

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Friday 1st April - 7.30am Wed - 30th March - 5.30pm
FNY	Friday 22nd April - 7.00pm
Easter Worship Facilitation	Tuesday 29th March - 7.00pm

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
Garden Lovers Club	Last Thursday of each month - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	1st and 3rd Mondays of each month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
Friday Night Youth	Meeting Monthly this year! Next Night 22nd April Contact Holly or 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

27 March 2022



Prayer times: Wednesdays 5.30pm
Fridays 7.30am

Venue for both - Downstairs Hall



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	Jos 5:9-12 Ps32 2 Cor 5: 16-21 Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

Sunday 3rd April

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

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"If you can't explain it to a six-year-old, you don't yet understand it yourself."

Albert Einstein

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



PROMOTING PRESENCE....

For the 9 and a bit years whilst in Gympie I played squash competitively every Tuesday then subsequently Wednesday nights. I was not in the top division but when I left town, I was the top player of the division in which I was placed – so I was the top of the bottom – if that makes sense. Squash is an intriguing game and is extremely competitive particularly at the very top levels. When I first started playing – in Brisbane around 1982 – I was told by our captain that the most crucial part of the game is “your presence”. What he meant (took me a while to understand) was that if you can learn to occupy the middle of the court by your presence you will make things easier for yourself and harder for the opponent. “You must promote your presence every moment. Make your opponent feel it.” I think that advice back then is still very apt for squash players of any level today.”

Our Christian pilgrimage is a little different although the benefit of ‘presence’ is real. The difference is of course that is not *our* presence we are promoting but *Christ's*. Paul reminds us that in Christ we are new creations (2 Cor. 5: 17). We are no longer who we used to be. We have been raised up and as a result, we have the responsibility to promote His presence through us, such that the world may know whose we are! Promoting Christ's presence through our words and actions creates an invitation for others to ‘come’ - as we have been reflecting on over the last 2 weeks – and be brought into that loving, living, dynamic, ever changing, often challenging relationship with Jesus; Paul calls it reconciliation! (v. 18). Does Christ's presence hold a position of pre-eminence within you? Can others detect your passion for Christ? Lent is a time to prepare ourselves for ‘the cross’ and its impact on our own lives. The call of the Cross is to know Jesus and make Him known – to be intentional, invitational, know our identity and live in and promote His intimate presence.

Shalom - Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the Greer family as they grieve the loss of David's sister and his inability to be with his family at this critical time due to his own condition
- ◇ For those impacted by post-flood trauma— lack of affordable housing, insurance issues, difficulty in getting tradespeople and appropriate materials, and the spike in mental health concerns
- ◇ For wisdom to discern the way forward as Church !

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)

CLT COMMISSIONING – This Sunday at both services we will take the opportunity to thank God for those who have been elected as members of CLT for 2022, and to commission them into this significant leadership role.

PASTORAL CARE – CLT at its last meeting agreed to trial for 6 months a new Pastoral Care Model. Called the Cluster Model, it has been in operation in several other Uniting Churches and has recently been introduced into to some other denominational congregations. It is envisaged that every worshipping member of the congregation will be cared for through the application of this model. It will take some time to implement but you will be hearing more about it over the coming weeks. I commend its resourcefulness to each one and hope you may enthusiastically embrace it once rolled out.

FROM OUR ASSISTANT TREASURER—Church Financial Update

The Church's profit/loss for February is -\$1,423.90 Loss.

The Church's profit/loss for the Year to Date is -\$3,322.42 Loss.

Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact Assistant Treasurer Graham Coupland Ph 0409 687 046.

EASTER – CLT have confirmed Easter services this year as follows:

Maundy Thursday – Tenebrae – 7pm.

Good Friday – 8.30am

Easter Sunday: Dawn Service – 5.45am

Family Service – 9am

Ecumenical Celebration (Café Church style) – to be confirmed..

More detail will be available next week!

If you are interested in helping to facilitate our Easter Services – eg Visuals, Scripture presentation, music etc Dave would love you to come to the church next **Tuesday evening – 29th March – 7.00pm** so we can pool ideas and make Easter come alive for all.

CLOSING SERVICE – GRACEVILLE UC! - We give thanks to God for the life and witness of the Graceville Uniting Church over many years. The closing service for this congregation is this Sunday 27th at 11am. Please pray for the folk who have called this home for many years.