



Thank you, Elsie Goodsell for the photo of Sunrise at Blue Bay.

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, Thursday, 2 May 2024:

From The Pastor:

Heather and I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome we have received here at Ettalong Baptist Church. Again, I'd like to express my thanks to Ps David for his confidence, entrusting me with oversight of the fellowship for the next 2 months. We realize the difficulties which are involved in working 3 days a week and living remote to the fellowship. To that end, we look to the Lord for strength, wisdom and safe travel as we commute each week.

By way of background, it is now 40 years since I took pastoral charge of my 1st church, whilst in my 3rd year of Bible College. We have served churches at Croydon Park, Doyalson and Morisset, Wentworthville and Auburn, along with interim ministries at The Tabernacle in Newcastle, St Marys and most recently, Springwood. 1984 was also the year Heather and I married. We have 2 sons; Nathan (married to Karina) and Joshua (married to Ashling) and one grandson Arthur who turned 2 this week.

Heather trained as a teacher and her career included 22 years at Toongabbie Christian College. She enjoys craft, particularly sewing and needlework. Outdoors she enjoys keeping the garden tidy. I love reading and helping in the garden. Since retiring I have joined the Western Sydney Woodturners and learned new skills like making bowls and pens.

One key feature of an interim ministry is that we have the opportunity to join you at EBC in your expressions of the Kingdom of God in worship, fellowship and mission. We don't want to take that privilege for granted. As I said recently, I believe my responsibility over these 10 weeks is to love and feed the Lord's Flock. To that end, we pray that our time together will be one of mutual encouragement and blessing.

Grace and peace,

Phil Grebert

(Interim Pastor)

Sunday Morning Worship 5th May at 9.30am:

Join us this Sunday as Phil Grebert talks to us about Psalm 46. We will also be hearing from Thelma Minto and Liz Edminson about missionary work. Prayer will be available to you at the front of church, after the service, with Jane, and others. The service will be livestreamed on YouTube:

4pm SHOUT (join us from 3:30pm for refreshments and activities):

This Sunday afternoon we have our monthly dinner. This week we are having Pizza, \$2 a head, all welcome.

Lift lunch, tomorrow Friday 3rd May at 12:30pm:

Please join us for lunch at the Everglades, Woy Woy, at 12.30pm on Friday 3rd May.
All ladies are welcome. Contact: Marion 0401 344 814.

Would you like to join the Worship Team?

Expressions of interest to join our Worship team, please contact Joseph on 0432 838 765

May Mission Month:

May Mission Month will be held in our church from the last week in April to the first week of June. During this time, we will hear updates about what our missionaries are doing, and we will pray for each one. If you feel God is calling you to financially support the work during this time with an extra gift you can either place your donation in the envelopes in the foyer which are clearly marked for the support of our missionaries or give extra electronically through the church account clearly stating your gift is for our Missionary Partners.

We all praise God that so much has been achieved this past year through the work of our missionaries and the prayer/financial support congregational members have provided.

Skills For Life Fundraising Events:

Skills For Life has a number of fundraising events planned to raise important funds for Mango Tree Academy in Kisii Kenya.

Thursday 9th of May, Ferry Trip and Lunch @ Davistown RSL.

Saturday 15th of June, High Tea at Erina. \$55 per person. RSVP and payment essential by 2nd of June

Saturday 20th of July, BYO BBQ at Lions Park. Please give a donation on the day.

To RSVP for all events please see Les Baker or phone: 0412 866 513.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, 2nd June:

Anyone wishing to help with food, please speak to me after Church on Sunday morning.

Please help raise money for The Cancer Council. They do amazing work, and having been a volunteer for them myself, I know that they are self-funded. They reach out to help so many people and their families & they need all the help they can get. Let's face it, Cancer has had an impact on each and every one of us at some stage in our lives, whether directly, or indirectly. So, let's all get together for this great cause and celebrate life!

It would be wonderful if anyone would be able to help out by bringing food, cakes, slices, biscuits, scones, or even savory food would be appreciated. Please see me if you would like to help. Many thanks. Lynette.

Ministry of Leftovers will be closed Wednesday 8th May:

The Market will be closed this coming Wednesday. Thank you, Caroline.

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. You are welcome to join them.

Spring Fair Preparation.:

- Would Heather be able to find 1 or 2 volunteers to run a new stall for the Spring Fair. The EBC tour group have discovered in Rome quite a different range of ice creams we could sell. Heather would organise the store, food etc. just needs someone to sell them. Please email her if you can help out?



- Please continue to keep this activity in your prayers for all the preparation that is happening now and in the future.
- Heather thanks people for those large shoe boxes, she only needs a few more, so if you manage to get one, between now and the spring fair they can be left with Heather or if she is away with Beth.
- It is not too early to sign up for duties, see the chart on the notice board in the large hall, you won't be expected to do the tasks if your plans change nearer the time, it's just that Heather wants to go away knowing that there is enough support for the fair.
- Keep planting those seedlings for the pot plant stall, they are always a good seller.

Thank you, Heather. 0419 297 496

Zoom Prayer Groups:

Tuesday morning group 10am,

Tuesday evening group 7pm.

See Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.

Our 2024 Church Directory.:

Those of you in our Church directory that have an email address, would have received this year's copy.

There have been some errors discovered that we will correct here, for you to update yourself in your copy.

For those who are in the directory, that do not have an email, printed copies are available to be collected from the front office.

Used greeting cards needed:

We are needing more cards donated. Could you please leave them in tray in Church foyer or get in touch with Maria Janos on 0404 009 300. Thank you.

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:

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)

David's Long Service Leave:

David is on leave from 26 April and will be back in the church office on Wednesday 3rd of July.

Phil Grebert:

We welcome Phil as our Interim Pastor while David is away. Phil is planning to be available Friday, Sunday, and Monday morning. He will be using David's office at the church. Contact Phil by phone.: 0414 632 089 or by email philbertgre@outlook.com

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.

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