

weekly bulletin

30 August 2020



Growing in Christ | Showing Christ | Going Christ's Way

Bible readings:

Pentecost 13

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

WELCOME REV. IAN SMALLBONE. Today we have the pleasure of welcoming Rev Ian Smallbone to minister to our congregation for the next few months. Ian and his wife Glenys have previously been with us for short periods of time. Both are well known to our community and we are very pleased that they are able to join us again. Please make yourself known to them (when we can next meet again).

Weekly reflection

Several years ago I discovered the quote that follows. I'd never heard of George MacDonald (1824-1905) and was amazed to find that his literary and theological legacy was profoundly influential in the lives and writings of Lewis Carroll, C.S Lewis and G.K Chesterton to mention a few. I'll let this quote, which references today's reading from Exodus, speak for itself. I hope you can look past the language of his generation and find a word that speaks to your Christian journey. "To let their light shine, not to force on (others) their interpretations of God's designs, is the duty of Christians toward their fellows. If you who set yourselves to explain the theory of Christianity, had set yourselves instead to do the will of the Master, the one object for which the Gospel was preached to you, how different would now be the condition of the world with which you come into contact! Had you given to the understanding of his word that you might do it ...in many a heart by this time would the name of the Lord be loved where now it remains unknown. The word of life would then by you have been held out indeed.

Men and women, undeterred by your explanations of Christianity and attracted by your behaviour, would be saying to each other, as Moses said to himself when he saw that bush burned with fire and was not consumed, "I will turn aside and see this great sight." They would be drawing nigh to behold how these Christians love one another, and how just and fair they were to everyone that had to do with them....."

(A shortened extract from 'Creation in Christ' by George MacDonald)

More on this topic in today's message.

Enjoying being back in Oxley,
Ian Smallbone

Contribute:

Email communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com by 7pm Thursday with notices for next week's bulletin.

Please pray for:

- continued prayer for all who mourn the loss of loved ones at this time.
- John G's sister Margaret, Russell G's sister Leanne, Graham H's mum, Val
- those who are recovering from surgery or needing more surgery or recently hospitalised - Pam G, Nerida M, Clyde L.
- members of our community in nursing homes and their families who feel further isolated from them at this time - Del A, Claire M, Margaret R, Lorraine I, Margaret A, Joyce H, Stan O.
- the congregation of Karana Downs UC and their Minister, Rev Gerda Olafsen
- During Legacy week - veterans of all the armed services
- The crisis situation in Victoria and New South Wales amid the ever increasing Covid19 virus
- Our local community during the contact transfers of the virus
- Rev Ian and his wife Glenys.

Oxley Worship Today Sunday 30th August Live-streamed

Our worship today the 30th August will again be live-streamed **at 10am**. This will mean that you will be able to watch the service live via our youtube channel. We will also record the service and will post it on our youtube channel later in the day. DVD's of the service will be available for those without internet access.

Rev Ian Smallbone
Minister

ph: 0413 415 114
e: igsmallbone2@icloud.com

Recommencing Sunday Worship - 13th September

The CLT Executive has decided to delay our return to worship until **Sunday 13th September at 10am**. This is because of the on-going COVID19 situation that has occurred in and around our local community and to ensure the safety of our church members. This service will also be live-streamed. We still have some hurdles to overcome including the fact that we can only have 74 people in the church building and the cleaning requirements mean that we will only have one service, so no evening service at this time. We will be asking people to register their interest to attend the service, and are requesting people to remain home if they are ill, have cold like symptoms, have compromised health conditions or other health vulnerabilities. Members who come to the services from then on will need to sign in to ensure that we are remaining compliant with Government restrictions. We will be continuing to live-stream our services and provide them on DVD for those who wish to continue worship from home. Please watch out for further updates during the coming week.

Church Financial Update:

The Church's profit/loss for July is
\$2,453.78 Gain.

The Church's profit/loss for the Year to Date is \$23,582.98 Gain.

Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact Russell Green.

