

weekly bulletin

6 June 2021



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

Bible readings:

Pentecost 2

1 Sam 8:4-11 Psalm 138 2 Cor 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35

Weekly reflection

BEYOND OURSELVES?

I was on a spiritual retreat in July at a campsite on the outskirts of Toowoomba. It was freezing at night and early morning, but the middle of the day was that typical Queensland brilliant weather. In some free time after lunch, I went for a walk – found a tree stump to sit on – and spent about an hour or so just observing what was going on around me. This tree stump was about 3 feet from the border of the site and in front of me was a fence. I looked at the fence and the long grass between me and the fence and as I was wondering what might be 'hiding' in that grass, I was interrupted by a butterfly. The array of colours fascinated me for a time and after literally landing on my knee for a few micro-seconds (almost as if he wanted me to watch him) he flew off – circled me a few times – and then headed beyond the fence. I watched that butterfly for as long as I could. But then it was gone! I reflected on those seconds and began to realise all the images that were beyond that boundary. Old car bodies left to rot, house roofs in the distance, tall trees, thick under growth, dead branches, the occasional bird to name a few. So much to observe as I sat and pondered. And it dawned on me – maybe a God Moment – that our life is so often confined to our self-imposed boundaries whereas the living is often beyond the fence – beyond that boundary. But we are conditioned, aren't we? Yet the real challenge is when we appreciate that our journey with Jesus calls us 'beyond ourselves'. "For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants" (2 Corinthians 4: 5). Paul preached the Gospel and lived out that Gospel with the people of his day. And that is exactly what we are to do! Our mission as God's people is to join Him in His mission – which is nothing more nor less than discipling. That is making disciples who make disciples, who make disciples. And we can only find the passion and strength to do that by going beyond ourselves. Are we up for it?

Be Blessed

Dave

Contribute:

Email communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com by 9am Thursday with notices for next week's bulletin. New Editor - Sandy Thomas

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 - David W, Graham K.
- 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 Aspley UC and their minister Rev Sandra Jebb
- The people of Victoria during this uncertain time of Covid crisis
- Gayle Rankin as she enters her Period of Discernment
- Rev Dave and his wife Sandy



Faith and Fiction?

Speaker: Victoria Lorrimar
Trinity lecturer in Systematic Theology

Thursday 10 June at 7.00pm
On campus and live-streamed

Register to attend:
trinity.qld.edu.au/unplugged

We welcome **Glen Schweitzer** who will be sharing with us this morning.

Rev Dave Thomas

Minister

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Upcoming Date Claimers

Sunday 06.06.21

9.00am - Morning Service

6.30pm - Evening Service

Monday 07.06.21

9.30am Social & Craft Club

Sunday 13.06.21

9.00am - Morning Service

6.30pm - Evening Service

NAME BADGES

Last week to order a badge.
See Sharyn to order yours today!

DAY CAMP & FUN FARI 2021 !!!

Leader & children registrations, through ticketing, are available at www.oxleydarrauc.org.au

follow the links and get in quick as our numbers are limited!

There may be some who can't afford to attend the camp. If you would like to help by making a donation, it would be much appreciated.

Any questions please see Holly Jewell.



oxleydarrauc.org.au