



## **EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH**

***14 - 16 Lakeside Road, Eastwood***

**2 August 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**

2nd August 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom** Chris Wakefield

9.30am Worship

Nicholas Fried

Matthew 14: 13-21

*'What is in your basket?'*

你的篮子里 有什么?

당신의 바구니엔 무엇이 있는가?

**Sermon and Bible reading audio available on website**

**Youtube link for video sermon and readings**

<https://youtu.be/XqFSZOftE6A>

2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

9th August 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom**

9.30am Holy Communion

Nicholas Fried

Matthew 14: 22-33

*'We are "boat people"!'*

我们是“船民”

“우리는 ” 보트 피플” 이다 !

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.

**WORSHIP RESOURCES** Bible readings and sermons for Sunday are 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>

Updates on services and news are also available on the Presbytery website: <https://sydneycentralcoastpresbytery.uca.org.au>

**RE-OPENING CHURCH PREMISES - SAFETY PLAN** Synod has stipulated that **every group** that either meets in the name of Eastwood Uniting Church (including Bible studies in a home) or uses the Church premises for any activity, **must provide Church Council with a safety plan** that complies with regulations and guidelines set out by both the NSW Government and the NSW/ACT Synod. Chris Wakefield has kindly agreed to be our contact person with Synod on behalf of Church Council. **ALL** groups are required to complete and submit a safety plan to Church Council. Safety plans will be forwarded to Synod and Presbytery for review. Complying with all the current regulations is very complex and expensive. Until further notice the Church buildings remain closed. More information about Synod's updates is available on our website under "other resources".

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

**'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'**

Merrill B

Jason M

Sue H

Margaret S

Liz M's mother Katy

Kerrie S

*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.*

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Only those activities that have a Church Council approved safety plan are able to use the church premises.

**CONTINUING CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UMBRELLA GROUP** is running a Wednesday evenings series for online input and discussion. Wednesdays 5 and 12 August will be looking at the *Song of Songs*. Each session starts at 8 p.m. Outline notes and discussion questions will be emailed/ distributed prior to each evening. Please contact the office to express interest in participating. Contact Nicholas for more information.

**SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE)**. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, none of our regular SRE teachers is available for weekly lessons at either Eastwood PS or Denistone East PS. If you are able to assist until restrictions change, please contact the office for further information.

**RESUMING WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH**. Church Council discussed safety plans that have been submitted so far by groups from Eastwood UC and the wider community. Although Church Council approved the 8 a.m. worship group's safety plan, the group have decided to continue to meet via Zoom. It is anticipated that the 9.30 a.m. worship will recommence at the church mid-August, depending on an approved safety plan. The monthly 10.45 a.m. worship is provisionally resuming on Sunday 5 September, and provisionally in the worship centre. The 2 p.m. worship has no provisional resumption date at this stage.

**SOCIAL ZOOM** each Friday at 7.30pm Janine organises a 'Social Catchup' on Zoom. It is a very relaxed meeting. If you would like to join please contact the church office for the Zoom log in.

**2PM CHINESE SERVICE** use WeChat to maintain relationships and support. All welcome, please call Tennyson 0411896274 for any inquiry.



## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Linda Brunton	Today	2nd August
Ian Dawkins	Monday	3rd August
Jessica Prowse	Friday	7th August

**FAIR TREATMENT CAMPAIGN.** Epping UC's Neighbourhood Night Wednesday 26th August 7.30 pm will be a Facebook live event (On the 26th just go to Epping's Facebook Page to join in) We will be discussing the campaign with Stafford Sanders from Uniting Advocacy and Liz Gal from Somebody's Child (more details on both organizations are in the comments section) The Fair Treatment Campaign was formed by the Uniting Church NSW/ACT and Uniting, and now includes more than 60 partner organisations.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE.** If you would like to prepare prayers for the news sheet, the office would love to hear from you. It's an opportunity to share with one another while we cannot meet together.

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS** prepared by Marion Gledhill

**Matthew 14: 13-21: 'What is in your basket?'**

Loving God, thank you that when Jesus was tired after a long day his heart was moved to pity for the crowds waiting for him. Instead of sending them away he healed those who were sick. He wanted to feed them all – and he did! Even the 'no account' women and children had plenty.

We are amazed that the compassion of Jesus led to his using a ridiculously small offering of loaves and fish to offer food and blessing to all those present.

We feel that what we can offer from our baskets of time, energy, passion, and experience are pitifully inadequate in relation to the great needs – physical and spiritual – in our community and in our world today. Please grant us courage and humility to offer you *whatever* is in our baskets. We pray we will offer *all* that we are and *all* that we have. Take what we offer, generous God, and use us for blessings beyond our imaginings.

We pray for our world. Please show us how you can use what we have in our baskets to help put our prayers into action.

At this time of 75 years since the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we pray for a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons. May nations strive urgently to engage as fully as possible in diplomatic efforts to deal with fear and conflicts. May they de-escalate threatening words and behaviour towards other nations.

As we think what our baskets may hold, please use our prayers and our gifts for relationship to help bring reconciliation between people and even between communities of people.

This coming week is Homelessness Week. Please hear our prayers today for all women and men, young and old, and children, who are homeless today.

For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.

For those who are afraid and hopeless.

For all these homeless people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope.

We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness.

We pray that governments will act now to work with community housing providers to build more housing for those who have no home.

As we think what our baskets may hold, please use our prayers and our gifts for generosity and advocacy to help bring an end to homelessness.

Today we respond to the call of the National Council of Churches in Australia that Sunday 2nd August be a special Day of Prayer regarding the Pandemic, praying words from the prayer they offer:

Gracious God, trusting in your providence and presence, we bring our prayer for an end to this pandemic.

We pray for your strengthening of all those committed to offering costly leadership during this crisis.

We pray for all who are ill.

We pray for those anxious about getting ill.

We pray for those full of grief.

We remember those who have died.

We pray for residents, staff and management in Melbourne aged care homes, where the pandemic has caused such grief and distress.

Aware of our fragility, we pray for your grace to sustain us as we do what we can to end this pandemic. Your compassionate, peaceful and creative response to many crises is our model, including in our Sunday Gospel.

As we think what our baskets may hold, please use our prayers and our desire to care for others to do all we can to follow instructions for hygiene, prevention and protection from the virus, even when it is inconvenient to do so.

We pray for people affected by floods this past week whose homes and livelihoods have been affected.

Please accept our prayers for those close to us for whom we have concerns today. May your Spirit of compassion, healing and peace be with them.

We pray today for the scattered community of Eastwood Uniting Church. Please bless and help the Church Council as it makes decisions about re-opening the premises and moving towards gathered worship. Bless Nicholas and Tennyson, Esther, Janine and other leaders of children, youth and the various groups in the Congregation.

***The World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle*** calls us to pray this week with and for the people and churches of **Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea.**

We are thankful for:

- the natural resources and diverse gifts that come from these countries, such as the distinctive music and dance of Cameroon
- those who minister to victims of sexual violence, trafficking and other human rights abuses
- Christians and people of other faiths who courageously have pursued reconciliation and peace among those in conflict
- individuals and organizations who have provided for health clinics and schools in Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

We pray for:

- just resolutions to the conflicts and violence among diverse groups and their leaders
- refugees who flee to other countries, and for those who host them
- economic developments that make it possible for all to rise out of poverty
- stable democratic governments that effectively serve the common good.

As we worship in resurrection faith today, we offer our heartfelt prayers in your Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **WHEN WE FACE AN UNKNOWN FUTURE**

- 1 When we face an unknown future that we can't imagine yet,  
when the closeness we have treasured turns from blessing into threat—  
as we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave community,  
may we look, God, in this season, for a whole new way to be.
- 2 Jesus faced the lonely desert as a time to look within.  
There he met such trial and conflict; there he knew you were with him.  
In this time of separation when we miss the life we've known,  
may we hear your voice proclaiming: "I am here! You're not alone."
- 3 May we cherish those around us as we never have before.  
May we think much less of profit; may we learn what matters more.  
May we hear our neighbours' suffering; may we see our neighbours' pain.  
May we learn new ways of offering life and health and hope again.
- 4 God, when illness comes to threaten, and when so much here goes wrong,  
may we know this thing for certain — that your love is sure and strong.  
You're beside us in our suffering — and when times are surely tough,  
we may face an unknown future, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.

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This is a new hymn for singing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Churches have permission to use this hymn for free, including in streaming worship services.

## **FEED US NOW, O SON OF GOD**

AHB 565

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 The people came to hear you,<br/>the poor, the lame, the blind;<br/>they asked for food to save them,<br/>and you fed them, body and mind.</p> <p><i>Feed us now, O Son of God,<br/>As you fed them long ago.</i></p> | <p>3 It's hard for us to listen,<br/>things haven't changed at all;<br/>we've got the things we wanted,<br/>we don't want to hear your call.</p> <p><i>Feed us now, O Son of God,<br/>As you fed them long ago.</i></p> |
| <p>2 The ones who didn't listen,<br/>the rich, the safe, the sure,<br/>they didn't think they needed<br/>the offering of a cure.</p> <p><i>Feed us now, O Son of God,<br/>As you fed them long ago.</i></p>                | <p>4 Yet millions still have hunger,<br/>disease, no homes, and fear;<br/>we offer them so little,<br/>and it costs them very dear.</p> <p><i>Feed us now, O Son of God,<br/>As you fed them long ago.</i></p>          |

*Continued next page*

5 So help us see the writing  
 written clear upon the wall;  
 he who doesn't feed their neighbour  
 will get no food at all.

*Feed us now, O Son of God,  
 As you fed them long ago.*

Peter John Douglas Allen 1935 –

Words and melody from Faith Folk and Clarity © 1967 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

Arrangement © Australian Hymn Book Co.

***GREAT GOD, YOUR SPIRIT, LIKE THE WIND***

Together in Song 416

1 Great God, your Spirit, like the wind  
 unseen but shaking things we see -  
 will never leave us undisturbed,  
 fulfil our dreams, or set us free,  
 until we turn from faithless fear  
 and prove the promise of your grace,  
 in justice, peace and daily bread,  
 with joy for all the human race.

2 Lord, shake us with the force of love,  
 to rouse us from our dreadful sleep;  
 remove our hearts of stone, and give  
 new hearts of flesh, to break and weep  
 for all your children in distress  
 and dying for the wealth we keep.  
 Help us prevent, while we have time,  
 the blighted harvest greed must reap.

3 And then, in your compassion, give  
 your Spirit, like the gentle rain,  
 creating fertile ground from which  
 your peace and justice spring like grain;  
 until your love is satisfied,  
 with all creation freed from pain,  
 and all your children live to praise  
 your will fulfilled, your presence plain.

Alan Gaunt 1935-

By permission Stainer & Bell Ltd, London

**Questions to ponder****沉思一些问题****숙고해야할 질문들**

what is in your basket that you might offer to Jesus for him to bless?

你可以把你篮子里的东西给耶稣，让他拿来降福？

당신은 예수에게 축복을 위해 기도해 달라고 헌신 할 수있는 것들이 바구니안에 무엇이 있는가?

what motivates you to show compassion?

是什么激发你去展现怜悯？

머뭇 것들이 당신이 긍휼을 베풀도록 해 주는가?

how real is 'compassion fatigue' for you?

对你来说“同情心疲劳”有多真实？

당신에게 " 긍휼의 피로감"은 얼마나 현실인가?

how is this story significant for you – and Eastwood Uniting Church – in 2020?

这个故事在2020年对你的意义有多大，这个故事在2020年对伊士活联合教会的意义有多大？

이 이야기는 당신, 그리고 2020년에 이스트우드 연합교회에 어떤 의의가 있는가?

who could you "feed" this week?

这周你可以“喂养”谁？

당신은 이번 주를 누구를 "양육' 할 수가 있는가?

how does this story make you feel? Fearful or confident?

这个故事让你感受如何？害怕还是有信心？

이 이야기는 당신에게 어떤 느낌이 잇는가? 두려움 아니면 자신감?

## We are all ministers in Christ's name

Minister:	Phone:	Email:
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Website: <a href="http://www.euc.org.au">www.euc.org.au</a>		

### 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 수 있고  
 Relevant 相關的 적절하고  
 Active 積極的 역동적이 될 것이다

### LECTIONARY READINGS:

Aug 2 Pentecost 9: Gn 32:22-31, Ps 17:1-7, 15 Rom 9:1-5,  
Mt 14:13-21

Aug 9 Pentecost 10: Gn 37:1-4,12-28, Ps 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b,  
Rom 10:5-15, Mt 14:22-33

**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](http://www.euc.org.au)

**Banking Details for Direct Giving:**

**BSB: 634 634**

**Account #: 100020668**