

## EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

<b>Prayer Hub</b>	Friday 5th November - 7.30am
<b>Resources / CLT Meeting</b>	Thursday 4th November - 7.00pm
<b>Chaplaincy Sunday</b>	Sunday 14th November
<b>Congregation Meeting</b>	Sunday 21st November - 10.30am
<b>Carols Under The Stars</b>	Sunday 19th December - 5.30pm

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Coffee Chat &amp; Chew</b>	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
<b>Garden Lovers Club</b>	4th Thurs. of each month - 9.30am - Hall Contact Harry Thompson.
<b>Social &amp; Craft Group</b>	1st & 3rd Mondays - 9.30am - Hall Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
<b>Friday Night Youth (FNY)</b>	Every Friday of School Term - 7.30pm - Downstairs Hall Contact Holly or Dave.

Other groups meet periodically including Bible Study groups  
For more information - contact the office.

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Dave Thomas M: 0432 304 474 E: daget01@outlook.com
Resources	Gayle Rankin M: 0410 511 601
Pastoral Care	Sharyn Sinnamon M: 0410 064 675
Treasurer	TBA
Church Office	114 Oxley Station Road, Oxley Qld 4075
Phone	3278 1394
Web	<a href="http://www.oxleydarrauc.org.au">www.oxleydarrauc.org.au</a>
Facebook	Oxley Uniting Church
Notices for the Oxley Oracle - deadline midday Thursdays	
Email	<a href="mailto:communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com">communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com</a>

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

# THE OXLEY ORACLE

31 October 2021



We are a community of God's people passionate about lifting the name of Jesus, worshipping Him and serving our community. Whether you join us in person or on line, whether you are with us every week or as it happens, you are special, unique and appreciated. Thank you for your contribution! Our prayer is that we may get to know each other deeply over time and that you may embrace Jesus' love for you always and in all ways!

## TODAY'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Morning Service</b>	9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
<b>Evening Service</b>	6.30pm - Rev Dave Thomas
<b>Lectionary Readings</b>	Ruth 1: 1-18; Ps. 146; Heb. 9::11- 14; Mk.12: 28-34

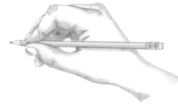
## NEXT SUNDAY 7 November 2021

<b>Morning Service</b>	9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
<b>Evening Service</b>	6.30pm - Rev Dave Thomas

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

*"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious"*  
(Albert Einstein)

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



### ALL WE NEED IS LOVE!

Some of you will remember The Beatles! Paul McCartney and John Lennon wrote a song way back in 1967 by this same title – 'All you need is love'. Interestingly, it was a part of a tour at that time which was promoted as the 'Magical Mystery Tour'. Mark tells us that Jesus in effect said the same thing (Mark 12: 28-34) and although His Love is still one of the greatest mysteries of our time and space, it was a radical revolutionary type of 'love' that he called the people of his day to embrace. It's very different to the love embodied in The Beatles hit song of their era! And it is to this same radical love that you and I are called to embrace today. It is more important than all the religious offerings and sacrifices put together. There is something strange about issuing a command to love. Nathan Nettleton writes in respect to this text, "There is something almost self-contradictory about it, because if you're doing something for someone primarily because you've been commanded to do so, how can you also claim that it is essentially an act of love?" He suggests that to be true to the context, Jesus wasn't giving 'love' as a command here. He was reciting a command from the law of Israel as an answer to a question. The question Jesus faced was, "Which commandment in the law is number one?" And after giving the two laws of love as his answer, Jesus affirms the man who responds by saying that these laws are far more important than any number of offerings and sacrifices that one could offer in the temple. Jesus, then, is not emphasizing the idea of love as a commandment, he is emphasizing the idea that what God really wants from us is not meticulous obedience to a bunch of religious and moral laws so much as lives shaped by love.

This is brought home for me in the final verse of this passage. Jesus says, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." So, he's almost but not quite home! We can know the theory folks – but that alone doesn't get us home. We have to live the lifestyle that His love demands. Blessings Dave

#### Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For those in Nursing Homes, in hospital or unwell., particularly - Carol Armstrong, David Woodward, and Clyde Logan.
- ◇ For the safety of all people as borders are opened over the coming weeks.
- ◇ For Graham and Annette as they travel out west!
- ◇ For the CLT & Resources folk as they meet on 4th November to consider budget
- ◇ For the ministry of Scripture Union and our School Chaplains!

#### Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer:

**Commonwealth Bank BSB: 064 011 Account: 10032190**

***(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)***

## SHIFT m2M

Last Saturday 20 of our leaders met with Rob Duncan to unpack the beginnings of Shift m2M (ministries to movements). There are 5 key areas that we are meant to move between over time with a discipling mindset. Connect, Win, Build, Train and Send. While we may tweak some of the language, we discerned together that while we are pretty good at 'connecting' with people, we are not as good at the next stages on the discipling pathway. Food for thought! One of my personal highlights - 'we often underestimate what Jesus can do through us'. Stay tuned. More to come!

## CHURCH BUDGET!

Next Thursday evening the Resources Committee and CLT come together with its prime objective to consider the draft budget that has been compiled by our Treasurer. In contrast to previous budgets, this one will only cover a 6 month period from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022. From then on our financial years will be fiscal years not calendar years. Following any agreed adjustments the budget will be proposed at the Congregation Meeting on 21st November for adoption. Please pray for members of both groups that we may discern the voice of God in our finances.

## PRAYER

Fridays at 7.30am, you are welcome to our prayer Hub! Held in the church upstairs in the Prayer Room. Brief reflection, prayer and Communion!

**Prayer changes things! 5th Nov.**

## GOLD 4 GOOD

A different initiative! Transform any unwanted or broken jewellery into hope for a young generation. Scripture Union have embarked on this venture to raise much needed funds to support children, young people and their families through ministries like School Chaplaincy, life-changing camps, at-risk programs and more. If you have any such jewellery and would like to help - a receptacle is in the foyer.

## SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Don't miss Sunday 14th November. We will be sharing with Jeff, Hedy, Chloe and Mia (our 4 Chappies) in the morning and Jeff will be sharing the word at both services. Come and hear how they make a difference in their respective schools.

## CHURCH PEWS

Since purchasing the new single black chairs, the Resources team have been actively trying to sell the old pews. This has now been completed (apart from the few in the Prayer Room) and we trust you will quickly adjust to the new look and feel.