



*Looking across to Wagstaffe-Half Tide Rocks, from Ettalong Beach.*

## **Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 22nd August 2024:**

### **From the Pastor:**

Every church has a purpose, even if it hasn't articulated it. The purpose of the church should be to be the family of God; Christ is our head; We are his body. But what does that mean in practice? For Ettalong Baptist Church, we have articulated that we are a church "moving forward together in Christ's steps."

Every church is driven by something. Tradition, finances, programs, personalities, events, seekers, and even buildings can each be the controlling force in a church. But to be a healthy, authentic church, as Christ intended us to be, we believe more than anything else we must be walking in Christ's steps, as he leads. That means we must, as Ephesians 5:1-2 states, "Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Just as children imitate their parents, we should follow God's example. His great love for us led him to sacrifice himself so that we might live. Our love for others should be of the same kind—a love that goes beyond affection to self-sacrificing service, and a deep trust in God.

Blessings  
Pastor David

### **Sunday Morning Worship 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 9.30am:**

This Sunday 9.30am we will be reminded of our church Purpose Statement and seeking to understand from Ephesians 5:1-20 how we can "move forward together in Christ's steps."

Prayer is available at the front of church, after the service, with Jean, Merryll and others.

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: <https://youtube.com/live/XZOX1qsL-rY?feature=share>

## SHOUT!! this Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August from 3:30pm:

Please come and join us this Sunday at SHOUT!! from 3:30pm with coffee, afternoon tea games and activities for the children.

Chris Hewitt will be leading us this week, as we continue to look together at **Trusting God** from the example of Daniel and his friends.

## Annual Church Meeting THIS Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August, 11am to 1pm:

This Sunday 11am to 1pm is our Annual General Meeting.

We will be affirming the following nominations:

- Deacon / Secretary: Helen Brooks
- Deacon / Treasurer: Rick Keuning (second 3-year term)
- Deacon: Jim Chamberlain
- Nominations Committee Member: Graham Checkley

We will also be affirming a Finance Team to assist the treasurer and talking together about forming a Property Team.

We will be voting on some updates to our child safe policies.

We will be discussing the place of Baptism in the requirement to be a Ministry Partner.

**Please find minutes from our May meeting on the Noticeboard in the Downstairs Hall.**

Thank you to Jean for compiling our book of Annual Reports. Thank you to everyone also who submitted a report. The reports will be emailed to Ministry Partners this week with a limited number printed and available from the Church foyer.

Please use the reports to give thanks for all that God is doing and to pray for our church.

## This year – Our Spring Fair will have Square Readers to pay by card:

The church has purchased 4 squares for people at the Spring fair to pay by card.

**We need 4 people to learn how to use these squares and be in charge of them.**

- We need one person from Ministry of Leftovers,
- One person in the Downstairs Hall,
- One person on the Deck
- One person in the Café.

Please see Rick if you can help with this. Phone: 0425 206 459

## Ministry Of Leftovers Will Be Closed Week Before Spring Fair:

The Ministry of Leftovers will be closed from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August, to set up for the Spring Fair. SEE YOU THERE! Thank you, Caroline.

## Operation Christmas Child:

*Maybe you have a heart for the OCC shoebox ministry but don't have the time or confidence to pack one yourself. You can purchase a fun-filled shoebox, ready to go at the Spring Fair.*

**These are priced at \$35 each** and you may wonder how that price is made up. The printed box itself costs \$1 then the shipping is \$12.50. The remaining \$21.50 is the bargain cost of the contents of the box which includes new, quality hygiene products, toys, school items, clothing and accessories and more. If you were to purchase one online from OCC, it would cost you \$35 there too.

More next week! See Beth if you need any information.

## Only 2 Weeks Until Our Spring Fair, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September:

*Flyers have been printed! Please take some to give to friends and do a letter box drop.*

1. A reminder to all that cakes, slices and sweets would be welcomed to sell on the cake stall at the Spring Fair on the first Saturday in September. Cakes sell out very quickly, so we need lots of cakes, slices etc. If you are not a cook but would like to donate SR flour, eggs or butter please contact Julie Shannon or Heather Crawford.
2. We have a new Italian Ice cream stall. Special thanks to Jimmy and Ruth Chamberlain, John Stagg and Winda Indriawati for running the stall. Heather is making ice cream for our ice cream stall at the Spring Fair and **needs ice cream containers** to put the ice cream in. Please see Heather if you are able to help with this.
3. Heather needs volunteers to set up on Friday afternoon and pack up on Saturday afternoon. Please let her know if you can assist with this. She has arrived home from overseas.
4. Please keep praying for this event. It is an important outreach to our community, please pray for those who have volunteered to welcome and chat to visitors at our fair.
5. Christmas Samaritans Boxes will also be on sale already filled, ready to be sent. If you would like to purchase one, there will be a stall selling these, so please think about supporting this well recognised outreach and mission activity at the Spring Fair this year.

Thanks, Heather. Email: [heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au](mailto:heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au) and Phone number: 0419 297 496

## CASH FLOATS for the Spring Fair:

**Attention all stall holders for the Spring Fair on Saturday 7th September. If you need a cash float to start the day, please let Paul Hooper know before Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.**

You can contact Paul by email at [paul.sheila.hooper@gmail.com](mailto:paul.sheila.hooper@gmail.com) Thank you.

## News From Oksana and Andrew Ford:

I have heard from Oksana and Andrew Ford; they have just finished running a Leadership Training Program for new YWAM leaders in Ukraine. They ran it in Kiev and the graduation was last week, with 21 new leaders graduating, being commissioned and prayed over/Anointed for the Lord and YWAM's service, running more discipleship training programs in the Ukraine.

I also had word from Dr Gordon Reid, that Australia has approved sending more Défense missiles to the Ukraine.

We praise God for this activity, still in the midst of the fighting happening and for the mighty work that the Lord is doing there, there are many converts for the Kingdom. Praise his glorious name.

Heather.

## Expressions of interest in an upcoming Alpha Course:

Alpha is an introduction to the Christian faith. It involves 12, two-hour sessions and a day away. It is a simple clear outline to the gospel of Christ. We hope to start an Alpha course either in the next few weeks or possibly at the beginning of next year. Thank you to those who have indicated their interest. Thank you to those who have already seen David. It's not too late to see David Gilchrist if you are interested.

## The Reyes will Visit our Sunday service 15<sup>th</sup> September:

Ettalong Baptist Church supports Mauricio and Michelle Reyes and their family, working in Paraguay. The Reyes will be taking part in both our services on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September. We will have a special morning tea with them after the 9.30am service.

After the morning service the missionary committee will also be taking them for lunch at Everglades Country Club. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please rsvp to Heather by Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September

## Stay Up to Date with Worship At EBC!

As you read this Newsletter, a separate, Worship Newsletter is also being released each week. It keeps all who receive it up to date with new songs, new plans, and opportunities to contribute in ways small and large. Join up to receive the Worship Newsletter if you're interested in contributing to Worship now, or in the future, or even if you'd like to suggest and request new Worship songs or provide feedback on individual services.

Everyone is welcome to join, because Worship music is about praising God as a whole congregation, not about simply playing instruments.

To join, send an email to [josepharrua@gmail.com](mailto:josepharrua@gmail.com), letting me know that you're interested – I'll add you straight onto the mailing list! If you don't have email access, you can also contact the EBC Office, and I'll get you connected. - Joseph Arrua

## Thank you from Marion Edwards:

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all those who messaged, phoned, sent cards and visited during my recent stay in hospital. Your thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated.

Marion.

## Skills For Life Trivia Night 21<sup>st</sup> September:

RSVP **Les Baker** Phone: **0412866513** if you wish to attend event, so that catering can be organised.

## Save the date, Christian Comedian Show Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 5:30-6:30pm

We have Nath performing a Clean Stand-Up Comedy Show in our Auditorium this November. Uncle Nath has been doing comedy in local Churches for seven years, to spread laughter and Joy into the community in churches.

**Everyone welcome.** More information will be posted closer to the date.

## 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.

## Zoom Prayer Groups every Tuesday at 10am and 7pm:

Tuesday morning group 10am,

Tuesday evening group 7pm.

See Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.

## Photos for the Newsletter needed please:

Our weekly Newsletter is looking for more photos. Please send them to Lynette at:

[office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au)

## 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:

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

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

## 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.

## Items Needed for Mainly Music and SHOUT!! Craft:

Mainly Music & SHOUT!! need **Wafer roll tins** for their craft projects: If you are able to help, please see/contact, Jane Keuning phone: 0425 263 763 Thank you to those that have donated.

Also, if you have empty **Pringle containers**, please.

## Newsletter Deadline is Wednesday Morning:

If you would like anything added to future Newsletters, please send notices to the email below, or leave a note for Lynette in the office, thank you:

[office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au)

## Only one week remaining for the MS Readathon:

Two brothers from our Sunday afternoon program SHOUT!! will be reading books daily during the month of August to raise awareness and money for MS –

**Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic illness that affects your central nervous system.**

This is Isaac's 5<sup>th</sup> year of doing this challenge and Dominic's 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Both boys look forward to doing this every year.

Here is the link if you wish to learn more and or sponsor the boys. - [Mario Bros](#)



## 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.



The poster features a vibrant, abstract floral background with various flowers in shades of yellow, pink, and teal. The text is centered on a light green rectangular background.

Ettalong Baptist Church

# Spring Fair

Saturday 7th September

9am to 1pm

8 Barrenjoey Road

on the roundabout with  
Memorial Avenue and  
Maitland Bay Drive

Devonshire Tea

Pre-loved Clothing, Bric-a-brac, Toys, Books,  
DVD's, Crafts, Plants, Homemade Cakes &  
Jams, Sausage Sizzle, Cake & Coffee and  
heaps more.

All proceeds provide aid and support  
to Australian and overseas missions