

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Wed 5pm / Fri 7.30am
Worship outside	Sunday 11th December - 5pm
Centenary Carols	Sunday 4th Dec - From 3.30pm
Carols Meeting	Wednesday 7 Dec - 7pm
Carols Under the Stars	Sunday 18 th December - From 5.30pm

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Thursdays! Oxley Café - from 9am.
Garden Lovers Club	In Recess! Normally 4th Thursday monthly - 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	In Recess! 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	0432 304 474	
Web	www.oxleyuc.org.au	
Facebook	Oxley Uniting Church	
Notices for the Oxley Oracle - deadline midday Thursdays		
Email	daget01@outlook.com	



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	5.00pm - Rev Dave Thomas
Lectionary Readings	Is. 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-7, 18-19 Rom 15:4-13 Mt 3:1-12

Next Sunday 11th December

9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas
5.00pm Rev Dave Thomas (Outside on the Lawn)

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"You will either step forward into growth, or you will step backward into safety"
Abraham Maslow

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



RESCUE MISSION!

From the very first time I went west (with my brother on a train from Brisbane to Roma, then picked up by my Uncle who drove us to Surat, where he was the Anglican Minister - I think I was about 12) I have loved the outback. Yes it certainly has its challenges, but the diversity of its land, its colours and its people have always inspired and intrigued me. I had just arrived in Birdsville on one of our annual sojourns to assist Frontier Services during the week of the Races out there. I'd unpacked the Patrol and John (the then Patrol Padre) came running toward his Ute yelling on his way, "Dave - jump in, Mark's had an accident and we have to go rescue his bike." Mark was already in the plane heading towards Adelaide hospital! About 2 hours later and some 150 kms down the Birdsville Track we found his bike. It was a bit twisted and the mirrors broken the rear blinker hanging by its electrical cable etc. The mission was to get it onto the back of the ute. Simple! John knew nothing about bikes and so he left it to me to figure out the process! Lying on its side for so long is not good for a bike! I stood it up and waited. Eventually I started it and that was step 1. "OK," said John "how you going to get it onto the ute now. We got no ramps". Improvisation is one of those key ingredients in the outback! No but there's a few anthills. John positioned his ute on one side of one of those anthills and the plan was to ride it up the opposite side and jump it onto the back of the ute and stop before I and or the bike hit the cab. Easy! Well Not really. But after a few attempts all was done! Rescue successful! I remember getting back into the car for the trip home nursing a burnt leg - "that was harder than I thought", to which John replied - yep but it was the only way! Jesus comes with a rescue plan, not for bikes but for people! To redeem them - you and I included. His plan was not easy but it was the only way! Enter the Light - The Light of Redemption!

Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the organization of, and volunteers for, Carols Under The Stars.
- ◇ For our 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!
- ◇ For the capture of the Vision for 2023 - The year to BE!

ADVENT 1. Enter the Light - the Light of Redemption! That's our focus as we continue our journey this week. The mission of God's Redemption started with Noah, incorporated the early Prophets and Kings, and culminated with the coming of Jesus. And His work continues through us as His Church.

ADVENT SETTING: You will have noticed the different layout with the Tree, lights and tables for church last Sunday morning. We are using this different setting for Advent and hope you can join us!

ALPHA – Our congregation phase has concluded. Now we begin to prepare ourselves for the full season after Easter next year. Who can you invite to become involved? What part of the background ministries might you be able to fulfil? We will soon be starting a Zoom prayer meeting specifically re our 2023 ALPHA Process!

CAROLS UNDER THE STARS – Yikes - only 2 weeks away! **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.

SU CHAPLAINCY - Chaplains urgently needed. Know anyone who may be interested? See Dave.

EVENING WORSHIP - Our Sunday evening service resumes tonight but at the earlier time of 5pm. The service and fellowship will happen between 5 and 7pm consistent with the last 4 weeks of ALPHA. This will continue until the end of February and will be reviewed by CLT during that month.

WWW - No not World Wide Web - **Worship Without Walls!** While it is important to shine Christ's light to all who venture inside the church walls, our main purpose as Church is to share His Light to the outside community - remember the Great commission! On Sunday 11th Dec we will be worshipping outside (weather permitting) for our evening service. We would love you to come and invite your friends.

COVID: Annette as our Covid Adviser has formulated a helpful guide to our responsibilities based in traffic lights. Red, Amber and Green. Watch for it!

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