

Sunrise at Terrigal. Thanks, Elsie, for the photo.

Ettalong Baptist Newsletter, 5th November 2026

From The Pastor:

How do we hold on to faith when life becomes difficult? This Sunday, we will be reflecting on the importance of having "Faith in Hard Times," as we explore Hebrews 11:17–31. We will reflect on what Moses and the people of ancient Israel can teach us about trusting God amid fear, uncertainty and difficult choices. Faith calls us to look to God when so much is beyond our control. It doesn't mean pretending life is easy; it means learning to depend on God through the hard times. Whether you are facing a challenge now or supporting someone who is facing great challenges, you can trust God and move forward in faith as the Lord leads.
Pastor David Gilchrist

9.30am Sunday Morning Service, 8th of November:

Faith In Hard Times, from Hebrews 11:17-31

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

Merryll, Jane 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/IGWwH1Dqxf0?feature=share

Worship Team Practice – All Welcome:

Our worship team practice this Saturday from 10.30am to 12noon and again on Sunday after the 9.30am service. Anyone who is interested to join them for their practice is very welcome to join them.

National Church Life Survey:

All NCLS paper surveys need to be returned by this Sunday 8 November. All online surveys should also be completed by this date.

From the Treasurer:

We almost reached our monthly budget target in October, being just $150 under.
Regards Liz

Ladies In Fellowship Together: November Lunch:

TOMORROW Friday 6th November, LIFT ladies will meet for lunch at 12.30pm at Pelican's, Woy Woy.
All ladies are welcome and we look forward to sharing fellowship with you there.

Ladies In Fellowship Together: LIFT Christmas BREAKFAST:

Friday 4th December 8.00am. This will be our final LIFT gathering for 2026. We will be meeting at Terrigal Crowne Plaza, where we will enjoy a delicious 'buffet breakfast'

As always, all ladies are welcome. Registration is necessary and numbers will be limited to approximately 20. If you wish to attend, please book early with either **Marion: 0401 344 814 or Di: 0411 273 124**

COST: $39 for Central Coast residents - to be paid to Di before 27th November.

($40, if you wish to round up the cost and donate to missions)
NB. Please place your payment in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with your name.
Thank you, Marion Edwards

Ettalong Baptist Men's Christmas Dinner, Saturday 5th December:

This years men's Christmas dinner will be held 6pm, Saturday 5th December, at YI AN Chinese Restaurant, Woy Woy. $30 Banquet Supreme.

Numbers required by Wednesday 2 December. Thanks, Ian Ph: 0411 012 125

Christmas Events:

- **Sunday 29th November 9.30am: First Sunday in Advent service with communion.**
- **Saturday 5th December, 2.30-4pm: Gingerbread Man Decorating Day.**
  Gingerbread men kits are $18 each and have to be booked by 13th November,
  Gluten free ~ orders to be in by 30th October.
  For more information grab a flyer and contact Joy for bookings on 0417 443 372.
- **Sunday 6th December 9.30am: Christmas Family Service with the children from Kids Church.**
  Christmas Carols, Christmas Play and a short message for the whole family.
- **Monday 7th December 6.45pm to 9pm: Women's Gingerbread House Decorating Night.**
  Gingerbread house kits are $47 and gluten free ones are $51. Margy requires orders and payment for gluten free house kits by 30th October. Phone or text 044 743 1234 to arrange this.
  There is a bit more time for ordering the ordinary house kits.
  For women this is a great opportunity for you to invite a friend because as well as having a really fun night Anna Davis, our BWSC high school teacher, is giving a short evangelistic Christmas message and she is truly an inspirational speaker.
- **Saturday 12th of December: 5pm Nativity Service & 6pm Christmas Market**
  All money raised at our Christmas Markets will be given to the Ford family in Ukraine. Please sign up to help by writing your name on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Carols In the Stadium Saturday 19th December 2026.**
  This year's special guest is Colin Buchanan.
  Tickets are on sale through Ticketek NOW https://www.carolsinthestadium.com.au/#tickets
  Tickets are $10 for single tickets and $25 for a family ticket (which admits up to 6 people: 2 adults and 4 juniors). Children under two are free.

Carols In The Stadium – Sitting Together In The Western Stand:

Last year people were turned away from Carols in The Stadium. To fit more people in this year the Western Stand which is in the shade will have ticketed seating. If you would like to sit with a group from Ettalong Baptist Church, please see David Gilchrist (0448 431 234) or let the church office know before Sunday 15th November that you would like to sit with us, so we can purchase a group of seats together.

Nativity Scene and Christmas Tree:

This year our Kids Church have asked if we can put up our big Christmas Tree on the stage of the Church Auditorium. Our Nativity scene with Robert and Merryll Mead's nativity figures will also be put up on the stage again this Christmas.

Can you help?

- The Nativity Scene will be erected on the Auditorium Stage on Thursday afternoon the 26th of November.
- The auditorium Christmas Tree needs to be put up and decorated sometime between Thursday afternoon the 26th of November and Saturday the 5th of December.

Please see David Gilchrist (Phone: 0448 431 234) if you can help.

Volunteers Still Needed for Ministry of Leftovers:

Are you able to spare a few hours a week to assist in this important outreach to our community? Any assistance would be greatly appreciated and help keep the market and free café open!

Please see Caroline Murphy.

Alpha Meals:

We have a need for meals for two nights of Alpha for 20 people each night. The two dates are Sunday the 22nd of November and the 29th of November. If you are able to help cater for one or both of these nights please see David Gilchrist (Phone: 0448 431 234).

Thank you to everyone who has catered for Alpha this year.

Memorial Avenue Carpark:

The carpark behind the church is part of Memorial Avenue. The Council has zoned this section of road a carpark. Unfortunately, a few bad drivers think this carpark is an excellent place to drive dangerously, doing doughnuts and burnouts in the gravel. This has broken windows, terrorised neighbours, left a terrible mess and is very dangerous for pedestrians and any cars that are parked in the carpark.

While Transport NSW are working on the Roundabout, they are trialling having a line of barricades through the middle of the carpark to deter cars from driving dangerously. After the trial we will put in a submission to council asking if something permanent can be done to deter people driving dangerously in the carpark.

Have you been affected by dangerous driving in the Memorial Avenue car park? Has it happened while you have been parked or walking through the carpark? Do you have anything that can help us with our submission to council? If so, please speak with Jimmy Chamberlain (phone 0412 448 744)

We are very grateful to council for the use of this carpark. Council provide this essential service for us and faithfully maintain it. Something however needs to be done about the bad driving in the carpark before someone is hurt or even killed.

Skills For Life Fundraising Events:

NOV - Saturday 21st – 10.30am: **Hatters Tea House, Ettalong** - Devonshire Tea: $13.50pp

DEC - - Secret Santa lunch Thursday 10th December @ Ettalong Diggers Bistro:

To RSVP and for more information please contact: Jean Lynch 0425 749 224 or Diane Harris 0412 291 065

Ettalong Baptist Church, Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

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.**

Ettalong Baptist Church, Safe Church Team:

To report a child protection concern or incident please contact:

Pastor—David Gilchrist (phone: 0448 431 234) Elder – Jane Keuning (phone: 0425 263 763) or Jean Lynch (phone: 0425 749 224)

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.

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.