



EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH

14 - 16 Lakeside Road, Eastwood

6 September 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

- 6 September 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom**
Season of Creation – Forest Sunday Nicholas Fried
- 9.30am Worship Forest Sunday Nicholas Fried
Genesis 2: 4-22 and Psalm 96.
'The trees in the forest will shout for joy' (Psalm 96:12)
森林周日 森林中的树木将会为主欢呼 (诗篇96:12)
나무심는 일요일
숲속의 나무들은 기쁨으로 소리칠 것이다 (시편 96:12)
Sermon and Bible reading audio available on website. Youtube link for reading, prayers and sermon <https://youtu.be/zq8hxROvK0A>
- 2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group
- 13 September 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom** Chris Wakefield
- 9.30am Holy Communion Nicholas Fried
Season of Creation—Land Sunday
Genesis 3: 14-24
'The ground will be under a curse' (Genesis 3:17)
土地周日 地球承受着这个诅咒 创世记 3: 14-24
땅주일 지구는 저주를 지니고 있다 창세기 3: 14-24
- 2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

HAPPY Father's DAY

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.

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

'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'

Merrill B

Jason M

Margaret S

Chris D

Elizabeth C

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

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.

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.

NEW WEBSITE for the Assembly - Uniting.Church. The new site aims for a fresher, more engaging presentation of our ministries, as well as a more accessible explanation of our Uniting Church approach to Christian faith, belief and practice. Resources from the old website can be found at <http://resources.uca.org.au>

SERVICE OF CONCLUSION Rev James Aaron is concluding his Placement at North Ryde Community Church and a Service of Conclusion will be held on Sunday 20th September. The Presbytery thanks James for his Ministry and wishes him all the best in his new Placement. Online details of the service can be found at: <https://nrcc.unitingchurch.org.au/online-details/>

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE. Marion is unable to prepare next week's prayers. If you would like to prepare prayers for the news sheet next week, the office would love to hear from you.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nancye Alderson	Today	6th September
Allan Harrington	Wednesday	9th September
Jilda Coles	Friday	11th September

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.

THEOLOGY AND THE COMMON GOOD presented by The Centre for Faith and Public Issues. The inter-active workshops will explore how a public theology engages with three current issues of Race, Climate and Covid 19. The first workshop is on 16th Sept 10am-1pm at the Centre for Ministry 16 Masons Drive, North Parramatta. Second workshop is on 22nd October 10am-1pm via zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/4399152776>. To receive further information and to register please email: amelia.pereira@parramattamission.org.au.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Prepared by Marion Gledhill

**Sunday 6th Sept. Forest Sunday Genesis 2: 4-22 and Psalm 96.
‘The trees in the forest will shout for joy’ (Psalm 96:12)**

We thank you God for a wondrous creation.

We celebrate with many across the world who mark the ‘Season of Creation’ in September.

We rejoice in the grandeur of awe-inspiring forests and the peaceful beauty of bushland.

Here in the suburbs our eyes delight in spring blossoming flowers, trees and shrubs, our sense of smell delights in the perfume of spring flowers, and our ears delight in bird sounds.

Jesus Christ, teach us to empathise with Earth.

Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, cries for justice from the hills and the trees.

Jesus Christ, make our faith sensitive to the groans of the Spirit, groans from the deserts, the salt plains, the winds.

Life-giving God, we know our world is not as you envisioned it to be.

Renew our minds so we might see your world afresh.

Help all your people to remember they are co-creators of the world.

We pray for people who cannot see the beauty and wonder of our world.

We pray for those who use the earth’s resources thoughtlessly.

Continued next page

May we speak up when we hear and see destructive practices in our community – destruction of the earth and all that depends on its good health, our flora and fauna, and ourselves.

We pray for all those dedicated to caring for God's creation in worship and advocacy.

We remember the grief and despair experienced during the bushfires last spring and summer, and the destruction of such vast areas of bushland.

We pray for people who lost family or friends and for those who lost their homes or farms.

We pray for them as they fear the spring beginning now, and the coming summer.

Strengthen the resolve of all who are working to prevent bushfires - those caring for wildlife, protecting properties, preparing safer spaces in the bush.

We pray for much stronger measures from government in regard to climate change.

Strengthen us to speak up and to advocate for change.

We pray for the vulnerable at home and abroad, during the COVID-19 pandemic, and for Uniting and UnitingWorld as they seek to protect the aged, and those living in poverty.

We pray for all mourning the loss of loved ones, particularly for leaders in the UCA and UAICC who are mourning the loss of mothers and fathers. May the love of God enfold them in these difficult days.

Hear us, stand with us in our fears and needs. (*remember that God knows and understands*)

Bless those we know who are in special need at this time. (*remember that God knows and understands*)

We pray for the church – the wider church and for this Congregation. May there be a greater integration of environmental concern in our life and work.

Continued next page

Bless our leaders, Dierdre, Simon, Nicholas, Tennyson and Esther, and the councils of the Uniting Church – in the Assembly, Synods, Presbyteries, Congregations, and our EUC Church Council.

Today, as part of the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray for the nations and churches of Ghana and Nigeria

We are thankful for:

Christians and Muslims who take risks to work for dialogue and reconciliation, and people of disparate ethnic groups who strive together for the common good
 churches who have been faithful in spreading the Good News, serving the people and pursuing justice in these societies
 economic growth from natural resources, where it benefits all people – and especially the poor – in these nations
 how people, especially in Nigeria, have been sustained by God in the face of attacks and violence in the context of the movement of population groups and from extremist elements like Boko Haram.

We pray for:

those affected by violence and terrorism, and that such violent attacks might cease
 leaders of churches, that they might speak out courageously against political, social and economic injustices
 Just and peaceful relations between members of different ethnic groups and between Muslims and Christians
 Those who suffer from malnutrition and diseases such as malaria, whooping cough and HIV and AIDS
 Better stewardship of the environment and natural resources.

Thank you that you hear our prayers. **Amen.**

These prayers include resources for the Season of Creation from Uniting Church Assembly, UC Ecochurches WA, and [the Eco Congregations Scotland \(part of the Church of Scotland\)](#).

Note: To find out more about the nations and churches for whom we pray today in the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, go to <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle/ghana-nigeria> and click on 'More on churches in'.

***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.***

From Marion: Uniting Church members will join Christians around Australia and across the world in acts of worship and advocacy to promote care for all creation throughout the month of September. There are some good resources for Seasons of Creation on the website: <https://uniting.church/a-new-season-of-caring/>

Assembly President Dr Deidre Palmer is encouraging UCA members to take part in the month-long ecumenical celebration, Season of Creation, as an opportunity to reflect theologically and to take actions that will lead to a more sustainable planet for future generations.

“As the Uniting Church, we believe we are connected to all God’s creation and we have a commitment to work towards sustainable and non-exploitative living,” said Dr Palmer.

“Our world is gravely threatened by climate change, and it is our responsibility to act to limit the worst impacts and stand in solidarity with those who are most vulnerable.”

“The COVID-19 crisis has shown us the importance of creative and collaborative leadership and presents a unique opportunity to reset the agenda with an economic recovery that is good for all people and for the planet.”

Dr Palmer encouraged Uniting Church congregations to do three things:

- Participate in Season of Creation through worship and actions.
- Join the next Schools 4 Climate Action on 25 September.
- Connect with other Christians, faith groups and projects in the wider community that bring about more sustainable solutions for our planet.

The Assembly Working for Justice Circle Advocate Rev. Loni Vaitohi also encouraged Uniting Church congregations to use the Season of Creation to think about climate justice, especially for our neighbours in the Pacific where climate change is most clearly felt.

SCCP has asked us to pray for Beirut-Lebanon 1 month since the explosion.

Let us pray:

Loving and gracious God, we pray that Your Spirit of healing and protection be with the suffering people of Beirut and Lebanon at this time as we remember the catastrophe after a month.

May the good news of peace, healing and loving care be with all, especially with those who are suffering as a result of the disaster.

In Your mercy, we pray, bring comfort to those who are still in pain and are in tremendous trauma. We pray for those who are healing and for those who are homeless and are looking for shelter.

We pray for those who are hungry and looking for sustenance to survive. We pray for those who are working hard to find the means to rebuild their shattered lives as well as the destroyed buildings. We pray for the thousands of the volunteers, who offered their services to anyone in need in the days immediately after. We pray for those who organised and followed up with the cleaning and were there for those who needed their personal touch. We pray for the medical staff, who did their best to care for the injured. We pray for all the churches, organisations and institutions, who mobilised to extend a helping hand to reach out in love and care. We pray for the worldwide efforts for lifting up the spirit of the people of Lebanon. We pray Lord, please give hope to the hopeless, shelter to those who are homeless, give food and nutrition to those who lack it, give patience to those who have lost everything.

Loving and generous God, You promise that You will never forsake Your people. Be with all who feel shrouded in darkness, fear and anxiety: all who are anxious about what the future holds, whose pain brings them close to despair. May Your light shine in the dark places.

Generous God, You bring hope and new life. Be with the people of Lebanon. May Your hope fill their hearts and give them rest.

Our loving, merciful and compassionate God, we pray all these in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is our only hope and refuge. To whom is the glory now and forever. Amen!

**Rev. Dr. Krikor Youmshajekian Minister St. Andrew's Uniting Church
Longueville**

Treasurer Middle East National Conference UCA

GOD IS GREAT (All creation cries to you)

United page 69

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHY3SJ-YRr8>

1 All creation cries to You,
 worshipping in Spirit and in truth.
 Glory to the Faithful one,
 Jesus Christ, God's son.

3 All to you, O God we bring.
 Jesus teach us how to live.
 Let your fire burn in us
 that all may hear, and all may see.

2 All creation gives You praise,
 You alone are truly great,
 You alone are God who reigns
 for eternity.

*God is great, and His praise
 fills the earth, fills the heavens.
 And Your name will be praised
 through all the world.
 God is great, sing His praise
 all the earth, all the heavens,
 'cause we're living
 for the glory of Your name.*

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SING UNTO THE LORD A NEW SONG (Psalm 96)<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8KXVofArcM>

1. Sing unto the Lord a new song
 Sing unto the Lord all the earth
 Sing to the Lord, bless his name
 Tell of his salvation day by day.

2. Majesty and honour are his
 Strength and beauty, glory and righteousness
 Great is the Lord, and deserving of praise
 He is to be feared above all gods.

*Chorus: Worship the Lord in holy array
 Tremble before him all the earth
 Our God reigns.*

3. Let all the creation be glad
 The earth and the sea sing for joy
 Before the Lord, the judge of the earth
 Who judges us in righteousness and truth.

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YOU SHALL GO OUT WITH JOY (The trees of the field)

Source volume 1:609

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=unWnWSgoSt0>

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills
shall break forth before you.

There'll be shouts of joy
and the trees of the fields
shall clap their hands.

And the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

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Questions to ponder

沉思一些问题

숙고해야할 질문들

How do you imagine the garden of Eden? How similar/ different is your picture to the natural world we see today?

你如何想象伊甸园？你的想象与我们现在看到的自然世界有多类似或者多不一样？

에덴 동산을 어떻게 상상하는가? 오늘날 우리가 보는 자연세계에 대해 당신이 그려보는 것과 얼마나 비슷/다른가?

What do you find beautiful about forests?

你觉得森林有什么美？

숲에 대해 무엇이 아름다운가?

How do forests connect you to the presence of God?

森林如何将你与上帝同在连在一起?

숲이 당신에게 하나님의 현존에 어떻게 연결이 되는가?

When have you had a special feeling about a tree or a forest?

你什么时候对一棵树或者一片森林有过特殊的感情?

언제 나무 혹은 숲에 대해 특별한 감정을 가졌는가?

In what ways has God enhanced your life through trees?

上帝以什么方式通过树木提高了你的生活?

어떻게 하나님은 나무를 통해 당신의 삶을 더 좋게 했는가?

What could you do to “serve and preserve” God’s creation, so others may benefit?

你能做什么来“服侍和保护”上帝造物，以便他人可以受益?

당신은 하나님의 창조물을 '가꾸고 보존하기' 위해 무엇을 할 수가 있는가 그래서 다른 이들이 도움이 되는가?

If you go for a walk in a forest, or a park or a garden, listen to the sounds of creation, and remember all this is possible because of God.

如果你去森林或者公园或者花园散步，聆听万物的声音，要记住这些的存在都是因为上帝。

당신이 숲이나 공원 혹은 정원을 걸어간다면 창조물들의 소리들을 들어라 그리고 모든 이러한 것들이 하나님 때문에 가능하다는 것을 기억하라

We are all ministers in Christ's name

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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:

Sept 6 Pentecost 14: Ex 12:1-14, Ps 149, Rom 13:8-14, Mt 18:15-20
 Sept 13 Pentecost 15: Ex 14:19-31, Ps 114 or Ex 15:1b-11, 20-21,
 Rom 14:1-12, Mt 18:21-35

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