



EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH

14 - 16 Lakeside Road, Eastwood

14th June 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**

14th June 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom** Chris Wakefield

9.30am Holy Communion Nicholas Fried

Matthew 9:35—10:8

'The sacrifices we make'

我們所作的牺牲 우리가 만드는 희생

Sermon and Bible reading audio available on website

Youtube link for video readings and sermon

https://youtu.be/dE1PVe_rOV0

2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

21st June 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom**

9.30am Worship

Nicholas Fried

Matthew 10: 24-39

'Uniting - in solidarity with people on the margins of society'

聯合教會--与社会边缘的人们团结一致

연합- 사회의 소외된 사람들과 연합

Sermon and Bible reading audio will be available on website

Youtube link for video sermon and readings to be advised

2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

**Monday 22 June is the 43rd Anniversary of the inauguration of the
Uniting Church in Australia**

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来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. You can go to Youtube and type 'Eastwood Uniting Church' in the search bar to find the current worship service and past weeks services. 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'.

UCASE will meet at 2pm on Sunday 21st June. This is our local Uniting Church social justice group – 'Uniting Church Action for Society and Environment'. We meet as a group from the congregations of Epping, West Epping, Eastwood and Beecroft. More details from Marion 0423355759.

'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'

Merrill B

Jason M

Sue H.

Margaret S

Pat E.

Liz M's mother Katy

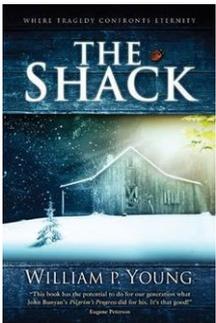
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

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. Sunday School meets at 2pm each Sunday using Zoom and Youth Group, fortnightly on Sundays at 4pm. 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.

THE CONTINUING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UMBRELLA GROUP



has selected *The Shack* as the next film in the *God in the Movies* series. 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. The Zoom link for the discussion session next Wednesday, 17 June at 8 p.m. is <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/99722440703>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

Weekly envelopes for the next financial year are now available. They are being delivered to current users.

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.

LIFE AND WITNESS CONSULTATION BY PRESBYTERY 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 have met by Zoom and phone with staff and key leaders of the Church. If you would like to speak to one of them personally, their contact details are:

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

Church Council would like to thank everyone for voting in the JNC election and can confirm that all six nominees, Phil Looby, Emma Jarvis, Janine Joannou, Catherine Leal, John Brunton and Edward Lin, have been elected by the Congregation to be our members of the JNC for the call of a new minister for Eastwood Uniting Church. We are awaiting Presbytery to nominate their members and chairperson for the JNC.

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.

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. Please be involved and take the survey!

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCCPsurvey>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Christopher Cooper	Today	14th June
Peter Herring	Tuesday	16th June
Tennyson Chan	Thursday	18th June

10th June 2020 Church Council Meeting Update

- Worship: Online worship continuing for all services, activities and for maintaining personal contacts and information sharing. New information or changes to current arrangements regarding use of the church premises will be provided in the newsletter when available.
- Sunday School lessons and activities: Continuing online on Sundays for youth and younger age groups. Contact Janine Joannou for further information and access to the online meetings.
- Pastoral concerns: EUC carers and Nicholas are maintaining regular contact with church members. Please contact your carer or Lesley Bradbury, Convenor of the Caring Umbrella Group.
- Life and Witness Consultation: Rev. David Reichardt from the Presbytery team advised that their consultation with church members has been completed and their Report is being prepared for submission to the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee. This time consuming process must be completed prior to the process of calling a new Minister through the Joint Nominating Committee.
- Joint Nominating Committee: Thanks to the Congregation for the wonderful response (66 voting forms). The 6 nominated congregation members have all received overwhelming support from the Congregation to be EUC Representatives on the JNC: Janine Joannou, Catherine Leal, Edward Lin, John Brunton, Phil Looby, Emma Jarvis. This process will commence when Presbytery advise.
- Chinese speaking resource worker: Tennyson has prepared a draft work plan to undertake consultation in order to prepare a plan for how EUC can respond to the needs of the different groups that make up our local chinese community. CC has provided feedback and the draft work plan will be considered by the Chinese Worker Umbrella group meeting in early July.
- Continuing Education Umbrella Group: Regular online bible studies continuing on Thursday nights, everyone welcome! Finding God in the Movies discussion planned for 17th June. Uppity women of the Bible series proposed for July and August. Check weekly newsletter for advice or contact the office.

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- Sydney Central Coast Presbytery meeting held 27th May - see website for latest information: <https://sydneycentralcoastpresbytery.uca.org.au>
- Property: Roof repairs for the kitchen and waterproofing of Drummond storage room at Lakeside Road are being undertaken. Solar panels have been cleaned and inverter is being replaced to reduce future power bills. Approved final Subdivision plan awaiting release from NSW Land titles office for finalisation of the sale of the Denistone East church and hall site . Once the DE sale is finalised our EUC Mission Plan 2018 financial estimates will be updated.
- **COVID-19 Safe return to premises:** Discussion of potential issues and requirements relating to the eventual opening up of church premises for use by church and community groups. A COVID19 Safety Plan, Attendance register and Cleaning Guidelines were adopted for EUC. All events and groups (however small) using the premises will be required to comply with the EUC plans and to provide their own consistent COVID19 safe plans (including cleaning) for Church Council approval. The church will incur a large increase in consumables and cleaning costs to meet the government guidelines (for both our own and other groups usage) and this will need to be considered for each individual case. It will mean implementing new rules (eg entry times and locations, limitation on numbers of people etc). All items ie chairs, tables, boards, books that are in spaces being used will require cleaning after use and so many of these will be best removed and stored out of the halls they are in currently to make cleaning viable.
- Finance: Reduction in Church donations and hall rental payments has consequences for existing and future budgets. Draft Budget prepared.
- Next Church Council meeting on Thursday 16th July.

BUILD BACK BETTER: A JUST RECOVERY, POST-COVID-19

The document, *Build Back Better: A Just Recovery, Post-Covid-19*, draws upon the Uniting Church vision for a just Australia based on our belief that each person is created in the image of God and deeply loved by God.

As Christians, we see in the life and mission of Jesus, God's call for abundant life for all people and the renewal of the whole creation.

The Assembly has drawn the document together with input from across the Church, including from our agencies delivering community services on the ground, our Uniting Aboriginal Islander and Christian Congress (UAICC) and others working in the area of justice.

The principles we believe will guide a better future are:

- Build Resilient Individuals, Families and Communities
- Build a more equal society
- Build a nation where everyone is respected and has a voice
- Creative, collaborative and constructive leadership to rebuild Australia.
- Build for a sustainable future

The Uniting Church describes 12 key actions to achieve these principles.

- Stimulation of the economy with a focus on job creation by investing in projects that are good for all Australians and for our planet.
- Fix gaps in the social security safety net and ensure a permanent increase to JobSeeker Allowance, providing a liveable safety net for those out-of-work.
- Ensure community services are properly resourced to support vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, families and communities, and to respond to areas of growing need, including domestic and family violence and mental health.
- First Peoples and rural and remote communities have adequate access to food and health services.
- Initiatives that improve access to affordable housing for all people.
- Ensuring our tax system is fair and transparent, with individuals and corporations contributing fairly to the costs of post-COVID recovery.
- Doing our share for the global recovery from COVID-19 and building a more equitable, safe and sustainable world for the future.
- Reducing fossil fuel usage, and excessive consumption of resources to build for a sustainable future
- Adequate support for people living with disability and older Australians.
- Prioritising work towards Voice, Truth and Treaty for First Peoples, meaningful action on incarceration rates for Indigenous Australians and calling out racism and building inclusion across all Australian society.
- A focus on creating pathways to permanent migration.

Collaboration between Governments and civil society with political leadership focused on common good.

A LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR

Dear friends across our Synod,
Greetings in this Pentecost season.

We are finding our way into this new stage, of living differently as a church and community with the challenges of COVID 19. Many of us have learned afresh how to be the church in physical isolation, worshipping and gathering, serving and singing - wonderfully - in new ways.

Some of us have struggled, with loneliness or uncertainty; resources have been hard to access, or technology out of our reach.

My mind has turned a lot recently to the extraordinary book of Exodus, when Moses has led the people of Israel out of Egypt and the gloss of triumphant escape has started to wear off. Suddenly, captivity under Pharaoh doesn't look too bad, as they wander in the wilderness, waiting for a future.

Isolation has been a challenge for almost everyone. However, as we try to negotiate living and worshipping in slowly-restored numbers, with physical distancing, complying with guidelines and wondering about our safety in the new environment, isolation might begin to look pretty palatable.

You will have received new guidelines for worship and gatherings, for funerals and weddings and small groups. They may appear to be pretty onerous. This is about caring for people at risk, for people we know and love, and for the risks to our faith communities and the wider community around us.

How will we attend to God's Spirit leading us through these times? This is new territory for us, and uncertainty can creep in. How are we the people of God, worshipping, witnessing and serving, in this new terrain?

May I suggest that perhaps we are where we are meant to be? What if God intends to use us precisely here?

We need to learn how to adapt and change so that we can welcome new people into discipleship and faith. We need to prioritise children and young people, and that requires us to think in new ways. We need to learn how to make sacrifices with our property and finances to resource new ministries and communities across our Synod.

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What if the challenges of this coronavirus season are teaching us how to sing the Lord's song in new ways?

Be assured of my continuing prayers for our Church. Be equally assured of my prayers for those who find this season too difficult. And be certain that I am praying for new opportunities, new ministries, new discernment as we navigate these times under the mercy and generosity of our God.

May the flame of the Spirit guide your every step,
may the breath of the Spirit inspire each and every word,
and may the wind of the Spirit urge you into action.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Simon Hansford

MODERATOR

Uniting Church in Australia Synod of NSW & ACT

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

were prepared by Marion Gledhill

14th – 20th June 2020 is Refugee Week, culminating on Saturday 20th June in World Refugee Day.

The theme of Refugee Week 2020 is celebrating the year of welcome. A more welcoming country doesn't start with politicians, it starts with us. Welcome is an attitude towards all people, including people from refugee backgrounds.

Refugee Week is a reminder that we are all responsible for creating a welcoming country.

A Prayer for forgiveness

God of justice,
we confess to you
that we have not loved you with our whole heart,
and we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have hoarded our good things.

We have closed our eyes to the poor at our gate.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

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We have loved only those who love us.
 We have turned away from the weak and the needy.
 Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We have been hungry for power and possessions.
 We have lost our appetite for your justice.
 Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**

We have sung of peace when there is no peace.
 We have not cried out for those who are silenced in their suffering.
 Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We are sorry for all our sins,
 and we ask you to forgive us
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(From 'Love Makes a Way')*

Prayers for people seeking asylum and refugees

God, no one is stranger to you
 And no one is ever far from your loving care.
 In your kindness watch over migrants, refugees and asylum seekers,
 Those separated from their loved ones,
 Those who are lost
 And those who have been exiled from their homes.
 Bring them safely to the place where they long to be,
 And help us always to show your kindness to strangers
 And those in need.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord,
 Who too was a refugee and migrant
 Who travelled to another land
 Searching for a home. Amen

(From Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum)

Creator God, you are the giver of life.
 Saviour Jesus, you have shown us what it is to love.
 Guiding Spirit, you awaken us to justice.

Show us how to build a just future, where all people have equal
 opportunity to belong and to flourish in your vitality and love.

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We ask for mercy for people in limbo on temporary visas, for safety for those seeking permanent protection, for reunion for families who are separated by borders, and for relief for those losing hope within our detention systems.

We pray for First Nations Peoples fighting for justice on their own Lands, for survivors of domestic violence and for creation groaning under climate disruption.

Help us to live out your inclusive love. Help us to live into your Kingdom where all people have equal opportunity to belong and flourish. Work through us, towards a just future. *(From 'Common Grace')*

Let us continue our prayers for ourselves and others

God of grace and compassion, there are so many in Australia and in our world today who suffer, and we pray for them, that in your mercy you will bring them comfort, healing, justice and peace.

We pray for

- Aboriginal Australians who bear burdens of discrimination and powerlessness
- People of colour all over the world who suffer injustice because of their race
- Health care workers, teachers, child care, aged and disability support workers who face risk in their work of service to our communities
- People who have lost their jobs, especially those not included in government support – temporary visa holders, migrants and others who have been left behind.

Bless our Church leaders in the UCA Assembly, Synods and Presbyteries.

Help Congregations and Church Councils as they work through how to handle changing rules and recommendations about re-opening. Thank you that good things have been learnt during the restrictions. May new and helpful ways of functioning in churches, places of employment and homes continue.

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We pray for the Eastwood Uniting Church Congregation as we progress through the processes of the Life and Witness Consultation, and planning for the future. Bless the Church Council, Nicholas and Tennyson as they offer leadership. May those among us who are unwell, frail or grieving know your comfort and healing.

We pray for ourselves, that you will grant us perseverance, humility and joy as we respond to your call to witness, to share faith, to care for the needs of others, and to speak out for justice. Help us to be generous, to be kind and to give without counting the cost.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

Holy words long preserved (Ancient words) Source volume 3: 1267

1 Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
 they resound with God's own heart,
 O, let the ancient words impart;
 words of life, words of hope,
 give us strength, help us cope;
 in this world where'er we roam,
 ancient words will guide us home.

*Chorus: Ancient words, ever true,
 changing me, changing you;
 we have come with open hearts,
 O, let the ancient words impart.*

2 Holy words of our faith handed down to this age,
 came to us through sacrifice;
 O, heed the faithful words of Christ;
 holy words long preserved for our walk in this world;
 they resound with God's own heart;
 O, let the ancient words impart.

*Chorus:
 We have come with open hearts,
 O, let the ancient words impart. x2*

Words and music: Lynn DeShazo

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Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vmTkXNpwzs>

Beauty for brokenness

Together in Song 690

1 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
 Lord, in the suffering, this is our prayer.
 Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
 sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase.

2 Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
 work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills;
 land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak;
 voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*Chorus God of the poor, friend of the weak,
 give us compassion we pray;
 melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
 Come change our love from a spark to a flame.*

3 Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
 cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share,
 peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to green;
 Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the pain.

4 Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,
 plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams.
 Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;
 make us content with the things that we need.

Chorus

5 Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
 until your justice burns brightly again;
 until the nations learn of your ways,
 seek your salvation and bring you their praise.

Chorus

Graham Kendrick 1950-

By permission Make Way Music

Administered by Integrity Music. CCLI 65422

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08utbDFP9AE>

The summons

All Together OK 413

1

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my name be known?
Will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

3

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

5

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

2

Will you leave your self behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

4

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

John L Bell, 1987 The Iona Community GIA Publications Inc.

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Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0aAkOe87mo>

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

When have you sacrificed something in your life? Who was it for, and how did it feel?

你什么时候在你的生活中做出过牺牲？是为了谁，你当时感觉如何？

당신의 인생에서 언제 희생을 했는가? 그것은 누구를 위한 것이고 어떤 느낌이었나?

What sacrifices have you made in following the call of Jesus?

在跟随耶稣的召唤中你做出了什么牺牲？

예수의 부름에 따르면서 당신은 어떤 희생을 하였는가?

What comforts might we sacrifice in service of others?

在服务他人时我们可能会牺牲什么舒适的东西？

다른 봉사에서 어떤 보람을 느끼는가?

How do we show compassion and love during the current Covid-19 situation?

在当前的新冠疫情下我们可以如何展现怜悯和爱？

현재의 코비드 19 상황에서 우리는 어떻게 긍휼과 사랑을 보여 주는가?

To what urgent work are we and our church being called today?

当前我们以及我们的教会正在被召唤去做什么样的紧急工作？

오늘날 우리와 우리교회에 어떤 긴급한 일들이 요청이 되는가?

