

weekly bulletin

28 February 2021



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

Bible readings:

Lent 2,
Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22: 23-31;
Romans 4: 13-25; Mark 8: 31-38

Weekly reflection

The Road Less Travelled?

Scott Peck wrote a book by this title. In it he contends that the ways we often choose to go in life may be easy but often, far from the best. His recommended path to spiritual enlightenment includes four key elements: discipline, love, personal religion, and grace. According to Peck, without these four qualities, we risk spiritual stagnation which almost certainly will play out in our health physically and emotionally. While not a Christian book per se, it offers some sound advice. From my own experience, the Road of (and to) Release may well be called the same. It is not a road travelled often or well. Most of us want to keep on with the easy way – the ways that are known – whether they be productive or not.

Isaiah's road is a pathway that results in 'delight in the Lord' (Isaiah 58: 14). Yet, he argues strongly, that to secure such delight, we must contend with what he calls the "ifs". If, then. There is no 'then' without acknowledgement of and commitment to, the "if". Jesus echoes the same pathway in stipulating that to find Him, we must deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him. Not easy, but oh so rewarding! (Matthew 10: 38). My prayer is that we discover and embark upon the Road of Release and never let it depart from us. And Lent is a great time to take up the challenge!

Be Blessed

Dave

Safe Ministry for Children - It is important that members of the congregation who participate in Children's ministry (including Day Camp/Funfari) are up to date with the training every 2 years. The next training sessions are - **Saturday 6 March** - 2pm - 5pm at Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Office, Goodna TBC. **Saturday 5 June** 2pm - 5pm at Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Office, Goodna TBC. See Holly for registrations.

Contribute:

Email communications.oxleydarrauc@gmail.com by 7pm Thursday with notices for next week's bulletin.

Please pray for:

- members of our church family who have been recently hospitalised or have doctor's appointments or are feeling unwell, anxious or stressed
- members of our community in nursing homes and their families who feel further isolated from them at this time - Del A, Claire M, Lorraine I, Margaret A, Joyce H, Stan O, Pam G, Desley F.
- the congregation of Acacia Ridge UC
- Rev Dave and his wife Sandy

Sign-On Forms are now available for all members to think how they can serve our God within the life of His church at Oxley. Please prayerfully consider your answer to God's call on you, and fill in the forms where you find yourself able to serve. Please place the completed forms in the box in the foyer.

Church Family Camp - Bribie Island weekend of 23-25 April 2021. To ensure the camp can go ahead please see David or Leona and inform them of your intention to come.

Upcoming Date Claimers

Sunday 28.2.21 - Pastoral Care meeting after morning church
Monday 1.3.21 9.30am
Monday Social & Craft Group
Friday 5.3.21 10am - World Day of Prayer, Sherwood UC
Saturday 6.3.21 2pm - Safe Ministry for Children training - Bremer Brisbane Presbytery office
Saturday 20.3.21 - 8am
Working Bee at the church to tidy the gardens, trees and hedges.
Saturday 17.4.21 - proposed Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Lenten Studies 2021. Rob Duncan, one of our church family members, has compiled a study series for the upcoming Lenten season. This study is a guided program of bible readings which can be used as a personal reflection or in small groups. Please continue in this most important reflection, during this period in the life of our church and join with us in hearing what God is saying to you.

Rev Dave Thomas

Minister

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