

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Wednesday 21st September - 5.00 pm Friday 23rd September - 7.30 am
Emmaus Walks	22 nd – 25 th September – Brookfield Centre
Family Weekend Away	28 th – 30 th October – Lake Moogerah
Congregational Meeting	Sunday 20th November—10.30 am
Carols under the Stars	Sunday 18th December

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. 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

18th September 2022



Barnabas Celebration!

Thanks to all who have been involved!



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 Andrew Gunton - Moderator (Live Streamed)
Evening Service	6.30pm -	Rev Dave Thomas
Lectionary Readings	Jer 8:18 - 9:1 Ps 79:1-9 1 Tim 2:1-7 Lk 16:1-13	

Sunday 25th September

9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas

NO EVENING SERVICE (Emmaus Closing)

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility is being superior to your former self." —Ernest Hemingway

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



LEAN IN TO LIVE..

Sooner or later, you had to hear something emanating out of bike riding – no not the pedal version although I could tell you some stories about them too – the motorised version. I've been fascinated with motorbikes since my early school days. I loved the loud noise they made, the look of them and I thought back then it would be so cool to ride one. That day came of course but before I got my own license and indeed before I got my first bike, I was a pillion passenger a few times. And I will never forget my first lesson from this very experienced rider who agreed (I think I conned him somehow) to take me for a ride. I wasn't even allowed to put the helmet on until he showed me how to 'ride' as a pillion. "When we corner", he said, "we lean. We lean into the corner we are taking. And the angle of the corner will depend on how much you lean but the easiest way for you is to follow me. Lean with me. Lean the same way and no more nor less than me". I had no idea what that meant until we came to our first major bend in the road and he leaned as he approached the bend. I didn't. The bike became unsteady very quickly. He managed to correct things and he stopped and barked – "what did I tell you? You want to live – lean!" I never forgot again. And those words still ring true but not just for 'pillioning' on a bike. Jesus says effectively if you want to live you need to learn to lean. Lean into my Word. Lean into my Way. We've just completed a series on the Fruit of the Spirit – in essence, 9 virtues of Christ-like living. He also gives us images to help us understand how we are to live those virtues. Indeed in Matthew 5 – Jesus' sermon – he gives us what we call the Beattitudes – other keys to living Christ's way and then gives us two powerful images – salt and light!

We are to be 'salt' of the earth and 'light' to the world! We might call it a twofold injunction. The linguistic parallel between v. 13a and v. 14a witnesses to a vital conceptual link. You and I, as disciples are to be both salt and light. The tense is important. Jesus does not say – you will be salt and you will be light – He says plainly and strongly – "You are salt; you are light". That means now. And note the word 'both'. We are not called merely to act as a preservative, i.e. to stand against the spread of corruption in society. We are also to bear a positive witness to that society.

Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For ALPHA – as it is hosted across the congregation in November.
- ◇ For the Emmaus walks next weekend. **NO EVENING SERVICE NEXT WEEK.**
- ◇ For BDC – Building a Discipleship Culture – 5 people to commit!
- ◇ For the Weekend Away in October.

BARNABAS – We welcome Rev Andrew Gunton – Moderator of the UCA (Qld Synod) along with other key people who have been in some way connected to the Barnabas Community. A special morning tea will be provided and I hope that many of you can come and help celebrate.

CONGREGATION MEETING – To be held on Sunday 20 November at 10.30am. This is the meeting that will elect persons to fill the two vacancies on CLT for at least the 2023 year. We would ask that you be at prayer over these next weeks as to who you discern may be skilled to join our Leadership Team. More information will come as we get closer to November!

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. Registration forms out now. Let's not wait till the last minute – let's commit now!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – Did you know that in 2021 over 10.5 Million shoeboxes were distributed worldwide? Did you know that over 38,000 of them were from Queensland, which includes those we packed and sent away? Did you know that from Australia and New Zealand shoeboxes were sent mostly to Madagascar, Cambodia, Fiji, Nauru, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea? Did you know that through this ministry there were over 2 million decisions for Christ? What a privilege to be a part of such an amazing ministry. Boxes available. We have until 14 October to fill them and return them. Can we do more than last year? Of course we can!

ALPHA – We need some indication of who would like to be involved in the ALPHA short course in November both for catering and logistical purposes. A folder is in the foyer and we would ask that you include your name and either phone number or email address if you intend being a part of this. I strongly endorse this and commend it to each one. You can email or text Dave if that is easier for you! Thank you in advance. Sunday evenings during November from 5 – 7pm! (No Evening Service)

CAROLS UNDER THE STARS – Save the date – **Sunday 18th December**. More details coming over the coming weeks. If you are keen to be involved, please let Sam Gunders or Dave know? We will be looking for volunteers in a number of areas.

ST VINCENTS AGED CARE – Our next Communion service is scheduled for Monday 19th September at 9.30am. From October onwards – it will be the fourth Monday of each month except December.

Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer: CBA — BSB: 064 011 Acc: 10032190
Please identify your bank transaction as either "Tithe" or "Offering". Thank You.