

## *The Minister's Weekly Word...*

Last Sunday I spoke a little about the families ministry directions looking forward and especially the work towards appointing a families worker in some form. This week I focus a little on the place of our wonderful senior members as we look to the future. Bowral UCA is incredibly blessed to have the participation and presence of such a committed and faithful group of seniors. Indeed within our church we have deep reserves of experience and spirituality which form the foundation of all our common life together in Christ. The strength of our 9am morning service and the goodwill of all our seniors to see the church grow and flourish is the ground from which we must build up our ministry with younger generations. Along with the leadership, I am committed to seeing that our ministry to and with seniors continues to be vital, active and engaged. It is also to the seniors especially that we turn for support in grafting on younger people to the tree of faith. What an incredible gift to be able to pass on to the wider community, a powerful witness and tradition of faith which will see further generations brought to Christ and his message of the Kingdom proclaimed for years to come? We are greatly blessed to be on this journey of discovery and faith together. And if we can stick at it faithfully, ride the bumps and conquer the challenges together, who knows what God might bring to fruition in our midst? *Blessings, Michael*



### **Report from Church Council Meeting 8 Feb 2017.**

- . A small Strategic Mission Planning sub committee will be established to assist in identifying future mission and ministry opportunities. They will also address resource issues and work closely with the Finance Task Group and both report to Church Council.
- . The challenge of finding a bricklayer to build our access ramp is ongoing. If you know a brikkie – please see Ken Adams.
- . Barbara Learmont has volunteered to coordinate the Samaritans Purse Christmas Shoebox appeal. This is Great news! Thanks Barbara.
- . CC encourages attendance at the Safe Church Workshop (see separate notice).
- . Planning for an additional ministry team Families & Children worker is underway, looking at Position Description and the scope of the role. This position will be supported by the interest earned from Kangaloon Sales Proceeds and the income from our four annual Market Days (inc. Spring Fair).
- . DVD recordings of our church services are now available for distribution. Please see Kay Smith if you are interested in borrowing from this library.
- . Rev Michael will be on Study Leave from 18 April – 25 April.

Material for **WEEKLY NEWS** needs to be provided by noon each Wednesday to Rev Michael Earl or Sharon Hoogland, 48711583 or [hooglandsj46@gmail.com](mailto:hooglandsj46@gmail.com). Photos, information or notices promoting the work of the church for our **Website** ([bkuc.com.au](http://bkuc.com.au)) should be sent to [lucyear179@gmail.com](mailto:lucyear179@gmail.com)

## **Bowral Uniting Church**

*“A church for all people...”*



### **Sunday 12 February 2017 (Epiphany 6)**

#### **Our ministry focus areas are:**

*Worship & Discipleship  
Children & Families  
Seniors  
Community engagement*

*You are most welcome at worship today, particularly if you are a visitor or a new resident of the area.*

*We would love to get to know you, and help you feel at home. Please make yourself known. Join us for coffee after the service!*



**For matters concerning the life of the congregation, contact:**  
**Reverend Michael Earl, on (mobile 0422 433 569).**

**Office: 28 Bendooley Street**  
**Telephone: (02) 4862 1350**  
**Internet: [bkuc.com.au](http://bkuc.com.au)**

#### **Church Council Chairperson**

Mrs Kathryn Searle 4872 1002

#### **Church Council Secretary**

Mrs Sharon Hoogland 4871 1583

#### **Church Council Treasurer**

Mr Bruce Tredinnick 4861 6990

#### **Elders' Convenor**

Mr Jim Layton 4862 4623

#### **Readings:**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8;  
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21 - 37

**A Hearing Loop is in place in the Church and Hall.**  
To access it, switch your hearing aid to the “T” position.  
It is advisable not to sit right against the wall

## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

### Monday 13 February

2.00pm Bible Study @ Margaret Osborne's home  
5.30pm Uniting Voices Rehearsal

### Tuesday 14 February

9.30am Playgroup  
9.30am Pieces & Yarns

### Wednesday 15 February

10.00am Reflections Study Group @ the Bunker's home  
12 noon – 1.30pm OPEN CHURCH  
12.30pm Food & Fellowship in the Gallery... All welcome!

### Thursday 16 February

2.00pm CAMEO meets @ Stumps  
4.00pm Kids Connect

### Friday 17 February

6.00pm Bell Ringing Practice

### TODAY'S SERVICES 12 February (Epiphany 6)

9.00am Service of Holy Communion (Rev Michael Earl)  
11.30am Uniting Families Connect (Rev Michael Earl)  
followed by lunch. All Welcome!  
6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

### NEXT SUNDAY 19 February (Epiphany 7)

9.00am Service of Worship (Rev Michael Earl)  
6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

Readings Next Week: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119: 33 – 40;  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11,16-23; Matthew 5 38-48

ROSTER	THIS WEEK: 12 Feb	NEXT WEEK: 19 Feb
Organ	Ann Clipsham	Heather Tredinnick
PowerPoint	Jon & Sharon Hoogland	Ian Prior
Elder	Sandra House	Sandra House
Stewards	Lorraine Neal, Fran Manton	Jon & Sharon Hoogland
Flowers	H Ling, R. Robinson	Elaine Hills, Denise Layton
Kids Church	11.30am Uniting Families Connect	Ruth Roberts
Morning Tea	Victor & Margaret Hugo	Victor & Margaret Hugo

*Thank you to our wonderful volunteers!*



### BOWRAL UC NEEDS VOLUNTEERS...!

Kids Church, Kids Connect, Uniting Kids Playgroup, Food & Fellowship, Flowers, Stewards, Morning Tea on Sunday...

### **HEAPS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER!**

Please see the Rosters in the Gallery if you are able to assist.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



'I am not worthy to follow in the steps of my Lord, but, like him, I want no home, no possessions. Like him I will belong to the road, sharing the suffering of my people, eating with those who will give me shelter, & telling all men of the love of God' *Sadhu Sundar Singh (1889-1929) Indian Christian who converted from Sikhism*

### COMING EVENTS

Thurs 23 Feb	10.00am	Uniting Women in the Southern Highlands (UWISH)
Sat 25 Feb	9.00am	Safe Church Workshop @ BUC
Sun 26 Feb	9.00am	Elders' Commissioning Service
Wed 1 March		Ash Wednesday Service/ Light meal following
Sun 5 March		The period of LENT commences
Mon 13 March	8.30am	BUC Church Council Executive meeting
Sat 8 April	8.00am	BUC AUTUMN FAIR

**\*\*\*Directory Update Time is CLOSING!!!...**

**\*\*\*Please see Jim Layton now with your corrections & updates\*\*\***

**The World Day of Prayer** will be held on **Friday 3 March** commencing at 10.00am at Bowral Church of Christ and morning tea following. The focus country this year is the Philippines. See Fran Manton or Sue Henshall for more details.

### UNITING HIGHLANDS #9 magazine.

If you have advertisements, articles or photos for this new edition, please have material to David Manton by TODAY.

**LENTEN STUDIES** will be held again this year. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to **host a group in their home**, either daytime or nighttime. We would also like to know if you want to **be a member of a study group**. Please speak with our Small Groups Coordinator, Laurie Parker as soon as possible to record your intention. This will assist us with planning.

**SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP**....A recommendation from the Commission of Enquiry into Child sexual abuse is that Uniting (and other) churches are required to have volunteers trained in Safe Church practices.

The Illawarra Presbytery is holding **A SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP** in our church on Saturday 25 February 2017, commencing at 9.00am and finishing at 3.30pm. **Pre registration is required** and may be done via the website: [www.childrensministry.org.au/safety-and-protection](http://www.childrensministry.org.au/safety-and-protection), or by contacting Sharon Hoogland.

***You will not be able to participate in the workshop if you have not registered!***

**Who Should Attend?:** Minister, Church Councillors & Elders, Scripture Teachers, Sunday School teachers, anyone who works directly with children.