

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

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| Prayer Hubs | Wed 5pm / Fri 7.30am |
| Worship outside | Today 11th December - 5pm |
| Carols Under the Stars | Sunday 18 th December - From 5.30pm |
| Christmas Eve | Saturday 24th Dec. - 6pm |
| Christmas Day | Sunday 25th Dec. - 9am |

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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| 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 | In Recess. Normally 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

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| 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 | |

Growing in Christ | Showing Christ | Going Christ's Way



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

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|----------------------------|--|
| Morning Service | 9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas |
| Evening Service | 5.00pm - Rev Dave Thomas (On The Lawn) |
| Lectionary Readings | Is 35:1-10 Ps 146:5-10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11 |

Next Sunday 18th December

9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas

NO SERVICE - CAROLS

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"To make a goal of comfort or happiness has never appealed to me; a system of ethics built on this basis would be sufficient only for a herd of cattle." (Albert Einstein)

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



RISKY BUSINESS!

I started work with a National Insurance company when I was 17 years and 3 weeks old. After 5 years that company transferred me to Brisbane and I thought I wondered what I had done wrong - obviously this was punishment for something! I remember vividly that lonely drive from Townsville to Brisbane and how I hated it. Fast forward another 2 years and I was asked by the then State Manager to go back to Townsville as its Office Manager - responsible for some 18 staff, most of whom were older and had been with the company for years. I was pretty sure I was not ready for that jump into management at the tender age of 23 and I said to the Boss, "Really - me. I know who is up there and I'm not sure I...." He cut me off with these words, "You know there are risks in everything we do. The question for you is; will you accept the risk of going over the risk of not going? He gave me 24 hours to answer him. This was not going to be easy! I began to accumulate all the risks of saying yes - making a wrong decision, authorising something I shouldn't, causing angst within the office, not really knowing how to handle staff etc. And then I recalled those words - risk of not going. Maybe I will never again be looked at for any promotion? I'll likely be doing the same job for years and I knew how much I wanted to get into consultancy and what I was doing was no stepping stone into that! I said Yes! And I was right - it was not easy. I made many mistakes but I grew as a person. Those same words resonate when reflecting on the life that emerges when we allow the Light of Jesus to enter our being! We live in a world now that predominantly does not know or care about Jesus! We are the weird ones! We are in exile. And there are risks in saying yes to Jesus and His coming among us! To be relevant for Him demands a radical response! Enter the Light - The Light of Radical Relevance! 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 SU Australia and the search for Chaplains to answer that call.
- ◇ For the capture of the Vision for 2023 - The year to BE!

ADVENT 3. Enter the Light - the Light of Radical Relevance! That's our focus as we continue our journey this week. The mission of God in sending His Son invites us to respond with a radical response that says "Yes, here I am. I'll follow You. Your Road is relevant for me - whatever it takes. "

ADVENT SETTING: You will have noticed the different layout with the Tree, lights and tables for church last Sunday morning. We are experimenting a little during this Season of Advent. We 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 1 week away! **Sunday 18th December.** Venue - Oxley State School Oval. We need able bodied help next Sunday to take what is needed to the School Oval. Meet at church at 12 noon for commencement of set up at 1pm.

EVENING WORSHIP - Our Sunday evening service is now at the earlier time of 5pm. 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! Tonight we will be worshipping outside (weather permitting). We would love you to come and invite your friends.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES - Note the times.
Christmas Eve - 6pm! Christmas Day - 9am.

COVID: Annette as our Covid Adviser has formulated a helpful guide to our responsibilities based on traffic lights. Red, Amber and Green. Currently we are in AMBER!

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