

The Minister's Weekly Word...

The phrase, 'the back story', reflects an important truth when it comes to relationships. Whenever we come in contact with each other as human beings we are generally only seeing the surface of a person's being. And if you're anything like me, we can become very good at wearing masks which hide our true feelings or what's really going on inside. Now (of course) a lot of the time that's appropriate. We are constantly appraising our context and making decisions about how we interact. But perhaps there's a lesson there too about one of the 'fruit of the Spirit' we find in Galatians 5, patience. Because we never fully know what's going on for others, it's good always to try to be patient if someone is a little short with us or seems upset or distracted. Patience can be a kind of kindness and can actually be a conduit to helping others feel better. We all have moments of im-patience of course, that's also a part of being human. But perhaps being as mindful as we can in all our relationships that there is always a 'back story' to people's experience mightn't be a bad move? I know this is the case for me as I can have a tendency to be impatient sometimes. We need the Spirit's guiding wisdom each and every day.

Blessings, Michael



VALE Ken Ferrier.

With great sadness we inform you of the death of Ken Ferrier this last week. Ken had become a member of our congregation in the last couple of years and had found a home again after sometime away from the church. He had been courageous and faithful to the end and now rests with our Lord in eternal peace. We give thanks for his life and witness and hold his family and loved ones in our prayers. Ken's memorial service will be held in our church on Saturday, March 11, at 12 noon.

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.

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

Bowral Uniting Church

"A church for all people..."



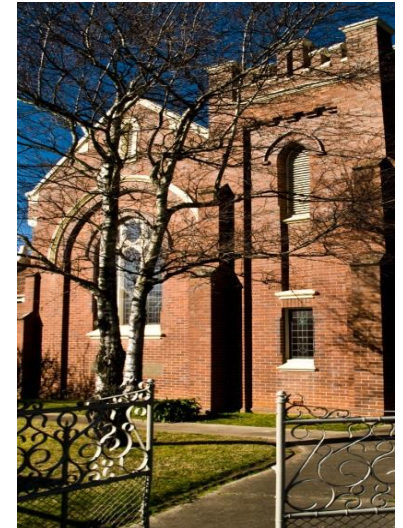
Sunday 26 February 2017 (Transfiguration of Jesus)

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**

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:

Exodus 24: 12 – 18; Psalm 2 or 99; 2 Peter 1: 16 – 21; Matthew 17:1 - 9

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 27 February

9.30am Peace with Pieces
2.00pm Bible Study @ Margaret Osborne's home
5.30pm Uniting Voices Rehearsal

12 noon – 1.30pm OPEN CHURCH
12.30pm Food & Fellowship in the Gallery... All welcome!
5.30pm Ash Wednesday Service followed by soup/slice supper

Tuesday 29 February

9.30am Playgroup
9.30am Pieces & Yarns

Thursday 2 March

10.00am Uniting Women's Group
3.30pm Kids Connect

Wednesday 1 March

10.00am Reflections Study Group @ the Bunker's home

Friday 3 March

10.00am World Day of Prayer @ Church of Christ Bowral
6.00pm Bell Ringing Practice

TODAY'S SERVICES 26 February (Transfiguration of Jesus)

9.00am Service of Worship (Rev M. Earl) *Elders' Commissioning Service*
11.30am Uniting Families Connect (Rev M. Earl) followed by Lunch
6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

NEXT SUNDAY 5 March (1st Sunday of Lent)

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

Readings Next Week:

Genesis 2:15-17,3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11

ROSTER	THIS WEEK: 26 Feb	NEXT WEEK: 5 March
Organ	Gail Reid	Heather Tredinnick
PowerPoint	Ian Prior	Barry Roberts
Elder	Jim Layton, Bruce: Lucy	Anne Kingdom
Stewards	Denise Layton	Richard & Rosemary Denman
Flowers	N Harwood, L Pattinson	Jan Hamilton, Jenny O'Regan
Kids Church	11.30 Uniting Families Connect	Lucy Earl
Morning Tea	Bron/Kevin Windybank	Bron/Kevin Windybank

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...

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



'Jesus and the Samaritan woman...this passage and others like it open our eyes to the reality that social, ethnic, religious, ethical and sexist prejudices cannot be allowed to keep us from announcing the message of life, which has also been announced to us as women and which social constraints have tried to diminish or take away from us.'

Raquel Rodriguez, Lutheran Pastor from Puerto Rico

COMING EVENTS

Thurs 9 March	7.00pm	Good Neighbours' Meeting (Common Room)
Mon 13 March	8.30am	BUC Church Council Executive meeting
Thurs 16 Mar	2.00pm	CAMEO @ The Stumps Coffee Shop/Bradman
Sat 8 April	8.00am	BUC AUTUMN FAIR

BOWRAL AUTUMN FAIR --- 7 weeks to go...!

We would love your donations of books, craft items, Jars for jams or preserves! If you would be interested in co ordinating a stall at the Fair, please see Sharon.

A Journey Through Lent

NEXT SUNDAY MARKS THE BEGINNING OF LENT.

Again we take the walk to the cross in faith. There will be special services each week incorporating drama, music, prayer, preaching, and sharing together. We hope you are able to attend and invite others who might be searching.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held this Wednesday, March 1st to mark the beginning of Lent. This important time will be observed with a service at 5:30pm at Bowral UC led by Mrs Meg Herbert and Rev Kathryn Wyndham as part of our Zone ministry and followed by a light soup supper in the Gallery. You are all warmly invited to attend.

LENTEN STUDY GROUPS BEGIN THIS WEEK.

If you are not already in a group and would like to be, please see Small Groups Co-ordinator Laurie Parker and he will direct you as to the options.

