



# the grapevine

11 APRIL 2021

a weekly bulletin of the Ettalong and Umina Uniting Churches

## notes from Patty

As I write this, I am preparing for the beginning of the Synod meeting for this year. For the first time we are meeting online, and over 6 sessions in 6 months, rather than 3-4 days in a row. From the reading for the April sessions, Wednesday evening and Saturday morning, I bring you these excerpts.

From the General Secretary Report – 2021: a statement of purpose for the Synod office: Serving the church to make a Jesus-shaped difference in the world based on the values of Compassion, Respect, Integrity and Collaboration.

Part of a proposal from the Synod Standing Committee

(i) Affirm a commitment to being a contemporary, courageous and growing church proclaiming Jesus Christ in worship, witness and service.

(ii) Reaffirm the following future directions

- a renewed commitment to rural and regional ministry (Saltbush)

- a renewed commitment to ministry with people in the first 1/3 of their lives (born after 1970) (Pulse)
- a renewed commitment to walking together with First Peoples and to the covenant with Congress (Makaratta)
- an ongoing and active commitment to the stewardship of the earth (Climate Action)
- an ongoing commitment to working with presbyteries to organise ourselves to promote growth within and through our congregations (Growth)

I wonder what you would include in a statement of purpose for Broken Bay Uniting Church.

What areas of the life of the church would you put in the most energy into?

Please send me your written responses by email or at church.

*Rev Patty Lawrence*

Broken Bay  
Uniting Church  
02 4341 1024

Please send all Grapevine article submissions to the below email address by noon Wednesday:

**grapevineuniting@gmail.com**



## we pray...

- for the ministry of REM/Youthlife
- for Toukley Uniting Church
- 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 our pastoral carers
- for church schools
- with people from Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania

## hearing aids

If you have any hearing aids you no longer use, please bring them to church labeled Steph Wood. They will be remodeled for the deaf people of Malawi.



## worship services

### THIS WEEK – EASTER 2

Friday 9th April  
4:45pm Family Fun Night,  
Umina

Sunday 11th April  
9:30am Tom Clark, Umina  
2:00pm Rev Patty Lawrence,  
Umina

### NEXT WEEK – EASTER 3

Friday 16th April  
4:45pm Family Fun Night,  
Umina

Sunday 18th April  
9:30am Rev Patty, Umina

## grant us the gift of unity

O, Lord, who give unto each nation its place and time and mission:  
grant us the gift of unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,  
that the ancient church, and all Christians of this land,  
each loyal to their confession, culture and nationality,  
may discover new forms of common Christian witness,  
and stand before the divided world as a united and humble fellowship.

O Lord, who commanded your disciples to pray both for their  
neighbours and their enemies: give us such love for one another,  
that with one voice and one heart we may glorify your name,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

(Dr Ion Bria, Romanian Orthodox Church. WAGP p. 161)  
<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle>

## this week

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON ZOOM CHAT**  
5:00pm today

**MONDAY PRAYER MEETING  
& BIBLE STUDY** will resume 19 April

**TUESDAY LENT EVENT STUDY**  
7:30pm on Zoom

**WEDNESDAY WANDERERS**  
April 21st meet at Ettalong Ferry Wharf at 10:45am, ferry leaves at 11:00am. A short free bus or walk to the RSL for lunch, returning on the 2:00pm ferry, arriving back about 2:30pm.  
Please let Anna 0478 912 486 or Cathy 0408 866 095 know if you are coming

**FRIDAY NIGHT TENNIS**  
Contact Keith Wood

**SUNDAY SPACE**  
April 18th at 5:00pm at Umina



**HALF A MILLION STEPS**

It takes half a million steps to walk from Dubbo to Sydney – the distance a person in regional New South Wales may have to travel just to reach the drug treatment they need. A long and lonely road to recovery.

The Half A Million Steps documentary is available to watch online [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX\\_zuJPrEoE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX_zuJPrEoE)

For more information on the Fair Treatment campaign, visit the official website [www.fairtreatment.org](http://www.fairtreatment.org)

**FAIR TREATMENT**

## church council nominations

**Nomination Forms for members of Church Council, including Elders, are available today.**

**ELECTIONS AND THE PARISH AGM WILL BE ON SUNDAY 30TH MAY**

The Church Council is responsible for oversight of the running of the Parish – spiritual, worship, property, finance, caring for each other, serving the community, etc. Elders have a specific role on the Church Council to ensure matters of spiritual importance are considered in all discussions. All members of Church Council must be confirmed members or members in association of the Parish.

## giving

Giving to the church **In person** at worship.

To give by **Direct Debit** speak to Wayne Read or Margaret Gregory to set this up.

**Electronic transfers**, i.e. internet banking can be made to our account:  
Account Name:  
Broken Bay Uniting Church  
BSB: 634 634  
Account Number: 100018346  
Please identify deposit as:  
Offering, REM /Youthlife,  
Lent Event etc.

For information on leaving a **bequest**, please speak with Margaret Gregory.

## register

To register for any activity go to <https://rsvp.church/r/5dwoluy5> or contact the Church office on 4341 8536 on Friday morning between 9.30am and midday.

## security

Please do not be in the church buildings on your own. If you are there outside of meeting times, please arrange for another person to be with you. This is for your safety.

A reminder to please write in the sign-in book.



## broken bay uniting church

### MINISTER

Phone

Email

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4341 1024

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### PASTORAL CONTACTS

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### PARISH OFFICE

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