



EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH

14 - 16 Lakeside Road, Eastwood

31st May 2020

**WELCOME TO ALL WHO ARE WITH US FOR THE FIRST TIME.
MAY YOU EXPERIENCE GOD'S PRESENCE AS WE FIND DIFFERENT WAYS
TO WORSHIP AND BE COMMUNITY**

- | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|
| 31st May | 8.00am Worship service via Zoom | Stephen Kemp |
| | 9.30am Worship | Nicholas Fried |
| | Acts 2: 1-21 | |
| | <i>Pentecost – God's spirit blows into our lives</i> | |
| | Please remember to wear something red | |
| | Sermon and Bible reading audio will be available on website | |
| | Youtube link for video readings and sermon | |
| | <u>https://youtu.be/xS41ct_poFk</u> | |
| | 2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group | |
| 7th June | 8.00am Worship service via Zoom | Phil Looby |
| | 9.30am Worship | Nicholas Fried |
| | Ezra 3:10 – 4:4 | |
| | <i>'Exile and Restoration (on the way to "a new normal")'</i> | |
| | Sermon and Bible reading audio will be available on website | |
| | Youtube link for video readings and sermon to be advised | |
| | 2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group | |

欢迎所有第一次来参加崇拜的朋友们。

希望你们在和我们一起崇拜的时候感受到上帝的存在。

유나이팅 교회에 처음 방문해주신 모든 분들을 환영합니다. 함께 예배하는 가운데 살아계신 주님을 만나고 돌아갈 수 있길 소망합니다.

Nicholas has returned to work on a 50% basis, this arrangement is to continue until 15 July.

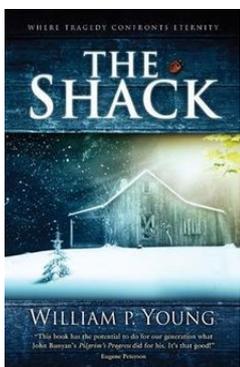
WORSHIP RESOURCES Bible readings and sermons for Sunday will be available by audio, on the church's website along with a video link. Printed copies will be delivered to those without internet access.

The Assembly website has a list of livestreaming and online worship services. <https://assembly.uca.org.au/resources/ministry-during-covid-19>

PASTORAL CARE. Please continue to keep connected with each other by phone, email, and text.

On 12 May Synod circulated an information update on Covid-19 about "gathering". In part, Synod affirms that "pastoral visits are permissible as long as no one is considered to be at risk. Should the Minister or Pastoral Visitor be in a vulnerable category, please make other arrangements." Lesley Bradbury and Nicholas have been tasked by Church Council to recommend "other arrangements", due to Nicholas being in a vulnerable category.

The full update from Synod, with notification about gathering for worship, is available on the church's website found under 'other resources'.



THE CONTINUING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UMBRELLA GROUP has selected *The Shack* as the next film. Instead of gathering as a group to watch the DVD prior to a discussion, please watch the DVD at home. Please contact the office if you wish to borrow the DVD. Discussion about the film will be at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 17 June. We anticipate this will be a Zoom discussion.

'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'

Merrill B

Jason M

Sue H.

Margaret S

Pat E.

Liz M's mother Katy

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

No worship services or activities are able to be held at the church until further notice.

LIFE AND WITNESS CONSULTATION BY PRESBYTERY The Life and Witness Consultation is under way.

The team is Rev David Reichardt (Team leader) Minister at Normanhurst Uniting, Mr Jim Mein from Thornleigh-Hillcrest, Carolyn Mallam from Epping UC and Rev James Aaron from North Ryde UC. They are in the process of meeting by Zoom and phone with all staff and key leaders of the Church. If you would like to speak to one of them personally, their contact details are here:

David Reichardt	dcreichardt@gmail.com	0419 164 329
Carolyn Mallam	carolynmallam@hotmail.com	0408 747 880
Jim Mein	jimmein@bigpond.com	0408 660 591
James Aaron	minister@nrcc.unitingchurch.org.au	0408 855 959

JOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS AND VOTING FORMS.

Church Council has now received 6 nominations and considers all those nominated will bring a range of experience and knowledge of EUC and Uniting Church Christian understanding. The nominees include a representative from each of our weekly church services and from Church Council. An email was sent out this week for online voting. We have also provided, by post, a printed copy of the form and a stamped, EUC addressed envelope to those who do not have access to email, for postal voting. We would appreciate receiving your completed voting form by the 8th June.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Dev Samuel
Michael Rees

Friday
Saturday

5th June
6th June

WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD 4th May to 2nd August is available. Please contact the office to get a copy. Cost \$5. Phone 9858 5732.

2PM CHINESE SERVICE use WeChat to maintain relationships and support. There is an online church prayer meeting at 10.30am every Friday and also online 2pm worship service every Sunday. All welcome, please call Tennyson 0411896274 for any inquiry.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH. Sunday School and Youth Group have moved ONLINE. We are meeting each Sunday using Zoom at 2pm and 11am respectively. We are catching up with each other, playing games, and learning from a bible passage. All are welcome to join. Please contact Janine or the church office via phone or email, so that we can send you the link.

13TH MAY 2020 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE

Worship and Pastoral Care: CC thanked everyone involved for their work in preparing online worship services, activities and for maintaining personal contacts and information sharing since the closure of the church for physical gatherings. New information provided by Presbytery on church services and use of the church is provided on page 2 of the newsletter.

Sunday School lessons and activities: Thanks to Janine Joannou and others for the current online activities and socialising for youth and younger age groups. Larger numbers are participating than regular Sunday attendances. Contact Janine for further information about access to the online meetings.

Life and Witness Consultation: Wonderful response - over 80 surveys returned from the Congregation. Various Church members have been interviewed by the Presbytery consultation team and a draft report will be provided to Church Council within a few weeks.

Joint Nominating Committee: 5 congregation members (including from each weekly worship service) have been nominated and accepted by Church Council for the Joint Nominating Committee to call a new Minister to EUC. Further advice is being sought from Presbytery re suitable consultation process in COVID 19 times.

Continued next page

Chinese speaking resource worker: discussion of Tennyson's role during the church closure. A draft plan for future engagement with the local community is to be prepared by 1st June.

Continuing Education Umbrella Group: Current online bible studies and other planned activities - Check weekly newsletter for advice.

Sydney Central Coast Presbytery: Next meeting 27th May (online). See website. <https://sydneycentralcoastpresbytery.uca.org.au>

Property: Roof repairs for the kitchen and waterproofing of Drummond storage room at Lakeside Road being examined. Awaiting subdivision plan from Ryde Council for Denistone East site.

Finance: Reduction in Church donations and hall rental payments has consequences for existing and future budgets. Federal Government Jobkeeper payments obtained for all EUC staff members.

Next Church Council meeting on **Wednesday 10th June.**

Linda Brunton, Congregation Chair.

SCCP STRATEGIC PLAN When the presbytery was formed in 2016, a gathering was held to shape the original strategic plan. Three years along the journey, SCCP have learnt much. SCCP would like to take some time in 2020 to hear more of the stories that shape, encourage and disciple us. They would like congregations to share what is working well in their ministries and how these might link to a refreshed version of the strategic plan. Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCCPsurvey>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

Weekly envelopes for the next financial year are now available. Current users will receive new envelopes shortly. If you would like to start using weekly envelopes or start using direct debit or switch to direct debit for your giving, please contact Andrew Weatherburn or the church office. For direct transfers the congregation account details are on the back page of the notices.



During this time of the church's closure, many thanks for the thoughtfulness of people who have found ways to deposit funds to the congregation's bank account, or sent cheques to the PO Box. Your generosity and caring are very helpful at this time.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE. If you would like to prepare prayers to be included in next week's news sheet, or future weeks, the office would love to hear from you. It's an opportunity to share with one another while we cannot meet together. Prayers can be sent to the office anytime before Thursday afternoon to allow time for printing and distribution.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of surprises, we thank you for the images of wind and fire that speak of the experience of the apostles on the day of Pentecost. May the presence of your Holy Spirit encourage us, reassure us, challenge us and inspire us as we seek to follow Jesus in our time and place.

God of all times and places, you pour out your Spirit in unexpected ways. We thank you for the times that we have experienced your Spirit blowing into our lives, and the life of your Church. May we discern your Spirit as we pray.

God of past, present and future, we thank you for modern technology that enables people to worship in their homes, share in Bible studies and participate in meetings. We remember in our prayers all who do not have access to online resources, and all who are missing the interaction and connection of being with other people, whose sense of isolation is compounded by not being able to gather together physically for worship, and other aspects of belonging to your Church. May we experience your Spirit of community and togetherness even through the different ways we keep in contact.

We are especially grateful to doctors, nurses, and health workers at this time. Keep them safe, as they care for those affected by the coronavirus. We pray for healing and comfort for those who have been diagnosed with Covid-19, and their loved ones. May your Spirit give courage and hope.

Ever-present Spirit God, we discern people feeling uncertain and anxious. We pray for those who live in nursing homes, or alone at home, that they may feel your Spirit providing them with peace and comfort. May your Spirit of compassion encourage us to contact those whom we know who are struggling at this time.

God, you love bringing people together, and sharing common humanity; we thank you for people who are creating a sense of community in their streets or neighbourhoods, who are taking the opportunity to help others in practical ways, who focus on the common good. May your spirit prompt us into action so that this spirit of community will continue after the immediate crisis of the pandemic is over.

We pray that your Spirit will give us the wisdom to balance the need to care for people's health and well-being with the re-starting of the economy. We pray for wise decision-making by federal and state governments that focus on the common good – decisions and policies that put aside self-interest. May we demonstrate your Spirit of equity and justice.

We pray for the first peoples of this land, who have witnessed the destruction of a significant sacred site. We pray that a spirit of reconciliation might blow through the hearts and minds of those who respond to the Uluru statement, so that the voice of indigenous people may be heard. May we hear your Spirit speaking to us.

We would remember especially in our prayers....(please pray for particular people you know, people in situations that concern you – in Australia and overseas). May we feel your Spirit blowing into our lives, prompting us to put our faith into action.

Eternal God, we look forward to a time when we will be able to gather together safely with one another. May your Spirit give us patience, perseverance and hope in these different times.

Please say that the Lord's Prayer (in your preferred language)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

THE GREAT SOUTHLAND

As One Voice volume 2: 159

1 This is our nation, this is our land.
This is our future, this is our hope.
A land of reaping, a land of harvest.
This is our land, this is our home.

Chorus:

*This is the Great Southland of the Holy Spirit,
a land of red dust plains and summer rains.
To this sunburnt land we will see a flood,
and to this Great Southland His Spirit comes.*

2 This is our nation, this is our land.
This land of plenty, this land of hope.
The richest harvest is in her peoples.
We see revival, His Spirit comes.

Chorus:

*This is the Great Southland of the Holy Spirit,
a land of red dust plains and summer rains.
To this sunburnt land we will see a flood,
and to this Great Southland His Spirit comes.*

3 This is our nation, this is our land.
This lucky country, of dreams gone dry.
And to this people, we see a harvest
and to this land, revival comes.

Chorus:

*This is the Great Southland of the Holy Spirit,
a land of red dust plains and summer rains.
To this sunburnt land we will see a flood,
and to this Great Southland His Spirit comes.*

Geoff Bullock © Nightlight Music Pty. Ltd.

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Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDJAuTCe_uY

PENTECOST PRAYER

All Together Now 99

1 When the earth was created,
 it was God who spoke the word,
 and it was done;
 gave his warmth to the cold earth;
 all was new and all was young,
 Time had begun.

*Chorus: Make me warm, when I am cold;
 make me young, when I am old;
 move me, touch me inside;
 let your love burn in me now.*

2 If I'm rough, make me gentle;
 if my words are hard and sharp,
 soften this heart.
 If I'm weak, make me stronger,
 let me look to you for strength
 to make a new start.

Chorus

3 If I'm deaf, break the silence;
 if I'm blinded by the dark,
 give me your light.
 If I'm lame and I stumble,
 let me take your hand again,
 and hold it so tight.

Chorus

4 If you speak, let me hear you;
 help me recognise your voice
 everywhere.
 If you pass, let me see you;
 help me know the face is yours,
 help me to care.

Chorus

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Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dcBXtPI_dc

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT'S POWER

Together in Song 411

- 1 Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
the infant church confessed its risen Lord:
O Holy Spirit, in the church today
no less your power of fellowship display.
- 2 Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
that unity may be our great desire:
give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call,
and readiness in each to work for all.
- 3 Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace
in your strong care all those of every race:
like wind and fire with life among us move
till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove.

JR Peacey 1896-1971

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Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kl7g_g4z7Nc

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

How is Pentecost important for you?

圣灵降临节对你来说有多重要?

당신에게 오순절은 얼마나 중요한가?

In what ways are you aware of the Holy Spirit in your daily life?

你在日常生活中以什么方式注意到了圣灵?

어떤 방법으로 매일의 일상생활에서 성령을 깨닫게 되는가?

How do we experience the Holy Spirit?

我們是如何感受到聖靈的？

성령을 어떻게 경험을 하는가?

Where do you see the Holy Spirit at work in other people?

你在什麼方面看到聖靈在他人身上努力？

당신은 다른 사람들 속에서 일하는 중에 어디에서 성령을 보는가?

What mission is the Spirit giving to Eastwood Uniting Church?

聖靈給予了伊士活聯合教會什麼使命呢？

성령이 이스트우드 연합교회에 주는 사명은 무엇인가?

What do you hope the Spirit will do for Eastwood UC in the next 12 months?

你希望在未来12个月聖靈將為伊士活教會做點什麼？

앞으로 12개월 안에 이스트우드 연합교회를 위해 성령이 할 것을 무엇을 희망을 하고 있는가?

We are all ministers in Christ's name

Minister:	Phone:	Email:
Rev Nicholas Fried	0415 252 550 9874 2089	nicholas@euc.org.au
Tennyson Chan 陳志偉牧師	0411 896 274	tennyson@euc.org.au
Esther Shih 莊娜麗傳道	0411 128 069	
Office:	9858 5732	secretary@euc.org.au
P O Box 324 Eastwood 2122		
Website: www.euc.org.au		

Please send all notices to the Office



Mission: Witness to the gospel and spread the good news of Jesus Christ in word and action.

Vision: Engage and connect with our diverse community through active discipleship.

Values: Visible 可見的 비전을 가질 수가 있고
 Inclusive 包容的 포괄적이 될 수있고
 Relevant 相關的 적절하고
 Active 積極的 역동적이 될 것이다

LECTIONARY READINGS:

May 31 Pentecost: Num 11:24-30, Ps 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21, Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 7:37-39

June 7 Trinity Sunday: Gn 1:1—2:4a, Ps 8, 2 Cor 13:11-13, Mt 28:16-20

WEEKLY NOTICES, and **SUNDAY SERVICES** for Eastwood are available for viewing on our website. So, if you are away on any Sunday you can catch up at www.euc.org.au

Banking Details for Direct Giving:

BSB: 634 634

Account #: 100020668