

Rosters

22 January, 2017

29 January, 2017

Preacher:	Graham Smith	Rev Trevor Lunney
Elder:	Norm Johnson	Norm Johnson
Reader:	Jennifer Reynolds	Glynis Nash
Stewards/ Welcomers:	Trevor Smith Tim Klower	Angela Miller Chris Miller
Morning Tea:	Gail/Maata	Glynis/Roria
Cleaning:	Reynolds/Murphy	Karin Edwards/ Joyce Doust
Audio/Video:	John Cameron	John Cameron
Kids' Church Leader:	Julie Hungerford	Julie Hungerford

Regular Activities

Silver Threads	Weekly Tuesday	9.30am
Craft Group	1 st Tuesday of each month	9.30am

Grantham Heights Uniting Church

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Web Address: www.7hillschurch.org.au
Postal Address: PO Box 823 Seven Hills 1730

Minister: Rev. Shin Goo Lee 0405 484 858
Church Office: 9622 0984
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator: Julie Hungerford

Newsletter contributions to Church Office by Wednesday morning

Congregational Newsletter Vol 217 No 02 22 January, 2017

MISSION STATEMENT

"We are called to be evidence of God's love, active in our community"

9.30am Service



Graham Smith



PRAYER CHAIN

If you are in need of prayer please ring Ian Bryon on 9624 6197. People on the prayer chain will pray for you.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR 29.01.17

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

WELCOME

Welcome to our service this morning and a special welcome to Graham Smith who will be leading worship for us. Please join us for morning tea in the hall after the service.

OFFERINGS

15.01.17 \$572.80.

In addition, \$360.00 was deposited directly into our account.

An error was made last week in reporting the Offering collected on 8 January 2017. The note should have read

Offering \$639.35 – in addition **\$110.00** was credited direct to our bank account.



ELDERS MEETING

The first Elders meeting for 2017 will be Tuesday 31st January at 7.30pm in the church.

GAMES NIGHT

On Friday night, 3rd February we are having a Games Night commencing at 7.30pm.

Everyone is invited, more details to follow, but put the date in your diary now!



THOUGHTS ON MATTHEW 4:12-23

“Faith is an act of a finite being who is grasped by, and turned to, the infinite.” – Paul Tillich

In today’s Gospel reading, Matthew reports Jesus’ very first message as he begins to preach after being baptized, and after coming out of the wilderness of temptation. His message is “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” He does not say the kingdom “will” come near as in next year or even only in the afterlife. He is saying that it is already here in this life.

The word “repent” simply means to turn again. It could mean to turn from sin. Perhaps more poignantly in this context it means to turn around and face the kingdom. There we find the infinite, who is luring and enticing us to a world beyond

our imagination. Just turn and look. We don’t need to die to enter the kingdom. We just need to turn and look. Often in this world when we turn, we see the helpless, the sad, the lonely, and the deprived. Then we are repulsed and disgusted, and so we turn away.

But all through the New and Old Testaments there is a clear message that God dwells in a special way with the marginalized and poor, poor in whatever way. So let us not turn away from the kingdom where God is, dwells, lives, and with whom God weeps. The kingdom of God is here now. Jesus was not mistaken.

Let us repent, turn again, and walk into darkness, especially into the darkness of our suffering neighbors. It will be fine, because the darkness has seen a great light.