

## EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

<b>Prayer Hub</b>	Friday 26 November - 7.30am
<b>Congregation Meeting</b>	Today - 10.30am
<b>Resources</b>	Thursday 2 December - 7pm
<b>CLT</b>	Thursday 9 December - 7pm
<b>Carols Under The Stars</b>	Sunday 19 December

## 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

21 November 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 (Café Church)
<b>Lectionary Readings</b>	2Sam. 23: 1-7 ; Ps. 132: 1- 18; Rev. 1: 4 – 8; John.18: 33– 37

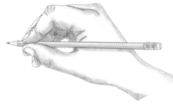
## NEXT SUNDAY 28 November 2021

<b>Morning Service</b>	9.00am - Dr Rachel Krohn
<b>Evening Service</b>	6.30pm - Dr Rachel Krohn (Live Streamed)

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Every church gathering is a withdrawal from the world, in order to return to the world ready for a fresh attempt to live out the gospel ethic." Stephen McAlpine

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



### KINGDOM OPERATION..

Most of us have heard them! Many have told them! And once they start, they seem to keep going! What are they? Is this a quiz? No – not really! Although it does sound a bit like one of those cryptic trivia questions, doesn't it? I'll save you the agony. They are snake stories. And yes – I guess growing up in the country I have my fair share of them. But most of them are for another day. It is rather interesting however to take a relatively new snake-skin along to a school show and tell RI lesson! Yes – I did that! It was about 6 feet long – and on examination I could tell where the head used to be, and all the markings were still intact. I lay it out on the concrete corridor prior to the start just outside the door to the classroom. And when the kids saw it there was range of reactions! Some screamed, some ran away, some were curious (from a long distance) and then there was one who went right up to it, then proclaimed, "Ah it's nothing. It's just an old skin. What was inside has come out".

Fascinating! For that snake to survive it had to come out and leave its existing enclosure. The very house that enabled it to move. So too, we, as Jesus followers, need to leave behind those enclosures that would keep us from living and moving in His Kingdom. In the dialogue between Pilate and Jesus (John 18: 34-38) we note that when confronted by Jesus and a new way of operating, Pilate reneged. He retreated to what he knew! He couldn't quite come at leaving his house of comfort and security. What about you and I? In whose Kingdom are we operating? The fullness of life that Jesus offers is outside the houses of our past – no matter how spectacular they may have been! It's risky to leave one's house and begin operating within God's Kingdom because it is, for the most part, - very different – challenging and often confronting. Yet, we must ask ourselves, "What's it mean for you and I and us to call Jesus our King?"

Blessings Dave.

### Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For those in Nursing Homes, in hospital, unwell or struggling, particularly David Woodward, Clyde Logan, Stan O'Brien & Ruth Telfer.
- ◇ For the safety of all people as borders are opened over the coming weeks.
- ◇ For the Congregation meeting - the election of a new CLT - budget considerations and other business.
- ◇ For the ministry of Trinity Theological College!

### 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)*

## SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

What a real joy and privilege to have Jeff, Hedy, Mia and Chloe to our share with us last weekend. What a powerful story we heard of Junior! And the challenge from Jeff to ensure our Light - the Light of Christ - is shining. Through your generosity we were able to bless their ministry with a love offering of \$605. On their behalf - thank you!

### ADVENT BEGINS!

Next Sunday 28th November is the first Sunday in Advent. I am excited to have **Dr Rachel Krohn** sharing with us as we begin this amazing journey toward the Babe in Bethlehem. Rachel is the lecturer in Old Testament and Hebrew at Trinity College and has recently been awarded her Doctorate and come to us from Canada. She and her family are worshipping at Chapel Hill UC.

### CHRISTMAS BOWL

Our chance to assist Gospel promotion in practical ways to our overseas neighbours. Stay Tuned!

### SHIFT m2M

Jesus requires us to be disciples who make disciples. Our focus on prayer, reviewing our values, and beginning to change our language and culture are some of the processes that will ensure we keep the momentum. I pray that when given the opportunity to be a part of this you will jump at the opportunity.

## 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! 26th Nov.**

### GOLD 4 GOOD

Just a reminder to place any old or unwanted jewellery in the receptacle in the foyer and bless our younger 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.

### CONGREGATION MEETING!

Today immediately following the morning service 10.30am! I hope we can all stay and contribute to our ongoing life together. Please pray for the nominees who have indicated their desire to lead us in 2022 and for the voting process.

### CAROLS UNDER THE STARS

Not far away! 19th December! Sam Gunders is still needing support in a variety of tasks to ensure this years Carols event is the best we can make it for our Community. We have our local civic leaders at all three levels of Government promoting this for us. What could you do to help? For more information, contact Sam.