



*Thank you Jane for your photo this week.*

## **Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

### **9.30am Livestream:**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am:** Live Streamed on YouTube:

### **4pm Service: SHOUT:**

SHOUT, our intergenerational worship service, is on Sunday afternoon's with games and refreshments from 3.30pm, followed by singing, Bible stories and activities at about 4pm. Join us this Sunday as we hear stories Jesus told about things that are lost and found!.



### **Welcome Lunch: This Sunday: Everyone's invited:**

We are having a welcome lunch, this Sunday 26 March. Everyone from the church is invited to join us, to meet and welcome new people. If you are new you are especially invited to join us.

After the service we will have morning tea together. When morning tea is cleared away we will share in lunch together, we will have a simple exercise to help us get to know each other better and there will be plenty of time to simply relax and chat.

Please see Sheila and Paul, for more information, and to let them know you can attend.

Phone or message: 0414 790 691

## Easter Services:

- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 9.30am Palm Sunday Communion Service. (Remember Daylight Savings ends today!)
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 4pm SHOUT, Family Easter Service, Communion and Dinner.
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm Service of the Shadows: Reading together the account of Easter.
- Good Friday, 9.30am, Worship and Communion.
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 9.30am, Jesus Is Alive AMEN

## Palm Branches:

Do you have accessible Palm Branches we can use to decorate the church on Palm Sunday. Please see David Gilchrist. Phone 0448 4341 234, or reply to this email.

## Readings and Prayers For Service Of The Shadows (Tenebrae Service):

Are you able to read a Bible Reading or to pray at our Service of the Shadows (Tenebrae Service)? Please see David Gilchrist. You can phone or message on 0448 431 234 or reply to this email.

## Information Meeting – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 11am

### 2024 Ettalong Baptist Church Study Tour –

### "Following in the Footsteps of Paul on his Missionary Journeys".

The Deacons and Elders have approved the running of a Special Study Tour for our church, in the latter part of May 2024 to Turkey, Greece and Italy, to which you, your family and friends are invited to consider joining.

The organisation has begun for this tour, so we would like to hold a meeting on Sunday 2nd April 2023, after church in the Hill Hall, to measure interest in attending. You will be given an outline of possible routes, costs and expectations.

If you would like to find out about this study tour please come along and register interest. For more information please contact Heather on 0419297496

## A New Connect Group:

We are looking to start a new Couples Connect Group on a Monday afternoon at the church. It is likely this will commence after Easter. If you are interested in attending this, please see Heather asap.

## High Tea For Men & Women.

### Bring your mum for a treat – or treat yourself!

Saturday 6 of May, 1.30pm in the Downstairs Hall. Tickets on sale after this Sunday's morning service. Please see Paul or Sheila for tickets. Places are filling quickly. Tickets are \$25 All proceeds of ticket sales will go to supporting our missionary projects around the world. See Heather for more details.

## Advance notice

A Tempo Terrific Band Concert and Afternoon Tea is to be held in our Hall on Saturday 3rd June at 2.30pm. Tickets on sale from the start of April from Kerrie and Peter Brown. This will be a fun afternoon and suitable for all ages. Funds made at the is concert will support our Missionaries around the world. Please see Heather Crawford for more information.

## Zoom Prayer Group:

Tuesdays 10am. See Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.

## Sunday Morning Prayer Group 8.45am to 9.15am:

A small group of people meet to pray each Sunday morning before the 9.30am service at the back of the Downstairs Hall. They would love you to join them and to pray particularly for our worship services.

## Prayer Request Cards:

Prayer request cards are now on the Welcome Table with pencils and a box in which to place the completed card. Prayer requests can also be emailed to the church office: <https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/contact/>

## Giving:

As Christians, we believe it is especially important that we give financially to support God's church. You may give your weekly offering using the following methods:

**1). Through direct electronic transfer.** You can do this using online banking or ask your bank teller to set up an electronic transfer for you using the bank details below.

**2). Deposit your offering directly into the church account** at any branch of the Westpac Bank.

**Our account details are:**

Account Name: Ettalong Baptist Church

BSB Number: 032 527

Account Number: 350 062

**3). Use the box at the main entrance door to the auditorium.**

## Revitalisation – Where Are We Up To 6 Months On:

**In 2021 and 2022 our church conducted a Revitalisation with a series of workshops developing a statement of Purpose, Values and Vision. These are attached.**

**We also had a workshop to consider strategies to help us live out our Purpose and Values, and to work towards achieving our Vision. Over the last six months we have been implementing those strategies:**

1). We are currently reviewing and revising our leadership structure, seeking to make it simpler, and making sure that our structure supports the church and isn't a burden on the church.

2). We are seeking to employ a Church Administrator who can help the pastor and church leaders with the administration of the church.

3). We have some thriving ministries with children and families, including Mainly Music, AXIS Youth, and Girls Brigade, and have many contacts. We have a strong desire to see these children, young people and families be discipled and grow as followers of Christ. We have been particularly praying for, and promoting our intergenerational afternoon service, SHOUT, which seeks to disciple children and their families for Jesus Christ.

4). We have been teaching and helping members of the church to identify, develop and use their Spiritual Gifts. David has been focusing our preaching in the 9.30am service on Spiritual Gifts, and Spiritual Disciplines, as well as reminding us of what we believe as Christians. We have been hosting workshops on discovering our SHAPE and on prayer and healing.

5). We have been emphasising the need for everyone to be in a small group or studying the Bible with others. We have had several new Connect Groups commence, as well as the Bible School on Monday afternoons. We have run an Alpha course on Tuesday evenings for those interested in finding out more about the gospel, and are looking at running Alpha again during the daytime.

6). We have rewritten our conflict policy on When we Have Differences. We are promoting unity in our church and are currently planning a preaching series in the second half of Term 2 on conflict.

**We are planning in the second half of 2023 to start putting together a plan of how we might improve our building, that it will help us as we continue to move forward together in Christ's steps:**

Things this team should consider:

- a) What can we do to make our building more user friendly and available. Possible ideas include:
  - i. Installing a lift to improve access to the Upstairs Hall.
  - ii. Installing a children's playground.
  - iii. Creating a community café area.
  - iv. Rendering and modernising our building.
  - v. Make it easier for new people to enter the building.
  
- b) Put together a plan of how we might improve our building.
  - i. Researching grants we can apply for.
  - ii. Speaking with state and federal members as to how we can make our buildings a better community space.
  - iii. Are there other ways we can pay for changes and updates.

### **Ettalong Baptist Church Safe Church Team:**

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact one of these people:

**Lead Pastor—David Gilchrist**  
**Elder—Jane Keuning**



# Purpose Values & Vision

Our Purpose:



## Explaining the photo:

- The photo is of footprints in the sand moving forward.
- The three large footprints represent the journey Christ is taking us on.
- The first two footprints show a small footprint within the large footprint. We walk in Christ's steps.
- The last footprint reminds us that we are still moving forward directed by Christ.
- The cross features in the sand reminding us that it is Christ's death and resurrection that are our strength



## Our Values:



### We value many things but we are passionate about:

#### The Bible

- Knowing God through his word
  - ❖ *2 Timothy 3:16–17, All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

#### Prayer

- Communicating with God
  - ❖ *We use the word communicating intentionally. Prayer can be talking, listening, meditating, etc.*
  - ❖ *We want to bring everything to God, speak with him, listen for him, trust in him.*
  - ❖ *Everything needs to be fully surrounded in prayer.*

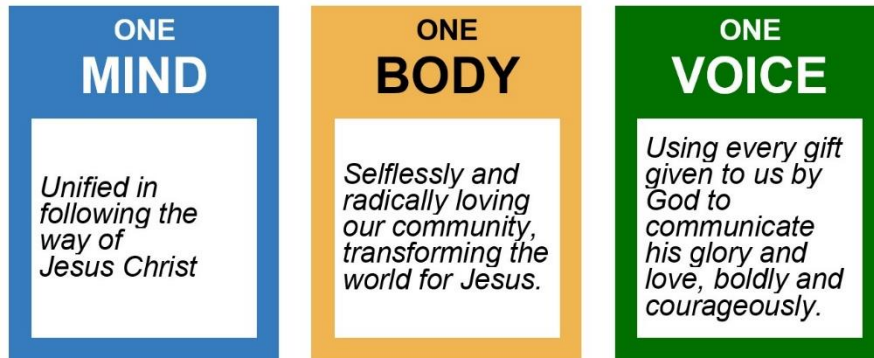
#### Our Community

- Loving people and making disciples
  - ❖ *We desire to love our church community and our Central Coast community.*
  - ❖ *We desire everyone to know the love of God.*
  - ❖ *We welcome, love, include and respect all, regardless of differences in ethnicity, age, gender, wealth or family status.*
  - ❖ *We love our community with no expectation of any response in return.*
  - ❖ *We desire to evangelise by sharing Christ's love and gospel of salvation with our community.*
  - ❖ *We desire to see people grow in their relationship with Christ.*

## Our Vision:



we have a **dream** that we will be of



### Our vision is reflected in Romans 15:

... May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God ...

### Our vision explained:

- 1) *One mind: This part of our vision is to do with growing in the gospel, that we would be more Christ like, and equipped to serve him as his body, the Church.*  
With this vision we Commit to unity both in our church and with other churches.
- 2) *One body: This part of our vision is to do with living out the gospel in practical ways as the body of Christ.*  
With this vision we commit to loving and serving the community without expecting anything in return.
- 3) *One Voice: This part of our vision is to do with communicating the gospel. We want to do this effectively and boldly using the gifts and resources God has given us.*  
With this vision we commit to using our resources (sometimes in quite radical ways) to openly proclaim the gospel of Christ, in word, deed, and with everything we do and have. Resources include our building, spiritual gifts, raising up and training leaders.