



Happy Father's Day

## Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 29th August 2024:

### From the Pastor "Happy Father's Day":

Do you want to get back to God? You first have to get fed up, own up to your sin, and offer up your life in sacrifice. Finally, you celebrate.

The Bible tells the story of a father with two sons. He loves both his sons. But his youngest son rejects him. He wishes his father to be dead. He takes his inheritance and lives recklessly with it in a distant city. He loses everything. He crashes to the lowest when he can only get a job feeding pigs.

But still the father never stops loving his son. See his response when the son comes back to his dad, a broken man. *"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him. The father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate."* (Luke 15:20, 22-23 NIV).

That father is like your heavenly father. No matter what you've done, when you come home to God, he wraps you in his love. He gives you his best and says, "All is forgiven! Go get the robe. Go get the shoes. Let's have a feast! My child has returned to me." You come home to celebration, not condemnation. And God wants you to join him in celebration as you give him your praise.

This Sunday is Father's Day. Let's make it a day of celebration. Let's celebrate that our heavenly father loves us so much. Praise God this Father's Day not just for who he is but also for the transformation he's made in your life!

Blessings  
Pastor David

### Sunday Morning Communion Worship 1<sup>st</sup> September at 9.30am:

Come Home to Celebration, Luke 15:11-32

This Sunday 9.30am we will be sharing in Communion in our service

Prayer is available at the front of church, after the service, with Jessie, Graham and others.

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube:

<https://youtube.com/live/HSrW7nyCmww?feature=share>

## SHOUT!! will NOT be on this Sunday 1st September - Father's Day:

Please come and join us Sunday week 8<sup>th</sup> September at SHOUT!! from 3:30pm with coffee, afternoon tea games and activities for the children.

## From the meeting last week:

From the meeting last Sunday:

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the church meeting last Sunday. At the meeting we affirmed the following:

- Rick Keuning (Deacon / Treasurer – 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term)
- Helen Brooks (Deacon / Secretary)
- Jim Chamberlain (Deacon)
- Graham Checkley (Nominations Committee)

We put together a Finance Team to assist the Treasurer. Thank you to Liz, Joy, Di, and Jim who will be working with our treasurer Rick.

We do not have a property manager. We will be all working together to look after our property. If you see something that needs fixing, please report it to the office. The office has a list of people who can assist in various ways around our property. Our office manager Lynette will be contacting people on the list to take care of the property.

## 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

## Operation Christmas Child:

**Please make sure that all items packed are new.** This is what Operation Christmas Child declares through customs, so we need to honour that in case containers gets checked.

**The least favourite age group to choose is boys 10-14 years.** Take up the challenge and pack one! You can now include roll-on deodorant, plain wet ones (not antibacterial or medicated), small tools e.g.: tape measure or screw- driver. If you pack a torch, please also buy extra batteries. This year we are being encouraged to make your box personal by sending a photo, card or letter.

*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.

## Expressions of interest in an Alpha Course early next year 2025:

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 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.

## 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.

## Only 1 Week 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.*

*Thank you to all who have been busy doing letterbox drops and leaving flyers in public places.*

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

## We would love to have your photos for the Newsletter please:

Our weekly Newsletter is looking for more of your beautiful photos. Please send them to Lynette at: [office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au](mailto:office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au)

## LIFT Lunch Yi An Chinese Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 12:30pm

The LIFT ladies will meet for lunch at Yi An Chinese Restaurant Woy Woy, on Friday, 13th September at 12.30pm. (NB. Changed date due to the Spring Fair)

All ladies are welcome to join us for fellowship and a delicious lunch. Contact: Marion 0401 344 814

## 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

## Christian Comedian Show - New Date in October to be confirmed:

We have Nath performing a **FREE** 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.

## 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.

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

## Last 3 days 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.

<https://www.msreadathon.org.au/fundraisers/MarioBros>

**Isaac and Dominic are very grateful to those who have sponsored and supported them. Thank you, Lynette Tilden.**

## 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)

## 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