



Sunrise at Staples Lookout on the Day of our Spring Fair, thanks Jane.

Ettalong Baptist Newsletter, 10th September 2026

First Aid Training – Last Chance to Sign Up:

Our church First Aid Training Day here @ EBC is next Saturday, 19th September, 9am to 4pm in the church fellowship hall.

The cost is \$120 per person (as long as we have 10 or more people). Please don't let price be a reason not to sign up for the course. Please speak with David Gilchrist if you can't afford this.

Register for the course by writing your name and email address on the sign-up sheet in the church Fellowship Hall or reply to this newsletter to email Lynette.

Last day to register is Tuesday 15th September if you are able to do this training.

Thank you, Lynette: office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au

From The Pastor:

This Sunday in our 9.30am service we are looking together at Hebrews 10:19–25 which invites us to remember the astonishing confidence we have because of Jesus. Through His sacrifice, the way into God's presence has been opened; not cautiously, not fearfully, but boldly and freely. We do not draw near to God because our conscience is spotless by our own effort, but because Jesus Christ has cleansed us and stands as our great priest. This passage calls us to come honestly before God with sincere hearts, trusting that the One who promised is faithful. When guilt, doubt, or weariness tells us to keep our distance, the gospel tells us to draw near.

But this confidence cannot be lived in isolation. Hebrews also calls us to hold firmly to hope and to encourage one another toward love and good deeds. Faith is strengthened in community, where we remind each other of God's promises and help one another persevere. Gathering together is not merely a habit to maintain; it is a gift through which God keeps our hearts awake as "the Day" approaches. Today, let us draw near to God, hold fast to hope, and look for opportunities to encourage each other in love.

Blessings
Pastor David

9.30am Sunday Morning Service, 13th of September:

Topic: Draw Near, Hold Fast, Stir Up

Bible Passage: Hebrews 10:19-25

'Kid's Church' is on during our 9.30am service. All children are welcome!

Kerrie, Peter and others will be at the front after the service for anyone who would like prayer.

The service will be livestreamed: <https://youtube.com/live/L0m1h-wX5PI?feature=share>

Important Special Church Ministry Partners Meeting:

This short meeting which is strictly for Ministry Partners only will be held Sunday 20th September 2026.

Thank you From the Gideon's:

Ulrich Jaeger would like to thank the church for making him and his wife feel so welcome last week and for your generous donations totalling \$475. All this money will be used for the purchase of bibles.

Ladies In Fellowship Together Lunch: Friday 11th September:

Tomorrow is our next LIFT lunch, 12.30pm Friday September 11th, at 'YI AN' Chinese restaurant in Woy Woy. All ladies are very welcome to join us. Info. Marion 0401 344 814

New Young Mums Connect Group - 10.30am Tuesdays at the Box:

Ettalong Baptist has started 'A young mums Connect group'. Bring the kids, enjoy a relaxed coffee or tea at The Box, on the Esplanade at Ettalong. Let the kids play in the children's play area and learn about some of the vital faith passages in Scripture in a relaxed environment.

If you are interested in joining us please chat to Heather. Phone: 0419 297 496

Men's Breakfast:

The next men's fellowship breakfast will be held Saturday 17 October 2026, at 8am, at BBF Cafe (Woy Woy). Regards Ian Makepeace.

Thank You, from Jessie Checkley:

My wholehearted and sincere gratitude goes out to everyone who showed such loving support and care throughout this difficult season I have found myself in, first with Graham's declining health and now learning to live without the love of my life.

Since Graham's passing, I have been deeply touched and overwhelmed by the prayers, cards, messages, and beautiful flowers I have received. Every expression of kindness and love has meant more to me than I can possibly put into words.

All I can really say is **thank you**, from the bottom of my heart, and praise God for His goodness and for the wonderful people He has placed around me.

With heartfelt thanks and love 🍷 , Jessie XX

News from Beatrix. 'The Hope of the Islands':

Please find Beatrix's August Newsletter in church foyer.

Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia Fundraiser:

Robert Mead is fundraising for Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Please sponsor Robert for this month's walking, raising money for Prostate Cancer Research and for the special nurses who support men going through this cancer.

To sponsor Robert you can click on the link <https://www.thelongrun.org.au/s/12472/25799>

Alternatively, you can donate cash which Robert can transfer onto his page on the PCFA. Robert can also provide you with a receipt.

Thank you, God Bless
Robert Mead

Operation Christmas Child 2026:

Unfilled boxes can now be purchased from the church office or from the display in the foyer for \$1. Pick up a flyer too as it has all the information you will need for what to include and what not to include, how to pay for shipping and the label to attach to each box.

This is a fun way to bless children around the world with school supplies, hygiene products, clothing, toys and the opportunity to hear the gospel of God's love. The 2026 collection time is 12th-26th October.

For further info, contact Beth – 0431 749 743.



EBC's Prayer Groups, All Welcome:

- **Sunday Mornings 8.45 – 9.15am.** A small group of people meet to pray each Sunday morning before the 9.30am service at the **back of the Fellowship Hall (Downstairs Hall)**. You are welcome
- **Monday mornings 8.30am to 9.30am in 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 group.** This is held at 10am. Please see Greg or Elizabeth Beckenham to join.
- **Connect Groups.** Please take time to pray as a group. We encourage everyone in the church to join a Connect Group. See Heather Crawford for available groups.
- **Ettalong Baptist Church Prayer Chain. Can We PRAY For You?** Please send your Prayer requests or Praise Points to ettalongbaptistprayerchain@gmail.com, **available 7 days a week.**

Giving:

Our bank details are:

Account Name: Ettalong Baptist Church – Bendigo Bank

BSB Number: 633 000

Account Number: 225 369 099

We encourage you to use Direct Deposit for giving, but you may also give using cash or cheque by placing your offering in the box at the main entrance door to the auditorium.

Ettalong Baptist Church, Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

Pastor—David Gilchrist (phone: 0448 431 234) Jane Keuning (phone 0425 263 763) or 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/>

Your Newsletter Items, Including Photos:

Please send your Newsletter items & photos to: office@ettalongbaptistchurch.org.au by **12.30pm Wednesday**.

If you would like a copy of our weekly Newsletter emailed to you, please send an email to the address above, with your name and email address.

There are printed copies in the foyer, the newsletter is also posted on our Ettalong Baptist Church Website.

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.

About The Baptist Church:

Ettalong Baptist Church is a part of a movement of more than 850 Australian churches committed to serving together with the vision of impacting our communities for Jesus Christ.

This vision is expressed in a myriad of ways in local, state, national and international contexts.

More than 100,000 people make up our family across Australia.

While each local church is autonomous, we voluntarily link together with other churches to form a Baptist Union in each state, that together form the Baptist Union of Australia.

We are linked with the Baptist Association of NSW and ACT. Our association of churches has a vision that we will have 1000 healthy churches across our state within a generation. It sounds an impossible vision, but there are millions of people in our state who need to know Jesus, and our God is a God of miracles.

We have fraternal links through the Baptist World Alliance with more than 110 million contributing to the worldwide Christian family which now numbers 1.6 billion.

Most Baptist churches link with the wider Baptist work which includes missions (Baptist Mission Australia), aged care, social ministries and affordable housing (Baptist Care), aid and development (Baptist World Aid Australia), theological education (Morling College) and other ministries.

Baptist churches have been around for over 400 years and one of the primary reasons we developed as a separate group within the Christian Church is because we are absolutely committed to the idea of freedom.

We believe every individual believer is free to access God and serve Him as God has convicted them through His Spirit, His Word (the Bible) and His Church. Baptist churches are often very different from each other. Some are very traditional, others very radical, and others are somewhere between.

We have no Prayer Book, no bishops, and no hierarchies. We are committed to each church being free to shape its own style, language and ministry.

But there are many things we share in common such as believer's baptism, local church autonomy (self-governed), the priesthood of all believers, and congregational government.

Baptists work with other Christian churches so that together we see our world won for Christ.