

# UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



**BELMONT CONGREGATION**  
42 Thomson Street, Belmont Vic. 3216  
<https://buc.unitingchurch.org.au>



**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019**

**WORSHIP LEADER: REV. IKANI VAITOHI**

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

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL WITH A DIFFERENCE!**

**On Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> February we will  
be holding the annual Harvest  
Festival at 10.00 a.m.**

***This will be a combined service  
for both the 8.30 a.m. and  
10.00 a.m. congregations.***

We welcome not only produce from your vegetable patch, but also nonperishable goods from the supermarket. Food that would be suitable includes Pasta sauces, small bottles of oil, 1kg packets of flour, sugar, tinned peas, corn, carrots, spaghetti, tuna, small jars of coffee or milo. Vegemite, peanut butter or tea bags and long life milk. A retiring collection will also be held for those who wish to contribute this way.

Money collected will be used to buy local Food Vouchers and these will be used in Geelong via UnitingCare. Please understand we are offering you options and invite you to participate as you see fit.

The church will be open for half an hour on Saturday morning Feb.23<sup>rd</sup> between 9.30 and 10 a.m. for anyone who wishes to bring their donations of food then. Otherwise, food can be placed at the front of the church prior to the service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>.



**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.*

**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.



**The Welcome Mat is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.**

If you would like to join in our celebrations please see Muriel or Fay as we need to know for catering purposes.  
Thank you – Fay Harper.

**CRAFT FELLOWSHIP** will meet on **Tuesday February 19<sup>th</sup>** at 10 a.m. Bring your own craft if you wish or just enjoy Morning Tea and the friendly company. All welcome.

**EVENING FELLOWSHIP** will be held on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.30 p.m. Guest speaker Raye Pearson will present “Kazakhstan & Beyond”. **OPEN MEETING – all welcome.**  
Devotions: Lorraine                      Supper: Miriam and Nola.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The time for submission of notices for the newssheet has been changed to **12.00 noon on Wednesday** instead of 4 p.m.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** service will be held at Wesley Church, Yarra Street, Geelong at **11 am on FRIDAY 1st MARCH**. This year's theme is "Come - Everything is Ready" and the service was prepared by the people of Slovenia. A light lunch will follow. All welcome to attend.

**AN EXCITING DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: SATURDAY 30th and SUNDAY 31st MARCH**. A weekend of **CULTURAL IMMERSION** (Song, Dance and Food) at Belmont Uniting Church with the Tongan Youth from the Canterbury Uniting Church. Saturday - evening meal and entertainment. Sunday - worship with singing. **Please keep the date free and start inviting your friends to come with you**. Tickets for the Sat evening meal and entertainment will be available very soon @ \$25 per head (or a price to suit you).

**THE CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL OCCUR ON SUNDAY MARCH 3RD, AFTER THE 10.00 AM SERVICE:**

Your attendance at this very important meeting of our congregation is encouraged and is appreciated. The reports will be available on Sunday February 24th and you are requested to bring them with you to the meeting on March 3rd. If there are any matters which members of the congregation are concerned about, please discuss them with Raye Pearson or Alex. Page by the end of February at the latest.

**PRODUCE STALL:** Jams now available: Apricot, Fig, Plum, Strawberry and Raspberry. Other: Cumquat Marmalade. Lemon Butter.

Tomato Relish & Madras Tomato Relish.

Small jars still needed. Thank you for your help!

Pam Duthie

***Call Out from Belmont and St. Luke`s Social Justice Group.***

Needed for Refugees\_

1 Hand towels or small towels

2 Saucepans

Please bring them to church and Raye Pearson or Liz Moss will deliver them to St. Luke`s.

Thanking you in anticipation for your support.

Liz Moss

**LENTEN STUDY**

The topic for this year`s Lenten Study is *The Lord`s Prayer*. This will look at the Lord's Prayer as a model for our prayer as a Christian community.

We shall use a booklet prepared by Rev Dr. Bruce Barber and all participants will be given a copy. Bruce will be present to lead our thinking for the first and last sessions.

We plan to follow the pattern established last year, meeting on Sunday evenings. The Study will take four Sunday evenings during Lent: March 17, March 24, March 31 and April 7. As we did last year, we plan to meet for a light meal at 6pm and follow that with the Study from 7pm until around 8.

We would be delighted if you would like to take part. Please let Ikani or Cherry Collins know if you are planning to come or would like to discuss further what is involved.

## Transformed by insight

We all, with open face, beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image. 2 Cor. 3:18.

The outstanding characteristic of a Christian is this unveiled frankness before God so that the life becomes a mirror for other lives. By being filled with the Spirit we are transformed, and by beholding we become mirrors. You always know when a man has been beholding the glory of the Lord, you feel in your inner spirit that he is the mirror of the Lord's own character. Beware of anything which would sully that mirror in you; it is nearly always a good thing, the good that is not the best.

The golden rule for your life and mine is this concentrated keeping of the life open towards God. Let everything else—work, clothes, food, everything on earth—go by the board, saving that one thing. The rush of other things always tends to obscure this concentration on God. We have to maintain ourselves in the place of beholding, keeping the life absolutely spiritual all through. Let other things come and go as they may, let other people criticize as they will, but never allow anything to obscure the life that is hid with Christ in God. Never be hurried out of the relationship of abiding in Him. It is the one thing that is apt to fluctuate but it ought not to. The severest discipline of a Christian's life is to learn how to keep "beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord."

Chambers, O. (1986). *My utmost for his highest: Selections for the year*. Grand Rapids, MI: Oswald Chambers Publications; Marshall Pickering.



There are many reasons to remember and celebrate. Sometimes the purpose is lost. Too much food and drink. Silly behaviour by affected people, not in their right mind. Birthdays and Christmas dinners are wonderful family reunions. Sometimes there is a loved one absent around the Christmas Table and we feel a little sad. But they would want us to have a happy family time get together. The celebration of the Lord's Supper is a reunion. Gathered around the Holy Table, with

simple fare of bread and wine, we celebrate his life death and resurrection of our Lord together as a Church family. DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME, He said to his friends.

Each time we partake of the Lord's Supper we look forward to the greatest Reunion of all –the Banquet of Heaven. To which all are summoned. A wonderful reunion. And we shall feast there with all our loved ones who have gone before us. "Those whom we have loved and lost awhile".

### *Reflection:*

*Horatius Bonar encourages us to look forward to that reunion thus, as we sing these most beautiful words of Faith,  
Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
yet passing ,points to that glad feast above,  
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.*

**BELMONT**  
**SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**HARVEST FESTIVAL**

<b>Duty</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>
Stewards	R. Ferguson (M), G. Allen (I)
Readers	H & C Collins
Porch Stewards	R. Bunting (P), L. Main G & J Schneider
Host/ess	M. Bullock, L. Moss
P.A.	G. Schneider
Flowers	Jill Sinclair
Morning Tea	J & R Jeffers, B. Pink B. Johns, F. Costin
Transport	(1) B. Couper (2) I. Henricus (3) A. Merritt (4) C. Schaller



**PRAYER POINTS**

Loving God, we pray for people who are grieving. You have promised to lift us out of grief and despair. May your loving spirit strengthen those who mourn; grant them peace, comfort and hope.

Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for the Apostle Paul and the manner in which he endured despite facing numerous hardships and challenges. He taught us the importance of trusting you and being obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Dear Lord, we pray for homeless people and those who are separated from their families. Bless the agencies which work to provide counselling, accommodation, food, clothing and other forms of assistance to people in need.

## 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. 1.45p.m. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> Geoff Aitken

**Kalkee Murray Hostel:** Thurs.3.30p.m. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> Geoff Aitken

**Opal South Valley:** Wed. 10.45a.m. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>

**Alan David Lodge:** Wed. 2.45p.m. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>

### LECTIONARY

**Genesis 45: 3-11, 15 Psalm 57: 1-11, 39-40**

**1 Cor 15: 35-38, 42-50 Luke 6: 27-38**

### 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 12 noon on Wednesdays.**