

weekly bulletin

23 May 2021



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

Bible readings:

Easter 7

Acts 2: 1-21; Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b;
Romans 8: 22-27; John 15: 26-27; 16:4b-15.

Weekly reflection

THE X FACTOR?

Some of you may remember this as a showcase of talent on TV where people from all backgrounds ages and localities – mostly unknown - enlisted to perform in the pursuit of the coveted prize. The 'mostly unknown' was the rationale for the name. The unknown becomes known, gifts and talents are highlighted, and a change of lifestyle often follows. I personally knew one young girl, from Gympie, who went on the show and came 5th in her particular year and while a long way from winning, shared how it changed her life. "It was a little daunting at times, but I knew I wasn't alone. I had the support of my family and friends. It was like I was being taken to a whole new level when I performed." In chatting with her it became obvious that while she was glad to be accepted onto the show, the real buzz was in the performing. In terms of Church language, perhaps this could be likened to not just hearing but doing. And then not only doing but being. In other words, being who we are called to be. The buzz comes when we activate our faith relying on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit (the X Factor) to lift us to a whole new level of living. Today – Pentecost - we celebrate the coming of the Spirit birthing the 'Church' with presence and power. One of my greatest aches is that we, as followers of Jesus, often struggle to share who we have living within. You see - we readily accept the gift of the Spirit while we struggle to receive and activate the workings of the Spirit. Its not either / or. It ought to be both / and! Jesus left and promised His Spirit to empower us to fulfill His mission of discipling – while we have breath! Let's not be afraid of His power - let's embrace it. Maybe today we would be well served to hear the words of Peter (Acts 2:14) slightly rephrased for our context: "People of Oxley and all who live in neighbouring suburbs, let this be known to you and heed my words...".

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
- 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 Ashgrove West UC
- the people of India during the COVID pandemic crisis
- end of the Conflict in the Middle East
- the Presbyterian church
- 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. For those who haven't completed the training before, the next training session is - **Wednesday 16 June 6pm – 9pm** at Bremer Brisbane Presbytery Office, Goodna. See Holly for registrations.

From your Presbytery Reps, Annette Coupland and Gayle Rankin.

- Oxley UC is part of the Bremer Brisbane Presbytery (BBP), alongside 28 other churches and 4 faith communities.
- BBP has a website and FaceBook page. See <http://bremerbrisbane.org.au/>

BB Connex and BB Events e-newsletters keep you up to date with Presbytery information and opportunities. We encourage you to subscribe at <https://bremerbrisbane.org.au/stay-informed/>.

Upcoming Date Claimers

Sunday 23.5.21 - Pentecost

Sunday -

9am - Morning Service

6.30pm - Evening Service

Thursday 27.5.21 9.30am -

Garden Lovers Club meets

Sunday 30.5.21 - 9am -

Morning Service

6.30pm - Evening Service

DAY CAMP & FUN FARI 2021 !!!

Leader & children registrations, through ticketing, are available at www.oxleydarrauc.org.au

follow the links and get in quick as our numbers are limited! Any questions see Holly Jewell.

Name Badges

New name badges will be ordered shortly. If you would like to buy one please place your name on the list in the foyer. There are 2 types to choose from - one with a pin or one with a magnetic backing. See Sharyn for further information.



Rev Dave Thomas

Minister

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