

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Wed 5pm / Fri 7.30am
Congregation Meeting	This Sunday – 10.30am
Family Social Event	Saturday 26 November
Carols Under the Stars	Sunday 18 th December

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Thursdays! Oxley Café - from 9am.
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.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

20th November 2022



**NEXT SUNDAY - COME AND HEAR FROM SU &
OUR SCHOOL CHAPLAINS
PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM!**



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 SERVICE TONIGHT! - ALPHA!
Lectionary Readings	Jer. 23:1-6 Lk 1:68-79 Col 1:11-20 Lk 23:33-43

Next Sunday 27th November

9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas with School Chaplains
ALPHA - 5PM START - **NO SERVICE**

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"If we wait for the moment when everything, absolutely everything, is ready, we shall never begin." Ivan Turgenev

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



FUTILE OR FERTILE?

What's your approach to life? How do you see your future? What about the future of the Church? Are we resigned to what was or can we see new possibilities and opportunities for enhancing the Kingdom of God here in this place? Are we too consumed by the NOW to embrace and indeed live in the NOT YET? Larry was a farmer who came from a long list of farmers. Unlike his father and his father and his father though, Larry found himself farming ever decreasing patches of land. Eventually through burgeoning community and Government resumptions of land he was down to just a couple of acres. It wasn't enough to sustain him and his family so he began driving his slasher round the neighbourhood seeking other paddocks to slash for a price. He came across Wayne (not his real name) who beckoned him to stop as he was driving past one afternoon. Wayne was a retired guy with little manners, very abrupt, callous in his remarks and demanded Larry slash his 5 acres right now! Larry did, despite not really liking this fellow. When he had finished and went to receive the agreed price, Wayne gave him double the amount asked for. "Here", he said, "good job". Larry was a Christian but not very mature. Still he had been so touched by Jesus that he couldn't help himself. "Thanks mate", Larry says. "you know you were pretty harsh before - what going on for you? A conversation ensued. Larry invites him to church the following Sunday offering to pick him up. Wayne comes - quite unkept and bedraggled but he kept coming back. A few months later He gives his life to Jesus, starts teaching RI at the age of 78 and became rock solid in His faith. Larry could have chosen to see the 'futility' of their first encounter, decline the job and forget about him. But he chose to see beyond the obvious to something bigger and better - He later told me that he just wanted to share Jesus with him - I figured he was 'fertile ground'! Next Sunday is advent! The Light is coming! What do we see before us - futility or fertile ground? Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For Trevor & family following the death of Brother-in-law - Arnold Rieck
- ◇ 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 increased opportunities to share the Gospel within our community.
- ◇ For the flood devastation in NSW and impacted lives!

ADVENT SERIES - This year we will be embarking on a series through advent—starting this Sunday entitled "Enter The Light". We will be looking at different aspects of 'The Light' and how Jesus shapes our life. Hope you're excited!

CONGREGATION MEETING – This Sunday immediately following the morning service. Please stay and be a part of our discernment together.

ALPHA – continues - week 3 tonight and concluding next week 5pm - 7pm. No Evening Service during this time!

CAROLS UNDER THE STARS – Save the date – **Sunday 18th December**. Venue - Oxley State School Oval 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. 26th 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. Starting at 5.30pm. Entertainment a plenty! Only \$20. See the flyers around the front of the church! You don't want to miss this!

CHRISTMAS BOWL - Starts next Sunday. Envelopes will be in the foyer for any who are keen to support this worthy cause or you can donate online. Details later.

PRESBYTERY - Met last Saturday at Ipswich Uniting Church - Glebe Road for our first full day for some time. A summary of what happened will be available next week but for now suffice to say that Rev Jan Whyte is our new Presbytery Chairperson, Rev Gerda Olafsen PRC Chair, Rev David Mackay-Rankin MRC Chair. Please pray for each in their different roles. I was elected to PSC - Presbytery Standing Committee!

FINANCIAL UPDATE - The Church's profit/loss for October is -\$6,222.64 Loss. The Church's profit/loss for the Financial Year to Date is -\$8,922.33 Loss. Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact Assistant Treasurer Graham Coupland Ph 0409 687 046.

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