



*'Our Tour Group' Visiting Mamertine Prison. From tradition Paul was held here before his audience with Emperor Nero*

## **Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, Thursday, 1 August 2024:**

### **From the Pastor:**

Max Lucado writes, "If anyone had a reason to be anxious it was the apostle, Paul! Envision an old man as he gazes out the window of a Roman prison; half-blind, squinting just to read; awaiting trial before the Roman emperor. His future is as gloomy as his gaol cell."

This Sunday we continue our series from the life of Paul, "The Challenge of a Changed Man," looking at his attitude in his letter to the Philippians. He wrote to the Philippians from his prison cell. But as he sits, chained, he never once dwells on his troubles. Instead, he chooses to focus on Christ and praises him, for he is in control. He challenges the Philippians, and he challenges you and me to do the same.

Read Paul's words in Philippians 4. You'd think he'd just arrived at a beach resort. His letter to the Philippians bears not a word of fear or complaint. Not one! Instead, he lifts his thanks to God. He challenges us to do the same "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).

Are you in prison? Do you feel trapped? Maybe you're having to move, and you don't want to leave your home or all that is dear to you. Maybe your hopes and dreams have been crushed and you are left feeling helpless. Maybe you need work, and no one will give you a go. Maybe you're in hospital and you don't feel like you're getting any better. Maybe you literally are in prison, wasting your life away. Paul's challenge to us is a decision deeply rooted in the confidence that God exists, that he is in control, and that he is good. We can trust in him. Rejoice in the Lord—always! You can't run the world, but you can entrust it to God!

Blessings

Pastor David

### **Sunday Morning Worship 4th August at 9.30am, communion service:**

This Sunday 9.30am we continue our series on Paul: Paul in Prison For Christ Philippians 4:1-13

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

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: [https://youtube.com/live/GJ\\_SoJppe4?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/GJ_SoJppe4?feature=share)

### **SHOUT!! this Sunday 4th August 3:30pm, is our monthly dinner night:**

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 Rick Keuning will be teaching us about apologising, from James 4:1-4 and Romans 12:18

**All are Welcome! Please bring a plate.**

## Condolences to the family and friends of Joan Kershaw:

Joan Kershaw passed away yesterday morning. Praise God that she is no longer in any pain and that she is with Jesus, who she loved and served. Please pray especially for her family at this time.

Funeral arrangements will be given later.

## LIFT Lunch Friday Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:30pm:

You are invited to join the LIFT Ladies for lunch at YI AN Chinese restaurant, Woy Woy, on Friday 2nd August at 12.30pm. For info: Marion Edwards **Phone:0401 344 814**

**All ladies welcome.**

## Monthly Worship Meeting is this Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 10am – 12pm:

This is in the Ettalong Baptist Church Auditorium.

**All musicians are to attend**, and AV Operators are *highly* encouraged to come. If you're looking to join the Worship Team, this is the starting-off point.

## Tempo Terrific Band Concert This Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2:30pm:

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 in the lower hall after church on Sundays Tickets will also be available on the Saturday at the concert. (**Phone:** 43244412 or 0438477567)."

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

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

Everyone is welcome, bring family and friends along for an enjoyable afternoon.

## Special Morning Tea: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August:

Please bring a plate of Morning Tea food to share: sandwiches, scones, cakes, slices, biscuits, etc - It does not need to be homemade!

Visiting Ministry Of Leftovers a couple of weeks ago, Dr Gordon Reid was so impressed by the work our church does for the community, that he wants to return for our 9.30am service and share in Morning Tea with us.

This is a great opportunity for him to learn more about our church and our ministries, which will allow him to 'spread the word'. If you are willing and able, could you please bring a plate for this special Morning Tea:

Many thanks, Lynette.

## 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

## Do You Need a Lift To The Women's Retreat @ Bethshan?

Please contact Jane about Women's Retreat August 16 – 18th 2024. Jane has asked that you please let her know if you are needing transport. Phone: 0425 263 763. Thank you.

## Men's Breakfast at BBF Café Woy Woy Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 8am:

Please join us for our men's breakfast. **All men welcome.**

Contact Ian Makepeace for details: **0411 012 125**

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

Mainly Music & SHOUT!! need paper roll bases, and 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.



## Bible Study Wednesday 14th Aug, 7pm - 9pm at the Gilchrist's home:

We are a small group, meeting each week for Bible study, prayer and loads of enthusiastic discussion about Our Lord and The Bible

Please speak to **Margy Gilchrist phone: 0447431234** if you would like to join us.

## Only One Month Until Our Spring Fair, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Please email her [heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au](mailto:heatherlcrawford@bigpond.com.au) if you can help. Thank you, Heather. **0419 297 496**

## Prayer requests are available at - EBC Prayer Chain, link below:

These requests are looked after by Lynette Tilden at: [ettalongbaptistprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:ettalongbaptistprayerchain@gmail.com)

## 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.

## Annual Church Meeting - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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.

## 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/>

## **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, 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.

# 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).**

