

weekly bulletin

2 May 2021



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

Bible readings:

Easter 5

Acts 8: 26-40; Psalm 22: 25-31;
1 John 4: 7-21; John 15: 1-8.

Weekly reflection

HANGING IN!

The hero leaps from a collapsing building into thin air – hoping to attach himself to a rope being swung from a helicopter hovering above. If he misses – certain tragedy awaits. If he attaches – and can ‘hang in’ there – he may survive and live to share the story. He finds the rope and yells to the crew on board the helicopter – “come on pull me up”. The crew are so elated that he made the leap and ‘attached’ appropriately, that they don’t hear him and so he is left hanging. He knew he had no option but to literally hang in exactly where he was! Yes – it’s a fictitious story – indeed it’s from a movie - where else – yet it makes me ponder. Jesus calls us to a life of discipleship. And, from what I know and read, such a life is radical, risky, relational, and relevant – actually, more than relevant – it’s critical. In its simplest sense, it is about remaining in the blessing of Jesus with us and in us. So, what does it take to live that life? True discipleship often requires us to leap from our secure buildings of apathy, complacency and selfish attitudes – and sometimes from our ‘happy and safe places’ (remember the story of Philip in Acts 8, where he is sent to a lonely desert road after being in the limelight of a city-wide movement of God) in order to be attached to the ‘source’ that brings the ‘connected’ life. I am the vine, says Jesus, my Father the vine dresser and you disciples – are the branches (John 15: 1). Our role then is to **hang in**, remain in His life giving, and sustaining presence and power – sharing his connection to others. Are we hanging in?

Be Blessed

Dave

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 - June B, Graham K, Gordon T, Barry H
- 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 Arana Hills UC
- the people of India during the COVID pandemic crisis
- Rev Dave and his wife Sandy

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 5 June** 2pm - 5pm at Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Office, Goodna TBC. See Holly for registrations.

Change of Name

Presbytery has approved our change of name from Oxley-Darra UC to Oxley UC. This is to take effect from 14th April. All of our correspondence headers, logos, accounts, website, emails, etc. will reflect this in the near future.

Rev Dave Thomas

Minister

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Upcoming Date Claimers

Sunday 2.5.21 - 9am -

Morning Service - Communion

6.30pm Evening Service

Saturday 8.5.21 - 7.30am

Men's Breakfast

Sunday 9.5.21 - Mother's Day -

9am - Morning Service

6.30pm - Evening Service

Thursday 13.5.21 - 7pm -
Resources for Ministry Meeting

Men's Breakfast Saturday 8th
May 7.30am. This is the first

opportunity to share for quite sometime. Come along and hear from our guest speaker - Rev Dave Thomas. Please RSVP to Graham Hodgson or Barry Holcroft .

Church Financial Update:

The Church's profit/loss for March is
\$306.09 Gain.

The Church's profit/loss for the Year
to Date is \$5,214.16 Loss.

Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact Russell Green.

