

## EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

<b>Prayer Hubs</b>	Wed 5pm / Fri 7.30am
<b>Remembrance Day</b>	Sinnamon Village - 11 Nov. - 10.30am!
<b>Congregation Meeting</b>	Sunday 20 November – 10.30am
<b>Family Social Event</b>	Saturday 26 November
<b>Carols Under the Stars</b>	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Coffee Chat &amp; Chew</b>	Thursdays! Oxley Café - from 9am.
<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. 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

30th October 2022



ALPHA STARTS NEXT SUNDAY EVENING  
HAVE YOU REGISTERED?



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 - John & Lisa Gunders
<b>Evening Service</b>	NO SERVICE TONIGHT !
<b>Lectionary Readings</b>	Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4 Ps 119:137-144 2 Thes 1:1-12 Lk 19:1-10

## Next Sunday 6th November

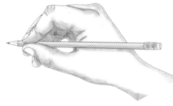
9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas  
ALPHA - 5PM START - NO SERVICE

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another."

Charles Dickens

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



### ARE WE HIDING?

Most of you know now I'm sure that amongst other personal attributes, I was and am a PK! That is Pastor's Kid! And while I am so grateful for that now, I can't say that it was always like that. Spiritually speaking I hid behind Dad's faith and knowledge of God along with His experiences. I accompanied him to church many times but always more to impress than to really learn anything for myself. To quote a great friend, "you have to be careful because you can't get piggybacked into Heaven." And of course he was right. That may well have been the turning point for me. I had to change and get out from hiding my inner self with all my questions and fears etc. I came across this quote the other day. "Human nature can often cause us to "hide" ourselves from others. Sometimes, it may be because we feel we won't be accepted for who we are. Sometimes, it's as a result of past trauma or pain that we put up walls and barriers to protect ourselves. But whatever the reason, a great number of people in our world live solitary lives behind masks of their own making. Shame is our greatest impetus for hiding. Why? Because otherwise, we need to stand "naked" before God admitting our mistakes, our mess ups, and our mediocrity."

What do you think of that? It was certainly true in my case and I reckon it was also true in the case of Zacchaeus (Luke 19: 1-10) . Here we have a paradox! That is, he climbed a tree to 'see' what was going on around him and maybe to be 'seen' by the common folk as he was their nemesis - a tax collector but not only that the 'boss of all tax collectors. He was rich at the expense of the people no doubt in front of him! Yet when Jesus came close He knew that Zacchaeus was hiding from himself. (Note that he decided himself to return what he had stolen four fold. Jesus never mentioned that nor did He make him do it! Jesus presence, and I suspect what he had heard, confronted his hidden state and we know the rest of the story. Are we hiding from God - from ourselves? It's time to come out from hiding? Shalom Dave

### Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the family of Rev Peter Taubner whose funeral was last Friday.
- ◇ For ALPHA – as it begins next week!
- ◇ For the organization of, and volunteers for, Carols Under The Stars.
- ◇ For the coming Advent season and its impact on us and our community.
- ◇ For the camp over this weekend.

**CONGREGATION MEETING** – To be held on Sunday 20 November at 10.30am. We need as many of you there as possible. Elections will be held for CLT positions, a review of our finances and more.

**FAMILY WEEKEND AWAY!** – Of course this is happening this weekend. Those who are attending would value your prayers I'm sure just as we who are there will be praying for those who will be worshipping at home! Remember there is NO evening worship this Sunday.

**ALPHA** – Starts - week 1 next Sunday at 5pm. Still time to add your name if you wish to. Just let Dave know as soon as possible. I strongly endorse this and commend it to each one.

**CAROLS UNDER THE STARS** – Save the date – **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. Venue - Oxley State School Oval - their Hall if wet! Planning is under way more earnestly now. Please pray for good weather and the message of Christ to be heard and witnessed by all.

**LET'S GET SOCIAL!** – Don't forget our planned social event - Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. An opportunity to come together (men and women) to have a god time. To laugh, to eat, to listen, to learn from each other. A barbeque dinner awaits those who come and there's more. You don't want to miss this!

**PRESBYTERY** - The retreat was last week from Monday morning through until Wednesday afternoon. The theme was "Our Calling" - both from a personal and corporate perspective. Time spent with God - some personal reflection and chatting with colleagues. While on the subject of Presbytery I have been nominated for the role of Presbytery Chairperson from January next year. It's in God Hands!

**CELEBRATION** - Four of our young adults have recently completed a course in Christ's call and will this weekend at camp be re-affirming the baptismal vows their parent's made for them as infants. At the same time they will be confirmed as members of our family here at Oxley Uniting. Please pray for all four as they take this significant step in their faith journey!

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