

14 March 2021



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

Bible readings:

Lent 4,

Numbers 21: 4-9; Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22;

Ephesians 2: 1-10; John 3: 14-21

Weekly reflection

The WOW Factor!

Live streaming! Don't you love it? Who would have thought 2 years ago that almost every church in Christendom would be doing some form of streaming their services – whether live or recorded, whether via You Tube, facebook, both, or some other medium, whether very basic (using mobile phones as cameras) or quite sophisticated – the reality is that 'Church', as we know it, has been and continues to be very different to that which most of us have been accustomed. Gympie Uniting was no different! But what was very different was our approach across that region. None of the Christian churches there had sufficient resources – either monetary or personnel with the appropriate skill – so we united. For some 7 months, leaders from six different denominations worked together to put together and stream 2 services each Sunday, a morning and evening devotional each day (except Sunday) as well as a weekly radio service for those who had no internet access. I think I was busier than I have ever been! Yet as I reflect on that experience it was a WOW factor. We were able to put aside all our petty differences and concentrate on the main game – to bring the Gospel into homes, businesses, factories, farms etc in a way that had never been done before. WOW!

The dictionary defines (believe it or not) a 'WOW factor in two ways'; namely, a <u>quality</u> of something that makes <u>people feel grea texcitement</u> or <u>admiration</u>: and a <u>quality</u>that makes someone <u>feel excited</u> o <u>surprised</u> when they first <u>see</u> something. The highlight is their's not mine which I find fascinating. Why? Because for us, as Jesus followers, Jesus is our WOW Factor, as Jesus (The Gospel Narrative) is a relationship that demands excitement and admiration, and brings surprise when first embracing it. But – what if we made WOW into an acronym? I have – more on Sunday morning! Come and find out – be it in person or on-line – don't miss out!

Be Blessed

Dave

Safe Ministry for Children - It is important that members of the congregation who participate in Children's ministry (including Day Camp/Funfari) are up to date with the training every 2 years. The next training sessions are - Saturday 5 June 2pm - 5pm at Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Office, Goodna TBC. See Holly for registrations.

Contribute:

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

Please pray for:

- members of our church family who have been recently hospitalised or have doctor's appointments or are feeling unwell, anxious or stressed
- members of our community in nursing homes and their families who feel further isolated from them at this time - Del A, Claire M, Lorraine I, Margaret A, Joyce H, Stan O, Pam G, Desley F.
- the congregation of Albany Creek UC and its minister Rev Harlee Cooper
- Chappie Mia, the Oxley State School Connector Program and her work with the children at the school
- Rev Dave and his wife Sandy

Sign-On Forms are now available for all members to think how they can serve our God within the life of His church at Oxley. Please prayerfully consider your answer to God's call on you, and fill in the forms where you find yourself able to serve. Please place the completed forms in the box in the foyer.

Church Family Camp Planning

Meeting - Anyone interested in helping to plan for the camp is invited to come to David and Leona's house **7pm Thursday 18th March**.

Rev Dave Thomas

Minister

ph: 0432 304 474 e: daget01@outlook.com Upcoming Date Claimers Monday 15.3.21 - 9.30am -Social & Craft Group

Thursday 18.3.21 - 7pm -

Church Family Camp planning meeting at David & Leona's

Saturday 20.3.21 - 8am

Working Bee at the church to tidy the gardens, trees and hedges.

Thursday 25.3.21 7pm - CLT meeting

Sunday 28.3.21 - Palm Sunday - Congregtional AGM

Saturday 17.4.21 -

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Lenten Studies 2021. If you haven't already done so - please pick up a Lenten Study series booklet from the foyer.

Church Financial Update:

The Church's profit/loss for February is \$2,887.12 Loss.

The Church's profit/loss for the Year to Date is \$5,520.25 Loss.

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

