

Regular Activities

Sunday Worship Service

Sunday 10am // 81 High St, Preston

Bundoora

Thursday 10am (monthly) // A church service for residents at Bundoora Retirement Village

Connect

Thursday 12.30pm // 81 High St, Preston
Community lunch and food for thought

Harbour

Tuesday 1pm // 81 High St, Preston //
Discussion group and communion after the community lunch

Thirst

Tuesday 7.30pm // small worship group featuring discussion, social interaction, prayer, meditation and supper – contact Roger on 9462 6260 for details

Items for the Circle

The deadline for items to be included in the Circle is Thursday 5pm. Please leave printed submissions at the church office and send electronic submissions to circle@nccc.org.au. Comments and suggestions are also welcome.

Ministry Centre

Street & Postal Address

81 High Street
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Phone 03 9484 4788

Email info@nccc.org.au

Web www.nccc.org.au

Facebook Group

@NorthernCommunity

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Ministry Team

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Life Groups

Tuesday 6pm (fortnightly) // Matt & Ros's House // A group for learning more about the Christian faith. Runs to about 8pm and includes dinner. See Matt for details.

Come Pray With Me

Normally the third Tuesday of every month 10.30am // The Nicholls Chapel // A time of prayer

Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF)

Second Tuesday of the month, 1.30pm // Guest speaker and time of fellowship

Furniture & Clothing Op Shop

Monday to Saturday 9.30am – 4.30pm

Community Lunches

Monday – Thursday 12.30pm // 81 High St, Preston // \$4 for a two course meal

Being the hands and feet of Jesus in the northern suburbs

COMMUNITY | SPIRITUALITY | COMPASSION

The Circle



August 20, 2017

What Identifies You? Who Do You Identify With?

This last week Mary and I went to Vic Roads to get our Drivers Licences and Car Registrations changed over from Queensland to Victoria. With my Queensland Registration Plates removed from my car, I joked that I had no excuse for my bad driving. Now when people see my car, they will identify it as Victorian. When people ask for my driver's licence, and on the electoral role, I am identified as a Victorian. I'm OK with that. I am also pleased to be identified with Northern Community and Churches of Christ, as I go through the process of transferring my credentials.

Have you considered what identifies you, as you? Finger prints, voice, facial features, this list can go on. But also, who you identify with, helps to shape and inform your identity. Some refer to it as "Your Tribe, or Mob". They help to shape and transform your identity in good and sometime in not so good ways.

As Northern Community, our coming together should help to form and transform our identity – for the better. It was certainly something that the Disciples in Jesus day experienced. So much so, when others looked at them we read in Acts 4:13 that the Jewish Council looks at the disciples before them: 'They (the council) recognised them as men who had been with Jesus.'

When other people look at us individually and as a church family, may they identify us as people who are with Jesus.

God Bless - David

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet.

Online Giving and Direct Deposits

Account Name: Northern Community Church of Christ

BSB: 703-810 | **Account Number:** 05300313

To receive a tax-deductible receipt at the end of the financial year, please include your name and 'TD' in the reference field and your gift will be directed through our Tax Deductible Trust Fund.

Today's Theme

The 'Living Values' series continues today with the next session of Jesus' teaching in The Sermon on the Mount. The value is 'Being people of your word', based on Matthew 5: 31-37. As a refresher, the previous themes have been: being salt and light in our neighbourhoods; taking God's law seriously by allowing the goodness of Jesus to live in us; being reconciled by going and making things right; self-control: valuing what is better.

Thinking Of People In Aged Care Or At Home

Some of our elderly members can no longer attend worship services, either because they are in aged care or are at home. Remember these people in prayer – and maybe a card, visit or a telephone call would encourage them. **Joyce Dunn (Avondale Heights), Nancy Hall (Twin Parks), Joyce Shephard (Embracia), Dorothy Tullis (Arcare), Jean Weir (Ian Brand, Bundoora), Alma Hart (home), Shirley Tyzzer (home).**

Future Forum

On Sunday 17th September following the morning service there will be a Future Forum to join with **David Toscano** to chat and pray about the future for Northern Community and what that might look like. The conversation will wrap up by 12.30pm.

The Art Of Neighbouring

Churches of Christ Vic-Tas have been offering a series of creative workshops, led by **Catherine and Gabriel Hingley**, about being a missional presence in your neighbourhood. **David and Matt** are participants in the group. Some of the themes around neighbourhood engagement include: creating a culture of belonging and hospitality, being present in the civic life of communities, listening to God and neighbourhood, and gathering teams.

Pastoral News

A number of people have not been well recently, so keep them in prayer: **Heather Crossman, Pam Gardner, Brenda Greer, Kevin Guscott, Nola Millar, Ron Weir.** Pray for **Glad Graham and Bev Mulholland** in their recovery from surgery, and **Rhonda Bone** in her treatment for cancer. Pray for **Nazila and Morteza Esmaeli, Anita, Ahura, and Ariana.** Pray for **Alex Murphy**, a CareWorks volunteer, who has asked the church to pray for him as he copes with cancer.

CWF

CWF is starting up again. The next meeting is on Tuesday 12th September in the auditorium. Please see **Barbara Forde** for any enquiries.

Birthdays & Other Celebrations

Happy Birthday to **Jan Darker** for Monday 21st August.

Safe Water September

Embody's annual fundraising challenge is about to kick off. During the month of September, hundreds of people across Australia will drink nothing but water to raise money for safe water projects around the world. That means no coffee, no tea, no soft drinks for the whole month of September. To participate, or support challenge takers in your local community, visit safewaterseptember.org.au. Embody is an initiative of Global Mission Partners: embody hope, embody justice, embody change.

Daily Prayer

Various international organisations have called for people to pray for peace on the Korean Peninsula, in the light of threats that have been made by the USA and North Korea, and as military tension escalates. Churches across the world are invited to show solidarity with Korean churches by joining in prayer, based on Romans 14:19: "Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding." During the week, racial violence erupted in Charlottesville, USA, so pray for peace and reconciliation to prevail, and that people will seek to understand and negotiate rather than resort to violence. Thoughts and prayers are expressed for the victims of the Barcelona van attack, and all involved. Pray that love will overcome fear and hatred.

A prayer you can use: 'God of peace, justice and love – You call us to a way of peace and not violence. We come before you today with hearts and minds open to receive your wisdom and to deepen our understanding of the world we live in. Today we pray for peace: the peoples of the Korean peninsula and for the leaders of South Korea, North Korea, China, Japan, the US, Australia, and Guam, asking that dialogue and engagement rather than military and political confrontation will enable people to live their lives in peace and not in fear. We pray for the leaders and people of Charlottesville in the aftermath of violence that erupted last week. May tensions settle and may there be a willingness to be liberated from bias and prejudice. We pray for the people of Barcelona, families of victims who were killed, and those who were injured in the van attack. Where fear, hatred and division control behaviour, may there be an outpouring of love, hope and compassion to unite people. Shine your light of peace today wherever there are threats or acts of violence, so that grace, respect, humility and compassion will abound. In the way and the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.'

Next Week's Roster / Sunday 27 August

Communion: Terry Prayer: Lynette
Bible Reading: Amy
Music: Matt (m/v), Victor (m/v), Israel (m/v), Tessa (v) Dan (m)
Sound & Vision: John (s) David (v)
Helpers: Kevin, Pol, John P, Joe
Counters: John P, Kevin
Communion Prep: Marion
Welcome: Ron & Mary
Kitchen: Chris, Veronica, Solita
Kids Church: No Kids Church



Affiliated with
Churches of Christ in
Victoria & Tasmania



Visit our website
www.nccc.org.au



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