

The Minister's Weekly Word...

As we're in election mode any number of strange things are going on in the media, one being that journalists try to play 'gotcha' with politicians. 'Gotcha' moments are when a journalist asks a politician a question which is designed to embarrass them in one of two ways. The first is where they ask the politician a question about a policy of their party which they're likely not to know. Then they look silly as they can't offer a satisfactory answer (there have been a couple of these this last week). The second is where the journalist asks the politician a question that is designed to make them look elitist and out of touch with 'ordinary' people. The classic question of this method is the 'How much does a loaf of bread cost?', the idea being that if the politician can't answer it shows how little they care about the lives of 'ordinary' people. This week in Britain the former Mayor of London, Boris Johnson turned the tables on the reporter in one of these 'gotcha' moments. He was asked by a journalist for the price of a loaf of bread and he replied, 'I can't tell you about the price of bread, but I can tell you how much a bottle of champagne is...'. By making this answer he was essentially refusing to play the 'gotcha' game. Rather than fumbling around for something to say and so being made a fool of, he made the questioner look like a fool for trying to trap him. It made me wonder what this little exchange reveals about our society and about us as people. Why would we want to see others embarrassed publicly? The simple answer is that it creates buzz. It sells newspapers, it helps ratings because there's something we all enjoy about such a spectacle. When you read the NT what we find in Jesus is the very opposite of the 'gotcha' philosophy. Every time a group or an individual is trying to embarrass or condemn someone, Jesus finds a way to rebuke them (think of the woman caught in adultery and Jesus' famous retort to her accusers, 'Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.') Jesus sought to build people up, not tear them down, to love rather than embarrass. Perhaps there's something we can all reflect on, especially as we engage in this election and consider those who live so much of their lives in the public eye? *Blessings to you all. Michael*



FLYING PADRE MONEY BOXES

Thank you to everyone who is collecting spare change for the Flying Padre fundraising. Last week's collection raised \$1331.30 – amazing!!!!

Prayer points:

..Pray for local families in need of assistance with food and clothing during the colder months. Thank God for Anglicare and their volunteers.

..Pray that the mission outreach plans for our Church Congregation may be undertaken with willing hearts and hands, supported by the many gifts and talents of our church family members. (*Note: Statistics show that volunteers are happier people who live longer lives... Wow!!!*)

..Give thanks for the amazing activities BUC offers for children & families.

Bowral/Kangaloon Uniting Church

"A church for all people..."

Sunday 5 June 2016 (Pentecost 3)



Our ministry focus areas are:

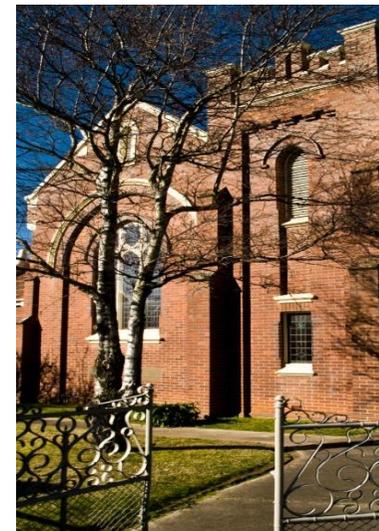
*Worship & Discipleship
Children & Families
Seniors
Community engagement*

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

Church Council Chairperson

Mrs Kathryn Searle 4872 1002

Church Council Secretary

Mrs Sharon Hoogland 4871 1583

Church Council Treasurer

Mr Graham Blackadder 4861 7385

Elders' Convenor

Mr Jim Layton 4862 4623

Readings:

1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 30; Galatians 1:11-24; Luke 7:11-17

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?

<p><u>Monday 6 June</u> <u>NO PEACE WITH PEACES TODAY!</u> 2.00pm Bible Study group @ Margaret Osborne's home 5.30pm Uniting Voices</p> <p><u>Tuesday 7 June</u> 9.30am Pieces & Yarns 9.30am Uniting Kids Playgroup 10.00am MEN's Coffee @ Bradman 7.30pm Bible Study for Young Women (Lucy Earl's) 7.30pm Bible Study @ Anne Thomson's in Mittagong</p>	<p><u>Tues cont:</u> 7.30pm Bible Study @ Netta McKay's in Mittagong</p> <p><u>Wednesday 8 June</u> 10.00am Reflections Study Group @ the Bunker's home. 12 noon – 1.30pm OPEN CHURCH 12.30pm Food & Fellowship in the Gallery... All welcome!</p> <p><u>Thursday 9 June</u> 4.00pm Kids Connect Group</p> <p><u>Friday 10 June</u> 6.30pm Bell Ringing practice</p>
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TODAY'S SERVICES 5 June 2016

9.00am Bowral Service of Worship (Rev Michael Earl)
 Baptism of William Paul
 6.00pm Evening Fellowship Time

NEXT SUNDAY 12 June 2016

9.00am Bowral Service of Holy Communion (Rev Michael Earl)
 11.30am Uniting Families Connect
 6.00pm Bowral Evening Fellowship Time

Readings Next Week: 1 Kgs 21:1-10; 2 Sam 11:26 – 12:10; Gal 2:15-21; Lk 7:36-8:3

ROSTER	THIS WEEK: 5 June	NEXT WEEK: 12 June
Organ	Heather Tredinnick	Ann Clipsham
PowerPoint	Barry Roberts	J & S Hoogland
Elder	Ros Hinde	F Manton, B Schubert
Stewards	Ian & Dianne Prior	G & R Robinson
Flowers	Pam Wood, Nina Fergusson	Fran Manton, B Windybank
Kids Church	Kathy Searle	11.30am Uniting Families Connect
Morning Tea	Robyn & Coline	Jenny H & Lorraine R



*Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who willingly share their gifts and talents throughout the week in our many activities.
 Please see the Rosters in the Gallery if you would like to assist!*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



'Perhaps we have done everything in the world to find health & radiance, happiness & peace, except to listen to, & heed the soul, crying always that same plaintive cry, the cry of the stream for the ocean, the cry of the prisoner for freedom, the cry of the watcher for morning, the cry of the wanderer for home, the cry of the starving for food, the cry of the soul for God.'

Dr Leslie Weatherhead (1893 – 1976), British Methodist minister.

COMING EVENTS...

Sunday 26 June: UCA Anniversary & Soup on Sunday
 16 & 17 September: SPRING FAIR
 Thursday 24 November: Seniors Christmas Party @ Bowral UC

Soup on Sunday: 26 June, 2016 Fellowship, Fun and Friendship



Each year, on the birthday of the Uniting Church (22 June, 1977), we celebrate with Soup on Sunday. This is an opportunity to either host a group of guests in your home or to be a guest. Everyone needs to register! Hosts are notified of their guest list and they will invite their guests. *Enquiries: Ros Hinde 48724487 or Liz Pattinson 48691020*

THE VESTRY KITCHEN SPLASHBACK...

Thank you to everyone who supported our home-baked sale last week. The end of the week two tally is \$460!!! There's only \$540 to go!!!

There are more goodies for sale today and we are taking orders for Fruit Cakes.

UPDATE ON BUC RESPONSE TO REFUGEE CRISIS

- i) As decided by the Church Council, a letter has been sent to politicians regarding our concern that refugee children may not be placed in harm's way. If you would like to see this letter, please ask Chairperson Kathy Searle.
- ii) Donations may still be made for the 'Christmas Bowl Appeal' which assists refugees throughout the year. Please see Treasurer Graham Blackadder.

*** *"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?"...
 And I said, "Here I am, send me!"* ***

We acknowledge each week our faithful BUC volunteers (see opposite). As our church work grows, the 'pool' of volunteers is challenged to support the mission outreach we are led to achieve. *We have an urgent need for volunteers to administer and manage the finances of the church.* Are you available to help?

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 lucyearl79@gmail.com