



Greystanes Grapevine

The weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



19 JULY 2026

Welcome

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

Lectionary Readings

This week 19 July 2026

Genesis 28:10-19a
Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Psalm 86:11-17
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Next week 26 July 2026

Genesis 29:15-28
1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Psalm 128, Psalm 119:129-136
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Congregation Meeting— Sunday 26 July

We will be having a congregation Annual General Meeting after church next Sunday 26th July.

Cumberland Community Prayer Dinner

You are invited to this special night where Christians and community members from across our region gather in unity.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Tuesday, 25 August 2026
- **Time:** 7pm to 9.30pm
- **Venue:** Merrylands RSL Club, Swan Room, 8 Miller Street, Merrylands,
- **Guest Speaker:** *Jude Simion, founder & Executive Director of Philoi Global Ltd.*

Tickets are \$55 and can be purchased from:

Cumberland Churches website, www.cumberlandchurches.org.au or scan the QR code on the flyer on the back noticeboard

RSVP and Dietary requirements by 12 August



**Greystanes Uniting Church**

Cnr Cumberland & Eldridge Roads (P O Box 5064)

Greystanes NSW 2145

Minister: Rev Gail Hinton 0407 269 162

revgail@greystanesuniting.org.au

Office Phone: 9636 3245

Email: office@greystanesuniting.org.au

Website: www.greystanesuniting.org.au

Rev Gail's Message

Greystanes Uniting Church's Values: Caring and Respect

One of the stories I have loved hearing from members of our congregation is how welcomed you felt when you visited our church for the first time. Imagine visiting a church for the first time and no one evens notices you, no one greets you, no one gives you a smile; sounds farfetched right, but this is a story I have also heard church goers tell. A church family who invites you in and makes you feel like one of the family is a church family who cares.

In the letters to the early churches (the books following Matthew, Mark, Luke/Acts and John) care for our sisters and brothers in Christ gets particular attention. In Galatians 6:10, we are instructed to do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers, whenever and wherever we have the opportunity.

In Colossians 3 we find a description of what it means to care: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Caring for people we love is generally easy despite how tiring or difficult the circumstances. Take for instance the sacrifice many of us will endure in caring for an infant or an elderly relative. But how do we express the same caring attitude towards all people? In the Colossians reading above we find the answer; we are instructed to 'put on' love. The love we 'put on' is a choice to put on Christ, to wrap ourselves in him, to wear him like a t-shirt or an overcoat. A church full of caring people know that it is in Christ we are empowered to love and care for others.

Care for others goes hand in hand with respecting them. The biblical foundation for respecting others is the fact that we are all made in God's image. Genesis 1:27 states, So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Have you ever heard the phrase, "self-made man"? This term is used to refer to someone who has become wealthy, notable and influential but through the Christian lens it makes no sense; God is the creator, we are his creatures, God is our divine parent, we are his children.

Understanding one another as God's children gives us a sense of commonality. It doesn't matter, who you are, where you have come from, the colour of your skin, or your education level. It doesn't matter how wealthy or successful you are, it doesn't matter if your political persuasions differ from mine, or if your belief system follows some other path, I will respect you because you like me came into existence because God willed it to be so.