

The Minister's Weekly Word...

As most of you know, I am now the Chairperson of the Illawarra Presbytery. In the Uniting Church the Presbytery is the council which is equivalent to a bishop. The Presbytery oversees ministers and churches, ordains people, and, offers pastoral care to people within its bounds, among other responsibilities. On Wednesday night a Presbytery meeting was held at Dapto UC. At this meeting we heard reports of what the various committees are doing, heard from ministry candidates, engaged in fellowship over a meal, and passed the budget for the coming financial year. Much of this work can seem mundane and even mechanical, yet, as we know, if it doesn't get done then things start to fall apart somewhat. The Presbytery will soon be looking to appoint a Presbytery Minister who will act as something like the pastoral glue, holding the congregations and ministers together. We are also looking to make some investments at the moment that will make the Presbytery self sustainable into the future. We also have young people going off to youth leadership conferences, conversations with Uniting(Care) around shared ministry ventures, and partnerships with other organisations like Lifeline to offer care into the community. All in all, it is a wonderful Presbytery to be a part of, especially when we hear the good news stories of what's going on in local congregations and local communities. If you ever want to know more about what Presbytery does, or even become involved yourself in some form (we're always looking for more volunteers!), please speak to me or Sharon (Presbytery Administrator) about what's possible, it can be a very rewarding way to serve the church. *Blessings, Michael*



Prayer points:

- . Pray for the aftermath of the earthquake in Vanuatu, for the families who have lost their homes and their loved ones.
- . Pray for the people of Ecuador who are forced with rebuilding their lives in the aftermath of an earthquake.
- . Give thanks to God for all persons who become involved in voluntary service in the aftermath of devastating events. May they be blessed!
- . Pray for the Joint Nominating Committees for the vacancy at Moss Vale and for the new position of Presbytery Minister, that they may have the gift of discernment and be blessed with wisdom.

Bowral/Kangaloon Uniting Church

"A church for all people..."

Sunday 8 May 2016 (Easter 7)



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:

Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Romans 8:14-17; John 14: 8-17

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?

Monday 8 May

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

Tuesday 9 May

9.30am Pieces & Yarns
9.30am Uniting Kids Playgroup
7.30pm Bible Study for Young Women (Lucy Earl's)
7.30pm Bible Study @ Anne Thomson's in Mittagong
7.30pm Bible Study @ Netta McKay's in Mittagong

Wednesday 10 May

10.00am Reflections Study Group @ the Bunker's home.
12 noon – 1.30pm OPEN CHURCH
12.30pm Food & Fellowship in the Gallery... All welcome!
2.30pm New Discussion Group - see Ray Bunker

Thursday 11 May

4.00pm Kids Connect Group

Friday 12 May

2.00pm BUC Widows meet @ Anne Thomson's home.
6.30pm Bell Ringing practice

TODAY'S SERVICES 8 May 2016 (Easter 7)

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

NEXT SUNDAY 15 May 2016 (Pentecost)

9.00am Bowral Service of Worship (Rev Michael Earl)
11.00am FINAL SERVICE @ KANGALOON CHURCH
(followed by lunch in the Community Hall)
6.00pm Bowral Evening Fellowship Time

Readings Next Week:

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17

ROSTER	THIS WEEK: 8 May	NEXT WEEK: 15 May
Organ	Ann Clipsham	Heather Tredinnick
PowerPoint	J & S Hoogland	J & S Hoogland
Elder	Anne Kingdom	Lucy Earl
Stewards	J & S Hoogland	Barry & Ruth Roberts
Flowers	Jan Hamilton	H Ling, R Robinson
Kids Church	11.30 Uniting Families Connect	Ruth Roberts
Morning Tea	Margaret Murray	Volunteers Please



*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



'The ascension of Christ is his liberation from all restrictions of time & space. It does not represent his removal from the earth, but his constant presence everywhere on earth'. *William Temple (1881-1944) Archbishop of Canterbury, theologian & preacher*

Friendship Activities at Bowral Public School

WE WOULD LOVE SOME MORE VOLUNTEERS....*who would like to spend one hour per week (or every few weeks) with primary school children. Every Wednesday, from 1pm – 2pm, a group of BUC members assist in "Friendship Activities" at Bowral Public School. Some assist with the craft group while others chat with children under one of the Friendship Trees. The more helpers we have, the more time we can give to individual children. Please talk to Kathy Searle or Lorraine Neal if you would like more information....or would like to volunteer.*

We've been informed that the **hospital pastoral care volunteers** need to complete some further training for compliance reasons. If you are unsure about this, or have not received a letter in the mail with details, please come and speak to Michael for more clarification.

COMING EVENTS...

Sunday 15 May: Final Service at the Kangaloon Church (11am)
Saturday 28 May: Southern Highlands Zone Planning Day
Sunday June 26: Uniting Church Anniversary & Soup on Sunday
(see Liz Pattinson & Ros Hinde)
Thursday 24 November: Seniors Christmas Party @ Bowral UC

YOU WILL WANT TO HEAR THIS...!

Serendipity: the Choir will continue its Autumn Series with its next concerts "Royal Connections" on Saturday May 14 (3pm) at Kiama Anglican Church; at the Bundanoon Memorial Hall on Friday May 20 at 6pm & on Saturday, May 21 at 3pm. Tickets from Brown Bookshop (Bowral) & Todds Real Estate (Bundanoon)...



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