



Giving Thanks for 'Our Mother's'.

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, Thursday, 9 May 2024:

From The Pastor:

For my morning devotions this year, I am working my way through the Psalms with the help of Tim Keller's book "My Rock, My Refuge". This week I was reading Ps 59. It's set against the background of King Saul sending men to spy on David at his house. This is probably the incident recorded in 1 Sam 19:11-17. As David is on the run and his life is threatened by Saul's rage and jealousy, he composes this prayer for deliverance.

The Psalm is a mixture of confidence in the Lord and prayers for God's justice and protection. David expresses his desire for the schemes of the wicked to be turned back on them as the Lord goes before him. In the psalm, David mentions 3 specific emotions:

- 1) The laughter of God (v8). To David's way of thinking, as his enemies make their plans and plot against him, they are confident of the secrecy of their scheming. "*Who can hear us?*" – The Lord hears. He knows even what's said and done in secret, so we can be sure of His justice. He Laughs at the arrogance of those who oppose Him or threaten His children.
- 2) The snarling of David's enemies (v14). Saul's men returned from David's house after his escape, muttering and cursing. No doubt they feared Saul's retribution for their failure. Like hungry dogs they want to guard what's left of their integrity.
- 3) David's praise (v16). The problem is not resolved. He's still on the run but his confidence in the Lord's protection gives him confidence to sing. In the dark night of adversity David determines that he will sing of God's strength and love which the new day will reveal afresh.

Like David, we can be confident of God's wisdom, care, and protection. We believe in His unfailing love. And like David, we can choose to sing. *You are my strength; I will sing praise to You. You, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely!* (v17)

Grace and peace,

Phil Grebert.

Phil Grebert

(Interim Pastor)

Happy Mother's Day to all mother's and Grandmother's:

Mum's and Grandmother's, we are wishing you all a beautiful Blessed day with your families and loved ones.

These came to our office from, [Home - Focus on the Family Australia \(families.org.au\)](http://families.org.au)

so, I thought I would share the link with you. **Mother's Day Devotionals.**

Enjoy your special day! <file:///C:/Users/office/Documents/DevotionalsMothers-Day-2024.pdf>

If the mention of Mother's Day is difficult for you, Focus On The Family Australia have a counsellor available to you [pastoral counsellor available](#).

Sunday Morning Worship 12th May at 9.30am:

Join us this Sunday with our Interim Pastor Phil Grebert, who will be speaking about "Mothers and Jesus' Mission".

We will also be hearing from Liz Edminson, Kerrie and Peter Brown about missionary work. There will also be a video to watch. Prayer will be available to you at the front of church, after the service, with Kerrie, Peter, and others. The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/live/wn_4PMxAh-Y?si=e5ZuPz2XAs5Hm4Br

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

This Sunday afternoon may be quiet being Mother's Day, but then again, everyone is welcome to bring their family along if you would like to., **All are welcome to SHOUT!! always.**

Our Church Meeting will be held at 11am on Sunday 26th May:

Please join us.

Saturday May 18 is our National Day of Prayer. OneChurch Central Coast:

We have an opportunity to join with Christian leaders and churches of all denominations in our region, to pray, celebrate and give glory to God on the National Day of Prayer. Below is a list of Churches, with their addresses and times of their prayer service. It would be a truly miraculous event, to have so many people all praying together at the same time.

If anyone is wanting to not only go to any of these services but would like to offer a lift to any that can't get there on their own, please contact me, and if there are people interested in going, but would need a lift, also let me know please, so I can try to arrange the details. Many thanks and God Bless you always, Lynette.

- **OneChurch Central Coast – East**
(Terrigal Uniting Church) 380 Terrigal Drive, Terrigal. 18/05/2024 2:00pm – 4:00pm
- **OneChurch Central Coast – Central**
(Liberty Family Church) 129 – 131 Erina Road, Gosford. 18/05/2024 10:00am – 11:30am
- **OneChurch Central Coast – North**
(C3 Tuggerah) 127 Gavenlock Road, Tuggerah. 18/05/2024 10:00am – 12:00pm
- **OneChurch Central Coast**
(Coast Community Church) 22 Adelaide Street, Tumbi 18/05.2014 10:00am – 4:00pm

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.

Would you like to join the Worship Team?

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

Skills For Life Fundraising Events:

Skills For Life is having a fundraising event planned to raise important funds for Mango Tree Academy in Kisii Kenya.

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.

Sunday 2nd June is our Annual Australia's Biggest Morning Tea:

Thank you to the generous people who have told me what they are buying or baking to bring in, and others offering with setting up and making the hot drinks. I truly appreciate your help with this.

We still need more food please.

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.

EBC Office will be closed Monday 13th May:

The Office will be closed this coming Monday. I apologise for any inconvenience. Lynette.

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 heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au if you can help.
- 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.

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.

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)

Phil Grebert Interim Pastor

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.

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.