



UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Rockingham Congregation
4 Erindoon Way, Waikiki 6169

UPDATE

SUNDAY 27th August 2017 at 9:30am

Today's Service conducted by
Rev Toby Keva

Please join us for morning tea following worship

Welcome to Rockingham Uniting Church

Our hope is that all who come through our doors find Spiritual rest and nourishment, and that you will experience the presence of the living God in our midst.

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Last Sunday's Bible Reading: *Isaiah 56:1-8*

According to section 44 of the Australian constitution, no one who is a citizen of a foreign power can be elected as a member of the federal parliament. That means an Australian with dual citizenship cannot sit in federal parliament.

Indeed, our rights in this country is dependent on the status that we have. A visitor in Australia, for example, have less rights than people who are residents; and residents, whether temporary or permanent, have less rights than citizens.

Fortunately, our status does not mean much in God's Kingdom. The reading that we have from the book of Isaiah remind us that it is not who we are that matters; it is what we do.

The prophet in our passage talked about two particular groups in Israel who were often excluded: the eunuchs and the foreigners. According to the book of Deuteronomy, no one who had been castrated or whose penis had been cut should be accepted into the people of God (23:1). The same book also forbids particular foreigners, especially the Moabites and the Ammonites, from joining the assembly of God's people (23:3).

But the prophet in Isaiah prophesied a message of inclusivity not exclusivity. Even though other people may often exclude these two groups of people, God did not. Eunuchs and foreigners who did what was right and just, who kept the Sabbath, and who followed God's covenant were welcomed as members of God's family.

Indeed, in God's eyes, who we are matters less than what we do in our lives. The Kingdom of God is never about status or identity in society. The Kingdom of God is about what we do with our lives. The church, therefore, must be a welcoming home for all kinds of people who loves God and who wants to follow God: black or white, poor or rich, male or female, left or right, gay or straight.

Friends, God looks at our hearts and attitudes. God accepts all those who love God. We shall thus welcome everyone who wants to follow God. That is the only requirement that matters.

Bible Readings 3rd September 2017:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,23-26,45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

WEEK'S EVENTS FROM 27TH AUGUST – 2ND SEPTEMBER 2017

Today 9:30am

Morning Worship led by Rev Toby Keva

The single flower today is in memory of Marjorie Smeaton late Wife of Jim Smeaton. Marjorie passed away on the 27th August 2010. R.I.P.

Today 5:00pm

Afternoon Service

Prayers

Remember the people of Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal.

Wednesday 10:00am

Craft Group meet in the Church Hall. All welcome, even if just for a chat and a cup of tea.

Thursday 10:00am -
11:30am

MENS GROUP
Topic: Why Pray?

Coming Events

Sunday 3rd September at 9:30am Morning Worship Service – conducted by Rev Toby Keva with Holy Communion

Church Fete

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Church Fete on Saturday 28th October. If you can help out at one of the stalls, please put your name on the sheet on the atrium table.

Notices

ROCKINGHAM CONGREGATION

Weekly Worship with Children's Activities each Sunday 9.30am (with Communion on First Sunday of each month).

We aim to be a fellowship of Christians making the crucified, risen and exalted Lord Jesus Christ to be known, loved, worshipped and obediently followed. We aim to be always open to newcomers and to serve the community and the world, doing all this by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We aim to achieve this by committing ourselves to God in spiritual growth through prayer, bible study, and stewardship of time, talents and resources

Rosters – 3rd September 2017	
Announcements	Nell Morgan
Bus Driver	Dean Lockwood
Reader	Norma Svendsen
Elder	Joan Willis
Stewards	Pat Nevin & Brian Williams
Communion Stewards	Kerry Dunn & Norma Svendsen
Morning Tea	Margot Evans & Ann Toerien
Accompanist	Joy Williams
AV System	Nell Morgan & Jordan Lockwood
KUCA	

Four week averages: Attendance 91: 9