



*Photo of Beatrix Watofa*

## Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### From The Pastor: Live By Faith

Colossians 3:3-4 says,

“For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

Max Lucado writes, “A myriad of mighty angels encircle us. The presence of our maker engulfs us. The witness of 1000 galaxies and constellations calls to us. The flowing tide of God’s history carries us. The crowning of Christ as king of the universe awaits us.”

We can’t get our eyes off the daily distractions of life: things to see and do, money to earn and spend, errands to make, weekends to get ready to do it all again. Open your eyes, Christ invites. Lift up your gaze. You were made for far more than this life.

500 years ago, sailors feared the horizon. Sail too far and risk falling off the edge. Then in 1522 Spain sponsored an expedition to sail around the world. Led by Ferdinand Magellan of Portugal, he proved that there was so much more of the world over the horizon. Spain acknowledged this on their coins with the motto “plus ultra,” more beyond!

God ask you to do the same. Lift up your eyes and see what he has install for you beyond! Trust him and claim his promise to you. Your life is hidden with Christ who is your life... he is returning, and you will appear with him in glory!

Blessings

David

### Beatrix Visit:

This week we are very blessed to have Beatrix Watofa visiting. Beatrix is one of our mission partners. She is from Papua and works with Pioneers in South East Asia with the “Save The Humans” project. Among other things she is involved in translating Christian films into local languages and then editing the films so that the gospel message can be presented to various local communities. This involves a lot of travel, and she needs constant prayer for safety.

## Gift For Beatrix:

On Sunday after the 9.30am service we will be taking up an offering for Beatrix Watofa after the service. The offering will be cash only. If you would like to give some money for a gift for Beatrix please come prepared to do so.

## Goodbye to Noel and Alma:

Noel and Alma are moving into a retirement village further North and will probably be attending Narara Valley Baptist Church. This has all happened very quickly. There will be a card at the 9.30am service on Sunday that you can sign to say goodbye to them.

## Easter Offering:

On Good Friday we will have an offering to support Crossover Australia, who help Australian Baptist's reach out to introduce the nation to Jesus. You can give to the offering on Good Friday or give electronically through our usual bank account with the description "Crossover Appeal."

## This Sunday @ 9.30am:

This Sunday Beatrix will be in our service to share an update on what her work for the Lord has involved these past few years.

After the 9.30am service is an opportunity for prayer at the front of the church with Kerry and Peter, and others.

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/hP2ePjrABwo?si=RcrXMcfbPh5g0tSx>

## Sunday @ 4pm: SHOUT: Jesus Has Power Over Sickness.

Join us from 3.30pm for coffee, refreshments, and activities for the kids.

## Dinner with Beatrix, 6pm Saturday night at Everglades:

We have the opportunity to spend time with one of our Missionaries Beatrix, over dinner on Saturday night at the Everglades, 6pm. We welcome you to join us. **Please let Heather know today if you are coming (0419 297 496)**, so she can book a table.

## Welcome Lunch: Sunday 7th April:

In the Downstairs Hall. A great opportunity for new people to get to know our church family.

Twice a year the Church Fellowship joins together to share a meal and to welcome anyone who has recently started worshipping with us.

If you are a Ministry Partner, there is a list in the church foyer for you to write down if you are able to contribute to the meal. **Sheila Hooper. 0414 790 691**

## EBC Maintenance Day: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April:

A reminder to please talk with Geoff to discuss what you can do to help keep EBC properties looking good and working well. We had several responses last week including a lady willing to climb a step ladder to clean the fans whilst the husband steadied the steps etc! However, we still have many tasks that are currently unclaimed, many of which are feet on the ground jobs.

We will be having a brief meeting after morning church on Sunday 7th April to finalise any details for the combined workday on Saturday 13th April. Apart from those helping to keep our energy level up with food, you can do your jobs at anytime bearing in mind other users of parts of the premises. For example, a couple of men will be doing a bit of higher-level work on a Thursday.

Geoff - mobile: 0405 020 649

## Easter Services:



Please put these dates in your diary now. Flyers, and Social Media Posts will be available next week to invite your family, friends, and neighbours.

### Thursday 28th of March, 8pm: Service of The Shadows.

An opportunity to read through the passion of the cross and reflect on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### Friday 29th of March 9.30am: Christ's Compelling Love.

Includes communion.

### Sunday 31st of March 9.30am: Christ's Compelling Love –

A love that changes the world!

### Thank you letter from Central Coast Local Health District :

**Re: Donation to Central Coast Local Health District**

*Dear Pastor*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ettalong Baptist Church for the recent donation of beautiful patient care packs.*

*These packs will be given to patients as needed and I am sure will be well appreciated by our patients and their families.*

*We are very grateful for the support shown to the Central Coast Local Health District by the local community, in particular service, church or community groups such as Ettalong Baptist Church.*

*Thank you all again for your thoughtfulness, generosity, and continued support of our services, and in turn, the wider community.*

*Yours sincerely*

**Scott McLachlan**

**Chief Executive**

### Bible Study at Peninsula Village, Volunteers Needed:

At present, Sheila and Heather lead the group on the first & third Wednesday of each month, 2pm-2:45pm.

Both Sheila and Heather will be away in June and are asking for 1-2 people from the Church to fill in for them whilst they are away. The Village require volunteers to complete paperwork and have Police Record Check (The Village pay for this. Study material is available. Please contact Sheila Hooper.

### Women's Breakfast Saturday 23 March, 8am:

Saturday 23 March, 8am at Daleys Kitchen at Daleys Point: All women are invited to breakfast. If you would like to come, please RSVP to Margy Gilchrist on 0447431234 before Thursday, 21 March. If you would like a lift let Margy know. You are very welcome to bring a friend if you want to. Special dietary requirements can be catered for.

## Christmas boxes needed for Samaritan's Purse

**Large Shoe Boxes.** Heather and Beth would like to acquire some larger than normal size shoe boxes for the Spring Fair, for sale of the Christmas boxes for Samaritan's Purse. If you have them at home now, or if you purchase boots or large runners this year, please keep and give these boxes to Heather or Beth.

## Spring Fair Preparation.

**Spring Fair Plants.** Autumn is here and it's time to trim up those plants, bushes in the garden, and divide and repot. ***Don't forget cuttings can be struck from those trimmings, ready for the Spring Fair!***

If you need any help with pots or potting mix, just contact Joy on 0417443372, and/ cuttings into water and bring to Church and Joy will strike them. Thank you for your support. Joy

## Senior Suicide: The Silent Generation Speaking Up on A Quiet Killer:

Men die by suicide at much higher rates than women across all age groups. Among older men, loss of purpose and identity after retirement, weaker connections to children and grandchildren and to social networks can all be factors. Peninsula Men's Shed are seeking to help men in this vulnerable stage of life. Graham, our men's shed chaplain, and Bruce our men's shed President featured in the Guardian newspaper this week talking about the dangers of Male Suicide and how the Peninsula Men's shed is addressing this.



## Zoom Prayer Groups:

**Tuesday morning group 10am**

**Tuesday evening group 7pm.**

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.

## 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.**

## Find important Church Documents on our Website Documents page:

If you haven't already go to our documents page on our website at:

You can download and print documents, or simply read and fill in documents online!

<https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/documents/>

## Ettalong Baptist Church Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

**Pastor—David Gilchrist (phone 0448 431 234) or Elder—Jane Keuning (phone 0425 263 763)**

## Photos For the Newsletter:

Do you have any photos you would like to share in the newsletter? Many of our readers (including me) love photos, and we enjoy seeing the photo at the top of the newsletter each week. If you have photos you would like to share for the newsletter, please email them or give them to Lynette Tilden for sharing in the newsletter.

## Note From the Office Newsletter Deadline is Wednesday Morning:

If you would like anything added to future Newsletters, **please** send any notices to me at this email address [office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au) 'Peace be with you', Lynette.

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