

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Friday 18th March - 7.30am Wed - 16th March - 5.30pm
FNy	Friday 25th March - 7.00pm
Trinity Short courses	Tuesday 15th March
Discerning God's Leading	9am - 12.30pm
Spiritual Practices	1pm - 4pm

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
Garden Lovers Club	Recommences 24 March 2022 Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	Recommences 21 March 2022 Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
Friday Night Youth	Meeting Monthly this year! Next Night 25th March Contact Holly or Dave.
Other groups meet periodically including Bible Study groups For more information - contact Dave.	

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 Covid Advisor Annette Coupland M: 0410 064 675 M: 0408 019 661
Treasurer*	Graham Coupland * Interim Treasurer M: 0409 687 046
Church Office	114 Oxley Station Road, Oxley Qld 4075
Phone	3278 1394
Web	www.oxleydarrauc.org.au
Facebook	Oxley Uniting Church
Notices for the Oxley Oracle - deadline midday Thursdays	
Email	daget01@outlook.com

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

THE OXLEY ORACLE

13 March 2022



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

Morning Service	9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas
Evening Service	6.30pm - Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
Lectionary Readings	Gen 15:1-12, 17-18 Ps 27 Phil 3:17 - 4:1 Lk 13:31-35

Sunday 20th March

9.00am	-	Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
6.30pm	-	Rev Dave Thomas

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game"
Babe Ruth

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



COMPLICATED YET SIMPLE!

Now that's confusing isn't it? How can something be both complicated and simple? Well before you think the flood water has affected me in the wrong places - think of the weather for a moment! Here's my weather forecast: It's going to be wet unless its dry! It will be bright and sunny unless its cloudy! The maximum temperature will be what it is but higher than the minimum! There it is - not very specific and not helpful but its true! I have often pondered how complicated predicting the weather is. Sure, they have all their modern gauges, technology, maps etc but we all know they don't always get it right. Its complicated! Yet living with the weather is simple. That is, we adjust simply to what happens. It rains - the umbrella comes out or we get wet! Its hot and the air con goes on etc. Simple!

Perhaps another more basic example might help. Ever come to a T intersection and you don't know which way to go? Is it left or right? This can be a anxiety provoking moment. Which way? I remember such a time on a bush walk with a mate of mine some years back. We stopped and pondered. We had no maps and no compass - we were following the track and surely the track would lead us back to where we started eventually! But which way now? We argued for nearly 20 mins as to which way each of us thought. A simple decision would have been - just go one way together! We complicated it by stopping and arguing not to mention the time lost.

It's like living the Christian life! Paul in Philippians 4:6 urges us "not to be pulled in different directions or be worried about anything. Instead saturate yourself in prayer each day and be filled with overflowing gratitude". Its simple! The fact is that we complicate the simple too often. We intellectualize, theologize, and generally think too much about our own comforts and as a result we convince ourselves that it is hard. Len Sweet says, "It's complicated until Jesus brings me into a relationship that I accept by faith." And that's simple! Shalom - Dave.

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the growing tension between Russia and Ukraine!
- ◇ For those struggling with significant health and/ or emotional issues , particularly those in our own community impacted by the floods of recent days.
- ◇ For flood ravaged homes farms and towns in NSW.
- ◇ For Christian unity amongst the different denominations.

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)

THE OXLEY ORACLE - Help has arrived! We thank God for Ruth Telfer who has offered her time and expertise to assist in the compiling of the Oracle each week. I'm sure she would value your prayerful support as she takes on this venture.

CCP - CONGREGATION CARE PLAN - Just another acronym! It is important that we fulfil our responsibility as a church to each of you in respect to the level of care needed under our current covid related guidelines. If you haven't completed the form Annette Coupland has sent you please do so as soon as you can. Any questions please contact Annette, Vicki or Dave. Thank you!

PRAYER - For some time a small but dedicated group have been meeting every Friday morning at 7.30am for prayer - specifically about the Church and its direction and strategic relevance to our community. I am conscious though that this time and/or day doesn't suit everyone so I am launching a second weekly opportunity on Wednesdays at 5.30pm, commencing Wednesday 16th March! The Friday morning group will continue. **Prayer changes things!**

TRINITY SHORT COURSES - Trinity is the Uniting Church in Queensland Theological College and in recent times has facilitated numerous short courses aimed at strengthening one's spiritual depth. There are 4 such courses - 2 tomorrow and 2 on Tuesday. All of them sound interesting and I would strongly endorse both facilitators. Courses are a) UCA Identity, Purpose and Future - Rev Nigel Rogers - Monday 14th 9am - 12noon; b) UCA Governance—Rev Nigel Rogers - Monday 1pm - 4.30pm. These two follow each other ideally. C) Discerning God's Leading - Dr Paul Jones - Tuesday 9am - 12.30pm and d) Spiritual Practices - Dr Paul Jones - Tuesday 1pm - 4.30pm.

Each course is \$40.00 and participants can be either in person at the College or by Zoom. To register go to www.trinity.qld.edu.au/events.

OXLEY RECHARGE CENTRE - WOW - what an incredible journey this church has been on over the last 2 weeks. When I was contacted by Sarah Hutton to open the church as a Resource Centre for our local community - following the devastation caused by the flood - my immediate reaction was: Sure, how hard can it be? Well it was no walk in the park. They were very long days and in some cases well into the evening hours. But what a team we have here! Thank you for following my 'yes' and contributing as you did. In opening our doors we have had the awesome privilege of serving Christ and our people over these last 14 days. Personally, I have cried with some, laughed with some, served some, listened to many, made numerous new acquaintances, and connected strongly with several other resource personnel. Go Church!