



## Communities

**Holland Park**  
855 Logan Rd  
Holland Park West

**Mt Gravatt**  
Cnr Springwood &  
Hicks Streets  
Mt Gravatt

**Tarragindi**  
24 Pope Street  
Tarragindi

**Yeronga**  
58 Kadumba St  
Yeronga

## Rev David Fender's Message

Over the past weeks I have been stimulated in my daily bible reading by re-reading the book of Joshua. I have been inspired and challenged as I think of the way God led the Israelites into the Promised Land and found alignment with our journey towards God's missional future.



God says to Joshua "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9. At the beginning of this year we were strong and courageous as we commenced a new season of ministry together as Southside Uniting Church.

The big story of Joshua is that the Israelites move into occupied territory and have to fight to claim what God has given them. The early chapters are filled with stories of battles, which the Israelites win, but then are commanded to kill all the defeated people. I still struggle with the nature of a loving God who commands such horrendous acts. Whilst it is hard to put the human element out of the story, I can see a purpose in clearing the land. Removing the defeated people and their habits and cultures allows God to build a new nation built on faith in him.

And so I am reminded that as we move into God's missional future, we need to be alert to the cultures and practices that we bring with us, that are no longer aligned with where God is taking us. At the beginning of the year we affirmed to each other a set of 5 commitments. We promised that we would be:

- Christ centred
- Have healthy relationships
- Pursue God's mission
- Be open to change
- Respect diversity

I often refer to these when I think of the new congregation we are shaping together. It is a risk to move into something new. We took a risk. A risk that was inspired by the Holy Spirit and led by God. The pandemic has meant that the year did not eventuate as we expected. I wonder, as the year ends, what has been your experience of us coming together. What rewards have you received? What costs have been too much to bear? I'd love to hear your responses. Please email or ring me.

I will be on annual leave from 14 to 20 December. Wendy and I will be on the Gold Coast celebrating our 32<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

Grace and Peace

David Fender

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## New Events

### Ladies Christmas Craft Night 2020

It's happening again, though a little modified due to COVID19. It's on Thursday, 17th December at SSUC Mt Gravatt, in the hall and starting at 7:30pm. \$5 per person covers all costs, with activities in kit-form and supper available as usual. Profits will go to The Christmas Bowl.

While it is a ladies' night, everyone who enjoys making things for Christmas or just wants to chill for a while, is welcome.

Please let me know if you are coming if possible, so that I can create enough kits etc. Pre-registration will also save you time on the night checking in & out.

Contact Viv via mobile 0408 789115 or email [bibbyshouse@bigpond.com](mailto:bibbyshouse@bigpond.com)

### Staff Leave

David Fender – 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December

Richard Moors – 21<sup>st</sup> December – 18<sup>th</sup> January

Rachel Manton – 24<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January

### Worship

Rev David MacGregor – Worship Minister

[worship@ssuc.org.au](mailto:worship@ssuc.org.au)

As we return to holding one weekly service in each of our 4 buildings we are faced with a predicament. Due to COVID the capacities of our buildings are capped at 1 person per 2 square metres, with an additional limitation of 1.5 metres between social groups (ie families, people who live together at the same address, people who drive together to church). At Tarragindi and Mt Gravatt in particular, but also potentially at Yeronga and Holland Park, our expected attendances can come close to our COVID capacity.

To keep ourselves safe and healthy, to make the role of COVID champion as easy as possible, and to comply with the law, we ask you to pre-book for each service.

You can book online ([ssuc.org.au](http://ssuc.org.au) and follow the links). This can be done anytime up to midday on Saturday. Alternatively, you can ring the church office (3848 7093) anytime prior to midday on Friday. People who have a rostered role are automatically booked in, but this does not include any other members of their families. You will receive an email confirmation (or verbal confirmation if you ring) that you have been booked in.

Some people may not have booked before Sunday morning. If we are not at COVID capacity, we will take your details and welcome you in. However, and this is hard to say, that if we are at COVID capacity, we will have to give priority to those who have booked and walkins may not be able to be seated.

We are also aware that we may have guests who are unaware that they need to pre-book. If we are at COVID capacity, we may ask some of our regulars to voluntarily give up their seats to accommodate our guests.

Anytime you are at a church activity, we ask you to remember all of the usual COVID precautions about physical distancing and personal hygiene.

### Sharing a Cuppa after Worship on Sunday

Now that we are resuming weekly face to face worship services, we have also reviewed our Zoom Cuppas. While we understand that they are valued by a small group of people, a decision has been made to discontinue them. The last dates for each of our 10 am cuppas will be as follows:

- 10am Zoom Cuppa will conclude on the 20th December

Details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84892158152?pwd=T1VvWXNPbS8xQ3dxeKVNam1DUzBadz09>

Meeting ID: 848 9215 8152

Passcode: 388966

Would love to see you there.

## Christmas Services

A Blue Service – 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7pm at Tarragindi

Christmas Eve – a service of Carols and Readings 6pm at Yeronga

Christmas Day 8 am at each of our 4 services.

To maximise our capacity there will be allocated seating at each service.

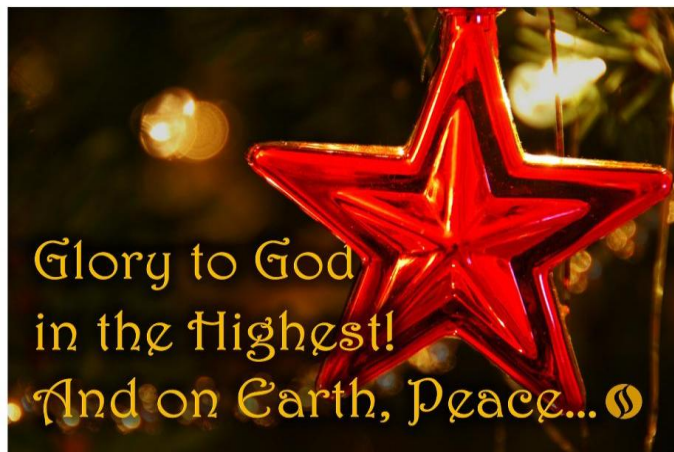
This will involve:

- you being allocated to a designated, and numbered seat in the same way as at a sporting event or theatre.
- A request that you wear a face mask only when entering and exiting
- No moving around and no standing for singing
- No physical distancing.

These requirements are set out in the COVID management plan for places of worship and are the health authorities' best efforts to accommodate people in a safe manner.

Because we expect more people than usual, we also ask that you consider attending one Christmas service only.

Bookings for the Christmas Services will be open from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December.



## Worship Services

### Date

### 13<sup>th</sup> December

Bible Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

Mt Gravatt 8.30am

David Fender

Tarragindi 8.30am

Esteban Lievano

Online 9 am

David Fender

Holland Park 10.00am

David Fender

Yeronga 10.00am

Esteban Lievano

### Date

### 20<sup>th</sup> December

Bible Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Mt Gravatt 8.30am

David MacGregor

Tarragindi 8.30am

Jock Dunbar

Online 9 am

Jock Dunbar

Holland Park 10.00am

David MacGregor

Yeronga 10.00am

Jock Dunbar

### Date

### 19<sup>h</sup> December

Blue Service

David MacGregor

Tarragindi 7:00 pm

## Children Youth and Families

Ps Richard Moors – Children Youth and Families Pastor  
[cyf@ssuc.org.au](mailto:cyf@ssuc.org.au)

### Young families Picnic

We are having our last picnic for the year **TODAY** at Mott Park. Meet there at 11:30 and we are usually there till 2pm, so feel free to leave early or come late. Bring your own food, chairs, hats. This is for those families with children in primary school or younger.

**2021** – If you would like to hear about plans for next year see the Facebook live video on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/southsideuc/videos/813837155852566> or on Youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZBS01b0dzQ>

### Family Faith Formation

The family faith resources and midweek video will take a break over the school holidays, keep an eye out for them at the end of January as we start to help you prepare for the service each week.

## New Missions

Rev Jock Dunbar – New Missions Minister  
[new.mission@ssuc.org.au](mailto:new.mission@ssuc.org.au)



Pictured (L to R): Jock Dunbar, Heather Griffin, Natalie Choy with Hannah, Dorothy Smith, Karen Mersiades, John Crossely.

Say 'Hello' to your Southside Mission Experiment Group or as we like to call it, MEG (or should it be SMEG?). I put out a call to the congregation in February asking who would like to be part of a group keen to spend 12 months learning about and experimenting in mission. John, Dorothy, Karen, Natalie and Heather responded and we've been meeting every 1-3 weeks since April out of a sense of call to learn a different way of being on God's mission in the world. We're nearing the end of our 'listening' phase, and preparing to launch an missional experiment in the new year. We would love you to join us in prayer. Pray for continued guidance, wisdom, compassion and courage. You can also pass on your support, encouragement, or questions to [jock.dunbar@ssuc.org.au](mailto:jock.dunbar@ssuc.org.au)



## Outreach

Rev Esteban Lievano – Outreach Minister

outreach@ssuc.org.au

### Outreach Report

November has been a big month for us, we had a visit from ABC News who did an item on SAGE regarding Social Isolation. We are grateful for QCA who organised the piece and the Mt Gravatt Community Centre Inc who collaborated with us on it. The online piece can be seen at this link or during the 26/11 broadcast

Rev Esteban had the privilege of being a part of the Foundations Training during these last two weeks. Over 80 participants undertook this training in Brisbane, the Hunter Valley (NSW), Sydney, Adelaide, North Qld and New Zealand. Many participants in the South East were interested in learning more about our community and some of the different ways in which we serve at Southside.

### Living Nativities

Things are coming together nicely for our living nativities, we are still looking for volunteers to come and join us as actors, COVID Champions and Greeters. Also, if you would like to help out with the setting out of the lights at any of our centres, please contact Esteban or Don Richardson.

### Mission Giving During Christmas

As we have inherited many different causes through our coming together of the four congregations – so we have lots of choice with where we want to lend our support during Christmas.

You may have heard about our support for SU Chappies during the notices last week (Nov 29). Instead of donating food items we are asking for financial donations. The money will allow us to purchase vouchers from Coles and Woolworths and these will be distributed with our best wishes and Christmas blessings. Money can be donated directly at church services on Sundays or online through the Southside Uniting Church Account - details below. Please use the reference 'Hampers' in the online deposits or write that on the envelopes.

Name: Southside Uniting Church

BSB: 014-202

Account: 4736-88757

Another opportunity to give for our community will be during our Living Nativities, if you visit one of our Living Nativities (Mt Gravatt, Tarragindi and Yeronga) you will receive a gift bag with contents related to the Nativity scene you will see at that centre. You will also receive a card with the details for you to donate to Christmas Bowl.

Each year UnitingWorld holds their Everything in Common drive, where we have the opportunity to 'give' Christmas gifts in the form of donations on behalf of others. Perhaps you would like to give a goat or a chicken on behalf of a loved one or a neighbour. If you would like to know more, visit the website via the link here but also you can chat to Alison Semple at Mt Gravatt to find out more.

Thank you all for your support and generosity.

Rev. Esteban Liévano  
SSUC Outreach Minister

## Resources

Rachel Manton - Administrator  
admin@ssuc.org.au

### Office Hours

The church office is located at 58 Kadumba Street, Yeronga.  
Office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm

### Christmas Office Hours

The church office will be closed from 5pm Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and will reopen 9am 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. If you require to speak to someone, please contact your Community Minister. Details are on the last page of the notices.

### Booking for Face to Face Worship

To book for face to face worship services:

Online - please by 12pm on Saturday by:

- Going to our website at ssuc.org.au and click on the “pre-book to attend face to face worship service”
- Use this link <https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/portal/events>
- Go to our Church Central app and click on “Events” to access the link

By Phone – please book by 12pm Friday by phoning the church office on 3848 7093. If no one answers please leave a message and include your name, phone number, date and location of the service you would like to attend.

### Giving

Thank you for your ongoing financial contribution to our congregation. As we spend longer in lock down people are discovering alternative ways to give their offerings. These include:

- Setting up electronic funds transfers (EFT) (or asking their children to do so).  
Our bank account details are  
Name: Southside Uniting Church  
BSB: 014-202  
Account: 4736-88757
- Posting a cheque to the church office at 58 Kadumba street, Yeronga Qld 4104
- Banking the money direct through a bank branch
- Asking the person who delivers the weekly worship materials to return with your offering.

We are now able to offer giving of tithes and offerings via credit card. There are two ways that you can do this:

1. Click on this link [https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/payments/embed/1?type=Offering&title=SSUC Credit%20Card%20Giving.&iframe=true](https://southsideuc.ucareapp.com/payments/embed/1?type=Offering&title=SSUC%20Credit%20Card%20Giving.&iframe=true) and complete the details.
2. Phone the church office on 3848 7093 and provide your credit card details over the phone.

### Notices

For notices to be included in this newsletter please email [notices@ssuc.org.au](mailto:notices@ssuc.org.au) or phone the office on 3848 7093. The next newsletter will be issued on 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Please have notices in by 9am Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

## Good News Story

### The 3Fs Christmas Party in the Year of Covid

Such a joyous occasion when we gathered together in our regular place on the first day of summer in the year of the Pandemic. We anticipated the thrill of being together once more, to give a sense of normality as well as reviving those strong links of friendship in a club that has endured for forty years. We could almost forget, as we settled into our regular table configurations that the world was fraught with so much mayhem.

There was a whirlwind of activity in the kitchen as sandwiches, slices, quiches and Christmas goodies were arranged on individual plates in accordance with covid regulations. Hazel resumed her organising role as if it was second-nature and our wonderful volunteers from the Church community, Dick Copland and Dale MacGregor were fabulous assets. Many thanks to Don Richardson and Bruce for organising the tables at 6am, and ensuring the mike worked.

How wonderful it was to see old timers such as Bob Richardson who has invested decades into the Club. Merv and Joy both look fabulous, Merv stating that he is being spoilt - as he should be! Ena is still a dynamo though battling back pain to a significant degree; her grand-daughter's wedding prompted her to make 70, yes 70, cushions for the reception venue! These "oldies" absolutely amaze me!

Jenny brought us together as a team, paying tribute to those who have disappeared from our midst into eternity. She shared with us that Betty Wacker was so keen to be coming today had, sadly, passed away on Friday. Neal Mee is battling serious cancer, so we can only think of him and his son during this challenging period. Gwen and Kath Walker were not with us, so will chase them up. Jan Moody is battling severe shingles but sent her greetings to each of you. Irene has moved into care with her beloved Ernie at Browns Plains, so we send them our very best.

Just sitting there listening to the rivetting entertainment, I soaked up the visage of these brilliant oldies, whom we love. Covid has certainly taught us that life is so very short, every day precious.

May God bless each one of you and may this Christmas  
be one of treasured moments with family.

With love - The 3Fs Family



If you have a good news story of God's transforming power within our Congregation and/or Community. Please email through to [notices@ssuc.org.au](mailto:notices@ssuc.org.au) so we can share the Good News!



## Spiritual Growth

Rev David Fender – Spiritual Growth Minister  
[spiritual.growth@ssuc.org.au](mailto:spiritual.growth@ssuc.org.au)

### Tuesday Morning Prayer

Join us at 8am Tuesday mornings for a time of prayer via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/107964270?pwd=aXhvbmdSbGFicmdkRlFpWFNlNm1SUT09>

Meeting ID: 107 964 270

Password: 24pope

### Prayer

You are invited to share your prayer requests with the congregation.

Prayer requests can be shared through:

- The “Prayer Requests” feature on the Southside app
- Using the “Contact us” feature on the [ssuc.org.au](http://ssuc.org.au) website and selecting “Prayer request”
- Emailing [prayer@ssuc.org.au](mailto:prayer@ssuc.org.au)
- Telephoning a member of the ministry team and sharing your request with them.

Unless you request otherwise, prayer requests will be shared with our prayer team and listed each week in our worship sheet.



## **Contact Us:**

### **General Enquiries**

[hello@ssuc.org.au](mailto:hello@ssuc.org.au) // 07 3848 7093 // 58 Kadumba st, Yeronga  
for notices [notices@ssuc.org.au](mailto:notices@ssuc.org.au)

## **Ministry Team:**

### **Rev David Fender**

Lead Minister and Minister for Spiritual Growth

[david.fender@ssuc.org.au](mailto:david.fender@ssuc.org.au) // 0413 314 995

Day off on Friday

### **Rev Jock Dunbar**

Holland Park & Yeronga Community Minister and Minister for New Missions

[jock.dunbar@ssuc.org.au](mailto:jock.dunbar@ssuc.org.au) // 0410 400 940

Day off on Friday

### **Rev Esteban Liévano**

Mt Gravatt Community Minister and Minister for Outreach

[esteban.lievano@ssuc.org.au](mailto:esteban.lievano@ssuc.org.au) // 0407 731 950

Day off on Monday

### **Rev David MacGregor**

Tarragindi Community Minister and Minister for Worship & Pastoral Care

[david.macgregor@ssuc.org.au](mailto:david.macgregor@ssuc.org.au) // 0414 392 802

Day off on Friday

### **Ps Richard Moors**

Children, Youth and Families Pastor

[richard.moors@ssuc.org.au](mailto:richard.moors@ssuc.org.au) // 0408 446 281

Day off on Monday

### **Rachel Manton**

Administrator

[rachel.manton@ssuc.org.au](mailto:rachel.manton@ssuc.org.au) // 0427 257 920

Day off on Saturday and Sunday

## **Church Council:**

### **Chair**

Craig Gibson

[chair@ssuc.org.au](mailto:chair@ssuc.org.au) // 0433 680 489

### **Treasurer**

Dave Allen

[treasurer@ssuc.org.au](mailto:treasurer@ssuc.org.au) // 0407 742 555

### **Secretary**

Gaye Pitman

[secretary@ssuc.org.au](mailto:secretary@ssuc.org.au) // 0409 893 392