



*Thank you, Heather for this photo of Andrew, Oksana William and Elizabeth Ford.*

## Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025

### From The Pastor:

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Thank you to Geoff, Alex and Yun for putting up the banner advertising Carols in the Stadium. Please join us for Carols on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Tickets are \$10 or \$25 for a family. You can purchase tickets through Ticketek, through the church office or at our Sunday services.

Thank you to Pat for his help putting up the stable, the nativity scene and the Christmas lights in the church auditorium and thank you to Merryl and Robert for once again letting us use their beautiful homemade nativity scene. Thank you to Debbie who will be decorating the church this week.

Thank you to everyone who are volunteering with our various Christmas activities. It is beginning to look like a very special Christmas.

In our 9.30am service this Sunday we are looking at the topic, do not grieve the Holy Spirit. It is so easy for us to be unkind and ungracious. Ephesians 4:29-32 shows us that we grieve the Holy Spirit first by rotten speech (v. 29) and second by rotten attitudes (v. 31). But these two things are not separate. Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. We must stop making the Holy Spirit weep because of our unkind words and inner ugliness. Cry out to God for his help. Ask the Lord to open your eyes and see the uncleanness within. Pray for a fresh vision of Jesus dying for you.

### 9.30am Sunday Morning Service, 23rd November 9.30am:

Topic: Do Not Grieve the Holy Spirit

Bible Passage: Ephesians 4:17-32

Greg, Elizabeth 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/vIU09MwbeW0?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 continuing to learn about "Living Wisely."

### Church Congregational Meeting: This Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 11am:

All ministry Partners, Church members and visitors are invited to join us for our church meeting this Sunday 23rd November, in the church auditorium at 11am, after morning tea.

## Please prayer continuously for the Ukraine:

We have received this from Andrew and Oksana, who have a YWAM team in Ternopol. The city has received a particularly heavy onslaught from Russia overnight, and they plead for your prayers.

**As of this morning:**

**Update: 25 Killed, Including 3 Kids.**

**93 Injured, Among Them 15 Kids.**

**Buildings have been bombed, and this is a small and close community, so it's felt by everyone.**

Many thanks,

Melanie

## 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**

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

We are looking for people to help us set up for this years Gingerbread Man Decorating day.

If you could come either Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 1pm and/or Saturday morning 29<sup>th</sup> November at 9am, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you

Jane.

## Women's Gingerbread House Making Night: 1<sup>st</sup> December @ 6.45pm:

All our gingerbread kits are sold, and we have 80 women, including some school aged children, coming to our Gingerbread House making night. Nearly all our attendees don't go to any church so how blessed are we to have them all with us?

**We need help with a few things:**

1. Supper finger food. Please see Margy if you can help her with such things as finger food that can be heated up in the oven, sandwiches, Christmas cake, slice, biscuits, chips, savoury biscuits and dip, cheese platter, fruit platter, chocolates etc. Bought and homemade finger food equally welcomed.
2. Helpers to assist Margy set up tables and chairs to seat 80 people on Sunday, 30th November after morning tea. There will be a floor plan to follow.
3. Help on the morning of Monday 1 December with getting everything set up. Margy will have a list of jobs. If you have any flowers such as hydrangeas, agapanthus, bougainvillea etc could you bring them on Sunday morning, 30 Nov or 9.30am Monday morning, 1 December, so that we can put them in vases and display around the hall?
4. Prayer for all our guests who are coming, our lovely speaker Lea Smith, all the church volunteers helping on the night and that the night runs smoothly. Margy would also value prayer as she always gets very anxious about everything that needs to happen. Thank you. Margy Gilchrist, 0447431234

## 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.

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

The men's fellowship Christmas dinner will be held Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jimchamberlain@bigpond.com) or [lizedminson@hotmail.com](mailto: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)

# Christmas

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**Saturday 13th December**  
**Family Nativity @ 5pm**



**Christmas Market & BBQ**  
**@ 6pm – 8pm**




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**Thursday 25th December**  
**Christmas Day Service @ 9.30am**  
 JOIN US AT  
 Ettalong Baptist Church  
 8 Barrenjoey Road, Ettalong Beach  
 'The Church at the roundabout'

## Christmas Fundraisers:

- **It is NOW time to donate to Angel Tree Gifts** – Gifts to families of parents in NSW Correctional Facilities. Please see Linda Strapps for more information.
- **Next Week We start preparing for the 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.

## Ministry of leftovers will be closed over Christmas New Year:

MOL will be closing from 22<sup>nd</sup> December. MOL will reopen on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026. This will allow all our wonderful volunteers to have a well-deserved break.

## Skills for Life Visit to The Art Gallery:

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:ettalongbaptistprayerchain@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au) by 12.30pm Wednesdays. Thank you.

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