

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Wednesday 28 September - 5.00 pm Friday 30 September - 7.30 am
Family Weekend Away	28 th – 30 th October – Lake Moogerah
Congregation Meeting	Sunday 20 November – 10.30am
Family Social Event	Saturday 26 November
Carols Under the Stars	Sunday 18 th 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.oxleyuc.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

25th September 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	NO EVENING SERVICE TONIGHT
Lectionary Readings	Jer 32:1-3a, 6-15 Ps 91:1-6, 14-16, 1 Tim 6:6-19 Lk 16:19-31

Sunday 2nd October

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

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"All endings are also beginnings. We just don't know it at the time.."

- Mitch Alborn

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



MAINTAINING MOJO!

According to one 'blogger', 'mojo' has its origins in African American culture as reference to a charm which perhaps explains why people are so keen to *find* their mojo. Although *mojo* is now used to describe something abstract, it retains its original reference to a physical thing. If – or perhaps I should say when – we lose our mojo, we feel like we have lost control – we don't achieve our goals. Conversely, we have it and things start to go well again. Yet, we don't just *have* our mojo, we generally need to *find* it. It is mysterious, disappearing without apparent reason and reappearing out of nowhere days or weeks later. We often hear people using the expression: he / she has lost his / her mojo. I guess it's a bit like letting our guard down, becoming too blasé, or less caring! 16 years ago – almost to the day – the Crocodile Hunter - Steve Irwin died. He was quoted as being, 'an iconic naturalist who loved what he did and exuded confidence, excitement and enthusiasm every waking moment.' He 'played' with animals and all things wild seemingly unafraid of any imminent danger. So, when he died of a stingray barb while diving, some argued that he was just plain stupid while others said that he let his guard down. That is to say that he was very aware of the dangers and was normally cautious and respectful of the habitat of animals – but on this occasion he lost his mojo – and it took his life! We can argue about that and his legacy – 'Australia Zoo' if we want, but the truth is that we all at times lose our zest, our passion, our intent to thrive not just survive. We allow our circumstances to dictate our life rather than retaining our faith in an almighty God who loves us and wants us to trust him – even when things go wrong. Can we pray like the Psalmist of old: "Teach me more about you, how you work and how you move, so that I can walk onward in your truth until everything within me brings honor to your name" (Psalm 86:11). That's the way we should be approaching our calling to be disciples of Jesus – maintaining our mojo – passionate, excited, enthused. And at those times when we feel lost, lonely, even deserted by God and others, let's remind ourselves that God is right there with you still, and he will help you re-discover your mojo.

Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For ALPHA – as it is hosted across the congregation in November.
- ◇ For BDC – Building a Discipleship Culture – 5 people to commit!
- ◇ For the ongoing ministry with the residents of St Vincent's Aged Care Home.
- ◇ That we might be Christ's Light in our Community
- ◇ For the Weekend Away in October. For those travelling over the school holidays!

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 – Have you got your shoe box? Time is running out. Only 3 weeks now to fill a box and return it to the church. It's a real joy and privilege to be a part of such an amazing ministry. Boxes are available. 14 October deadline! 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 over the coming weeks. If you are keen to be involved, please let Sam Gunders or Dave know in what way? We will be looking for volunteers in a number of areas.

ST VINCENTS AGED CARE – Our next Communion service is scheduled for Wednesday 26th October at 2.30pm. From November onwards – it will be the fourth Monday of each month except December at 9.30am.

LET'S GET SOCIAL! – Instead of a men's breakfast and women's morning tea, we are encouraging all to come together for a meal and social relationship building – men and women. Saturday 26th November. Mark your diary – more details soon!

PASTORAL CARE – Our new pastoral care model is about to be rolled out – the first week in October. We have allocated each person who worships with us (either in person or online) a 'buddy' – carer – and you will be notified of your buddy during that week. While this allocation has been prayed over and thought through carefully, it may be that some tweaking is still appropriate, and that's Ok. Stay tuned. It's close!

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