

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hub	Friday 17th March. - 7.30am.
ALPHA Prayer (Zoom)	Each Wed. 7pm.
Propel Conference	Sydney - 14 - 16th March.
Easter Services	Thu. 6th, Fri. 7th, Sun 9th April
Chaplains Trivia Night	Wed. 24th May - Sherwood AFL Club -

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

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

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

12th March 2023



THIRD WEEK OF LENT
6 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 -	Rev Dave
Evening Service	5.00pm -	Rev Dave
Lectionary Readings	Ex 17:1-7	Ps 95
	Rom 5:1-11	Jn 4:5-42

Next Week - 19th March

9.00am	-	Rev Dave
5.00pm	-	Rev Dave

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.." George Bernard Shaw

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



BEYOND THE GIFT!

To be chosen to represent ones school and community is very special and somewhat daunting. I suspect it doesn't happen that much to the majority of folk - professional sportspeople and scientists may be an exception - but for those who know that experience it can be overwhelming, terrifying and exciting all at once. That was my memory when I was chosen to represent North Queensland in a state wide Youth of the Year quest. I was 16 and I recall walking into this large room with all the other contestants - all High Schoolers from around Queensland - feeling totally alone and way out of my depth. I remember my Mum and some of the Teachers from Sarina State High saying things like, "what a gift to have made it this far". My Maths Teacher (a Christian I found out later) nominated me (which was weird because Youth of the Year was all about speaking mostly around topics of politics, sports and general interest—no maths). Anyway he told me that he thought I had a gift in communication and you need to give it away that others might be inspired. If you're wondering, I never moved beyond that stage. Nevertheless, I had several people from other schools thanking me for what I said and how I communicated - one of the judges saw me on the way out at the end of the day saying - "you may not have won today but you have a gift. Don't hoard it". I never thought too much about it at the time - but years later, those words came back to me as they are right now as we journey through this series about our giving. Having the gift is one thing! Giving it away is another! But what I discovered is that even greater is the blessing that comes beyond the giving. Remember the feeding of the 5,000+ people on the mountain that day (Matt. 14: 13-21)? The token gift? The giving it away to Jesus (via the disciples)? Then the blessing? WOW! Folks, its easy to keep what we have - you know a rainy day and all - but Jesus needs us to give what we have that we might experience His blessing. Shalom Dave.

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For the Chapman's following the death of Chris' Mum.
- ◇ Praise God. Ray & Krissy have accommodation. For work we now pray!.
- ◇ For Gordon and his family following Ruth's celebration of life.
- ◇ For our Easter services - both internally and ecumenical.
- ◇ For CLT and wisdom to lead the Jesus Way!

CHURCH ASSISTANT TREASURER (2)- God may just be calling you to this special role within the life of our Church family! Here's the good news: You would be assisting Graham Coupland and our family - not working alone / no formal qualification or experience needed / time commitment 2 hours pw for most of the year / if you look after your own finances on line at home you could fulfill this role. How hard could it be?

GIVING SERIES - Dave is 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 our giving. This will culminate with 'Vision Sunday' on 26th March.

ALPHA – kicks off on Friday evening 21st April from 6.30 - 8.30pm and continues each Friday night for 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

EASTER - This significant season will soon be with us. As already mentioned there will be an ecumenical flavour to some of our worship experiences but how best to creatively reveal its meaning to our family and community needs some prayerful reflection and some action. Interested in helping? **Tuesday 28th March - 7pm - at the church.**

OCCT - (Oxley Corridor Chaplaincy Team) desperately needs a Secretary and a Treasurer. We meet twice per school term and are engaged in some fund raising periodically. If you know of anyone who you think may be interested please contact Dave.

OUR FINANCES: PROFIT/LOSS: The Church's profit/loss for February is - \$1,542.62 Loss. The Church's profit/loss for the Financial Year to Date is - \$9,828.07 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.