

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Friday 15th July - 7.30am Wednesday 13th July - 5.00pm
Chrysalis Flights	22 nd – 24 th July! – Brookfield Centre
Emmaus Walks	22 nd – 25 th September – Brookfield Centre
CLT	Thursday 21 July

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
Garden Lovers Club	Fourth Thursday of each month - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	1st, 3rd, & 5th Mondays of each month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
Friday Night Youth	Meeting Monthly this year! 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

10th July 2022



Prayer times: Wednesdays 5.00pm

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	Pent 5 [15] Am 7:7-17 Ps 82 Col 1:1-14 Lk 10: 25-37

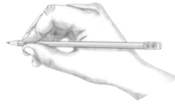
Sunday 17th July

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

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." Nelson Mandela

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



PERCEPTION OR PROGRESS!

Life is more than looking the part! The Christian life is more than an acknowledgement of Christ and putting on a show – it is about developing a character that demonstrates the qualities of Christ! In short, it is about progress, not perception. It's about action more than intention. It's about Jesus, not you, not I, not us. Franklin D. Roosevelt in his speech to Congress in 1941 shared his dream for a post war world. He spoke about four freedoms – freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear! All good and worthy of any lifestyle. Yet as good as these are, there is a gap of immense proportions that none of these fill. As Warren Wiersbe calls it – a fifth freedom! And it is freedom from self and the lure of sinful ways. And in a nutshell – that is exactly what Paul speaks into in his letter to the Galatians. Live the law and its legalism or live the Spirit and his grace. It's a powerful book but not for the faint hearted, nor for those who seek a non threatening, non engaging, non progressing life! I share this story as it illustrates the essence of Paul's engagement with his readers – progression in God's kingdom is not about different people – it's about a different power and a different pathway!

An elderly man walked into the church and took a seat about half way back. He was alone and somewhat bedraggled in appearance and he sat in the 'wrong' seat - as he was told not once but three times. He persevered and found an 'unclaimed' seat. When the offering was announced (obviously pre-covid) he began to squirm a little. He had no cash – indeed he had very little of anything. The plate passed him but he was embarrassed. Just as the minister was about to 'bless' the offering – this stranger stood up and walked right to the front and stood in silence in front of the minister. He waited and then pointed to the plate. Fearing the worst, the minister emptied the cash contents and gave him the offering plate. Without saying a word, he turned around, took a few steps towards the congregation, dropped the plate and stood in it. "Sir", he said, "I am my offering – I have nothing else to give."

Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the continuing work of reconciliation with our first peoples & the NAIDOC celebrations!
- ◇ For our school students, teachers and staff as they return this week!
- ◇ For all impacted by the floods in NSW and all experiencing devastation by natural disasters.
- ◇ For our civic and church leaders.

Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer: CBA: BSB: 064 011 Acct: 10032190
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)

HE'S BACK! – Dave wishes to express his gratitude for the opportunity to be involved in last weekend's NAIDOC celebrations in Gympie and the several conversations enjoyed with both friends and new folk. Aunty Lillian's words from the flag raising ceremony were special and have been etched into his memory "take courage, make change".

COVID-19 – Diligence still needed. Any questions at all please contact Annette Coupland.

TREASURER – Could this be a role for you? We need to fill this vacancy! If you are interested or know of anyone who may be – please contact Dave!

FLOOD AFFECTED FOLK - Change Futures has received Government funding to provide **free** psychology and counselling services for children, young people, adults and older adults across the community who have been impacted in any way through recent flood events. Individual and group services are available. This may not involve you but may be needed by someone you know – For more information ring 3153 1093 or email intake@changeutures.org.au (Flyer on the notice board)

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT – commencing today an enlivened series on the Fruit of the Spirit. Today we introduce the theme as a backdrop needed to better appreciate these fruit. Next week – LOVE!

EMMAUS / CHRYSALIS – Don't forget the next Emmaus walks 22nd – 25th September and Chrysalis – 22nd – 24th July. Who should you be sponsoring to benefit from these weekends?

TRINITY INPUT – Trinity Theological College have a number of short courses coming up. Like Talking' about my Generation – 21 July / Preaching & Worship – 6 August / Discerning God's Leading – 9 August / Spiritual practices – 9 August. Costs vary. Check out Trinity's website for information

<https://www.trinity.qld.edu.au>

PRAYER – Let's not forget our different prayer opportunities – whether it be via facebook, SMS, email, or face to face – prayer changes things. It changes us! And without it – we're just noise! Get involved.