

Greystanes GrapevineThe weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



18 SEPTEMBER 2022

Welcome to worship this morning, we hope you enjoy being with us. A special welcome to Libby Sorrell, from Be Slavery Free, who will be speaking about their work during the service this morning.

Lectionary Readings

This week 18 September, 2022

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

Next week 25 September, 2022

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31

New Craft Group

We have a new craft group which has begun this week. They are meeting on Thursday mornings from 10-12 and you would be most welcome to join them, bring your current craft project.

Pendle Hill Baptist Anniversary

Pendle Hill Baptist Church are celebrating 90 years of Women's Ministry with an afternoon tea next Saturday 24th Sept, from 2.30pm. You are invited to attend, details are on the flyer on the back notice board.

BBQ and Book Stall for Frontier Services

Our BBQ and Book Sale is next Saturday from 10am – 2pm to raise funds for Frontier Services and their programs which support rural and outback Australians.

Please come along and buy some books and grab a sausage sandwich to support the great work Frontier Services do for those who live beyond our cities.

The Australian Religious Response to Climate

Change (ARRCC) is organising a Day of Action on climate change in solidarity with Pacific and Australian First Nations peoples. ARRCC will urge the Government primarily to stop approvals for new coal and gas projects and end public subsidies for fossil fuel industries.

All are invited to attend a multifaith gathering and service to be held:

Where: St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Marist Place Parramatta

When: Thursday, 13th October, at 9.30am

For more information: https://www.arrcc.org.au/f4cj2022 or Rev Meredith Williams Ph: 0437 286058



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Gail's Message

Last Sunday we remembered the 9/11 attack and its ramifications. We also mourned the death of Queen Elizabeth II and heard a difficult reading in worship from the 'Weeping Prophet' Jeremiah (which sounds a lot like a prophecy of the devastation of climate change). It was a heavy week! This week's Grapevine entry is a blessing for heavy days, sleepless nights, tough weeks, rough months, and years we would rather forget, from authors Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie in *Good Enough. 40ish Devotionals For A Life Of Imperfection*.

Blessed am I when I lose sleep over what troubles me. When my worries keep me watching the clock tick by; when I have no energy to do anything but fret. **The kingdom of God is here and now.**

Blessed am I when I am drowning in grief. When wave after wave crashes over me. When I start to feel okay, then something reminds me of what I've lost, and I'm pulled under once again. God promises to comfort me.

Blessed am I when I am starving for justice. When the world around me feels so unfair that I could scream, but no one seems to be listening. No one seems to care. May justice flow like a river.

Blessed am I when I strip away all the extra. When I see the world as it really is-broken, tender, fragile, beautiful. These are the same eyes that see God in everything too.

Blessed am I when I take the hard road. The winding one....the one that doesn't pave over with trite niceties but walks towards peacemaking. For I am God's kid.

Blessed are we. The imperfect and don't have-it-all-together. God's beloved.

Good Enough. 40ish Devotionals For A Life Of Imperfection by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie, (London: Rider, Penguin Random House, 2022), 125-126.