



Photo of the "The Areopagus and the Acropolis in Athens, Greece"

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, Thursday, 18 July 2024:

From the Pastor:

On Sunday mornings I have been preaching a series of messages titled, "The challenge of a changed man," and I have been sharing some of the things we saw and learnt on our recent "In the Footsteps Of Paul Tour, in Rome, Turkey and Greece. Paul had been changed by Jesus Christ in a remarkable way. He was so excited about his faith, everything he did, he did that others might come to know Christ. He travelled throughout the Roman Empire sharing the gospel wherever he went.

In Acts 17 we read, on coming to Athens he impressed the people there and he was invited to speak to the people on the Areopagus. Paul's address is a good example of how we can communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ. Paul began by complimenting his audience on their commitment to the god's. He mentions an idol that the Athenians had built to the unknown god. They built this idol for fear of leaving out one of the gods and missing blessings or receiving punishment. So, Paul begins, using this idol to introduce them to the one true God. Paul was not endorsing this god but using the inscription as a common starting point for his witness to the one true God.

Next Paul established common ground by emphasising what they agreed on about God (17:24–29). Paul's message unveiled the Supreme Creator, God, and dwarfed the petty idols that saturated Athens. Finally, he moved his message to the person of Christ, centring on the Resurrection (17:30, 31). Some mocked Paul's message, but some believed.

Let that be an encouragement to us, as we receive the same reactions as we witness. Don't be afraid to witness to others. It's their decision whether they believe or not, but you just be faithful in loving them and letting them know the gospel. You can follow Paul's approach: allow others to get to know you and trust you so they will listen to you. Establish common ground and use examples they understand. Explain the gospel clearly and succinctly moving people toward a decision about Jesus Christ.

Blessings, Pastor David

Sunday Morning Worship 21st July at 9.30am:

We continue our series on the Apostle Paul, "The Challenge of a Changed Man." This week we are looking at: Witnessing for Christ Bible Passage Acts 17:16-34

Prayer will be available to you at the front of church, after the service, with Denise, Joy and others.

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: <https://youtube.com/live/jY6Ojp6rgm0?feature=share>

SHOUT!! Resumes this Sunday 21st July from 3:30pm:

Please come and join us at SHOUT!! this Sunday from 3:30pm for great coffee, afternoon tea and activities and games for the children. At 4pm we welcome back our Past David Gilchrist, as he teaches us about Jesus being let down by his friends.

31ST JULY – under 2 weeks away – ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE:

All Church Leaders & Ministry Leaders / Coordinators:

Only 13 days remaining to send in your Annual Reports. Thanks to those who have done so, however, there are quite a number still to be received. Please send the report in a WORD document, or in the body of an email, thanks Jean.

ANNUAL REPORTS are now due. Please send your reports to me by the **31st of July** for compilation of the Annual Reports booklet. Thanks to all those who have already sent reports through.

Please describe what your ministry is, who you minister to, a review of the past 12 months, and plans and visions for the future or what is specifically applicable for your ministry.

Thank you. **Jean Lynch** Administration Deacon jeanelynch@gmail.com

Annual Church Meeting - Sunday 25th August, 11am to 1pm.

We believe that every true member of God's church is a Priest. Four times we meet to make decisions about the business of the church here at Ettalong. One of these meetings, every August, is our annual meeting when we affirm people to lead our church.

This year we need to affirm:

- **A Church Secretary.**

The church secretary is a Church Deacon (church leader) who keeps minutes of meetings, looks after correspondence and liaises with our office manager to correctly file and keep meeting records.

- **A Property Officer.**

Geoff Toon is retiring from this role. The property officer can be a Deacon or can be represented by one of the Deacons. We have many people who can help with the day-to-day maintenance of our church property but the property officer manages them and makes sure our buildings and property are maintained.

- **A Deacon with no portfolio.**

It would be wonderful to have another Deacon who can help us practically lead the church and help the Pastor, Elders and other Deacons make important decisions for the day to day smooth running of the church.

- **A Nominations Committee member.**

After serving in this role for 6 years Sheila Hooper needs to have a year off from the Nominations Committee. The nominations committee calls for nominations and identifies volunteers to fill various roles in the church, which are affirmed by the church meeting.

If you believe God may be calling you to volunteer in one of these positions, or to find out more information, please see Pastor David, or a member of our nominations committee, Helen Brooks, Sheila Hooper or Wendy Creamer.

Also, at the annual meeting we need to update some of the church's child safe policies.

All Ministry Partners who have an email address will receive an email about these updates in the next few days. Printed copies will be available next Sunday.

Pastimes Craft Group is in recess until Friday 26th July:

Our craft group is taking a break for two weeks over the school holidays.

Thanks, Sheila Hooper.

Skills For Life Fundraising this Saturday 20th July, 12pm. at Lions Park:

This Saturday! Everyone is welcome, it should be a wonderful day!

Skills For Life is having a fundraising event planned to raise important funds for Mango Tree Academy in Kisii Kenya. Saturday 20th of July 12pm, BYO BBQ at Lions Park Woy Woy. Please give a donation on the day.

RSVP, see Les Baker or phone: 0412 866 513.

Tempo Terrific Band Concert 3rd August 2:30pm. Tickets on sale now:

Due to popular demand, the Missionary Committee has asked the Tempo Terrific band to return to put on another concert to raise funds to support our 10 Missionaries here and overseas.

Come along and enjoy the music and the lovely afternoon tea. For catering purposes please purchase tickets as soon as possible. Some extra tickets will be available on the day.

Tickets available now from Kerrie and Peter from this Sunday 30th June, in the lower hall after church on Sundays (Phone 43244412 or 0438477567)."

Ticket prices are: \$15 adult \$10 - concession

\$5 - school student \$30.- family ticket

Please contact Jane about Women's Retreat August 16 – 18th 2024:

Yes, amazingly it is that time of the year again. Women's Retreat @ Bethshan, we realise the need for deep discussions, sharing of lives, connections with like minds, relevant Bible teaching, great food and contagious laughter. If you need a break from life, a recharge of spiritual batteries and a safe place to share, this is the retreat for you. **Registration: 01/06 - 26/07/24**

Retreat Date: 16-18 August 2024. See Jane Keuning for details or phone: 0425 263 763. Jane has asked that you let her know if you are going, and if you are staying or doing day visits, please.

Spring Fair is getting close, Saturday 7th September:

Flyers have been printed!

Don't forget that we will be needing homemade cakes, slices etc, for the cake stall.

- Please continue to keep this activity in your prayers for all the preparation that is happening now and in the future.
- Christmas Samaritans Boxes will also be on sale, ready to be sent. All you have to do is purchase one already filled. There will be a stall selling these so think about supporting this well recognized outreach and mission activity at the Spring Fair this year.
- 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.
- We need 1 more volunteer to run a new stall with Winda for the Spring Fair.

Please email her heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au if you can help.

Thank you, Heather. 0419 297 496

Items Needed for Mainly Music and SHOUT!! Craft:

Mainly Music and SHOUT!! are in need of these items for their craft projects:

Paper roll bases and Wafer roll tins



If you are able to help, please see/contact Jane Keuning phone: 0425 263 763

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.

Crossroads Counselling with Meg Toon:

Just a reminder of this service available to everyone. Phone: 0414 238 614

Ettalong Baptist Church Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

Pastor—David Gilchrist (phone:0448 431 234) or Deacon—Jean Lynch (phone:0425 749 224)

Find important Church Documents on Website Documents page:

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

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

Zoom Prayer Group resumes this Tuesday 23rd July:

Tuesday morning group 10am,

Tuesday evening group 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.

Note from the Office. Newsletter Deadline is Wednesday Morning:

If you would like anything added to future Newsletters, please send notices to the email below:
office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au

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.



This ancient citadel, built in the fifth century B.C. towers over the city and is home to some of the most impressive ancient ruins, buildings, and artifacts. Below another photo of the Parthenon. [Paul spoke near these places.](#) Thanks' Bruce Cansdale for the photos.



Ettalong Baptist Church

PRESENTS



TEMPO TERRIFIC BAND

Concert

Saturday 3rd August, 2:30pm

Raising support for our Mission Partners both locally and overseas.

Enjoy the music and a delicious afternoon tea.

**Ticket prices: \$15 adult, \$10 concession, \$5 school student and
\$30 family ticket**

For tickets phone Ettalong Baptist Church office on **43431237**
between 9.30am and 12.30pm Monday to Friday, or
message EBC on Facebook Messenger and we will be in touch.

8 Barrenjoey Road, Ettalong Beach (at roundabout).