



Ettalong Baptist Church Summer Newsletter, 16th January 2025

January Sunday Morning Services:

We continue our series through the prophecy of Habakkuk.

You see it every day. Bad people taking advantage of the weak. Good people down on their luck. Innocent people suffering. War. Injustice. Ever get the feeling God isn't fair? Discover how an Old Testament prophet can inspire a modern day faith in God's promises.

Sunday 19th January 9.30am: Learning To Hear God's Voice

Habakkuk 2:1-3 and 1 Samuel 3:1-18

YouTube Livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/live/3ohy1tZoEPg?si=0oCAUSW4DHvBW073>

After the 9.30am service each week we have an opportunity for prayer or praise at the front of the church. Come to the stage after the service. Jean and Merryll and others would love to pray with you.

Alternatively, please ask for prayer by leaving a request on our website, or use the cards on the Welcome Table <https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/contact/>

Sunday 26th January 9.30am: Learning To Live By Faith

Habakkuk 2:2-20

YouTube: Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/KhKlF5-8nB8?feature=share>

After the 9.30am service each week we have an opportunity for prayer or praise at the front of the church. Come to the stage after the service. Jessie and Graham and others would love to pray with you.

Sunday 2nd February 9.30am: Trusting God and Holding on to Hope in a Suffering World

Habakkuk 3:1-19

YouTube: Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/BsHjeYQz5rl?feature=share>

After the 9.30am service each week we have an opportunity for prayer or praise at the front of the church. Come to the stage after the service. Heather and Jane and others would love to pray with you.

Pastors Leave:

Our Pastor, David Gilchrist will be on leave from Monday 20 January to Thursday 23 January inclusive, and Monday 27 January to Wednesday 29 January inclusive.

New Weekly Monday Morning Prayer Gathering:

We are starting a regular morning 'Prayer & Praise' time at the Church, Monday mornings 8.30am to 9.30am in the auditorium. We will be starting this coming Monday morning 20th January. All are very welcome to attend. This prayer gathering will be a time of praising the Lord and dedicating the week's ministries and the guidance of the Church to the glory of God. Even if you can't make it, we ask for your prayers and support as we start this new ministry of prayer. Jane Keuning, Elder.

Chapel Services:

Did you know Meg Toon and David Gilchrist lead Chapel Services on Tuesday Mornings each month at Hillview House and Peninsula Village. David and Meg would appreciate prayer for this vital ministry. Please pray that more residents attend the services. Pray for those who already attend as they seek to invite other residents along.

Spring Fair Craft Preparation Day:

Don't forget this Saturday 18th of January, 9am to 2pm, is the craft preparation day in the Church Downstairs Hall. It's not too late to just turn up. Bring something to make or just turn up and ideas and supplies will be provided. We will also need packers. You don't need to be a crafty person to assist us on the day. Morning tea and Lunch will be provided.

This year we will also do a preliminary pack of some of the Christmas boxes.

See Heather for more information. (Phone 0419 297 496)

Missionary Meeting:

This Sunday in the Downstairs Hall after morning tea. Come and hear what our what our mission partners are doing in 2025. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Spring Fair Coordinator's Meeting and Thank You Lunch:

After morning tea on Sunday 9th February 2025. Please RSVP to Heather for catering purposes. We will be reviewing last year's fair and making plans for our September 2025 Fair.

Connect Groups 2025:

Connect Groups are the name of our Bible study and small groups. Small groups are an important place for members of the church to bond and make significant friendships, while studying and learning the Bible together. There is a range of groups on offer and there is a list on the notice board if you are interested in joining a group.

This year Heather (our Connect Groups Coordinator) is looking at starting some new groups:

- a Connect and chat group to be held at Maria's home, on Monday mornings, viewing and talking together about Christian films.
- a new day time Women's Connect group.

Please see Heather to find out more about Connect Groups.

Baptism and Ministry Partners Bible Study:

It is a requirement of our Church that to be a Ministry Partner you must be Baptised as a believer. Is this biblical? Is there a better way to encourage people to be Baptised and also to be fully involved in the church as a Ministry Partner? The elders are asking all our Connect Groups to complete a series of 3 studies to help us work through the issue. If you are not in a Connect Group, we encourage you to complete the study individually or with a few friends. The study can be found on our [website](https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Baptism-and-Ministry-Partners-Bible-Study.pdf), or printed copies are available at the Church Office.

<https://ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Baptism-and-Ministry-Partners-Bible-Study.pdf>

Alpha:

Alpha commences Thursday evening 27th of February 6.30pm to 8.30pm, for coffee and desert. Alpha is an excellent introduction to the Christian Faith. See Pastor David for more details. See David also if you would like to be a participant on ALPHA or if you would like to be a helper on ALPHA.

LIFT (Ladies In Fellowship Together) Lunch:

Our first LIFT Lunch for 2025! Friday 7th Feb at 12.30pm at Yi An Chinese Restaurant, Woy Woy.

All ladies are welcome! Please phone Marion. 0401 344 814

Transport To Church Needed:

Joanne is new in our church but doesn't have transport. Unfortunately Buses aren't an option on Sunday morning for her and she is looking for people willing to pick her up. A couple of church members have already committed to be able to do this but it would be good to have a couple more. Joanne lives at 260 Railway St, Woy Woy.

If you are able to help Joanne please phone her on 0460 443 512.

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.

Commencing in February the Church Finance Team will again be putting the offering and budget figures in this newsletter each week.

Zoom Prayer Groups are currently in recess:

Please 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.

EBC Willing and Able Ministry, 'helping our people at home':

In our church, we have many people in need of assistance to do small jobs around the home, like changing a light bulb. This is a job easy for many, but impossible for others.

If you are in need of this kind of help, please contact Lynette at office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au

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 our Website:

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

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

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.