

## The Minister's Word...

Sometimes it seems like human need is all around us, though often hidden. Any parent who has had a child throw a tantrum in public knows this to be the case. In that acute experience of trying as patiently as possible to calm a raging child in a public place while the eyes of a thousand onlookers shift in your direction, the pressure of 'normal' living is in evidence. This week just outside the church there was one such mother. She had three children, was trying to get them into the car, and the four year old was not playing ball. As the mother tried (and failed) to pacify the situation the child screamed even louder. As the child's temperature continued to climb, so did the mother's, until finally, having gotten the kids all into their safety seats, she took a moment at the back of the car and burst into tears. It had overwhelmed her and she needed a space before she climbed into the car and 'faced' the children again. One of our church members happened to be around and she very gently and kindly walked over to the mother and put her hand on her arm and said, 'It's okay.' This is a risk of course as it could exacerbate the situation. It could reinforce the public obviousness of what was happening. But it was a risk of reaching out to a person in need of some human warmth and love. They didn't speak for long, but I'm sure that mother went away a little more assured that it was all okay and she was not alone in this trying experience. This is exactly how it is with God I think. God sees our hidden pain that comes out every so often 'in public', the pressure we feel, and comes alongside us and offers a hand of divine warmth and love. It doesn't take away the struggles, it offers hope among them. A new day will dawn, a new time. If the church can in some derivative way approximate this love in little things and large, we'll be living worthily of the calling we've received. *Blessings, Michael*



## **CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES (Samaritans Purse)**

Empty Shoeboxes are available from **Barbara Learmont** if you would like to participate in this year's donation for Operation Christmas Child. Special items to fit into your Shoeboxes include: Something to wear, Something to play with, Something for school, Something to love, Something special, Something for personal hygiene. This is a wonderful gift to children in need overseas!

**Please see Barbara today!!**

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 [lucyearl79@gmail.com](mailto:lucyearl79@gmail.com)

## **Bowral Uniting Church**

*"A church for all people..."*



**Sunday 25 June 2017 (Pentecost 3)**

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

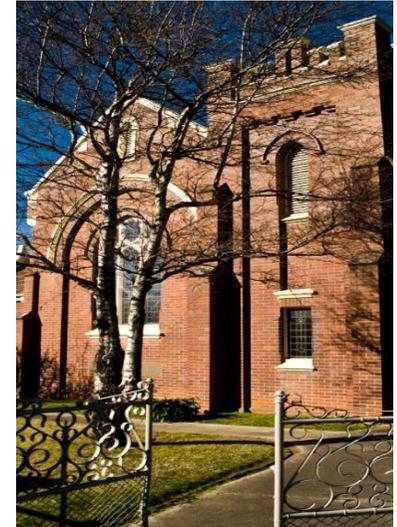
*Worship & Discipleship  
Children & Families  
Seniors  
Community engagement*

*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:**

For UCA Anniversary: Ezekiel 37: 15-28; Psalm 122; Hebrews 13: 1-8;  
John 17: 20 - 26

**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 26 June

2.00pm Bible Study @ the Bunker's

### Tuesday 27 June

9.30am Playgroup

9.30am Pieces & Yarns

7.00pm Bible Study @ Netta

McKay's, Mittagong

7.30pm Bible Study @ the Dinning's,  
Mittagong

7.30pm Young Women's Bible Study  
@ Lucy Earl's

### Wednesday 28 June

**10.00am Reflections Study Group  
IS IN RECESS**

11.30am Mid Week Communion

12 noon – 1.30pm OPEN CHURCH

12.30pm Food & Fellowship in the  
Gallery... All welcome!

### Thursday 29 June

3.30pm Kids Connect

### Friday 30 June

6.00pm Bell Ringing Practice

### TODAY'S SERVICES 25 June 2015 (UCA 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

9.00am Service of Worship (Rev Michael Earl)

11.30am Uniting Families Connect (In the Church)

12.30pm UCA Birthday Lunch in the Hall

6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

### NEXT SUNDAY 2 July 2017 (Pentecost 4)

9.00am Service of Worship (Rev Michael Earl)

6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

### Readings Next Week:

Genesis 22: 1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6: 12-23; Matthew 10: 40 – 42

ROSTER	THIS WEEK: 25 June	NEXT WEEK: 2 July
Organ	Gail Reid	Heather Tredinnick
PowerPoint	Narelle Harwood	Barry Roberts
Elder	Ann Clipsham	Geoff Webb
Stewards	Brian & Liz Pattinson	Greg & Kathy Searle
Flowers	N Harwood, L Pattinson	Jan Hamilton, Jenny O'Regan
Kids Church	11.30am Uniting Families Connect	See Lucy Earl
Morning Tea	Margaret Murray	Volunteers PLEASE

*Thank you to our wonderful volunteers!*

### NEXT SUNDAY IS PANTRY SUNDAY!!!

Pasta and pasta sauces, Vegemite, meals in a tin, long life milk, small jars of coffee, deodorants and other items are all welcomed by Anglicare.



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'All our life is a celebration for us; we are convinced, in fact, that God is always everywhere. We sing while we work, we sing hymns while we sail, we pray while we carry out all life's other occupations.'

*Clement of Alexandria (c.150 – c.215) Theologian, probably born in Athens*

## TODAY WE CELEBRATE

### THE ANNIVERSARY OF

### THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

We are the people of God on the Way, a diverse group of many cultures and understandings of faith that will bring us into deeper unity with others.

The 40th anniversary logo can be viewed as a starburst, fireworks or a dandelion head whose seeds are spread on the wind. The image brings to mind celebration, diversity and all the varied parts of the Uniting Church.

The colours intentionally connect to those that remind us of our covenant with First Peoples, the red earth and ochre.

The tagline, "All of this is us", encompasses past, present and future – all that brought us together and formed us as we began, all that has shaped us has involved us over the past 40 years, and all that we hope for as we look to the future.



All of this is us



## COMING EVENTS

**Thurs 29 June 10.00am** Uniting Women in the Southern Highlands  
**EVERYONE WELCOME: Dr Lawrence Peak,**  
**"Combining Faith & Science"**

Mon 3 – Sun 16 July

Rev Michael Earl on leave

Thurs 13 July 8.00am

BUC Church Council Executive meet

Thurs 20 July 2.00pm

CAMEO meets @ Bradman

Sun 30 July 10.30am

BUC Congregational Meeting

### MEN ARE INVITED to the June gathering of Uniting Women!!!

Guest speaker Dr Lawrence Peak, former Head of Falkiner High Energy Dept School of Physics, Nuclear Physicist – Elder & Worship Convenor at St Ives UC, will address the topic "Combining Faith & Science". He will consider the concept of time, miracles and the fact that the universe seems to have been carefully designed for us to exist (the Goldilocks Principle).

**10.00am Thurs 29 June. A delicious morning tea will be served!**