

People, Participation and Prayer: a church isn't a building of brick and wood. It's a group of people gathered by God who are building their lives around Jesus. That's why belonging to church means more than just Sunday services. In this **Newsweek** are some of the things we are doing, events and activities we think are worthwhile, and people and things to pray for. Pray regularly for our Church family.

Please pray for our world, our community, and each other

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ
Philippians 4:6, 7

The next Congregation Prayer Meeting will be on Thursday 13th August at 7.30PM

PLEASE PRAY FOR:-

* **SRE Classes** have resumed in our local Schools for Term 3 – Rev. Ian is teaching the Year 6 SRE Class at Belrose Public School every Wednesday morning – please pray!!

Healing, Strength & Comfort for:

- * Gwen Gatford
- * Len Broadbent
- * Gordon & Jan Allan – Gordon preparing for hip replacement surgery on 18th August
- * Gordon Richardson
- * Church members who are still self-isolating
- * Church members grieving the loss of family or friends

- * those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and for those who are vulnerable to infection;
- * local businesses & their staff
- * those who have lost their jobs
- * our health care service personnel
- * our Governments & those in leadership



August Mission of the Month

Gyanankur English Medium School is an independent Indian school for Preschool to Year 10 in Kesnand, a village near Pune in India, 4 hours' drive southeast of Mumbai.

The school has a Christian board to oversee it, and many Christian teachers. Anne Weeks' friend Melinda Parker, who now lives in Sydney, is the Honorary Director. Anne helps out with admin work.

Gyanankur enrolls some students from very poor families and the school provides them with uniforms & textbooks. With our financial support we can enable these students to receive this education, and hear and see Christians sharing Jesus.

Please keep giving! You are encouraged to make use of the electronic funds transfer option from your bank account to the Uniting Financial Services Congregation account using the following information:

Belrose UC Property Committee
BSB 634-634 Acc Number 10000-1487

The next edition of the Good News Quarterly will be coming out soon. Editor Venessa would welcome your contributions by email: venessac@tpg.com.au

The Manse landline phone is still out of action 😞 but you can still contact Rev Ian on his **mobile 0408 308 196**, or by email mail@belrose.unitingchurch.org.au

Belrose Uniting Church

Corner Forest Way and Morgan Road, Belrose
TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

GOOD NEWSWEEK

*“The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it ...”
Psalm 24:1*

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ from Frenchs Forest to Terrey Hills; from the beaches to the bush, since 1916.

Who are we? We are all about following Jesus.

We are part of the Assembly of Confessing Congregations of the UCA, joining with other UCA Congregations in contending for the Biblical faith: *Confessing the Lord Jesus Christ, Proclaiming the Truth and Renewing the Church.*

We are “evangelical” Christians, which means that Jesus shapes the heart of our worship, the Bible shapes the heart of our life, and the Gospel (the Good News about Jesus) shapes our heart for a broken world.

Sunday 9th August 2020

August Theme: Who is in Control?

Giving at Church?

If you would like to give physically, you are invited to place your offering in the basket at the back of the Worship Centre.

Thank you for your generous support for the work of the Gospel.

9.00 am Morning Church Ruth 4:9 – 22 From Famine to Fortune!
Service Leader: Ian Weeks **Preacher:** Ian Weeks
Reader: Lisle Wall
Welcoming: Sepesi & Seni Piukala

Morning Tea is in recess due to Covid-19 restrictions.

5.30 pm Evening Church
Service Leader: Ian Weeks **Preacher:** Ian Weeks

Pastor: Rev Ian Weeks
 (M) 0408 308 196
mail@belrose.unitingchurch.org.au
 Wednesday – Monday (Tuesday off)

Church Website: <http://www.belrose.unitingchurch.org.au>
Prayer Requests:
prayer.team@belrose.unitingchurch.org.au



Breaking News: Covid-19 Developments

It is with a heavy heart and much sadness that the Church Council has decided, based on the strong advice of the UCA Synod following the recent announcements by the NSW Premier, that **Sunday Services will cease again after this Sunday 9th August.**

The closure of Sunday worship services will be at least for the next three Sundays 16th – 30th August, during which time the Church Council will review the situation based upon the advice of the Synod and the pronouncements from the NSW Government.

You will be advised when the Services can resume again in due course and we will meet on **Sundays at 9.30 am and 5.30 pm.**

Please pray for our nation at this time, and especially for a breakthrough in the pandemic that will allow us to meet together for worship again as soon as possible.

WHAT'S ON @ BUC – Mark Your Diary for August 2020

(Please note that due to the Covid-19 restrictions, some activities may not yet be able to be held on the Church premises.)

Thurs 13 th August	Congregation Prayer Meeting	7.30 pm
Thurs 20 th August	Congregation Prayer Meeting	11.00 am
Thurs 20 th August	Church Council meeting	7.30 pm
Thurs 27 th August	Congregation Prayer Meeting	7.30 pm

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY CONGREGATION MEETING:
Sunday 13th September 2020 at 10.30 am. Agenda & papers coming soon.

PM SERMON NOTES August Series: *Who is in control?* *God's Plans for the Spread of the Gospel*

The Book of Acts records for the amazing spread of the Gospel as the followers of Jesus travelled the then known world. They went on deliberate missionary journeys, or forced away by persecution. In any case, the Spirit of God was at work!

1. A Great Persecution: The Church Scattered Acts 8:1 – 8; 11:19 - 21

The Gospel flourishes in spite of persecution OR because of persecution?

2. Saul the Persecutor, Paul the Apostle Acts 9 ff

Paul's 1st missionary journey Acts 13:1 – 14:28

Paul's 2nd missionary journey Acts 15: 36 – 18:22

A brick wall? Acts 16:6 – 10

The call to Macedonia: the road to Greece - bearing much fruit for the Gospel

3. Obstacles & Opportunities: The Sovereignty of God

AM SERMON NOTES August Series: *Who is in Control?*

In a world that seems to be increasingly chaotic and out of control, we may well ask the questions: Who is in control? Where is God in all this? Has God fallen asleep at the wheel? Has God lost control?

Over these next few Sundays I want to explore what the Bible has to say about these questions, and I hope that we will see that no matter what is going on, God is still with us and working His good and perfect plan, in spite of catastrophe, and human failings, wickedness and rebellion.

The Story of Ruth: From Famine to Fortune

1. Famine Ruth Ch 1

Who's who? Elimelech & wife Naomi; sons Mahlon & Kilion

A famine forced journey: Bethlehem to Moab - an unhappy sojourn in Moab:

* Elimelech dies

* Widow Naomi gains new Moabite daughters-in-law: Orpah & Ruth

* Mahlon & Kilion die: 3 widows without support!

The return to Bethlehem: who will go? Orpah? Ruth?

* Ruth's noble character: *"Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."* (Ruth 1:16, 17)

* A bitter return – *"the Lord has brought me back empty"* - who will save us?

2. A Redeemer Appears Ruth Chs 2 & 3

Introducing Boaz: a relative of Elimelech, a man of "standing"

Ruth at work - Ruth's faithfulness & Boaz's compassion

Boaz & Ruth – coincidence or "God-incidence"?

"The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz," (Ruth) said. *"The Lord bless him!"* Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. *"He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead."* She added, *"That man is our close relative; he is one of our guardian-redeemers."* (Ruth 2:20)

3. Fortune Ruth Ch 4

The noble Boaz - The Farmer wants a wife!!

"Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown." (Ruth 4: 9, 10)

The Lord provides a Redeemer!

Ruth (the Moabite) and Boaz – great-grandparents of King David!!

Who is in control? God blesses the faithfulness of Ruth by including her in the genealogy of Jesus! God's plans of redemption continue!!