

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Wednesday 31 August - 5.00 pm Friday 2nd September - 7.30 am
Barnabas Thanksgiving	Sunday 18th September - 9.00am
SU Sports Camp	27 th – 29 th September – Riverlife Church
Emmaus Walks	22 nd – 25 th September – Brookfield Centre
Family Weekend Away	28 th – 30 th October – Lake Moogerah

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

28th August 2022



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
WEEK 8 - FAITHFULNESS



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	Jer 2:4-13 Ps 81:1, 10-16 Heb 13:1-8, 15-16 Lk 14:1, 7-14	

Next Sunday 4th September

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

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." Robert Louis Stevenson

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



FIRING FAITHFULNESS!

Who can forget John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John in the box-office hit of Grease? Particularly, that moment when Sandy (Olivia) sings – 'Hopelessly devoted to you'? Confession time – I thought that both sung it to each other, but I have had it from a very reliable source that it was only Sandy who sung it to her new best friend! Well - it's been a while since I saw it so all you 'Grease' tragics – forgive me! My point though is not necessarily who sings it but the depth of the lyrics and the meaning behind them, and specifically when one reflects on faithfulness! You see – faithfulness is all about being devoted – maybe not 'hopelessly' but certainly with an unwavering commitment. And this commitment goes to a much deeper level as followers of Jesus! God is faithful – are we? At one time I was employed as a consultant to both major and minor companies around Australia to assist them in their superannuation needs. It was a great job for a time, and I certainly knew what it was like to live consistently out of a suitcase. After a year or so the company I was working for changed its direction and us consultants were told we had to communicate to our clients that we were the best! Now, I knew we were reasonably good, but we were not the best in every facet of superannuation, and I knew that. So, I had a dilemma! Would I be faithful to the company and its new 'direction' and who paid me, or would I be faithful to God? Because to me at least I couldn't commit to both! I chose to 'fire' my faith in God (you might say declare it or proclaim it but I like the urgency and purpose behind 'firing') and as a result was put on notice. That story ended up well in the end because as it happened my clients went to bat for me and challenged the so-called new direction. (Interestingly it was those few months that began my new direction toward ministry). We read that "the just will live by faith" ([Habakkuk 2:4](#)). We obtain that faith, and our faithfulness, by the grace of God. He is faithful to His children, and by His grace we will one day hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" ([Matt 25:23](#)).

Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

For the ongoing ministry at St Vincent's Aged Care – their residents and staff!
For the Chaplaincy Staff at Sinnamon Village and their ministry!
For ALPHA – as it is hosted across the congregation in November.
For the Emmaus team as they continue their training.

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 8 – This week we look at Faithfulness! What's it mean? Are we faithful in our relationships with God, His creation, each other?

FAMILY WEEKEND AWAY! – Friday 28th October – Sunday 30th 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 22nd – 25th September.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – This incredible ministry is being launched for 2022 today! Please take some time to think about how many boxes you may be able to take away and fill! Or perhaps you might prefer to donate some funds to allow others to fill them on your behalf or contribute to the postage costs (each box needs to be accompanied with some dollars). Jan Thompson will be around to chat with if you have any questions.

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. **This will happen each Sunday evening during November from 5 – 7pm and will include food!**

CLT – The highlights from last weeks CLT Meeting is available either as a separate attachment to the email or as a paper copy in the foyer.

PRESBYTERY - Presbytery met last Saturday morning. A summary of the more important reflections is also available for any who may be interested.

BARNABAS - The Moderator will be joining us on Sunday 18th September to assist in the recognition and celebration of our involvement with the Barnabas Community over the years. A special morning tea will be shared.