

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

PRAYER HUB	Week off due to Day Camp.
KIDS CAMP	This week.
BUDDY GATHERING	Sat 1 July - 9 for 9.30am.
PRESBYTERY	Sat 15th July - 9am - Centenary UC
CLT WORKSHOP	Sat 5 August - From 9am

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Prayer (Zoom)	Meeting ID: 863 1598 0534 . Passcode: 346055. Each Wed. 7pm.
Coffee Chat & Chew	Thursdays! Oxley Café - from 9am.
Garden Lovers Club	4th Thursday monthly - 9.30am Next - 27 July. Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	Meets 1st, 3rd, & 5th Mondays of the month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays). Next - 3 July. 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	
	M: 0410 064 675	
Treasurer*	Graham Coupland	* Assistant 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

25th June 2023



UCA TURNS 46.

LEARNT / LEAVE / LEAN / LEAD



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 - 25 June 23

9AM	-	Rev Dave
5PM	-	Rev Dave

Lectionary Readings: Gn 21:8-21 Ps 86: 1-10,16-17 Rom 6:1b-11 Mt 10:24-39

Next Week - 25 June 23

Morning Service	9am	Rev Dave
Evening Service	5pm	Rev Dave

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Mix a little foolishness with your serious plans. It is lovely to be silly at the right moment." Horace

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



ALIVE, ALIGHT & ALERT

Ever bought a book purely on the front cover? Probably not really a wise thing to do but I did it on this occasion. The book was entitled "The Man who would not be Defeated" and on the front cover was a quote "It's not what happens to you; it's what you do about it". I was intrigued. I confess to thinking that it must be a Christian book but I was wrong. Yet, it was one book (and there are very few of them) that I could not put down. Not Christian but true. Not Christian but so much Christian perspective! This book is Bill Mitchell's autobiography. He knows what it is like to be alight and alive. A traffic accident when he was in his early twenties (1971) saw him literally lit up with exploding petrol such that 80% of his body was badly burnt and scarred - yet he defied death. He was alive and conscious through much of the searing and gruesome pain that followed. Four years later he crashes in his own plane (he was an accomplished pilot) and suffered permanent damage to his spine. So now this twisted, scarred body is confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his days. Yet, he was alive still. And not just alive but alert to his situation and determined to soldier on and make a difference. Indeed it was those near death experiences that was the catalyst for a new way of looking at life. Was he going to allow his tragedies to define him and limit him forever or would he use these same incidents to define who he could become? He chose intentionally the latter. Almost 50 years on, these life changing events are not his focus. Anthony Robbins, good friend of Bill and Christian motivational speaker writes, "Mitchell embodies traits required to rise above whatever is thrown at you, enabling you to be joyful, fulfilled and a whole being created in the image of God"

Paul encourages us to be alive, alight and alert too albeit thankfully in a very different way. He urges us to be alive in Jesus, alight by His Spirit and alert to all around us in order to be a witness to His saving grace. We are to confess Jesus and be raised to a light filled world. You and I have the same choice as Mitchell had! Will we be defined by the way we and things were or be made new and be defined by the way we and things can become. And your choice is.....

Praise and Prayer!

- ♦ For Graham C, David G and Jill W as they all continue to recover from hospitalization in recent times.
- ♦ For Day Camp - that Christ will be heard and experienced by all!
- ♦ For our ongoing life together. Our mission moving forward.
- ♦ For the 5 families from Oxley School struggling to provide for their kids!

ALPHA – well - what an experience? God certainly turned up and surprised us from day 1. This was a first for Oxley and we have been so blessed. Hopefully you'll hear a few snippets this weekend. But we cannot stop there. What's next? Stay tuned? Are you interested in starting / joining a Life Group? Would love to hear from you!

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES - Our **Friday morning prayer hub continues most weeks at 7.30am** currently in the downstairs hall. We are few in number but would love to see more join us. Yes its early and a bit fresh in Winter but oh so good to start the day and weekend with a focus on God.

Secondly although our **Wednesday evening - 7pm - zoom prayer** was initiated for ALPHA, this opportunity will continue albeit with a different focus. The link remains exactly the same - you just need to download Zoom (free) onto your computer or smart phone and key in the numbers - now on the back page to join. Why not put in direct in your online calendar and you'll always be prompted.

OXLEY STATE SCHOOL- This week I have been chasing support for 5 families—kids are at school having had nothing to eat in some cases for more than a day because their parents simply cannot afford to buy food. Such a tragedy. Other churches have helped - could we put together a hamper between us?

CHAPLAINCY TRIVIA? Registration forms now out. Some copies are on the foyer table but if you would like one emailed to you let me know! I am confident Oxley can field at least 2 tables (16 people) to have a lot of fun, and in some wonderful company. 9th August at the Sherwood AFL Club premises.

PRESBYTERY DAY CAMP. Starts this Tuesday with set up and training tomorrow. Please pray that Christ will be honoured and shared in word and action.

PASTORAL CARE - Buddies - Sat. 1 July 2023 - 9am for a cuppa - 9.30am start. Finish by 12.30 at the latest.

CRUSTY BREAD & SOUP - An initiative of our Connections team. **Sat 15th July 5.30 for 6pm start.** Come, enjoy some fellowship with our church family and friends. Please RSVP to Jan (by text) 0437 000 410 or Sharyn (by text) 0410 064 675 to confirm your attendance and any dietary needs.

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