



Greystanes Grapevine

The weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



1 FEBRUARY, 2026

Welcome

Welcome to worship, we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary Readings

This week 1 February, 2026

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Next week 8 February, 2026

Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)
Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

Worship next week

Rev Christine Gapes will be joining us for worship next Sunday and sharing the message. Christine is the UCA chaplain at Western Sydney Uni and also author of the children's book Liriel and the Dragon, which will be available next Sunday for \$20 per copy, if you would like one.

H & F Warehouse Manager

Hands & Feet are looking for a manager for their warehouse at Kings Langley. This is a full-time, paid position, if you know of anyone who would be interested, details are on the back noticeboard.

World Vision Child Sponsorship

You will be aware that our congregation currently sponsors three children with World Vision. They are Stanley, who lives in Kenya, Lojan, who lives in Sri Lanka and Alphonse, who lives in Rwanda.

If you are able to make a contribution towards the \$1700 our sponsorship costs us, it would be appreciated; you can give your gift to Karen S or transfer money direct to our bank account, the details are BSB 112 879, account number 428 172 081, please put your name and WV in the reference if possible.

Our sponsorship helps provide support for child protection and child rights education, educational support and training for teachers, clean drinking water, farming support, increased access to health education and care and business training for communities.

Recycling Cans and Bottles

Karen M is looking to collect cans and bottles suitable for Return and Earn, to help a friend whose 14-year-old son would like to attend the Scout Jamboree in Poland next year.

If you would like to help, please bring them to church or contact Karen and she can collect them.

**Greystanes Uniting Church**

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Rev Gail's Message

I give thanks to God for the faithfulness of this congregation. You turn up for church as often as you can and two weeks ago many of you even braved a horrendous rainstorm to gather for worship. When people ask you why you go to church you may like to tell them the little story below, kindly passed onto me by a member of the congregation.

Why Go to Church?

If you're spiritually alive you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3000 sermons. But for the life of me I can't remember a single one of them. So I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now and in that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this, they all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

The story above ends with three wise sayings:

"When you are DOWN to nothing..... God is UP to something!"

"Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!" This one speaks to our church powerfully as we seek to do God's will.

"When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me?"

So when we get anxious about the future let's remember these pithy words of wisdom because worry, fear and anxiety are some of the subtle weapons Satan uses to make us doubt God's love for us and Jesus' abiding presence within us.