

## EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

<b>Prayer Hubs</b>	Friday 26th August - 7.30 am Wednesday 24th August - 5.00 pm
<b>Communion at St Vincents</b>	22nd August — 9.30 am
<b>Grant Writing Webinar</b>	29th August
<b>SU Sports Camp</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> September – Riverlife Church
<b>Emmaus Walks</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> September – Brookfield Centre
<b>Family Weekend Away</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Lake Moogerah

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Coffee Chat &amp; Chew</b>	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
<b>Garden Lovers Club</b>	Fourth Thursday of each month - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
<b>Social &amp; Craft Group</b>	1st, 3rd, & 5th Mondays of each month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
<b>Friday Night Youth</b>	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	<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	daget01@outlook.com

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

# THE OXLEY ORACLE

21st August 2022



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

WEEK 7 - GOODNESS



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>	Jer 1:4-10 Ps 71:1-6 Heb 12:18-29 Lk 13:10-17	

## Sunday 28th August

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

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." - Benjamin Franklin

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



### GENEROUS GOODNESS!

One of the things Dad and I enjoyed doing together when we were both somewhat younger was body surfing. Neither of us was that good at it and we certainly never graduated to surf-boards but we just enjoyed just being out there amongst the waves – the salt air – and that occasional good wave that would take us right into the shallows of the beach. Sadly, those were all too few and the challenge was often to make the right choice re the wave to catch. Why? Well because we all know how treacherous some waves can be – right? Indeed, we all know how problematic just being out there can be at times! Getting caught in a rip is no fun! I read a story the other day about 9 people who were rescued after being caught in a rip. I don't know where it happened, but I can only imagine how frightening that must have been. It was late and the life savers were packing up and didn't seem to notice the struggling group out there in the ocean. There were still several people on the beach though and let me quote from the article: "80 strangers all locked hands extending themselves into the water to where the 9 folks including 2 children and 1 elderly person were in trouble. Ultimately all 9 were rescued as these 80 strangers formed a human chain that reached from the beach into the ocean depths."

Today we focus on goodness! That which we as Christ followers must 'do' not just to those we love and know but also – indeed perhaps even more so – to those unknown to us – strangers! Doing good is the mark of the follower of Jesus – at least – that is what we read from Paul's letters. But back to the story! Think about the image of that human chain! One person offering their hand to another who offers a hand back. Together, they acknowledge one another's goodness through responding with their own. Their individual unselfishness benefited them all, made them all stronger and changed the lives of those 9 individuals. This image is the epitome of how we are invited to live and what we too can do for others and in turn for ourselves. God showers us with His goodness and expects us to shower our family and community with the same goodness. Let's be a family who 'do good' so that those around us may know us by our 'goodness' fruit. Shalom Dave

### **Praise and Prayer!**

For Bevan and Greta and family following the death of Greta's Mum!

For the new Pastoral Care model being rolled out soon and the 'buddys'!

For the Emmaus teams as they continue their training.

For Rev Garry Jennings and his family as they begin ministry in Sherwood from 3 Sept

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

**FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT – PART 7**– This week we look at Goodness! By now you may have realized that there are some cross-overs between each of the fruit characteristics that we are currently reflecting together. Some might argue for example that kindness and goodness are the same. While there are some similarities the adage – be kind / do good – is probably the best way to understand the difference. Being v Doing! Both and not either or!

**FAMILY WEEKEND AWAY!** – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Lake Moogerah. Prices have been set. \$60 per person for the entire weekend or for those who can only come for a day \$20.00. Let's commit to this weekend and make it a real positive family experience. Registration forms will be out soon. Make sure you keep this weekend free.

**COVID-19** – Cases continue to climb! Diligence still needed. Masks are highly recommended in indoor settings! Any questions at all please contact Annette Coupland.

**EMMAUS** Plenty of time to sponsor for Emmaus - next walks 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**GRANT WRITING WEBINAR** – Interested in helping your church community seek and potentially obtain grant funding for specific projects and or ongoing mission? Dave will be joining a webinar hosted by the Synod on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August. More details to come. See Dave if interested in joining. No cost.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** – We will be putting together the shoeboxes again this year and as per past years encourage you to assist in filling them with appropriate articles. Jan Thompson is facilitating this and more information will be coming shortly!

**ALPHA** – CLT agreed that we will run a shorter 4 week version of Alpha in November this year for the congregation so that all can get to see what it is and how it works – in readiness for the launch of the full program early next year. Please let Dave or any CLT member know of your interest in being involved!

**ST VINCENTS AGED CARE FACILITY** – We have been asked to attend at their Corinda home once a month to offer Communion to the Uniting Church residents and any others who may wish to join. This ministry – an extension of who we are – begins tomorrow at 9.30am. Dave will be attending along with musos from time to time. Your prayers would be valued.

**CLT** – Your leadership team met last Thursday night and considered a range of matters and followed up on some still before us. A summary perspective will be communicated next week!