



*Thank you, Lynette for photo of Eastern End of Ocean Beach. This was taken late Thursday, no sign of the storm earlier.*

## **Ettalong Baptist Church Newsletter, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

### **From The Pastor:**

It's looking even more like Christmas around our church building. Thank you to Debbie Cansdale and her granddaughter Jess for the beautiful decorations around the church building.

On Saturday we have our Gingerbread Man decorating day for little children, and on Monday we have the Gingerbread House making evening for women. Please pray for these two major events.

I have the absolute privilege of running Christmas Services in three of our local primary schools. I had one on Wednesday and there are two services to go. Please pray for these services that the children will be challenged with the message that Jesus Christ was born for them.

A lot of our ministries are having Christmas parties over the next few weeks. Peninsula Pastimes have their Christmas Party on Friday. Pray for the women and men who come to this party that they too will understand the true meaning of Christmas, as they celebrate the end of year together.

This Sunday in our 9.30am service is our last message on our series on the Holy Spirit. We desperately need the Holy Spirit today. More than anything else, we need to rediscover the Holy Spirit and learn anew to depend on him. If we live another day without the Holy Spirit's control in our lives, we have only ourselves to blame. God has made himself fully available to us. Have you made yourself fully available to him?

Pastor David Gilchrist

### **9.30am Sunday Morning Service, 30<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am:**

Topic: How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?

Bible Passage: Ephesians 4:14-20

Denise, Joy 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/8EZxG4728zo?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."

### **Christmas Flyers Are Available In The Church Foyer Now:**

Please grab a bundle of flyers to hand out to you family, friends and neighbours. If you are able, please do a letter box drop in your area. Thanks

## Gingerbread Man Decorating Day 29<sup>th</sup> November @ 2.30 - 4pm:

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

If you could come tomorrow, 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:

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, 30<sup>th</sup> 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, to donate, could you please bring them on Sunday morning or 9.30am Monday morning.
- 4. Prayer.** Please pray for all our guests, our lovely speaker Lea Smith, all the church volunteers helping on the night and pray 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, 0447 431 234.

## Ministry Of Leftovers:

- MOL will be closed on 1<sup>st</sup> December, due to setting up for Gingerbread event.
- 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.

## Christmas Hampers:

This year Ettalong Baptist Church will again be putting together hampers and we need your nominations for people who would appreciate a hamper, or a small gift bag.

The names of people you nominate to receive a hamper can be either because of their current financial circumstances, or simply because they need a gesture of love this Christmas. Nominees can be members of our church, or neighbours and friends we know. They can be young and old. Please pray asking that God will lay on your heart the name of those who should receive a hamper.

From this Sunday, please donate items for the hampers. Place your gifts under the Christmas tree in the Church Auditorium. Alternatively, your financial gift will be very much appreciated. You can give it electronically, with the reference Hampers, or in cash, with Hampers clearly marked on your donation, or see David Gilchrist.

Thanks for your help with our hampers

Pastor David

## Angel Tree Gifts:

**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.

## Men's Christmas @ YI AN Woy Woy, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> December.** For information contact Ian Makepeace.ph: 0411 012 125

## LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) Breakfast @ Crowne Plaza:

- **Where:** Crowne Plaza Terrigal
- **When:** Friday 5th December at 8.00am.
- **Transport:** Carpool from the church at 7.30am.
- **Payment:** Individually on the day. \$39 (locals). Proof of Central Coast residency may be needed.

We will be meeting at the church at 7.30am to carpool. If you haven't already arranged a lift and are unsure, please contact Marion.

Looking forward to seeing everyone bright and early on Friday 5th, ready to enjoy a great time of fellowship as well as an amazing breakfast. 😊 For info. Marion 0401 344 814 or Di. 0411 273 124

## 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 **on Sunday** or contact Jimmy or Liz with questions or ideas. Or email [lizedminson@hotmail.com](mailto:lizedminson@hotmail.com).

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

## 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). Buy tickets through Ticketek. The church office is able to purchase tickets for anyone from EBC planning to attend Carols.

## Thank you, Letter from Helen:

Please accept my sincere thanks for the beautiful hydrangea plant and all the good wishes extended to me last Sunday. I have been part of this amazing church since 1998, and I will greatly miss everyone and everything about EBC. My sincere thanks and my very best wishes to you all. May 2026 be a new beginning with many happy positive steps ahead.

With love and best wishes always. Helen Brooks.

## 'Reaching Out with the Reyes':

The latest Newsletter from the Reyes is attached.

## Free Tempo Terrific Concert, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December:

Tempo Terrific Band are giving a free concert in The Hive at Erina Fair on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December. There will be two brackets of music from 11.00-11.45am, and 12.15-1pm.

Lots of film music, musicals and other well-known tunes. Kids welcome to see up close how music is played, including junior drummers who are welcome to watch Tempo's amazing drummer Dave in action! Blessings, Meg.

## 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

## 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)

## 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/>

## 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.

## 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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