



Thank you to Joseph Arrua for sharing "Scripture doodling" from the days you attended Umina Beach SUFM.

Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 13th November 2025

From The Pastor:

Sorry that the newsletter is late for most people this week. Thank you to those who contacted the church office asking for it. Lynette has not been well this week. Please pray she feels better soon.

We were privileged to have Joseph Arrua share a testimony with us last Sunday in our 9.30am service. Joseph shared about his time on SUFM (also known as Beach Mission). He shared the verse that he has doodled above from Hebrews 4:12. Thank you to Jannine for finding his "Scripture doodles."

On Sunday afternoon, one of our mums from Mainly Music, Samantha was Baptised, and her two children Hugh and Halle were dedicated. It was a beautiful service. Please pray for Samantha, Hugh and Halle as they continue to walk with the Lord in the days ahead.

In our 9.30am service this Sunday we are looking at how the Holy Spirit leads us. We sometimes expect it will always be "beside peaceful streams" (Psalm 23:2). But that is very rarely true. The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness for a long and difficult time of testing. He may lead you into difficult situations. When facing trials, first make sure you haven't brought them on yourself through sin or unwise choices. If you find no sin to confess or unwise behavior to change, then ask God to strengthen you for your test. Finally, be careful to follow faithfully wherever the Holy Spirit leads. Trust him... he won't let you down!

11am Sunday: Special Communion Service for All Who Belong to EBC:

Our church has faced a difficult year. If you regularly attend Ettalong Baptist Church, and especially if you are a Ministry Partner, I invite you to a special communion service 11am this Sunday for about half an hour.

Pastor David Gilchrist

9.30am Sunday Morning Service, 16th November 9.30am:

Topic: The Holy Spirit Leads

Bible Passage: Luke 4:1-14

Jean and Merryll and others will be at the front after the service for anyone who wants prayer.

The service will be livestreamed at: <https://youtube.com/live/dqmWkiDZCak?feature=share>

SHOUT!! Worship for the whole Family: From 3.30pm

SHOUT!! is our all-age service. Join us for afternoon tea, activities for the children and worship. We will be considering "Life With God our Father" and will be learning the Lord's Prayer.

Last Day of Alpha: Tuesday 18th November, 12.30 – 2.30pm:

- What about the church?

Please pray for our guests and for David and Denise as they host the group.

Church Congregational Meeting: Sunday 23rd November 11am:

Please join us for our church meeting next Sunday 23rd November, in the church auditorium at 11am, after morning tea.

Tickets Sales for Carols in the Stadium:

Carols in the stadium is the first ever combined Carols event organised by the Christian Churches of the Central Coast.

Tickets are \$10 or \$25 for a family (2 adults 4 junior).

The church office is able to purchase tickets for anyone from EBC planning to attend Carols.

- **Cash Sales:** Monday to Friday, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- **Credit Card Sales:** Tuesday to Thursday, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- **Bank Transfer:** Alternatively, you can deposit the ticket amount into our EBC Bank account by Direct Deposit using the reference Carols and your name.
- **You can also purchase tickets after our Sunday Services.**
- **You can also buy tickets direct through Ticketek**

LIFT (Ladies In Fellowship Together) Breakfast at Crowne Plaza:

There are still a few places available for our end of year breakfast at Terrigal on Friday 5th December. If you wish to attend, please book with Marion 0401 344 814 or Di 0411 273 124 by Sunday 30th November

Transport: Carpool from the church at 7.30am.

Payment: Individually on the day. \$39 (locals). Proof of Central Coast residency may be needed.

Gingerbread Man Decorating Day 29th November @ 2.30 - 4pm:

Gingerbread Man Decorating day is Saturday 29th November 2025 at 2.30-4pm in the Downstairs Hall. Gingerbread men kits are \$18 each. For more information grab a flyer & contact **Joy** for bookings on **0417 443 372**.

Women's Gingerbread House Making Night: 1st December @ 6.45pm:

Please note: All kits need to be ordered and paid for by this Sunday, 16 November.

This is an outreach event that women can invite their friends to. School aged children are welcome to accompany an adult. Cost is \$45 for the kit.

Our demonstrator will show everyone what to do, a thought provoking 10-minute message will be given and a delicious supper provided. There are lucky door prizes during the night and the night concludes with your assembled and decorated house being dusted in snow and wrapped in cellophane.

This is a really fun night so please consider coming and pray about who you could invite. Thank you to the men who have volunteered to serve during the evening.

Please see Margy Gilchrist before Sunday to book. Phone: 0447 431 234.

Men's Christmas @ YI AN Woy Woy, Saturday 6th December at 6pm:

The men's fellowship Christmas dinner will be held Saturday 6th December, at 6pm. The venue will be YI AN Chinese Restaurant, Woy Woy. \$32.00 banquet. **RSVP by Wednesday 3rd December.** For information contact Ian Makepeace.ph: 0411 012 125

Christmas Market: Saturday 13th December @ 6pm - 8pm:

Following the annual Family Nativity Service.

Please be praying for our Christmas Market.

Ways you can be involved:

- Make craft gifts or baked items to sell.
- Help with the sausage sizzle.
- Join the roster for our 'Prayer Tent', or help out with our 'Hope Tree/Wall'.
- Help with setup and pack up.

Please add your name to the signup sheets on the notice board in the downstairs hall or contact Jimmy or Liz with questions or ideas. jimchamberlain@bigpond.com or lizedminson@hotmail.com.

To contribute towards the cost of making things you can do so via online banking using the reference "CM costs" or place cash in a marked envelope in the offering box. Liz & Jimmy (Finance Team)

Upcoming Christmas Fundraisers:

- **Angel Tree Gifts** – Gifts to families of parents in NSW Correctional Facilities. Please see Linda Strapps for more information.
- **Christmas Hampers** – In the last week of November and early December we will again be collecting food items to make up hampers for people the church knows who need some encouragement and blessings at Christmas time. See Pastor David for more information.
- **Christmas Day Offering** – Supporting the work of Baptist World Aid Australia.

Big Band Spectacular: Saturday 15th November 1.30pm

At Ettalong Diggers. Doors open at 1pm.

Featuring: Brisbane Water Brass Band, Gosford Musical Society Choir and Tempo Terrific Band, with our own Meg and Yun.

The afternoon is free but bookings are essential. Book with Ettalong Diggers. On the day there will be opportunity to give a donation or to enter a competition to help cover the costs of the three bands.

Skills for Life Visit to The Art Gallery:

Saturday 10th January 2026 – To help raise money for Mango Tree Academy in Kenya, Skills for Life are planning a visit to the Art Gallery. See Les Baker for details and to RSVP. Phone: 0412 866 513

(Please note: The planned trip to Sydney on Sunday 20th December has been cancelled)

EBC's Prayer Groups, All Welcome:

- **Sunday Mornings 8.45 – 9.15am. Sunday morning before the 9.30am service at the back of the Downstairs Hall.** You are welcome to join them.
- **Monday mornings 8.30am to 9.30am in the HILL HALL.** This prayer gathering is a time of praising the Lord and dedicating the week's ministries and the guidance of the Church to the glory of God.
- **Tuesday Zoom Prayer groups.** These are held at 10am and 7pm. Please see Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.

Ettalong Baptist Church Prayer Chain:

- If you would like prayer, please send your request to: ettalongbaptistprayerchain@gmail.com

A Letter from Beatrix Watofa:



Hello Friends and Cherished Supporters at Ettalong Baptist Church,

I hope this message finds you well! I wanted to share some exciting news about Edwin and Amy Samson and our journey together. Since I introduced him to MSU Tawi-Tawi back in 1997, we've built a wonderful relationship. Edwin has been teaching short courses and getting involved in various campus activities, while I've focused on outreach beyond MSU.

Last month, I received a lovely call from Amy while Edwin was travelling outside the Philippines. She shared that Edwin got a fantastic opportunity to become an adjunct professor in the Marine Biology Department at MSU Tawi-Tawi, thanks to MSU Marawi in mainland Mindanao! I'm so grateful that, under Edwin's leadership in the SS ministry, we now have even more opportunities to inspire and support SS students from high school through university.

I've attached the appointment letter from MSU Marawi for you to check out. As a team, we're on the lookout for anyone interested in joining Edwin's team in Manila or who might be willing to visit the Philippines regularly to help out at MSU. If you're interested or know someone who might be, please reach out! I'd love to chat about it more.

I want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued financial and prayer support. It truly makes a difference and has allowed our ministry among SS students to grow. Your recent gift to the Mission Office means the world to us!

Sending you all my warmest blessings,

Beatrix

Giving:

Our bank details are:

Account Name: Ettalong Baptist Church – Bendigo Bank

BSB Number: 633 000

Account Number: 225 369 099

You may also give cash or cheque by placing your offering in the box next to the main entrance door in the church auditorium.

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/>

Ettalong Baptist Church, Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact: Pastor—David Gilchrist (phone: 0448 431 234) or Jean Lynch (phone:0425 749 224)

Newsletter Items:

Please send your Newsletter items to Lynette at: office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au by 12.30pm Wednesdays. Thank you.

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