

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

PRAYER HUB	Friday 21st July - 7.30am.
CLT	Tuesday 18th July - 7pm
CAFÉ CHURCH	This Sunday - 5pm
ST VINCENTS SERVICE	Monday 24 July - 9.30am
SU TRIVIA NIGHT	Wed 9th Aug. 6pm. Sherwood AFL Club

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Prayer (Zoom)	Thursdays - 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 - 17 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



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 - 16th July 23

9AM	-	Rev Dave
5PM	-	Rev Dave (Café Church / Communion)

Lectionary Readings: Gn 25:19-34 Ps 119:105-112 Rom 8:1-11 Mt 13:1-9, 18-23

Next Week - 23 July 23

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

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"The true contentment of love is seen in action; its test is what one is willing to do for others." Lew Wallace.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



RE - PURPOSED...

About 60 of us gathered from across Queensland at a camping facility south west of Brisbane to reflect on a specific matter considered important to the life of the Church back in that day. I think I was probably one the younger ones there and I remember thinking what value could I add? Perhaps ironically, the mission of that weekend was to consider how we might 're-purpose' the life and witness of the Uniting Church. Today some 20 years later the same question is being asked and perhaps that's good as the church - you and I - need to continually grow and change to become more and more like Jesus. Still, back to that weekend! The program said "Worship Service" for Sunday morning. Not unexpected right? Many of us felt tired and mentally drained after almost 2 days of input and thinking and praying and soul searching and would have loved to just chill out that morning, but no - it was Sunday so church had to happen! And it did. Or did it? I remember very clearly the facilitator of that weekend getting our attention with words something like, "Friends, we are Church - so we are not about to have church or do church! What happened over the next 75 minutes was breathtakingly simple but so profound. I experienced something I had never before experienced. We worshipped God, as the people of God in one place at one time, being attentive to His handiwork and empowered by His Spirit. Yet, there was no piano, no keyboard, no guitars, in fact no music - no singers or singing. There were no led prayers, no group prayers, no bible reading and no sermon. So what was there? Space and time! We were encouraged to move outside the building and for a time stand under the eaves and 'contemplate' the horizon. "Take note of what you see. Then go for a stroll to the boundary fence - probably would have been about 600 meters - and do the same thing. Eventually we re-assembled and there was a time of sharing. My eyes were opened. People 'saw' all manner of things that helped shape their perspective not only of church but of their relationship with Jesus! This 'worship' was not traditional, nor contemporary, nor family, nor evangelistic, nor charismatic, nor Pentecostal nor did it fit within any denominational norm. Yet it was Worship in spirit and in truth! It was worship that enabled the Spirit to speak. What had been for all of us the norm was re-purposed that day. Paul as he shares with the Romans seeks to re-purpose their way of life from what they were so used to - living under the law of Moses and shame - towards a life of grace, enabled by the Spirit of God. Does our way of life need re-purposing? Are we living as if under some law or ritual or even tradition that blocks the grace filled life for which Christ died?

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For Scripture Union - see opposite page.
- ◇ For CLT as it wrestles with our Mission plan for the next 3 - 5years.
- ◇ For those who have recently lost loved ones.
- ◇ For the ministry of Uniting World.

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.

ZOOM PRAYER - As you know this has been on a Wednesday evening and was a significant time of seeking God particularly throughout the Alpha experience. We have decided to continue this avenue of corporate prayer but have changed the day. **To Thursday - 7pm**. The new link will be in the email.

CHAPLAINCY TRIVIA? Have you registered yet? 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.

ACT 2 - The latest report of the Act2 Project has been completed. The report, as one might expect is lengthy and attempts to take a "long, loving look at the real" of our life as a Church, and puts forward some directions and options for the future. This report will be the focus of Act2 over the next six months. Presbytery will be engaging with this as it meets this Saturday - stay tuned.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES - Have you completed the permission and service opportunities yet? Thank you to those who have. If you haven't please endeavour to complete them as soon as possible. They can be left in the box in the Foyer or emailed to the Communications email address.

NAME BADGES - Do you want a Oxley UC name badge? Perhaps you've never had one or your old one is worn out? Please see Sharyn to be included on the list. (Costs - \$12.50 for the pin variety and \$16.30 for a magnet badge).

SU PRAYERS PLEASE - For Schools to continue to opt for a Chaplain rather than a welfare worker. And that the Gov't might change its mind re the tax deductibility of donations to support Chaplaincy!

FINANCIAL UPDATE - The Church's profit/loss for June is \$631.09 Loss. The Church's profit/loss for the Financial Year is -\$3,976.89 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.