



Thanks, Jane Keuning, for Photo of Rainbow Lorikeet

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, Thursday, 21 March 2024

From The Pastor: Palm Sunday is this Sunday:

In the year 520bc Zechariah prophesied that God's promised Messiah would come, riding on a donkey...

"See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zechariah 9:9)

As Jesus rode on a donkey down the Mount of Olives on what today is known as Palm Sunday, the people had no doubt that this was God's promised Messiah. The crowds went ahead of him heralding his arrival.

In all their celebrations however, the people failed to understand who the Messiah really is. By the end of the same week, we see another crowd. Rather than heralding his coming, this crowd was calling for his death. "Crucify, Crucify," they shouted.

Jesus disciples were bewildered. They had journeyed with Jesus every step of the way. They were there at the "high" of Palm Sunday and experienced the "low" of a crowd calling for Jesus' death. They didn't understand. It wasn't until after Jesus' resurrection that they would understand that God's will was actually being accomplished through the sin and depravity of the fickle crowd.

This Easter take time to consider the Christian account of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Consider also your own life. You, like the disciples, may feel bewildered and wonder "what is God doing?" Trust him and learn, as the disciples had to, that he is Messiah!

Blessings,
Pastor David

This Sunday @ 9.30am:

David will be preaching the last message in his series, "Investing for Eternity" from 2 Corinthians 9:1-15. David writes...

"Paul encourages the Corinthians to give cheerfully to the Jewish church, understanding that giving is investing. While they were not promised a monetary reward from God for their generosity, Paul clearly states that God would provide a harvest of abounding grace, right living and thanksgiving. Giving proportionately as we have purposed in our hearts, we too must cheerfully give, trusting in the One who provides the harvest."

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

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube:

<https://youtube.com/live/wniMuX4zOtA?feature=share>

Sunday @ 4pm: SHOUT!!: Jesus Has Power to Change Lives.

Join us from 3.30pm for coffee, refreshments, and activities for the kids. Today we will be acting out the account of the first Palm Sunday.

Easter Readings at The End of This Newsletter:

At the end of this newsletter are Easter readings for each day. This Easter, take the time to reread the account of Jesus last week, his death and resurrection.

Easter Services:



Please put these dates in your diary now. **Flyers, and Social Media Posts are available this week to invite your family, friends, and neighbours. please take a bundle.**

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

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

Readings and Prayers for Service of Shadows (Tenebrae Service):

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

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

Includes communion.

Good Friday Offering:

An offering will be taken up on Good Friday for Crossover Australia. Crossover assists Baptist churches to creatively share the good news of Jesus in their communities.

Give to this offering:

- **Give via Credit Card or Direct Debit:** Visit crossover.org.au/give. When asked for the name of your church/organisation use ETTALONG.
- **Give via Bank Transfer:** Account Name: The Baptist Union of Australia, BSB: 704 922, Account Number 100 008 872. Reference: CO ETTALONG.
- **Give cash or cheque:** On Good Friday place your Cash or Cheque in the collection box at the main entrance door of the church auditorium.

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

A love that changes the world!

Women's Breakfast This 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 today, 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.

Trivia night, & auction on Saturday 6th April 5:30pm.

Skills for Life are having a fund-raising night and would love you to come along. Contact Les Baker for details.

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 13th 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 any time bearing in mind other users of parts of the premises. For example, a couple have identified and labelled all the Power Points in the church building.

Geoff - mobile: 0405 020 649

Men's breakfast 8am 20th April at BBF Café Woy Woy.

Please advise Graham Checkley 0403 520 278 or Ian Makepeace (Ph:0411 012 125) if you are attending.

Ferry from Woy Woy to Davistown for lunch on 11th May:

Skills for Life Fundraiser would love you all to join us! Catching ferry from Woy Woy to Davistown for lunch at RSL Club on 11th May. RSVP by 21/04/24. Contact Les for more information: 0412866513.

Thank you from Helen Aspland:

I would like to thank you all for your prayers, messages, cards, and flowers following the death of my hubby Mick. I am so blessed to be part of this wonderful Church family.

A thank you letter/card from Beatrix. Card on notice board in foyer:

“Dear David and all the church members. Thank you so much for your generosity in taking time to give the amount of money to me. Words are limited to express my gratitude and appreciation of your prayers and financial gift. Your extra caring to me during my visit. My heart is filled with such a thankful heart to God and to you all. Thank you for making an extra mile to love and support me. Beatrix xx.”

Thank everyone for their support of Beatrix last week.:

Thank you to those who came to lunch, dinner, and Sunday morning tea so as to encourage her. Thank you too for our congregational generosity in financially supporting her without any notice of a gift offering. As a church we were able to give her approximately \$1400 in after church offering and individual donations. We know that she will use this money well for the spread of the gospel and we praise God for her outstanding faith in the mission field. Thank you all from The Mission Committee.

Newsletter from the Ford's

Is attached to this Newsletter.

Tuggerah Lakes Choral Society presents, He Lives! By Joe. E. Parks

Friday 29 March (Good Friday) 2.00pm Green Point Baptist Church 386 Avoca Dr, Green Point

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.

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

Yamaha grand piano to be gifted:

We received an email with this message last week. - "I am looking to give away my late husband's Yamaha grand piano to a passionate instrument lover, Organization, music department, individual, Church Or local schools in needs. Please kindly let me know if you will take it or have someone who will care for it."

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 Hall.

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 thew 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 this email address

office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au Blessings. David & Lynette.

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 All to this email with the word UNSUBSCRIBE and we will remove you from this email list.

Easter Readings for Each Day:

Take the time to read a portion of the account of Easter each day.

Palm Sunday, 1 April	Here Comes Your King	Matthew 21:1-11
Monday, 2 April	At The Temple	Matthew 21:12-17
Tuesday, 3 April	Jesus' Anointing	Mark 14:1-9
Wednesday, 4 April	Lords Supper	Mark 14:12-26
Maundy Thursday, 5 April	Betrayal & Denial	Mark 14:27-51 & 66-72
Good Friday, 6 April	Crucifixion & Death	Mark 15:21-41
Saturday, 7 April	The Burial	Mark 15:42-46
Easter Sunday, 8 April	The Resurrection	Mark 16:1-8
Easter Monday, 9 April	The Road to Emmaus	Luke 24:13-25
Tuesday, 10 April	Overcoming Doubt	John 20:19-29
Wednesday, 11 April	Forgiven & A New Start	John 21:1-19
Thursday, 12 April	The Ascension	Acts 1:1-11
Friday, 13 April	God's Gift of His Spirit	Acts 2:1-42