



Thank you Marion Edwards for this weeks photo.

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 14th December 2023

This Is A Friendly Reminder New Email Address and Newsletter Editor:

Welcome to this weeks Newsletter. If you would like anything added to future Newsletters, please send any notices to me at this email address (Lynette), office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au

If you want to be added or removed from the email list please email Lynette at office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au

Christmas Services:

This Sunday 17 December, 5pm - Families Nativity Service (Children participating in this service should be there 15minutes earlier 4:45pm)

Sunday 17 December, 6pm - BBQ Dinner and Children's games

Sunday 17 December, 7.30pm – Carols in the church auditorium with a visit from Father Christmas.

Sunday 24 December, 9.30am – Christmas Eve Service – Carol Service

Monday 25 December, 9.30am – Christmas Day Service

9.30am Service This Sunday 17th December:

Happy Christmas,

This Christmas we are reflecting on some of the songs of Christmas from the Bible. This Sunday morning we will be looking at "Elizabeth's Song - A Song Of Victory," from Luke 1:39-45.

The angel brought exciting but scary news to Mary. She was to give birth to a son who would be conceived by the Holy Spirit. He would be Saviour of the World. Yet would people believe her story? So she travelled to see her cousin Elizabeth. The angel had said that Elizabeth was also pregnant with a son by a miracle of God.

As Mary entered Elizabeth's house she didn't need to explain the situation. Her baby leaped in her womb, and she discerned the filling of the Holy Spirit. Elizabeth believed God's Spirit and knew that Mary's child was the Messiah. She called her young relative "the mother of my Lord" as she greeted her.

Elizabeth burst into song, believing in the Lord's faithfulness and rejoicing in Mary's blessed condition. She was filled with joy that the mother of her Lord would visit her.

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: <https://youtube.com/live/KkBvCIU9ZHA?feature=share>

After the 9.30am service we have an opportunity for prayer or praise at the front of the church. Come to the stage after the service. Jean and Merryll and others would love to pray with you.

Alternatively please ask for prayer by leaving a request on our website, or use the cards on the Welcome Table. <https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/contact/>

4pm Service: SHOUT!! Is In Recess:

This service is in recess until Sunday 28th January 2024.

2024 Church Calendar:

The 2024 church calendar is being compiled. If you have any inclusions, deletions or changes for your group or meeting please let Beth Wykes know asap. Please include start and end time, room used and if you follow the school term. Thank you for your help.

Christmas Hampers:

Christmas Hampers are ready to be collected ASAP. A big thank you to everybody that generously donated food, gifts and money for this years hampers and to the people who volunteered their time to assemble them.

New Years Eve Fun and Fundraiser – Everyone Is Welcome:

New Years Eve, 7pm we are holding a buffet dinner and a video movie night in the downstairs hall. Dinner and Movie \$20 each. All money received will go to help Nat make it to 2024 Walking in the footsteps of Paul tour.

Please let Heather Crawford know for catering purposes that you will be joining us.

"Walking in the Footsteps of Paul" – Gathering Date Has Been Changed:

Elaine Halliday has kindly offered for those going on the Footsteps Of Paul Tour, to join her in the community room of her villa complex for afternoon tea at 2.30pm on **Wednesday 8th January 2024**. This will be an opportunity for us to get to know each other, for David and Heather to talk about final arrangements etc. Please rsvp to Heather (ph 0419297496) who will give you the address. Thank you.

January Craft Preparation Day:

This January we are again holding a craft preparation day for the Spring Fair. Saturday 13th of January 2024, 9am to 2pm in the Downstairs Hall. See Heather for details or to register interest. All materials etc. is supplied and morning Tea and lunch are provided. All welcome.

Please let Heather Crawford know that you are interested in helping.

Spring Fair Co-ordinators Meeting Lunch:

Spring Fair Co-ordinators Meeting and Luncheon will be held on Sunday 4th February after morning tea. We will need to bring the Spring Fair forward to the 1st Saturday in September 2024 due to Council elections being held on the 2nd Saturday. Please rsvp asap to Heather. (0419 297 496)

Connect Group Leaders Meeting Lunch:

There is to be a meeting of all Connect group leaders, and or anyone who would like to lead or co-lead a group in 2024, to be held on Sunday 11th February after morning tea. Partners welcome to come too. Lunch will be supplied. An agenda will be sent out shortly. Please rsvp to Heather.(0419 297 496)

EBC CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATING

The Church Directory is being updated. Could you please email any changes of address or contact details to jeanelynch@gmail.com by January 15th.

Any new people in our church who would like to be included in the updated directory, please send through your details to me on jeanelynch@gmail.com by Jan 15th, with specific consent for your details to be included in the directory. Thank you, Jean.

Old Greeting Cards Needed:

Maria Janos is recycling old greeting cards into new cards. Please donate your used greeting cards. You can leave them in the container on the cupboard in the church foyer.

Prayer Partners/Triplets for 2024.

Several years ago, we introduced the concept of prayer partners or triplets. These proved to be a real blessing for our church. Several groups are still functioning. Heather is keen to reintroduce these, so if anyone would like to either re-establish their group or form a new prayer partner/triplet for 2024 please let her know. There are brochures in the church foyer on the concept and how to start such a group.

Skills For Life Christmas Lights Fundraiser:

Skills For Life raises support for Mango Tree Academy in Kissi, Kenya.

Tuesday 19th December, 6pm

Christmas Lights and Decorations Tour.

Includes delicious sausage sizzle.

Limit 20 people on the bus.

\$30 per person, which covers bus hire and fuel.

Contact Les on 0412 866 513

Umina Uniting Church Christmas Lunch

Ettalong Baptist has received from the leadership team at Umina Uniting Church, an invite to anyone who is on their own for Christmas lunch, to join them for Christmas lunch, 11am - 2.30pm in their church hall. Please RSVP to Linda on 0480 367 853 before 23rd December. Please RSVP early to avoid disappointment. There is a flyer in the downstairs hall for your information.

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.

Zoom Prayer Groups:

Tuesday morning at 10am and Tuesday evening at 7pm.

See Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.

Giving:

As Christians, we believe it is especially important that we give financially to support God's church. Prayerfully consider and budget what God would have you give.

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 for cash or cheques.

Ettalong Baptist Church Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

Pastor—David Gilchrist, or Elder—Jane Keuning

Find important Church Documents on our Website Documents page:

If you haven't already go to our documents page on our website at: [Ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au / documents](http://Ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/documents)
You can download and print documents, or simply read and fill in documents online!

Unsubscribe / Subscribe:

If you wish to no longer receive this newsletter by snail mail, please let the church office know.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter by email, please reply to this email with the word UNSUBSCRIBE and we will remove you from this email list.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
CHRISTMAS
 SEASON
 at
ettalong
 baptist church

17TH DECEMBER CAROLS



Family Nativity
 A casual, interactive
 experience for *all ages*

TIME **5 PM**



Community BBQ
 Food & entertainment,
 all welcome

TIME **6 PM**



Community Carols
 Join us to sing &
 celebrate (...& see Santa!)

TIME **7:30 PM**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve
 Our Sunday Service, with
 extra Christmas flair!

DATE **24/12**

TIME **9:30 AM**

Christmas Day
 Our service celebrating the
 birth of Jesus

DATE **25/12**

TIME **9:30 AM**

JOIN US AT
8 Barrenjoey Road
Ettalong Beach NSW 2257
"the church on the roundabout"