

STAMP NEWS

Uniting Church stamps sales for 2020 totalled \$18,659.
From October 1977 to December 2020 used stamps have raised \$834,497.

Stamps can be supplied on envelopes or cut off with at least 2cm around the stamp.

Please leave at the back of the church or in the foyer and I will forward to collectors.

Pam Carter

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.



THE GRAPEVINE

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



WORSHIP SERVICES

THIS WEEK - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday 31 January	UMINA	10:00 am	Rev Patty Lawrence
Friday 5 February	UMINA	4:45 pm	Friday Family Fun Night

NEXT WEEK - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday 7 February	UMINA	10:00 am	Rev Patty Lawrence
Friday 12 February	UMINA	4:45 pm	Friday Family Fun Night

AUSTRALIA DAY PICNIC—a group of about 20 people enjoyed time together at Ettalong Beach on Australia Day.

Thanks to Keith and Stephanie for organising.

BROKEN BAY UNITING CHURCH

MINISTER -

Rev Patty Lawrence
Phone: 02 4341 1024
Email: pattyl@powervisions.com.au

PASTORAL CONTACTS

Ettalong: Margaret Gregory—4342 1519
Umina: Pam Carter—4342 1351

PARISH OFFICE

346 Ocean Beach Road, Umina
2257

Phone 02 4341 8536

Email. bbuca@bigpond.net.au

Website:

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

Zoom gatherings

Sunday afternoon at 5pm-6pm

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

Current activities

Sunday afternoon gathering: meeting by zoom, contact Patty

Monday Prayer meeting: meets at 9.00 a.m. via zoom

Bible study: Monday February 1, at Umina Church at 10.30am till 11.30am. Please note slightly later time .

Parish Picnic: in recess, returning late January

Wednesday Wanderers: will keep you updated

Friday Family Fun Night: each Friday at 4:45 pm

Friday Night Tennis:

GRAPEVINE ITEMS FOR NEXT ISSUE—please forward to Patty by noon Wednesday.

TODAY'S MESSAGE

From Patty:

Before Christmas I was asked by a family if the ashes of a loved one could be scattered in the church garden. The person who had died told her family that was what she wanted.

After a cremation, families need to address what to do with the ashes? Some place them in a columbarium, some scatter in a garden at a cemetery, some bury in an existing family gravesite, others scatter in a favourite place, such as the ocean, some keep the ashes at home, and you can get ashes made into jewellery. These choices are personal and will be made for different reasons.

Some things to consider are:

- Do you want a place you can visit anytime
- Do you want to be able to place a plaque

- Will the ashes all be in one place
- Did the deceased tell you what they would like done with their remains

The Church Council has approved a policy on scattering ashes in the garden in the courtyard at Umina. It includes:

Only Church Members will be approved to have their ashes interred in the Jack Richter Garden.

There will be no fee charged for Church Members to have their ashes scattered in the Garden.

Cost of plaque and mounting to be paid by family or executor.

Because the ashes are mingled with the earth, the Memorial Garden is not subdivided, nor are records kept to indicate where a particular interment occurred. It is quite inappropriate – indeed impossible – to recover particular ashes at a later date.

If you would like a copy of the policy, leave a message at the church office.

PRAYER POINTS

- We pray for REM/Youthlife
- And Toukley Uniting Church
- We pray for those who are sick, those who have lost loved ones and others with special needs— 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 Defence force chaplains
- We give thanks for our Pastoral carers. During COVID they have done an amazing job in keeping in contact with people.
- We join in prayer with people from Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia

AFFIRMATION

I want peace—around the world.
I want peace—in our neighbourhood (village).
I want peace—so that everyone can be joyous.
I want peace—so that everyone can be happy.
I want peace—so that all are free.
I want peace—so that all become friends.
I want peace—so that I can embrace my enemy.
Long live peace!
Long live peace!
O God, grant us your peace!



(Yemai, 13 years old, Tunisia, adapted.)

https://www.sternsinger.de/fileadmin/bildung/Dokumente/sonstiges/gottesdienst/gottesdienstbausteine__frieden.pdf

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>

REFLECTION MORNING

A group of 19 leaders met recently to listen to God, to reflect on what it means to follow Jesus, and think about what church might look like this year. With COVID making plans is very difficult.

We thought about what we missed in 2020, mainly personal relationships, hugs, meeting together, eating together, worshipping together...

We then thought about what we did that was new in 2020, wearing masks, zoom, livestream funerals, no singing, extra cleaning, delivering Grapevine and craft, daily reflections, increased pastoral contact....

What things that were new in 2020 do we think are helpful to continue. Some we must, like wearing masks and getting a COVID test if you have symptoms. Some we choose to continue, like Prayer meeting on zoom, daily reflections, pastoral care, walking group and picnics.

It seems the main thing that people have missed is human interaction, and we will do our best to maintain that connection in ways that are safe for the members of the congregation and our volunteers.

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.

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.