

# UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



## BELMONT CONGREGATION

42 Thomson Street, Belmont Vic. 3216

<https://buc.unitingchurch.org.au>



**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**WORSHIP LEADER: Rev. Ikani Vaitohi**

*We welcome all who are worshipping with us today,  
especially newcomers and visitors.*

## WINTER

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AT**  
**8.00 a.m..**

Come and be warmed  
By  
“porridge and toast and  
conversation”



### Over breakfast;

Men; come and share your thoughts about our congregation's life and mission at present and into the future.

### After breakfast

some members of our Mission Strategy Committee will form a panel to hear of your wisdom and answer any questions you may have.

“The breakfast team”

Cliff Rankin  
Pastor Geoff 0413 585 455

# UCA BIRTHDAY 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Our congregation will celebrate the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Uniting Church at our combined service 10.00am on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> of June.



## ***Mr. Keith Fagg OAM***

We are delighted to confirm that our 'Guest Speaker' on the day will be the worthy 2018 recipient of the Order of

Australia, Mr. Keith Fagg OAM, a devoted Wesley Geelong UCA member, former Geelong Mayor, a respected businessman and a strong community advocate for the whole of the Geelong Region. Keith will reflect on the nature of his long and dynamic relationship with the UCA sharing with us his hopes and aspirations for the church in a changing world. Feel free to invite a friend or a neighbour to come along and share in this fellowship.

Joining us on the day will be the Tokaikolo Christian Youth, a Melbourne based branch of the Methodist Church in Tonga. Their attendance represents the multi-cultural reality of the UCA.



**The Ministry Team is based at the Belmont Church Office**

. . on most Tuesdays to Fridays from 9.30a.m. – 12.30p.m.  
Rev. Ikani Vaitohi will be in attendance on most of those days.  
Pastor Geoff Aitken, on some Wednesdays and most Fridays.

They welcome any congregational members  
who would like to drop in for a cuppa or chat.

**Please Note:** *In case of emergency, the Ministry team remains  
available at any time. See back page for contact numbers.*

**CONTRIBUTE TO OUR WEBSITE:** Belmont Uniting Church (BUC) website is at <https://buc.unitingchurch.org.au> (or Google us).  
*Please remember to go there for information, to make a suggestion or make a contribution.*

**FAITH SHARING GROUP:** meets every **Tuesday at 10.00 am.**  
in the main hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and have a cuppa from 9.45 a.m.

**WELCOME MAT:** Operates every week on **Fridays** from 10 a.m. – 1.00 pm. Join us for a cuppa, chat, games and lunch at 12. You are most welcome. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship and fun. Any queries, contact Carl Schaller, Muriel Bullock or Fay Harper.

**CRAFT FELLOWSHIP** will meet on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June** at 10 o'clock. All welcome. Please bring your own craft and enjoy the camaraderie .

The **NEXT GET - TOGETHER of EVENING FELLOWSHIP** will be our mid year luncheon on **Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup>** at 12 noon at The Elephant Castle.

# **SAUSAGE SIZZLE**



**SUNDAY**

**15th July, 2018**

Following the morning's

Worship Service

**Cost \$5.00 ea.**

**Children free**

(sausages, salads, slices provided)

**Profits will support**

**Rev. Benjamin Quilliam**

**FRONTIER SERVICES PATROL PADRE**

**FOR CENTRAL AUSTRALIA**

**(Rev. Benjamin will assist at our 10am Service and speak  
at our luncheon)**

## **Old, Wise, and Desperately in Need of God**

*Judges 18:1–19:30; Philippians 4:10–20; Psalm 71:1–24*

Sometimes we expect that we'll naturally grow in faith as we grow older. We tend to see elderly people as those who have been molded and shaped by life—rock-solid in their faith and untapped sources of wisdom. That, or we speed around them in the grocery aisle, blissfully disengaged with the reality that our bodies, too, will slow down and endure pain.

While the psalmist seems to express a shadow of both these perspectives in Psa 71, neither of them is complete. Adopting the point of view of an elderly person, he reflects on his life. His prayer to God shows us that maturing in faith isn't automatic.

The elderly man is respected by others, but he doesn't trust in the honor that some ascribe to him. He knows that Yahweh is the source of his strength, and he praises Him continually: "I have become a wonder to many, but you are my strong refuge. My mouth is filled with your praise, with your glory all the day" (Psa 71:7).

Perhaps forsaken or looked down on by others, he makes a request for God's presence: "Do not cast me away in the time of old age" and "even when I am old and gray, O God, do not abandon me" (Psa 71:9, 19). He continues to request God's nearness: "O God, do not be far from me. My God, hurry to help me" (Psa 71:12).

Perhaps most poignant is the intensity of the psalmist's trust in God. Even in his old age, though he has "leaned from birth" upon God, he can't place his trust in his past years of faithfulness (Psa 71:6). His "praise is of [God] continually" (Psa 71:6). He also feels a responsibility to pass on the testimony of God's works: "I will come in to tell the mighty deeds of Lord Yahweh. I will make known your righteousness, yours only" (Psa 71:16).

Maturity in faith isn't awarded like a badge after we have put in our time. It's not an achievement. The elderly man's prayer acts as a testimony of God's faithfulness—past and present. Maturity of faith is something you continue to “be” and “do” and “seek.”

*How do you treat the elderly people in your life? What can you learn about God from them?*

Rebecca Van Noord

Barry, J. D., & Kruyswijk, R. (2012). [Connect the Testaments: A One-Year Daily Devotional with Bible Reading Plan](#). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.



### **PRAYER POINTS**

- We pray for people who are suffering from dementia. May they be aware of your loving presence and give them your peace when they become agitated. Bless those who care for them; may they show compassion and understanding.
- Loving God, we pray for world peace. May the leaders of all nations be concerned not with military power but helping countries where thousands of people are suffering by way of starvation, poor sanitation, lack of pure water, doctors, hospitals, clothing and suitable housing.
- Dear Heavenly Father, help us not to be discouraged in life, disheartened by its load or overwhelmed by its difficulties, failures or fears. Encourage us to trust in your loving Spirit which will renew our faith and help us to cope with any of life's burdens.

**SERVING THE BELMONT CONGREGATION**

**Sunday 24th June 2018**

**U. C. A. BIRTHDAY**

**WORSHIP LEADER Rev. Ikani Vaitohi**

**GUEST SPEAKER: MR. KEITH FAGG OAM**

<b>Duty</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>
Stewards	R. Pearson (M) C. Rankin (I)
Readers	B. & S. Jennings
Porch Stewards	P. Jones (P) B. Jones, D. Woods, J. Murray
Host/ess	K. & M. Moore
P.A.	J. Hill
Flowers	R. Buckwell
Morning Tea	B. Johns/F. Costin B. Pink I. & G. Coomber
Transport	(1) B. Dickie (2) P. Woods (3) K. Cameron

## BELMONT UNITING CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Ikani Vaitohi .....	0432 680 028
Evenings only .....	03 5298 3699
Pastor Geoff Aitken .....	03 5241 2897
.....	0413 585 455
Congregational Coordinator	0423 712 398

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## SERVICES IN AGED CARE HOMES

**Kalkee – Nangatta:** Thurs. 2p.m. 21<sup>st</sup> June Rev. Ikani Vaitohi

**Kalkee Murray Hostel:** Thurs. 3.30p.m. 21<sup>st</sup> June Rev. Ikani Vaitohi

**Opal South Valley:** Wed. 10.45 a.m. 27<sup>th</sup> June Pastor Geoff. Aitken

**Alan David Lodge:** Wed. 2.45 p.m. 27<sup>th</sup> June Pastor Geoff. Aitken

## LECTIONARY

### NEXT SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 **OR** 1 Samuel 17: 57-18: 5, 10-16

Psalms 9: 9-20 **OR** Psalm 133

2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41

## FOR CONTRIBUTIONS for the NEWS SHEET

Please include author's name & phone number, number of repeats required and **place in the Church Letterbox** at the top of church steps next to the meter box on the right, **before 4p.m. on Wednesdays.**