



9 AUGUST 2026

Welcome

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

Lectionary Readings

This week 9 August 2026

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Next week 16 August 2026

Genesis 45:1-15
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Psalm 133
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Just for Fun (for a cause) Trivia Night

**Saturday 22nd June
6.30pm**

Light refreshments will be provided
Feel free to bring your own snacks

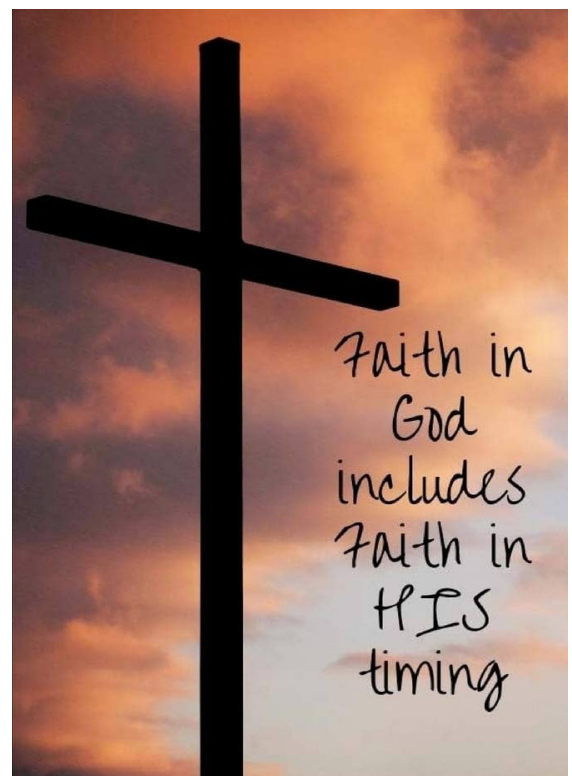
Cost: a gold coin donation gladly
accepted for our Hands & Feet
program

Hints: 50 cents each
Answers: \$1 each

Hands And Feet Celebration Fundraiser Dinner

Hands and Feet are hosting their annual Fundraiser event at Canterbury Leagues Club, 26 Bridge Rd, Belmore, on Thursday 15 October from 7-10pm. The evening will showcase their work and the stories of some of their clients as well as a meal and live music.

Tickets are \$89 (it's a fund-raiser after all!) and can be purchased through their website, handsandfeet.com.au.





Greystanes Uniting Church

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Rev Gail's Message

Over the last few months I and your church leaders have focused on discerning God's will for our church. Thinking about the future and the responsibility of being the stewards of a lot of property has at times seemed daunting however we must always remember that we have a God who does not ask us to face things alone or act and work using our own strength. The following reflection on God's constant presence and guidance is adapted from a meditation that can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4a1pomW9Ps>.

In the time of Haggai, an Old Testament prophet, the temple had been destroyed and was in ruins and there was major opposition to a rebuilding programme. The people were discouraged, afraid, and frustrated in doing God's work. It was difficult economic times, and people simply wanted to focus on rebuilding their own houses. But in the midst of all this, the Lord called his people to pour the best of their energy into building God's house first; to refocus their attention and energy on pursuing God's purpose in and through their lives. God wanted the temple rebuilt because it was the visible symbol of his presence with his people. Later, Jesus himself became the visible symbol of God's presence on earth.

Today, it is God's people, you, me, and every true believer. We are the temple that carries the presence of God here on earth. God calls us to be the visible sign of his presence here on earth today. We could call this the church's mission; as God's visible presence we are called to bear witness to the way God can transform lives, replacing despair with hope and fear with joy.

The question before us as a church is "How is God calling us to be the visible sign of his presence in our own unique and special way?"

To help us answer this question we can reflect once again on the experience of God's people in the time of Haggai. In Haggai 1:14, the Lord declares, "I am with you." The verse then goes on to say that God stirred up the spirit of the people and the people came and they did what God asked them to do.

As we discern the way forward let's hold to the promises we find in the Book of Haggai:

*God declares his presence with his people.

*God stirs their spirit.

*After their spirits are stirred, they go to where God called them

As we consider what God is calling us to do we can take great comfort in the fact that it's the Lord who stirs us towards his purpose in his timing. Haggai 2: 4-5 says, "Be strong, declares the Lord. Work, for I am with you. My spirit remains in your midst. Fear not.

Let this then be our prayer:

Lord, may we come to work with you, so that we continue to grow into the visible symbol of your presence here on earth, in order to love and serve your people. May we keep showing up. Keep saying yes. **Amen.**