

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hub	Friday 3rd March. - 7.30am.
ALPHA Prayer (Zoom)	Each Wed. 7pm.
World Day of Prayer	Friday 3 March - 10am. Lutheran Church.
Amplify Conference	Saturday 4 March .
Presbytery	Sat 4 March - 9am - Chapel Hill UC
Propel Conference	Sydney - 14 - 16th March.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Thursdays! Oxley Café - from 9am.
Garden Lovers Club	Meets 23rd Feb. - 4th Thursday monthly - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	Meets 1st, 3rd, & 5th Mondays of the month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays). Next - 20 Feb. 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	

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

THE OXLEY ORACLE

26th February 2023



LENT 1

8 WEEKS UNTIL ALPHA.



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 - Mr Harry Thompson & Rev Dave
Evening Service	5.00pm - Rev Dave
Lectionary Readings	Gn 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Ps 32 Rom 5:12-19 Mt 4:1-11

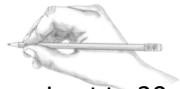
Next Week - 5th March

9.00am	- Rev Dave
5.00pm	- Rev Dave

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Anne Frank

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



THE LENTEN LENS!

When I was about 24, I remember being told that by the time I got to 30, I would be totally bald and will need strong glasses as your eyes will be failing you! I recall being somewhat alarmed. Not so much over the loss of hair but certainly over the loss of 20/20 vision. Well, 3 decades on (I know I'm old) I still have some hair - not much though - and I still have reasonably good sight with no need for glasses yet! I am sure that time is coming ! But not yet! I remember Dad saying something like - "Ummm interesting: I wonder what lens that guy was using to make such a statement? But son, the more important question is what lens are you using? Because if it's the right one, it won't matter what you may need to look through." As we commence our Lenten journey what lens are you using? I am a Rock and Water trained and accredited facilitator. Rock and Water is an activity based learning program devised by a Dutch School teacher, named Freek, who felt compelled to offer something different and more hands on for those young school students who just could not make it in 'normal school'. Freek was the one who trained us in his own program and he was always saying - "whatever you do, keep on task. It's all written down for you". Rock and Water has three main pillars upon which all else is framed. Focus, Centred and Grounded! Although not a Christian program, there are certainly Christian reflections throughout its curriculum. These 3 pillars for example could easily be attributed to Jesus and His teaching. "Keep your eyes focussed on me, avoid distractions taking you away from what is central to your well-being and remain grounded in my Word". Perhaps we could learn something from Freek as we check our Lenten Lens! Whatever you do, keep on task. It's written down. Interestingly, our Lenten journey starts in the wilderness as we 'see' Jesus being tempted. What are the 3 words Jesus uses each time to repel the temptation Satan was throwing at Him? IT IS WRITTEN. Lets stay on task for Jesus! Shalom.

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For those struggling from natural disasters nationally & internationally.
- ◇ For our own people struggling with various medical and other conditions..
- ◇ For St Johns Lutheran Church as it leads the World Day of Prayer.
- ◇ For Jeff, Hedy, Deb and Rebecca - our four School Chaplains!
- ◇ For the implementation of our four governance 'Teams'.

GIVING SERIES - Dave will be leading us throughout March in a 'giving' series looking at what it means to live and operate in God's Kingdom as it relates to what we offer to Him in response to all he has given! This will culminate with 'Vision Sunday' on 26th March.

ALPHA – kicks off on Friday evening 21st April from 7 - 9pm and continues each Friday night for 9/10 weeks. Don't forget to join us in our Zoom prayer each Wednesday night at 7pm. Here's the link should you wish to join all or any ! We'd love to have you join.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86315980534?pwd=b3hHYitVb09wd1RVemRFck0zWUpsQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 1598 0534

Passcode: 346055

PROPEL CONFERENCE - As part of CEM, Dave will be attending the Propel Conference in Sydney next month. Propel is a network of Uniting Church clergy from across Australia who share in the vision of a renewed church.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday 3 March 10am at St Johns Lutheran Church - Clewley St Corinda. This is an annual service giving all an opportunity to hear something of the story of a specific country - this year Taiwan! Please come and support this wonderful global missional activity.

LENT - Don't forget Uniting World's Lent Event! A small prayer diary is available on the front table. There is also the opportunity to gift money toward their cause and brochures are also on the table for that purpose.

CLT - At its meeting last week, CLT approved the implementation of a new governance model in which there will be 4 'teams' aimed at helping to steer us into the future. Resources, Community, Connections and Worship are the 4. More detail will come as it starts to take shape.

FINANCES - PROFIT/LOSS: The Church's profit/loss for January is -\$849.17 Loss. The Church's profit/loss for the Financial Year to Date is -\$8,285.45 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.