia Weerakoon

[eksathp@gmail.com](mailto:eksathp@gmail.com)

[shamali2105@gmail.com](mailto:shamali2105@gmail.com)

[buultjensjames@gmail.com](mailto:buultjensjames@gmail.com)

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[rwijesinghe1@bigpond.com](mailto:rwijesinghe1@bigpond.com)

[patriciaweerakoon@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaweerakoon@gmail.com)

0411599107

0404811193

0418688237

0427631427

0421587261

0437600737



**Thursday 5th September**

**10am - 12pm**

# Aussie Hero Quilts

Guest Speaker: **Jan Marie Bell**

Jan Marie Bell will tell the inspirational story of 'Aussie Hero Quilts' founded by her in 2012, when a group of volunteers came together and commenced making quilts and laundry bags to send to Aussie service men and women serving overseas.



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

\*\*\*\*\* ALL WELCOME \*\*\*\*\*

# St Matthew's HAPPY HOUR!

**At The Winston**

170 Caroline Chisholm Drive, Winston Hills

**13  
SEPTEMBER**

**5 PM  
FRIDAY**



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

RSVP to Belinda on  
[belinda.schuster0709@gmail.com](mailto:belinda.schuster0709@gmail.com)



# UNITING YOUTH CAMP TIME TO SHINE

**Who:** High schoolers, Year 7-12

**What:** Fun, Food, Jesus & Year 12 study

**Where:** Y Camp Yarramundi

*Sponsorships and Siblings discounts available.*

## Cost:

**\$335 SUPER EARLY BIRD**  
(1 May - 31 May 2024)

**\$370 EARLY BIRD**  
(1 June - 31 July 2024)

**\$395 FULL PRICE**  
(1 August - 9 September 2024)

## Limited spots!

Registration close: 9 September 2024



Congratulations are encouraged to donate and send a kid to camp!



Register now: [pulse.uca.org.au/uyc](https://pulse.uca.org.au/uyc)





market stalls

# HILLS FAIR TRADE MARKET

gifts . clothing . food

SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER  
10AM-2PM



all undercover at St Paul's Castle Hill

421 Old Northern Rd

## NORTHWEST SYDNEY CHRISTIAN BUSINESS LEADERS PRAYER BREAKFAST

Thursday 5 September

6.30am - 8.15am

BOOK NOW [LINK HERE](#)



### Prayer

Prayer together for  
our region and  
businesses



### Guest Speaker

MC - Kerrie Sheaves  
Guest Speaker:  
Dwayne Jefferies  
(Hope 103.2 Media)



### Networking

Connect with fellow  
Christian business  
leaders

Proudly supported by



Newnique  
Solutions



Wealth of Advice



Land  
Surveyors



**norWEST**  
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE  
STRENGTH OF PURPOSE

bridging the gap  
child youth & family centres



# Calendar of Events for September 2024

**School Holidays**

**Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday**

<b>30</b> <b>9am</b>  <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church						<b>1</b>  <b>8am Worship</b> Includes Communion <b>9.30am Worship</b> Includes Communion Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 <b>6.45pm Worship</b> Includes Communion
<b>2</b>  <b>9am</b> <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room	<b>3</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>9.30-11am</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room <b>11.30am</b>  <b>Care &amp; Prayer</b> Community Room & church <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Thrive Bible Study</b> lower hall	<b>4</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>10am-12pm</b>  <b>In Stitches</b> upstairs hall	<b>5</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>10am-12pm</b>  <b>Coffee and Discovery</b> Guest Speaker Jan Marie Bell "Aussie Hero Quilts" 	<b>6</b> No scheduled events	<b>7</b>  <b>9am-12pm Op Shop</b> <b>9am-12pm</b>  <b>Garage Sale</b> lower hall	<b>8</b>  <b>8am—Worship</b> <b>9am—Worship @ the Willows</b> <b>9.30am—Worship</b> Followed by Morning Tea KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 <b>6.45pm—Worship</b> Community Meal
<b>9</b>  <b>9am</b> <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Cricket presentation</b> lower hall	<b>10</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>9.30-11am</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room	<b>11</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>10am-12noon</b>  <b>Women's Fellowship</b> in the upstairs hall & church	<b>12</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> 	<b>13</b> <b>2.30pm Op Shop Volunteers Meeting</b> upstairs hall <b>5pm-7pm</b>  <b>Fusion Youth Group Flipout @ Castle Hill</b> <b>5pm—Happy hour at The Winston</b>	<b>14</b> No scheduled events	<b>15</b>  <b>8am—Worship</b> <b>9.30am—Worship</b> KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 Followed by Morning Tea <b>6.45pm—Worship</b>
<b>16</b>  <b>9am</b> <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church	<b>17</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>9.30-11am</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Thrive Bible Study</b> lower hall	<b>18</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>10am-12pm</b>  <b>In Stitches</b> upstairs hall <b>10am-12noon</b>  <b>Men's Morning Tea</b> McKels Café Bella Vista <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Elders Meeting</b> in the church	<b>19</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> 	<b>20</b> No scheduled events	<b>21</b> No scheduled events	<b>22</b>  <b>8am—Worship</b> <b>9.30am—Worship</b> KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 Followed by Morning Tea <b>5pm—Shine</b> <b>6.45pm—Worship</b>
<b>23</b>  <b>9am</b> <b>Sorting &amp; Pricing for Op Shop &amp; Garage Sale</b> lower hall <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room and Church	<b>24</b>  <b>9am-2pm Op Shop</b> <b>9.30-11am</b>  <b>Christian Meditation</b> Community Room	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b> <b>5pm-7pm</b>  <b>Fusion Youth Group Scavenger Hunt</b> upstairs hall	<b>28</b> <b>2.30pm</b> <b>"Afternoon Tea with a Sri Lankan Flavour"</b> upstairs hall 	<b>29</b>  <b>8am—Worship</b> Followed by Morning Tea <b>9am—Worship @ the Willows</b> <b>9.30am—Worship</b> KUCA Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8 Followed by Morning Tea <b>6.45pm—Worship</b>

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES and REGULAR GROUPS

## 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 9. Meet Friday evenings at the church during term time. 5pm—7pm

Contact Jon Humphries

[jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au](mailto:jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au)

#### THRIVE BIBLE STUDY.....

For young adults

Fortnightly on Tuesday evenings

Contact Jon Humphries

[jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au](mailto:jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au)



**Wednesday 11th September @ 10am**

### Quiz with Adele

Enquires: Dulcie Duncum & Margaret Gray



**3rd Wednesday of the month 10am to 12noon**

Mckel's Café, Shop 14, Circa Boulevard Bella Vista

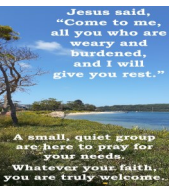
Every third Wednesday of the month Enquiries Alan Wright



Meeting Dates September 4 and 18

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:

2nd September

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION



NEW GROUP

**MONDAY**

**Evenings**

7.30pm—8.30pm

**Tuesdays** at the Church 9.30am-10.30am

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

Katherine Pedersen

Facilitator [kathped56@gmail.com](mailto:kathped56@gmail.com)

**ALL WELCOME**



### 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  
7th September  
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 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  
**OCTOBER**  
**In Focus**  
**St. Matthew's**  
**Monthly Newsletter**  
please send details to Robyn and Lynn in  
the Church Office by **15 SEPTEMBER**  
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

### SEPTEMBER 2024 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES at the church

1st September - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm  
Includes Communion

8th September - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm  
Community Meal

15th September - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

22nd September - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

29th September - 8am, 9.30am, 6.45pm

Live streaming at morning services

Thank you to all who  
have contributed to  
this publication.

### MINISTER

REV JON HUMPHRIES

### 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](http://www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au)

**Weekly newsletter available on website**

**EMAIL:** [office@stmatthewsuniting.net.au](mailto: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](mailto:director@stmatthewsps.net.au)