

## EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

<b>Prayer Hub</b>	Resumes Friday 4th Feb (Zoom) - 7.30am
<b>Leader's Commissioning</b>	Deferred until we are back face to face
Resources Meeting	Thursday 10th Feb - 7pm.
CLT	Thursday 17th Feb - 7pm.

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Coffee Chat &amp; Chew</b>	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
<b>Garden Lovers Club</b>	Recommences 24 March 2022 (subject to covid) Contact Harry Thompson.
<b>Social &amp; Craft Group</b>	Recommences 21 Feb. 2022 (subject to covid) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
<b>Friday Night Youth (FNY)</b>	Recommences 11 Feb. (subject to covid) Contact Holly or Dave.

Other groups meet periodically including Bible Study groups  
For more information - contact the office.

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Minister	Rev Dave Thomas		
	M: 0432 304 474	E: daget01@outlook.com	
Resources	Gayle Rankin		
	M: 0410 511 601		
Pastoral Care	Sharyn Sinnamon	Covid Advisor	Annette Coupland
	M: 0410 064 675		M: 0408 019 661
Treasurer	June Balfour		
	M: 0410 706 263		
Church Office	114 Oxley Station Road, Oxley Qld 4075		
Phone	3278 1394		
Web	www.oxleydarrauc.org.au		
Facebook	Oxley Uniting Church		
Notices for the Oxley Oracle - deadline midday Thursdays			
Email	daget01@outlook.com		

*Growing in Christ | Showing Christ | Going Christ's Way*

# THE OXLEY ORACLE

30 January 2022



We are a community of God's people passionate about lifting the name of Jesus, worshipping Him and serving our community. Whether you join us in person or on line, whether you are with us every week or as it happens, you are special, unique and appreciated. Thank you for your contribution! Our prayer is that we may get to know each other deeply over time and that you may embrace Jesus' love for you always and in all ways!

## TODAY'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Morning Service** 9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)  
No Face to Face worship today

**Lectionary Readings** Jeremiah 1: 4-10; Ps 71:1-6 ; 1 Cor 13:1-13 ; Lk 4:21-30

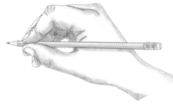
## Sunday 6th February

9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas  
No Face to Face Worship.

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"In the end we will remember not the words of our enemies.... But  
The silence of our friends" Martin Luther King Jr.

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



### THE RIDE OF LIFE....

I assume that many of you know that deep down I am country kid. I love the bush. I love the outback. I love the sense of being at one with the land and its freedom. As we know though such freedom is not without its risks. I kid you not when I say that I've had a taipan slither over my feet, been bitten by a red back spider, and a few other things and as scary as they all were at the time - none of them have deterred me from its splendour! Its OK - I was always known as a young child growing up as 'the crazy one'. On one occasion, I went horse riding on a property with a few others and I was given this particular horse which was the biggest the property owners had. I later found out that its name was 'Fury' - I wished I knew that before we left a sit may have changed what happened. We charged off on a full gallop—nothing quite like it - and we stopped at the bottom of a hill with a goat track leading up to the summit. "Dave you look like you can handle a horse—it a bit steep up near the top but just go slow - I'll be behind you - and he turned to the other 3 who were with us and simply said if you want to wait here for us that's Ok. I wasn't as convinced about my horsemanship as he seemed to be but nonetheless - I turned Fury to face the track and spurred him just a little and he took off - this was fun for him. I got thrown from his back just as we reached the summit and I tumbled down this mountain side eventually hitting a tree stump. OUCH. I lost every bit of skin from my back. What a ride? It was nothing I could have predicted. I had no control of Fury as he raced up that hill - I remember thinking - he knows this land better than me - hang on! And one thing was for sure - he was not going to be stopped until he got to the top.

As crazy a ride that was - and not without its pain - it reminds me so much of the ride that Jesus offers each one of us. A ride of life - His life - which in so many ways causes us to believe that he knows the land we occupy better than we do. He is the Way! Yet it's a ride that is unpredictable, uncontrollable and unstoppable! Are we ready to ride? Shalom - Dave.

#### Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ That the fear in Omicron may give way to faith in Jesus!
- ◇ For our schools - teachers and kids - who again are being forced to cope with different modes of learning.
- ◇ For our people that they know how much they are loved despite not meeting.
- ◇ For those who have struggled or are struggling with floods in NQ

#### Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer:

Commonwealth Bank BSB: 064 011 Account: 10032190

*(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)*

**THE OXLEY ORACLE** - This is our first Oracle for 2022. I pray you will all continue to read it as you kept informed as to what is going on within and around us as His people. If any would like to - and feel called to - be our Oracle Author please have a chat to Dave. You would need to have Publisher on your system and be reasonably familiar with its workings. If you were able to do it from the church office on a Friday that would be the ideal!

**SERVICES** - As per the recent email, CLT met via Zoom last Wednesday evening and have resolved to continue live streaming only our morning service until the 13th February inclusive. Evening services will not resume before Sunday 20th February. CLT will continue to monitor the situation re Covid and will determine future worship patterns given heed to both Government and Synod sources. Accordingly the next 3 weeks morning services will be streamed with the minimum number of people to assist us all in minimizing large groups meeting indoors. For any further information, please contact Dave, John Gunders or our Covid Advisor—Annette Coupland.

**PRAYER** - Our weekly Prayer Hub on Friday mornings will resume next Friday 4th February only it will be via the Zoom platform until we recommence gathering face to face. If you are keen to be involved in this weekly prayer time please make sure Dave has your best email as he will need to send you the link to join. **Prayer changes things!**

**FINANCES** - The church recorded a loss of \$2,292.05 for 2021. This compares favourably to our budget prediction of a loss of \$3,553. Should you have any questions regarding the Church's finances please contact June Balfour.

This is my last report as Treasurer. Thanks for your support throughout 2021, and I believe your financial management is in good hands with June and Grant going forward. Best Wishes for 2022. Russell Green.

**SHIFT M2m** - Many of us gathered for a workshop with Rob Duncan on 23rd October last year. A follow-up was scheduled for Sat 5th February. Please note that this has been postponed to 26th February - 9am start.

**NCLS** - National Church Life Survey forms are due to be circulated during February. Forms can be completed either on line or on paper and instructions for either will be available from next week. I would encourage us all to find the 20 minutes to complete the survey in order that we might gain the best analysis possible. More next week.