



the grapevine

17 JULY 2022

a weekly bulletin of the Ettalong and Umina Uniting Churches

notes from Patty

A few weeks ago, I shared a little of the book I have been reading on Kindle.

This week I finished the book. Here is part of the closing chapter:

We live inside an unfinished story, a story that began with the Spirit of God hovering over the primordial waters at the beginning of time and which took a dramatic, climactic turn two thousand years ago when that same God became human, lived among us, and beat death once and for all. We share this story with Mary Magdalene and the apostle Paul,

The stories we tell with our lives, then, aren't meaningless absurdities, tragic in their brevity, but rather subplots of a grander narrative, every moment charged with significance, as we contribute our own riffs, soliloquies, and plot twists to the larger epic,

Every act of love, gratitude, and kindness, every work of art or music inspired by the love of God and delight in the beauty of his creation; every minute spent teaching a severely handicapped child to read or to walk; every act of care and nurture, of comfort and support, for one's fellow human beings

PLEASE SEND ALL GRAPEVINE ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS TO THE BELOW EMAIL ADDRESS BY NOON WEDNESDAY. BEFORE ADDING ANYONE TO THE PRAYER OR BIRTHDAY LIST, YOU MUST GET THEIR PERMISSION.

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and for that matter one's fellow nonhuman creatures; and of course every prayer, all Spirit-led teaching, every deed that spreads the gospel, builds up the church, embraces and embodies holiness rather than corruption, and makes the name of Jesus honoured in the world—all of this will find its way, through the resurrecting power of God, into the new creation that God will one day make. Imagine if you believed this. Imagine if every day you behaved as if this were true.

"The task of theology," wrote Moberly, "is the linking of our individual story to the biggest story we can imagine."

If the biggest story we can imagine is something else, like religious nationalism, or "follow your bliss," or "he who dies with the most toys wins," then our lives will be shaped by those narratives instead.

Inspired: *Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans.

Rev Patty Lawrence

Broken Bay
Uniting Church

worship services & regular activities

this week

FRIDAY 15 JULY

Family Fun Night

Umina Church 4:45pm

A time aimed at families with young children - worship, activities, and a light meal.

SUNDAY 17 JULY

Morning Worship

Umina Church 9:30am

next week

MONDAY 18 JULY

Monday Prayer Meeting

Zoom 9:00am

Monday Bible Study

Umina meeting room 10:30am

THURSDAY 21 JULY

BeeBay Playgroup

Umina 9:30am - 11:30am

FRIDAY 22 JULY

Friday Family Fun Night

Umina Church 4:45pm

SUNDAY 24 JULY

Morning Worship

Umina Church 9:30am

scripture readings

	SUNDAY 17 JULY	SUNDAY 24 JULY
FIRST READING	Amos 8:1-12 Genesis 18:1-10a	Hosea 1:2-10 Genesis 18:20-32
PSALM	Psalm 52 Psalm 15	Psalm 85 Psalm 138
SECOND READING	Colossians 1:15-28	Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)
GOSPEL	Luke 10:38-42	Luke 11:1-13

prayer from Somalia

Allah! (Lord)
Make me among those whom
you have guided.
Make me among those whom
you have pardoned,
and make me among those to
whom you are a patron.
Bless that which you have
bestowed on me
and shield me against the evil
of what you have decreed.
Truly, you are the one who
decrees and none can decree
over you.
The one to whom you show
allegiance can never be
abased,
and the one whom you take
as an enemy is never honoured
and mighty. You are the blessed
and the exalted.

("Allah" is Arabic for "God")
(© Saadiya Hirse, Somali)



we pray...

- with Ettalong Baptist Church
- with Toukley Uniting Church
- for those who are sick and others with special needs, including Joice Tee, Yvonne and Doug Howson, Wil and Don Davies, Connie Watts, Debra Stewart, Phil Juratowitch and their families
- and give thanks for the Connecting with God Mission Team
- and give thanks the National Disaster Recovery Officer Rev. Dr Stephen Robinson
- with people from Djibouti and Somalia



Wishing
Myrle and Stewart

a very
*Happy
Anniversary*



mary mac's

A collection will be held until the 17TH JULY at the church office or at church services.

Suggested items include instant noodles, microwave pasta, tuna and crackers, Big Eats cans, school snack packs (eg. chips, biscuits), rice cakes, Salada biscuits, long life milk and poppers.



broken bay uniting church

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PASTORAL CONTACT

Patty

(usually has Monday as her day off)

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