



the grapevine

18 JULY 2021

a weekly bulletin of the Ettalong and Umina Uniting Churches

notes from Karyn

Greetings from our home to your home. Nothing particularly special about that - we have been living in isolation for 4 of the 5 weeks of what is a 6 week Supply Ministry with you. Fortunately Rev. Patty's long leave was planned to further the work on her and Ian's home which can continue even in these circumstances.

It's funny how plans do and sometimes don't come to fruition! We had planned to be living among you, for some of the time at least, it being a 50% supply. As it turned out the choice to commute has proven just right! Not great planning just logistics! Praise God for logistics! After one weekend being with you in person we went online. The work continued and to some extent grew as material for each Friday and Sunday was firstly developed for 'live' presentation and further produced for 'online' access. Then there have been emails, phone calls and of course Zoom meetings and gatherings! Thank God for

technology! We have been able to keep in touch.

Long ago I was a Police Training Officer - a civilian. Part of the School of Management at the Police Academy in Goulburn, I was based in Sydney and often travelled the State. One particular area of training was in strategic planning, an important part of which is to allow for variables. Variables are anything that might help or hinder you reach your objective. We can often identify things that help or hinder. But there are some that just pop up, unexpected. But plan for them one must!

After 18 months of dealing with this Covid19 Pandemic I think we have begun to read the signs of what might help or hinder life finding its way to some kind of 'normal'. It calls us to be prophetic, adjustable, accommodating, humble and

Share birthdays with the Grapevine!
Please send all submissions to the
below email address by noon Wednesday:
grapevineuniting@gmail.com



careful as we plan each day and look to an outcome that is clearly not yet in our reach. We need to learn to use the tools and skills at hand.

When The Apostle Paul wrote his letters to various Christian communities in the first century, he was constantly encouraging them, hoping to keep them focused on the gospel and the dramatic, life-changing ways of Christ that had and would continue to give them life even in the midst of challenge and serious opposition. They had to deal with variables too and often quickly all the while keeping focus on the true purpose of their objectives.

I pray we can keep our eyes and hearts and minds open to recognise the variables along the way. To work with what helps and deal with what hinders. Some of these things will be beyond our control - we need to learn to control our response to them in ways that are life-giving. Some will be within us and we will need to carefully deal with them so they don't deal with us!

I thank God for you and the time we are able to share during this challenging time. May we find life and inspiration and courage even within the limitations that life currently brings. May we offer love and grace and care as our response.

Blessings & Peace

Karyn

Rev. Karyn Burchell-Thomas

we pray...

- with Woy Woy Presbyterian Church
- with Gosford Uniting Church
- for those who are sick and others with special needs, including Coral Tauro, Connie Watts, Debra Stewart and Joice Tee
- for those who have lost loved ones, including Myrle Bowden for the loss of her mother Myrna
- for Worship co-leaders
- for the Presbytery Life and Witness Committee
- for all parents home-schooling their children

prayer

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.

(© Saadiya Hirse, Somali)



worship services

THIS WEEK

Friday 16 July 4:45pm
Family Fun Night, online

Sunday 18 July
Morning Worship 9:30am
Distributed by Rev Karyn

NEXT WEEK

Friday 23 July 4:45pm
Family Fun Night, online

Sunday 25 July
Morning Worship 9:30am
Distributed by Rev Karyn

this week

SUNDAY ZOOM GATHERING

18 July at 5:00pm
Contact Margaret for Zoom link

MONDAY PRAYER MEETING

19 July at 9:00am via Zoom
MONDAY BIBLE STUDY
Canceled due to Covid restrictions

WEDNESDAY WANDERERS

Canceled due to Covid restrictions

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP

Canceled due to Covid restrictions

FRIDAY NIGHT TENNIS

Contact Keith Wood

in loving memory

DORRIS WILLS

Doris Wills, born in England and migrated to Australia with her parents after World War 1. She married and had 3 children, 2 sons and a daughter. Sadly their daughter Marilyn, at age 7, was tragically killed in a road accident in Sydney. Doris' deep faith carried her through this and all the many challenges she faced in her life. After moving to the Central Coast Doris was a faithful worshipper at Ettalong UCA before moving, when it became difficult for her to remain in her Villa, to Peninsula Village. At Peninsula Village, Doris enjoyed daily morning exercises and attended to the Chapel Service weekly where she always sat in a front seat. Doris died peacefully on Saturday night, 10th July 2021. We thank the Peninsula staff for their care of her there and the love she received from family, friends she made at the Peninsula Village and her dear friends from the Ettalong Congregation. Doris celebrated her 100th birthday in November 2020 with all of her family together with her four sisters and their families.



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 Read.

current rules



**PLACES OF WORSHIP
ARE CLOSED**

> **HELP NSW STAY COVID SAFE**



broken bay uniting church

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