



4 SEPTEMBER 2022



Happy Father's Day to all our dads, grandpas and honorary dads, we hope you have a great day.

Lectionary Readings

This week 4 September, 2022

Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6,13-18
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

Next week 11 September, 2022

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Elders Meeting

Elders are reminded they will be meeting next Tuesday 6 September at 6:30 pm in the chapel.

Fathers' Day Breakfast

Thank you to John, Peter, Peter and Gail for being part of the Fathers' Day breakfast, it was good to share breakfast with the families and staff of our childcare centre.

Op Shop donations

The Op Shop is running a bit low on items of bric-a-brac so if you have any items such as vases, platters, ornaments, etc that you were planning to donate to the Op Shop one day, now would be a great time to give them to us, You can either drop them into the shop at 37 Dell St Woodpark any time between 9.30am-4pm Monday to Friday or 9am-12pm on Saturday, or bring them to church one Sunday and we will take them to the shop.

BBQ and Book Stall for Frontier Services

Church Council has been invited to host a BBQ to raise funds for Frontier Services and their programs which support rural and outback Australians. We are planning to run this on Saturday 24th September and will be including a book sale as well.

We are **still looking** for volunteers to help with this, so please see Sue if you can help in any way even for a few hours.



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Gail's Message

One of my favourite subjects during my time spent studying at the United Theological College was Homiletics, and the required text book *The Practice of Preaching* remains one I still use regularly; others sit collecting dust, just in case they may be useful, and the really boring, stuffy ones became library donations.

One of the reasons I so enjoyed both the Homiletics class and the text is because it managed to boil down all the theories and methods of preaching down to one manageable statement, "the purpose of preaching is to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ".

Preaching is a big deal in our tradition, which is why we all sit with eyes towards the pulpit; pity the poor preacher who must overcome one of our most common and greatest fears, public speaking! Other traditions focus their attention on the altar and the elements of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, while the more evangelistic mega churches focus on experience, with live bands, fancy lighting and lots of visual stimulation.

Regardless of our style of worship, the sermon or message or reflection (it's basically the same thing) needs to express the Gospel, as relevant Good News; as relevant to us in the twenty first century as it was in the first. During Homiletics class one day a very open and honest student, a person who felt without any doubt God's call on her life to lead God's people said, "I don't think I know what the Gospel is". I was both touched by her willingness to be so vulnerable and also concerned.

If someone asked me to explain the gospel of the good news about Jesus Christ could I do so without umming and aahing? Was I able to define the very heart of my faith and belief? Did my courageous colleague's lack of clarity about the Gospel point to a lack of clarity in our worship and preaching?

I continue to think over these questions even to this day and I invite you all to join me. If a non-churched person asks us to explain the Gospel of the Good News about Jesus Christ what would you say?