

EVENTS AND DATES TO NOTE

Prayer Hubs	Friday 22nd April - 7.30am Wednesday - 13th April - 5.30pm
Flood Relief Thanks	Monday - 11 April - 6pm
CLT	Thursday 21 April - 7pm
Flood Forum	Thursday - 28 th April - 5.30pm

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Coffee Chat & Chew	Every Thursday 9.30am Oxley Café
Garden Lovers Club	Fourth Thursday of each month - 9.30am Contact Harry Thompson.
Social & Craft Group	1st and 3rd Mondays of each month - 9.30am (except Public Holidays) Contact: Jan Thompson or Steph Rankin.
Friday Night Youth	Meeting Monthly this year! Next Night 22nd April Contact Holly or Dave.

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*	Graham Coupland * Interim Treasurer M: 0409 687 046
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

10th April 2022



Prayer times: Wednesdays 5.30pm

Fridays 7.30am Not Good Friday

Venue for both - Downstairs Hall



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 - PALM SUNDAY

Morning Service	9.00am - Rev Dave Thomas
Evening Service	6.30pm - Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
Lectionary Readings	Is 50:4-9a Ps 118:1-2, 19-29 Phil 2:5-11 Lk 19:28-40

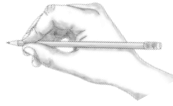
Easter Sunday 17th April

9.00am -	Rev Dave Thomas (Live Streamed)
6.30pm -	Rev Dave Thomas (Café Style)

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are".
Theodore Roosevelt

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



BITTER-SWEET....

Today is of course Palm Sunday. It's not an easy day for me! Why? Let me share. Today reminds me of years ago in an English class at school. I think it may have been Grade 11 / maybe 12! We were given this poem by the Teacher, and we were asked to read the poem and write a 300 word reflection on it for the next day. In addition, we had to stand up in front of the whole class and talk about what we wrote and share the meaning of the poem from our perspective. I hated English at school and as for poetry – I didn't understand it and had no time for it! So, this was going to be a long night! I remember, under parent watchful eyes I might add, reading it and to my surprise, I thought I knew what the poet was on about. He was writing about the Donkey that carried Jesus to the gates of Jerusalem. It seemed so obvious to me. I knew the story and I was very confident that I was going to nail this. But then my mind turned to the class. What would they think if I stated talking about Jesus? I got nervous and so wrote about some obscure 'dumb animal' that had no use to mankind and certainly didn't say anything of real note to the class. I subsequently failed that assignment. Interestingly not one student picked up that it was indeed the Divine Donkey. When the teacher explained it to us and shared how important this donkey was to the 4 day 'holy day' we were about to enjoy, my heart sank! I knew this! Perhaps the only poem I ever did fully understand, and I let fear dictate my heart! My fear of what others might think was more important than naming Jesus. So, for me this day is a 'bitter-sweet'. One does not forget occasions such as that! One of those moments I am not proud of!

And yet paradoxically, this whole story I think is bitter-sweet! There's a reason why we call it both Palm and Passion Sunday! The Palms remind us of the Hosanna like celebration and the Passion reminds us of what is coming – hurt, abuse, pain, rejection, alienation, disappointment, loss of dignity, torture, and crucifixion! And it all starts with the Divine Donkey! Could it be that Jesus knew more than we commonly do about the characteristics of the donkey? Could it be that Jesus needs you and I to be donkeys for Him – and carry His message – through both sides of the 'coin' – bitter-sweet?
Shalom - Dave

Praise and Prayer!

- ◇ Praise God for answered prayer.
- ◇ For those impacted by Domestic Violence that the rising trend might be broken
- ◇ For the continuing and hideous conflict in Ukraine and an end to the warlike behavior of Russian leadership
- ◇ For our Community thank you tomorrow night and our Easter Services

EASTER SERVICES -

Maundy Thursday – Tenebrae – 7pm. To be held in the meeting room!

Good Friday – 8.30am

Easter Sunday: Dawn Service – 5.45am – on the grounds outside

Breakfast – Barbeque – Church and Community

Family Service – 9am

Ecumenical Celebration (Café Church style). 6.30pm.

We are hosting a breakfast barbeque immediately following the Dawn Service – hopefully on the grounds outside. This will be open to the wider community as well. If you are available & would like to help with the logistics of this, Jenny or Graham Hodgson would love to hear from you.

Similarly, Sunday night is Party time – and Vicki Robinson would love to hear from any who can assist with those logistics.

FLOOD RECOVERY – During the flood and its devastating impact on so many within our own community one of the 'joys' was how that same community came together to assist in so many ways. In conjunction with Cr. Sarah Hutton and her team, we are hosting a community thank you barbeque – here tomorrow evening - 11th April. For those who want to say thank you and for those who gave their time and resources. All are welcome!

FLOOD FORUM – Thursday 28th April – from 5.30pm hosted by Riverlife Church – Seventeen Miles Rocks Rd. Another community opportunity to offer support in practical ways to those impacted by the floods.

More information will be forthcoming. Save the date. Oxley Uniting has been invited. Hope to see some of you there!

DARKNESS TO LIGHT - The Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council is inviting people of all ages to join them for their Challenge DV's Darkness to Daylight 3km walk on 31 May 2022. Not specifically Christian but what a powerful witness it might be should 'the church' dominate such a walk? Could we get inspired to gather a small team? Did you know that just last week it was announced sadly that 1 in 4 women are subjected to DV and every 11 days an Australian woman loses her life at the hands of her current or former partner?

Tithes and Offerings by Bank Transfer: CBA Bnk BSB: 064 011 Account: 10032190
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)