

Grapevine update

The next issue will be printed on Thursday 21st January.
Please have any information to Bruce Sismey by midday Wednesday 20th January. brucesuesismey@bigpond.com



THE GRAPEVINE

The weekly News sheet of the Ettalong and
Umina Uniting Churches
17th January 2021



Australia Day Picnic

Ettalong waterfront, opposite Bangalow Street, from 4.30pm or thereabouts, for picnic tea

BYO everything—chair, food, drink, jacket recommended
For more information contact Stephanie and Keith.

REM Youthlife Op Shop Volunteers needed. The Op-shop raises funds to employ Religious Education Teachers in our local Government High Schools. The Op Shop is in need of volunteers. Shifts are 3-4 hours each.
If you can help, contact Margaret Read.

BECOMING A MEMBER:

if you are interested in becoming a member of the Broken Bay Parish, please talk with Patty.



to all those celebrating
birthdays and anniversaries
this week

Used Hearing Aids and devices required for those with hearing difficulties in Malawi, Africa.
Phone Steph 4344 7989 for a pickup or leave at church.

Current members of Church Council are: Margaret Read (Chairperson), Sue Sismey (Secretary), Wayne Read (Treasurer), Margaret Gregory, Heather Walker, Ann Thompson, Linda Kalantzis, Myrle Bowden, Carol Wilton and Rev Patty Lawrence.

A prayer from Rev Jon Humphries, a UCA Minister.

The Reverse of Advent

As we move forward in time
And Advent recedes into memory
Glossed over by the happiness of what we make Christmas,
May we take up the task of the opposite of preparation,
To start to take up the challenge,
To renew our will and commitment,
To actively work for:
Hope,
Peace,
Joy,
And love,
Not leaving such things only to you,
But taking up our cross,
As we heed your call,
And honour you as Christ
Immanuel,
- God with us,
At work in our world for good.
Amen.

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During COVID we have learnt to be flexible, to be able to worship God in different ways; and that trusting in Jesus and knowing the love of God we are still called to live in ways that bring transformation to lives and the community, and that includes allowing the Holy Spirit to transform our own life.

God bless you as you join with God in bringing renewal.

Zoom gatherings

Sunday afternoon at 5pm-6pm

If you need the Zoom phone number or internet link,
contact Patty

Giving to the church

If you would like to give electronically:
You can fill in a deposit form at Westpac with the following bank account details, please put offering on the form.
BSB 634 634
Acc. No. 100018346.
Account Name: Broken Bay Uniting Church
mark in the reference section of the deposit slip : Offering
You can also deposit into our bank account donations to **REM/ Youthlife** just mark in the reference section of the deposit slip : REM

Church Office

We are looking at opening the Church Office again, and are looking for volunteers.

Tasks include:

- Photocopying
- Sending emails
- Preparing resources using the internet and word on the computer
- Updating funeral and baptismal registers
- Filing
- Answering the phone
- Responding to requests for information

PRAYER POINTS SUNDAY 17TH JANUARY

- We pray with Hope Church
- And Narara Uniting Church
- We pray for those who are sick, those who have lost loved ones and others with special needs— the family of Enid Bradshaw, Coral Tauro, Connie Watts, Debra Stewart and Joice Tee. [*For inclusion of a name for the prayer list permission must be given by the person named*]
- We pray for Synod Associate General Secretary Rev Bron Murphy
- We give thanks for Sue Sismey, Secretary of Church Council
- We join in prayer with people from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen



Bring us out of darkness into light

O my God,
bring us out of darkness into light.
Illumine our hearts with your wisdom.
Give us light to guide us to you.

O my God,
shine light into our hearts...
light into our ears,
light into our eyes,
light on our tongues,
light at our right hand,
light at our left hand,
light above us,
light beneath us,
light before us,
light behind us.
Shine light into our souls.
Flood us with light.
Lord, expand our hearts,
and prosper our work.

(A Prayer during the Mecca pilgrimage. In: Noticias del Arca, summer 2005)
<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>

Current activities

Sunday afternoon gathering: meeting by zoom, contact Patty

Monday Prayer meeting: in recess

Bible study: in recess till Monday February 1, when we will meet at 10.30am till 11.30am. Please note slightly later time .

Parish Picnic: in recess, returning late January

Wednesday Wanderers: a big thank you to our Wednesday Wanderers; what a blessing it has been! Watch this space for 2021. [from Sue Sismey]

Friday Family Fun Night: starts back on Friday 15th January 2021

CONTACTS

MINISTER

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PASTORAL CONTACTS

Ettalong: Margaret Gregory—4342 1519
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PARISH OFFICE

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By John
Stevens

A photograph of a piece of lined paper with handwritten text in black ink. The text reads: "I ask this question: 'Can any good come from me?' Jesus answers, 'Yes!'"

I ask this question:
"Can any good come from me?"
Jesus answers, "Yes!"