

## 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](mailto:circle@nccc.org.au). Comments and suggestions are also welcome.

## Ministry Centre

### Street & Postal Address

81 High Street  
Preston, VIC 3072

**Phone** 03 9484 4788

**Email** [info@nccc.org.au](mailto:info@nccc.org.au)

**Web** [www.nccc.org.au](http://www.nccc.org.au)

### Facebook Group

@NorthernCommunity

**Twitter** @NCCCPreston

## Ministry Team

### David Toscano

Ministry Team Leader  
[david@nccc.org.au](mailto:david@nccc.org.au)

Ph: 0412 137 777

### Matt Jones

Minister  
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Ph: 0414 575 551

### Lynette Leach

Minister  
[lynette@nccc.org.au](mailto:lynette@nccc.org.au)

Ph: 0419 538 543

## 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 Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm  
Saturday 9.30am – 4pm

## Community Lunches

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

# The Circle



November 12, 2017

"All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised. For God had something better in mind for us, so that they would not reach perfection without us." Hebrews 11:39-40 (NLT)

As we take time through this Inspiring Saints series, we hear stories of people who lived lives which encourage us to take notice of not just how they lived, but the character traits or values that shaped why they made the decisions to 'be different'.

Yet for each of these people we discover they were not perfect. When we take time to read through the first 38 verses of Hebrews 11, we discover a range of people named that are Heroes of the Faith – Saints, were less than perfect. They were all flawed individuals, who made mistakes and at times had to live with the consequences of those mistakes. Their perfection, while strived for in this life, will only be realised, with us, in the future.

So, they wait for their perfection, they yearn, they long for their perfection. They wait not begrudgingly, but expectantly. They look to us from the stadium stands as we now run our race as they once did. They know what it is like to be on the track, running their race, and now they watch and cheer us on.

'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith (including Martin Luther, John and Mary Green, St Josephine Bakhita, St Nicholas), let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.' Adapted from Hebrews 12:1 (NLT)

Inspired by others, we run knowing the best is yet to come!

God Bless - David

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

Being the hands and feet of Jesus in the northern suburbs

COMMUNITY | SPIRITUALITY | COMPASSION

## Online Giving and Direct Deposits

**Account Name:** Northern Community Church of Christ

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

**Tax deductible donations:** **BSB:** 703-810 | **Account Number:** 05300311

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.

## Theme

The Inspiring Saint for today is **Jackie Pullinger**. Her story is challenging, and even though her life might seem very different from ours, her example of commitment to follow Jesus in the hard places is a call for us to live out our faith where we are. If you miss any of the series, you can catch up by listening to the podcasts: [nccc.org.au/church/podcasts](http://nccc.org.au/church/podcasts). The saints we have heard about so far are **Martin Luther**, and **Rev. John and Mary Green**.

## Two Positions Available at Northern

At the Future Forum last week, it was announced that Northern will be seeking two people to join the team. A Minister for Compassion and Care (formerly Minister for Pastoral Care), and Minister for Children to Young Families. Both roles are part-time and will be a significant extension to the ministry team along with **David, Matt** and **Tamsin** (CareWorks). **Lynette** will conclude ministry on 31<sup>st</sup> December. It is expected that the new appointments will commence early in 2018. If you want to know more details, please check with David, and the Northern Community Church of Christ Facebook page. Please pray that God would provide the right people for these roles and for the Leadership Group as they discern God's heart.

## Lunch Today

After the worship service, stay for lunch. We will commence lunch when everyone is together in the hospitality area. Thank you to everyone who brought food, set up the kitchen and tables, and those who will clean up.

## Pray for

A number of our older members find it difficult to attend on Sundays, but they are still an important part of our faith community. They have given years of loving service and this is a time to support them in prayer and contact through cards, visits and phone calls.

Pray for **Heather Crossman, Brenda Greer, Alma Hart, Joyce Shephard, Dorothy Tullis, Shirley Tyzzer and Jean Weir**.

Pray for **Rhonda Bone, Terry Como, Shirley Cromarty, Glad Graham, Roy Weir**, all of whom are experiencing health challenges.

**Louise Sutton** will have hip replacement surgery on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Pray for **Nazila and Morteza Esmaeli** and their family (**Anita, Ahura, Ariana**) as they have been waiting years for an immigration interview to approve their visa to stay in Australia. As a family they appreciate all the loving support they receive from Northern Community.

## Christmas Feasts

We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season together with a special 2 course meal, games, music and laughter at our Christmas Feast events in December. We'd love for you to join us. Thanks to a generous grant from Darebin Council, these events are free but you will need to book tickets from the office during work hours. Be warned that these events book out quickly. Tickets will be released from this Wednesday. Please choose the event that best suits you. Our first Christmas Feast is at 6pm-8pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Our second Christmas Feast is on the following Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, for lunch at 12pm-2pm.

## Valedictory Service

The Stirling Theological College Valedictory Service will be held at Northern Community on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm. The speaker will be **Janet Woodlock**, Federal Co-ordinator for Churches of Christ in Australia. This is an important time of recognition of students who have completed awards. All are welcome to attend and support the students and the College in its preparation of people for carrying out their ministry in both church and secular settings.

## Birthdays & Other Celebrations

Happy birthday to **Eileen Larkin** for today, and to **Neil Ratcliffe** for Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

## Christmas Service Feedback Request

We are exploring the possibility of having a Christmas Eve Celebration (Sunday 24 Dec starting around 6pm) rather than a 10am service and not have a Christmas Day (Monday) service. If you could let David **Toscano** know your thoughts on this in the next fortnight, we would appreciate it.

## Prayer Rhythm

Focus on the values that underpin Northern Community's life, mission and witness:

### Developing Community

### Deepening Spirituality

### Demonstrating Compassion

The ministry roles will reflect these values. Pray for the people who will apply for the new roles. Pray for the Leadership Group on their discernment about the appointments to these roles. Pray for the ministry team (current and new in 2018) in the exercise of their responsibilities so that they will hear from God and be guided with wisdom and grace in the exercise of their ministry. How do you reflect these values in your life?

## Next Week's Roster / Sunday 19 November

Communion: Terry Prayer: Lyn Bible Reading: Amy Music: Victor (m/v), Matt (m/v), Tessa (v), Dan (m) Sound & Vision: Ian (s) David (v) Helpers: Clive, John P, George, Terry Counters: John P, Kevin  
Communion Prep: Marion  
Welcome: Ron & Lorraine  
Kitchen: Solita, Sharon, Veronica  
Kids Church: No Kids Church



Affiliated with  
Churches of Christ in  
Victoria & Tasmania



Visit our website  
[www.nccc.org.au](http://www.nccc.org.au)



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