EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Fri 7.30am (Wed prayer in recess)
Carols Under the Stars	Tonight - Sun. 18th Dec. - From 5.30pm
Christmas Eve	Saturday 24th Dec. - 6pm
Christmas Day	Sunday 25th Dec. - 9am
New Years Day	Sunday 1 January 23 - 9am

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	**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

Minister	Rev Dave Thomas M: 0432 304 474	E: daget01@outlook.com	
Resources	Gayle Rankin M: 0410 511 601		
Pastoral Care	Sharyn Sinnamon M: 0410 064 675	Covid Advisor	Annette Coupland M: 0408 019 661
Treasurer*	Graham Coupland M: 0409 687 046	* Interim Treasurer	
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

THE OXLEY ORACLE

18th December 2022

ADVENT 4 - ENTER THE LIGHT

THE LIGHT OF RELATIONSHIP

Oxley UNITING CHURCH

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 - CAROLS**			
Lectionary Readings	Is 35:1-10	Ps 146:5-10	Jas 5:7-10	Mt 11:2-11

Next Week - Christmas

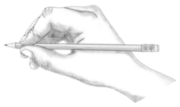
Christmas Eve - 6.00pm - Rev Dave Thomas
Christmas Day - 9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

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

(Charles Dickens)

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



CONNECTING!

During this last week I visited my Uncle and his wife who have recently relocated from Bribie Island - where they have lived since his retirement about 25 years ago - to Logan Reserve. Uncle Geoff (Dad's older bother) and I have always been close . Geoff trained and was ordained a Methodist Minister before as he calls it 'jumping ships' to the Anglican camp in which he was a Rector until he retired.

Geoff baptised me in the Cooroy Methodist Church , I carry his name, and we have had many great and often deep theological conversations. He has given up so much of his time over the years to help me become the person I am today. I remember him turning down a fully paid overseas trip to mark his 80th birthday year when he learned that I was being ordained in that same year. When I challenged him on that decision telling him how crazy he was - he simply laughed it off and said something like; "No, I can go overseas any time - I cant witness my nephew following my and his father's footsteps any time. That is much more important to me - to see you continue carrying the message - sharing the greatest story ever told ". He has always kept an active interest in my story following me from a young school aged boy and is still keenly interested on what I'm up to even now. Geoff, now 91, is frail having recovered from two strokes amongst other ailments. I was honoured and deeply moved when Geoff asked me to officiate at his funeral whenever that is in, of course, an Anglican Church with one his Anglican Colleagues assisting. It's fair to say that we each feel and know a strong connection. I left the other day thinking that our relationship as strong and as meaningful as it is to both of us, is nothing compared to the relationship / connection with all of us for which Jesus came and gave up his life! He urges us to follow His life and make it ours! Enter the Light - The Light of Relationship! Shalom Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◊ For the Police officers who lost their lives this week . Their colleagues and families impacted.
- ◊ For the organization of, and volunteers for, Carols Under The Stars.
- ◊ For increased opportunities to share the Gospel within our community.
- ◊ For 2023—the year to BE!

ADVENT 4. Enter the Light - the Light of Relationship! God sent his Son to save us! And to do that He invites us into a dynamic relationship with Him such that we not only see His light but it becomes a part of us!

OXLEY ORACLE - The Oxley Oracle is taking a break over Christmas and New Year. This will be the last edition until **Sunday 8th January 2023.** I trust you have enjoyed reading the 'Ponderings' and being kept up to date with our Church Family over the last 12 months.

ALPHA – I hope you're getting excited and energised about ALPHA next year! As you know anything we do as part of God's family must be birthed in prayer and ALPHA is no exception. To this end, I am starting a Zoom prayer group every Wednesday evening from 4th January 2023 at 7pm, initially for 30 – 40 minutes. If you would like to be apart of this please provide your name and best email address on the list in the foyer (or email Dave if easier) so we can ensure you get the link to join. (Note you do need reasonable good internet connectivity). Any questions please contact Dave.

CAROLS UNDER THE STARS – Tonight! We need able bodied help after the service 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 worship is now in holiday mode until Sunday 8th January. Remember the new time of 5pm!

SERVICES OVER THE NEXT 2 WEEKS:
Christmas Eve - 6pm! Christmas Day - 9am! New Years Day - 9am!

CHURCH FINANCES - The Church's profit/loss for November is $2,420.76 Gain. The Church's profit/loss for the Financial Year to Date is -$6,501.57 Loss. Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact Assistant Treasurer Graham Coupland Ph 0409 687 046

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.