



EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH

14 - 16 Lakeside Road, Eastwood

27 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**

27 September 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom** Nicholas Fried
'Signs of hope and promise'

Revelation 22: 1-5, Psalm 104: 27-33,
Genesis 8:20-22, 9:12-17

9.30am Worship Nicholas Fried
Genesis 9: 8-17

River Sunday 河流周日 강의 주일

'Lake and river' 湖与河流 호수와 강

**Sermon and Bible reading audio available on
website. Youtube link for service**

<https://youtu.be/8G71qPQsPU0>

2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

4th October 8.00am Worship **service via Zoom** Stephen Kemp

9.30am Worship John Dacey
Uniting Church Chaplain, Macquarie University.

2.00pm Chinese Service online Wechat group

Insights Spring 2020 issue has been delivered to the church.
Please contact the office if you would like a copy.

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 Presbytery for review. Complying with all the current regulations is very complex and expensive. Until further notice the Church buildings remain closed. Information and Synod's updates available on our website under "other resources".

CHURCH COUNCIL is planning to resume 9.30 a.m. worship on Sunday 18 October. We will need people to assist by videoing the service, to be uploaded to YouTube or Facebook afterwards, for those unable to attend.

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

'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'

Merrill B

Jason M

Margaret S

Chris D

Elizabeth C

Marion G

Wendy N

Liz M's mother Katy

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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



Nicholas retires at the end of November. Please note that from 1 October to 30 November he will be taking annual leave. Sunday 27 September will be his last worship service at Eastwood

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.

THEOLOGY AND THE COMMON GOOD presented by The Centre for Faith and Public Issues. Workshops will explore how a public theology engages with three current issues of Race, Climate and Covid 19. To be held 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.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SRE). Please keep Maria Allerdice in your prayers as she prepares to start back at Eastwood Public for term 4. Maria will be taking all the Uniting SRE classes for the term.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Chris Wakefield	Today	27th September
Kerrie Springett	Monday	28th September
Ben Ferris	Monday	28th September
Pat McLeod	Tuesday	29th September
Merrill Bootes	Saturday	3rd October

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.

CONGRATULATIONS to Rev Jan and Dan Reeve on the birth of their first grandchildren, Thomas Eli and Owen Daniel on Tuesday, 15th September.

17th September 2020 Church Council Zoom Meeting Update

- Joint Nominating Committee: Presbytery members now appointed and will have first meeting via zoom. EUC Placement Profile approved by Synod and Presbytery is now available on the EUC website.
- Worship: Online worship to continue at present for all services and activities. Aim to commence on site worship services at EUC site on 18th October, subject to Synod support for churches to reopen for worship. This will require video/sound recording for those that are unable/unwilling to attend- people who can assist are requested to contact the office.
- Bible study: Chinese online bible study group commenced on Saturdays. Advent English 4 week bible study proposed.
- Sunday School lessons and activities: Continuing online at present on Sundays for youth and younger age groups. Contact Janine Joannou or office for access to the online meetings. COVID19 Safety Plan approved for Sunday School when on site worship recommences.
- Chinese speaking resource worker: EUC endorsed the Safe Transition project in the Ryde Hunters Hill area to advocate for the state government to employ bi-lingual case workers supporting survivors of domestic violence.
- Pastoral concerns: EUC carers and Nicholas are maintaining regular contact with church members. Please contact your carer or Lesley Bradbury. Friday zoom chat meetings run by Janine Joannou, contact the office for details.
- Continuing Education Umbrella Group: 4 week advent bible study proposed.
- COVID19 Safety Plan approved for EUCMS workshop and 9.30am Sunday School.
- Property: New contracts being prepared for sale of Acacia Street church and hall site.

- Finances: Accounts for year ended 30th June 2020 approved for audit. Accounts for remainder of 2020 approved.
- Tertiary Chaplaincy Strategy Committee (formerly Macquarie University Chaplaincy). Tennyson now a member of the Committee.
- This meeting was the last to be attended by Nicholas before his retirement, as he will be on annual leave in October and November. Nicholas was thanked for his many years of service and guidance, providing direction for the Congregation and for the stimulating sermons and teaching we have received while he was the Minister at Eastwood. Nicholas expressed his appreciation of the support given to him by Church Council.
- Closure of Ministry Service for Nicholas to be held at EUC on Sunday 29th November at 9.30am.
- Part time Supply Ministers being sought from December 2020.
- Next Church Council meeting on Thursday 22nd October 2020.

PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE 2020. 'Called by God' - living our Christian vocation in daily life. Registration is free.

On Saturday October 3, the President will host a Webinar with three one hour sessions to open up the conversation about God's call to us in our everyday lives, and to showcase some of next year's content.

Session 1: *Called by God* 1-2pm. Biblical themes on call and insights and reflections about our response to crises in our contemporary Australian context.

Session 2: *Every member ministry* 2.30-3.30pm. living out Christian vocation in work settings, through ordained and lay ministries, through advocacy and community work, and through everyday living.

Session 3: *Faith in public life* 4-5pm. A discussion with people who are engaged in public life in a rich diversity of ways.

Sunday October 4 worship is available livestreamed through the Assembly Online Worship forum and as a written liturgical resource and a short pre-recorded sermon from the President that you may use with your own community.

Webinars will be recorded and will be made available for people to use.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE. If you would like to prepare prayers for the news sheet, the office would love to hear from you.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

(sources include Pilgrim UC, Adelaide, the UK Methodist Church, and Season of Creation)

God, Creator of Life, at your word, the earth brought forth plants yielding seed, and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers and lakes, seas mountains, minerals, and forests sustained life.

In your wisdom, you granted a Sabbath; a blessed time to rest in gratitude for all that you have given; a time to liberate ourselves from consumption; a time to allow the land and all creatures to rest from the burden of production.

Yet these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demands for growth, and our never-ending cycle of production and consumption are exhausting your world. The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. We have not allowed the land to observe her Sabbath, and the earth is struggling to be renewed.

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for your planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. Send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation, in the name of Jesus, who came to proclaim good news to all creation. Amen

We pray for desert people, who live in a dry, parched land who lack water, who travel constantly so that they might live. Give them living water. Let the deserts bloom into flower. We pray that those who work on climate change may find solutions so that the erosion of soil may be halted or reversed. We pray that water and other vital supplies might not be used as a weapon of war in countries where resources are scarce.

We pray for countries where justice seems far away, where human rights are ignored. Let us remind those in power that prisoners are not forgotten. We pray that the dignity of life is respected and remember those who have lost that dignity through age or infirmity or neglect.

We pray for those who have no peace – for those who are troubled and torn apart by lack of self-esteem, for those who torment and victimise the vulnerable. We pray for men and women affected by violence in the home and for those who live by violence. We pray for those who are trafficked and for those who organise and profit from selling other humans. May they learn of your love and somehow come to newness of life even in the midst of despair.

Loving Lord let us not stand aside and tolerate lack of basic human resources, dehumanising practices, or the use of violence to disempower your people. Give us strength to act and challenge hatred, and instead bring your justice and mercy. In your name we humbly ask that we may be a channel for your peace and love. Amen.

We are a world that is desperate for you, God. When powers struggle for dominance, and war, oppression and abuse result; when groups of people oppose one another because of ideology, religion or culture; we need a God who is bigger than ourselves, and our personal interests. We pray especially for people in Belarus, USA, Syria. Israel and Palestine.

When people are disregarded and devalued because of poverty, geography or disease; when compassion and justice is withheld to some because of sexuality, race or gender; we need a Saviour who is more compassionate than we are who includes even those we would exclude. We pray for refugees and asylum seekers in Lesbos, Jordan and Bangladesh.

When resources are mismanaged and abused, and the world and its creatures are destroyed;
when motivation is scarce and creativity is in short supply to address the challenges that we face;
We need a Spirit who is more powerful and more creative than we could ever be.

We pray that our politicians can look beyond the next election cycle, and develop long-term strategies for reducing carbon emissions that are not dependent on lobby groups, but based on serving and preserving the environment, and the well-being of future generations.

God of all hope we call on you today. We pray for those who are living in

We pray for those listed in our news sheet, and others we know, who face particular challenges with illness, and surgery. May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness and peace.

We remember in our prayers those of our church community who have recently moved from their homes to a care facility, and the changes and challenges they are facing, particularly at a time when it is not possible for many people to visit them.

We pray for your church in this time of uncertainty during COVID-19. For those people who are worried and anxious about attending worship, for those needing to make decisions in order to care for others, for those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.

We pray for our Church here: we thank you for those who already belong – the “people of the lake”. We thank you for their faithfulness, generosity and caring for one another. We thank you for the “people of the rivers”, who, in very different social demographics to the past, are entering the waters of the Christian faith, and the church, and being baptised.

May we always seek to live out the core values that identify us: inclusive – welcoming all people; active – reaching out to the local community; relevant – facing contemporary issues with an informed and robust faith; visible – enabling the community to see who we are, and how we live out our faith.

We pray especially for the Joint Nominating Committee, tasked with discerning who you, O God, have in mind for ministry with us. Grant the team sensitivity, wisdom, and insight as they consider people and their profiles. Be with ministers, wrestling with a call to Eastwood being your will.

Grant all of us your wisdom for living in these times, with their challenges and opportunities. You are a God of promises – a rainbow reminds you and us of your covenant promise. We remember that you have promised that nothing will separate us from your love – demonstrated to us in Jesus, in whose name we pray.

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.

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KpMCE1G3N7Q>

- 1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us onto the end of our days,
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.
- 2 His law he enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine,
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing
with glad adoration, a song let us raise:
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

Katherine Kennicott Davis 1892-1980
(Public Domain)

TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY

Together in Song 668

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-js8Ko2qU1I>

- 1 Touch the earth lightly,
use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder,
ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
- 2 We who endanger,
who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster
clouds of disaster -
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

3 Let there be greening,
 birth from the burning,
 water that blesses and air that is sweet,
 health in God's garden,
 hope in God's children,
 regeneration that peace will complete.

4 God of all living,
 God of all loving,
 God of the seedling the snow and the sun,
 teach us deflect us,
 Christ reconnect us,
 using us gently and making us one.

Shirley Erena Murray 1931- 2020

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THE GREAT SOUTHLAND

As One Voice volume 2: 159

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

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.

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:

Geoff Bullock © Nightlight Music Pty. Ltd.
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Questions to ponder**沉思一些问题****숙고해야할 질문들**

What is the most challenging aspect for you in seeking to be an “inclusive” church?

对你来说寻求成为一个“包容”教会最具挑战的方面是什么？

“일체의” 교회가 되기 위해 찾고자 하는 것중에서 당신은 가장 중요한 것은 무엇인가?

How does your relationship with God affect your relationship with water?

你跟上帝的关系如何影响你跟水的关系？

하나님과의 당신의 관계는 물과 당신과의 관계에 어떤 영향을 끼치는가?

How are we, as people of faith, called to address the damage humans cause to earth’s water supplies?

作为有信仰的人们，我们是如何被召唤去解决人类对地球水供应造成的破坏？

믿음의 사람으로서, 우리는 어떻게 인간이 만들어낸 물공급의 데미지를 어떻게 설명할 것인가?

How would you describe your faith journey in terms of a river and a lake?

在河流与湖泊方面，你将会如何来描述你的信仰之旅？

강과 호수를 보고 당신의 믿음의 여정을 어떻게 그리는가?

What does a rainbow signify for you?

彩虹对你意味着什么？

무지개는 당신에게 무엇을 의미하는가?

God’s covenant promise to us is not to flood the earth. What is your covenant promise to God?

上帝对我们的圣约承诺不是要使地球洪水泛滥。你对上帝的圣约承诺是什么？

우리에게 약속하시는 하나님의 계약은 지구를 홍수가 넘치게 하는 것이 아니다. 하나님에 대한 당신의 계약은 무엇인가?

We are all ministers in Christ's name

Minister:

Phone:

Email:

Rev Nicholas Fried 0415 252 550
On leave from 1 October 9874 2089

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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:

Sept 27 Pentecost 17: Ex 17:1-7, Ps 78:1-4, 12-16, Phil 2:1-13,
Mt 21:23-32

Oct 4 Pentecost 18: Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20, Ps 19 Phil 3:4b-14
Mt 21:33-46

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