

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Friday 20th May - 7.30am Wednesday 18th May - 5.30pm
Synod	13 th – 17 th May – Alex Park.
Men's Breakfast	Saturday 21 May – 7.30am
Women's Morning Tea	Saturday 28 th May – 10am.
Trinity Open Evening	Monday 23 rd May – 7pm.
AGM	29 th May – 10.30am

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
Garden Lovers Club	Last Thursday of each month - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	1st and 3rd Mondays of each month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
Friday Night Youth	Meeting Monthly this year! Contact Holly or Dave.

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 Covid Advisor Annette Coupland M: 0410 064 675 M: 0408 019 661
Treasurer*	Graham Coupland * Interim Treasurer M: 0409 687 046
Church Office	114 Oxley Station Road, Oxley Qld 4075
Phone	3278 1394
Web	www.oxleydarrauc.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

15th May 2022



Prayer times: Wednesdays 5.30pm
Fridays 7.30am

Venue for both - Downstairs Hall



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'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Morning Service	9.00am - Rev David Fender (Live Streamed)
Evening Service	6.30pm - Rev David Fender (Café Church)
Lectionary Readings	Acts 11:1-18 Ps 148 Rev 21:1-6 Jn 13:31-35

Sunday 22nd May

9.00am	-	Rev Dave Thomas
6.30pm	-	Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." Ralph Waldo Emerson

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



THE POWER IN STORY....!

When I was a child I remember vividly being read stories from Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories. It was a huge book – well I thought it was huge at that age – with a blue cover and the picture of Uncle Arthur on the front. Some of you may remember that same book? Does anyone still have a copy? I'd love to get one for the record! Fast forward several years – I'm living in South Kolan (just north of Bundaberg) and through Mum and Dad, I met this 'old' guy with a wooden leg who befriended us all and taught all of us so much about the country and how to appreciate it. I recall sitting around his kitchen table or around the fire on his property and he would tell us stories. The ones I remember the most are his personal ones. How he used his wooden leg to kill a snake (he reckons it was a taipan) as it was slithering up the guest bed leg with a guest in it! He used to say, "Stories are good for the soul and people will always listen to your stories if they're true." It seems to me that in addition, when we tell our own story it cements it in our own mind and becomes easier and often more real when we re-tell it.

Peter, of biblical times, was a Jew and as such was forbidden, amongst a plethora of other things, to eat anything that was deemed unclean. He was in Joppa, a Jewish town, and was hungry. It was lunch time. But before he eats, he has a vision in which a tablecloth descends from heaven (Acts 10: 9-16). God asks him to eat but his laws won't allow him. Then God reminds Peter that what God says is clean is clean. Peter eventually realizes that the meaning of that dream concerned God's love for all people – not just the Jews but the Gentiles. Just as God can make Jews worthy recipients of His grace and mercy so He can for all people. Peter then in Chapter 11 finds himself telling the story. As readers now we at times find this frustrating. We've just read about the vision now we're reading it again. But for Peter this was huge. It was a turning point for him and his future story telling. What about us? What stories do we tell? Can we tell and re-tell the story of connection with Jesus and the difference He has made for us? There is power in your story of salvation. Let's be a people who love to tell our story! It just might be amazing to see what God will do!

Shalom - Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ For all Ukrainians as they continue to struggle with the real threat of war from Russia
- ◇ For Synod as it continues through till Tuesday. For our State leaders and those who have been elected
- ◇ For SU Australia, our school chaplains and for those schools looking for a chaplain
- ◇ For Vivian (Oxley Café) in her support of flood victims through meals and high teas
- ◇ For people and property impacted by this recent rain event

Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer: CBA: BSB: 064 011 Acct: 10032190
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)

MEN'S BREAKFAST – Next Saturday 21st May starting at 7.30am with a breakfast you don't want to miss! That's followed by some great fellowship and then being enthralled and inspired by our guest speaker – one of our own – David Greer! \$10.00. RSVP to Graham Hodgson on 0409 610802 or by email grahamhodgson@hotmail.com

WOMEN'S MORNING TEA -Saturday 28th May – 10am until 11.30am.
Guest Speaker – Tracey Blackburn..RSVP – Leona Greer –
pie023@bigpond.com

COVID-19— Diligence still needed. Any questions at all please contact Annette Coupland.

TREASURER – Could this be a role for you? The bulk of our finances are capably being managed by both Graham Coupland and Grant Ericksen but neither see themselves as the Treasurer. Both are happy to assist which makes the role of Treasurer a little less daunting than it might otherwise be! You, ideally, would know how to read a financial statement and interpret it for both the Resources meeting and CLT. You don't need to be an accountant! If you are interested or know of anyone who may be – please contact Dave!

TRINITY OPEN EVENING - Monday, May 23rd - 7pm - 9pm. 60 Bayliss St, Auchenflower. Cost: FREE! Just register via the below link and you will get a free ticket to attend in-person or a link to attend online via Zoom. The feature of the night will be four, seven-minute mini lectures asking some thought provoking questions:

Should Christians be aiming for happiness? Assoc. Prof. Neil Pembroke

Is lament really necessary? Dr Rachel Krohn

Are you match-fit for mission? Rev Dr Helen Dick

Should we Flip when in Rome? How Questions Lead to Answers in Romans 3.
Dr John Frederick

Here's where to register for the Open Evening:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/open-evening-at-trinity-college-queensland-registration-310843901477>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – The AGM of the Congregation will be held following the morning service on Sunday 29th May, commencing at 10.30am. The annual report should be available on the 22nd for you to peruse before the meeting. This is an important meeting in the life of the church and we ask that as many as possible be in attendance.