



## **EASTWOOD UNITING CHURCH**

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

**21 February 2021**

**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**

21st February	8.00am Holy Communion	Marion Gledhill
	9.30am Worship Genesis 9:8-17 and Mark 1:9-15 <i>'An appropriate humility'</i>	Ian Pearson
	2.00pm Chinese Service	David Wong
28th February	8.00am	John Court
	9.30am Worship	Ian Pearson
	2.00pm Chinese Service	Joel Huang

Masks are no longer mandatory in services, but strongly encouraged where 1.5 metre distancing is difficult, or if caring for a vulnerable person  
Congregational singing is still not permitted.

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.

*Welcome*

We are glad to have you with us today, to share in this Worship service led by Rev. Ian Pearson, supply minister till early March. We hope that you enjoy the time of worship, and feel welcomed and included even as we work within the new COVID-19 guidelines.

**WORSHIP RESOURCES** are emailed on Fridays to those with email. 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>

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 kindly agreed to be our contact person with Synod on behalf of Church Council.

**SOCIAL ZOOM** each Friday at 7.30pm Janine organises a 'Social Catchup' via Zoom. It is a relaxed meeting. If you would like to participate, please contact the church office for the link.



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

**'PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS'**

Sue Howes  
Margaret S,

Merrill B,  
Liz M's mother Katy

Jason M,

### ***THIS WEEK'S DIARY DATES***

Monday	22 Feb	English Classes	9.30am
Tuesday	23 Feb	English classes via Zoom	7.30pm
Wednesday	24 Feb	SCC Presbytery Meeting via Zoom	7.00pm

***CHURCH OFFICE HOURS*** will continue to be Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am—3.30pm during February. For urgent matters please contact Ian Pearson: 0403 062 253

***2PM CHINESE SERVICE*** is back meeting face-to-face each Sunday. WeChat will be used to maintain relationships and support. Please contact Tennyson 0411896274.

***UCASE*** will meet in person at the Cottage, West Epping Uniting Church, at 2pm on Sunday 21st February (TODAY). UCASE 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

***LENTEN BIBLE STUDY.*** The Continuing Christian Education Umbrella Group are planning to run a series of four studies commencing in the first week of March. The studies will be using ‘The Bible Project’ YouTube video clips, which look at how to read the Bible through character, design patterns, plot, setting and Gospel. Looking in detail at the Gospel according to Mark. The videos are available in both English and Mandarin and it is hoped that some from the 2pm Chinese service congregation may be involved in the studies too.

A sign-up sheet is on the table in the entry. Please add your name and contact details and preferred time if you would like to participate. Wednesday afternoons, Thursday evenings and Friday mornings are the three times being offered. Please see Trevor Bird for further information.



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Margaret Cochrane	Friday	26th February
Alston Mahadevan	Friday	26th February

**SERVICE OF INDUCTION OF REV AMELIA KOH-BUTLER** as a Minister of the word and as Accredited Youth Worker will be held here at Eastwood Uniting Church on the 7th March at 4pm. With the 4 sq mt requirement now reduced to 2 sq mt per person, hopefully all who are wanting to attend will be able to.



World Day of Prayer

**AUSTRALIA**

This year the service will be held at Eastwood Baptist Church, First Ave Eastwood at 10.00am on Friday 5th March. The theme is 'Build on a Strong Foundation'. Prayer will be for the people of Vanuatu.

**A NEW MEMOIR** The Revd Bill Ives is about to publish Volume 2 of his Memoir, "Discerning God's Direction".

This memoir covers his 27 years ministry at St Andrew's, Eastwood 1964-91, the expectations and traumas of Church Union, Bill's involvement in Theological Education, before and after Union, the planning for United Theological College, his teaching role in its first faculty, some trips abroad and an account of his period as NSW Moderator. It provides insights into pastoral ministry and Church life from post-war stability to the beginning of a new era.

Anyone interested in reserving a copy of "Discerning God's Direction" may contact Bill at [ivesbill@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ivesbill@optusnet.com.au).

**POPE BARNABAS** by Bob Springett is now available for order. Best place to go would be Barnes and Noble Booksellers website.

Description:- Pope Barnabas is an incredibly gifted man. Or are these gifts just evidence of subtle brain damage from an auto accident? Either way, his passion to provide the best possible pastoral care for his world-wide flock can only be described as 'saintly'.

Or would 'psychotic' be more accurate?

Winning hearts and minds over to the Catholic Church is difficult, but Barnabas is marching from one success to the next with apparent invincibility. What will happen when he is confronted with a situation that proves beyond even his genius? What will that pressure do to a man who has never failed at anything?

## **GOOD MORNING EASTWOOD** - Coffee with the community

You are invited to have a coffee and meet new friends. It's an opportunity to share in local 'Aussie' and other cultures, and to practise conversation in different languages. The only cost is for participants to order and pay for their own drink to help support the local small business.

Dates : Tuesdays 9/3, 23/3, 6/4 & 20/4

Time: 10 -11:30am

Venue: Provence Garden Café, 35-43 West Parade,  
Eastwood

Please call Tennyson 0411896274 for booking in advance.



## lentevent

The 40-day season of Lent is an opportunity to disrupt our everyday routines by living more simply, taking up a spiritual discipline or being more intentional about our lives and habits.

'Fasting' is a common discipline for Lent, going without something for 40 days. But more powerful than fasting from chocolate or Netflix etc, is choosing to fast from indifference to others and to the challenges facing our world: poverty, conflict, inequality, violence, a changing climate...

Lent Event is 40 days of living more simply, learning from our global neighbours and choosing to make a difference in our own lives and the lives of others. Take up a Lent Event challenge in 2020 and be part of a movement to end poverty and injustice in our world.

There's SO many ways and below are a few ideas. But think about your own life... What should you give up? Or what challenge would you love to achieve?

Coffee/tea	Single-use plastic	Meat	Junk food	Alcohol
Your car	Long showers	Negativity/sarcasm/criticism		
Screentime	One meal a day	Takeaway food		

You could take up...

A daily act of kindness	A physical challenge – walk, run, ride, swim
40 prayers for others	A fundraising event – cake stall, trivia night, concert, craft activity

Donate what you save by living more simply this lent. Ask friends and family to sponsor you and encourage you in your efforts

## ***AN INVITATION TO ACT2***

### **An invitation – to consider the future of the Uniting Church as a people of God on the way**

As we look to the future, what is God saying to us as the Uniting Church about how we order our life so we can be committed to transforming lives and communities in God's love? Be part of the UCA Act2 project as we discern God's way together.

In the lead up to the 16th Assembly, members of the Uniting Church, its congregations, agencies, schools and Councils, are invited to engage in a conversation about the future to which God is calling our Church.

Throughout 2020, the Assembly Standing Committee (ASC) has participated in conversations about the future for the Uniting Church, and our responsibility to listen to God's living Word.

It's time to check the health of our Church and ask, 'where is God leading us, what is God calling us to do in our new context and how do we order our lives to best fulfil that calling?'

### **Strengths and Challenges**

The Uniting Church at its best has many diverse expressions of who it is as a church. As the ASC reflected on this it identified the centrality of Christ, connectedness to the world - particularly local communities, the diversity of our people and our justice orientations as clear markers of our identity. Along with the Basis of Union we have a rich collection of resources to guide and shape our life. These include both those documents that shaped the journey to Union,<sup>1</sup> along with statements such as the Statement to the Nation (1977), the Covenant Statement (1994), The Uniting Church is a Multicultural Church (1985), and the revised Preamble to the Constitution (2009) which have continued to shape and define our life.

At our best we have participated in the reconciling work of Christ and been able to harness our inclusivity and diversity to be a risk-taking, flexible and adaptable Church, open to renewal in our life. However, the ASC also reflected on some of the challenges we are facing as a Church.

Externally there is a loss of trust and confidence in the Christian church, this has never been more clearly demonstrated than in the Royal

Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. This has been alongside a declining membership and an aging demographic that has led to an underutilised property base and a constrained financial environment.

### **What will we be doing? (the task)**

The ASC has discerned the task before us as:

- identifying and implementing sustainable structures,
- practices, and
- ways of working.

The ASC identified three **outcomes** which were critical to any future structure, practices and ways of working:

- Create an enabling environment for local communities of worship, witness, service and discipleship formation.
- Foster a cohesive national character of the Church and collaborative ways of working across the Church.
- Fulfil the Church's legal, ethical and social obligations.

### **How can you be involved?**

There are a few main ways you can initially engage with this project:

1. **Survey** – Please let us know your thoughts by completing the survey now. This survey is available here [UCA Act2 Project Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://surveymonkey.com)
2. **Online conversations** – You'll have to register for these as numbers are limited. However, we hope these might also be conversations you have in your local context, and then feed back what came out of them.
3. **Reflecting on the Basis of Union** – the Basis of Union is the document that guides the Uniting Church. In the lead up to the 16th Assembly in 2021, we want to reflect on it and what it tells us about who we are as the Uniting Church. We'll be providing resources for you to do this, and opportunities for you to feed back to us how this reflection speaks to you about the task we have in this project.

You'll see and hear a lot about this project over the coming months. We hope you'll tell us what you're thinking or talking about with others. If you want to write to us, you can email us at: [uca.act2@nat.uca.org.au](mailto:uca.act2@nat.uca.org.au)

We encourage you to participate and to be part of building a shared vision and future for the Uniting Church.

## We are all ministers in Christ's name

### Minister:

### Phone:

### Email:

Rev Ian Pearson (supply) 0403 062 253

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Esther Shih 莊娜麗傳道 0411 128 069

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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	可见的	비전을 가질 수가 있고
	Inclusive	包容的	포괄적이 될 수있고
	Relevant	相关的	적절하고
	Active	积极的	역동적이 될 것이다

### LECTIONARY READINGS:

Feb 21 Lent 1 Gn 9:8-17, Ps 25:1-10, 1 Pt 3:18-22, Mk 1:9-15

Feb 28 Lent 2 Gn 17:1-7, 15-16, Ps 22:23-31, Rom 4:13-25,  
Mk 8:31-38, or Mk 9:2-9

**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**