



Bathurst Uniting Church

Sharing God's love by connecting people to God;
people to people; and people to community.

Newsletter Sunday, 21 June 2020

Physical Distance - Social Connection - Community Care

'Sunday at 5' on Zoom

Our informal evening 'Sunday @ 5' service meets via Zoom at 5.00pm each Sunday evening. If you'd like to join us, click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/640626609> or enter the Meeting ID 640 626 609 in the Zoom app.

All welcome!

Sunday Morning Worship: 21 June 2020

Resources for this Sunday's worship will be available by Sunday morning on the website bathurstunitingchurch.com.au including a printed liturgy and video to download.

The sermon will be another which was given by Rev Dr Peter Walker at the last Synod. Rev Dr Peter Walker is the Principal of United Theological College.

Focus on the Living Church

Readings:

2 Corinthians 3: 11-18

Matthew 28: 1-20

Virtual Morning Tea

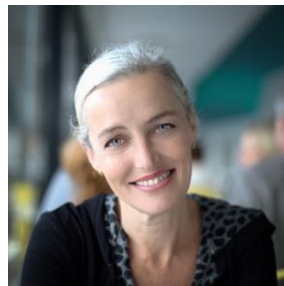
We meet for Virtual Morning Tea (via Zoom) every **Sunday morning at 11.00am:**

Everyone welcome to join us! Simply click on this link:

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98096879145>

or enter the meeting ID 980-9687-9145 in the app.

Farewell for Rev. Claire



On Saturday 27th June from 12-2pm we are having a farewell for Rev. Claire in Machattie Park on the William Street side, opposite the church.

We would love everyone to come along and bring a picnic lunch.

The presentation will be made to Rev. Claire at 1pm.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 27th June.

Staying Connected

For pastoral support, please contact your Pastoral Partner, or one of the Elders, or email BUConnect@gmail.com and we'll put you in touch with someone.

We are still gathering!

Doesn't it seem such a long time since we have been in church? And it will be a little while yet as we won't be regathering until at least August. However we have been "gathering" around our services. Figures from our website show that each week we have averaged 95 people watching or downloading the video. We are also giving out DVDs and USB sticks to various families and individuals. So there are many more of us than usual, gathering together individually to watch and share the service. This is an amazing result and it is about twice the number that we would usually have in church on Sunday. As you watch the service this Sunday think about all the others who are watching with you and are part of your "church family".

HOW ARE ONLINE SERVICES MADE?

Many people have asked about how online church services are made? Here is the process:

Each week in June (and July), a person has volunteered to coordinate the service (Brian and Ellie Mowbray, Julie Greig, John Hoye, Sharynne McLeod, David Wrightson). The worship leader then records/creates/selects the introduction, message, Bible reading, prayers of the people and closure. If they wish, they can select other elements of the service from a resource bank that was videoed in May 2020 under Rev. Claire's leadership. The resource bank also includes pre-recorded hymns (that are copyright free) played by Judy Brooke (organ), David McLeod (French horn), Brendon McLeod (trombone) and led by Rev. Claire's singing. Next, all of the video elements for the service are combined into a movie by Julie Greig, David, Sharynne, or Tim Collett. The movie is then put online, burned onto DVDs and USBs by David, and distributed to those who can't access online services (usually by Sharynne). The rest of the church (and people across Australia and the world) click on the online link (that's included in the newsletter created by Ruth Vaughan) and participate in the service.

Thank you everyone for your service in creating our services.

LOOKING AFTER THOSE THAT DON'T HAVE THE INTERNET

Each week we try to make sure that those who don't have a computer or the internet can see the service. To do this we produce the service on DVD, USB sticks and as a written service. Up until now Sharynne McLeod has been doing a marvellous job of distributing these on Saturday afternoons to various Congregational members but would like a hand. If you can help with distribution to others and have a couple of hours to spare on Saturday afternoons please ring Julie or send an email to bucconnct@gmail.com.

Businesses Start Back At The Church

If you drive past the church you may notice some more activity around the place. We are delighted that the businesses who rent our halls have been finally able to resume. It has been a tough time for them and we were able to help in a small way by waiving any fees during the shutdown. The Corona Response team has worked with the businesses to make sure they are able to return safely and follow the very strict rules that the Government and the Uniting Church Synod require. It will be a slow start for them as numbers are still very limited but we wish them all the best.

Meet the congregation

Each week we plan to learn more about someone from the congregation. We already have a few "biographies". One will be included each week so we will certainly get to know each other a bit better!

Send in your answers to these questions and a photo to BUCconnect@gmail.com so people can meet you:

1. **When did you move to Bathurst and where else have you lived?**
2. **What do you enjoy about Bathurst?**
3. **What do you enjoy about going to Bathurst Uniting Church?**
4. **What is something lots of people know about you?**
5. **What is something not many people know about you**

This week we meet Deb

1. **When did you move to Bathurst and where else have you lived?**

I moved to Bathurst 11 years ago. I was born in Lithgow and moved to Orange in 1994, then to Mullion Creek onto a 100-acre farm in 1996. My husband died in 1998, moved back to Orange in 2000, moved to Wollongong in 2001 and returned to the Central West to be near my father and family.

2. **What do you enjoy about Bathurst?**

I love its diversity, all that it has to offer, including the shopping which is very similar to what I could find in Wollongong, and the innovative Bathurst Regional Council that tries to improve the diversity it has to offer to the travelling public, and improving what is to offer in Bathurst.

3. **What do you enjoy about going to Bathurst Uniting Church?**

I have loved the love, care, support, friendships, acceptance and concern that I have received from the congregation, the willingness of the people to outreach to the wider community, and the social justice programs it undertakes. I also love that I have been accepted and been granted the privilege to be the Treasurer of the Bathurst Uniting Church. Most of all that I am called again by God to learn to be a disciple for him.

4. **What is something lots of people know about you?**

There is not a lot that people know about me, as I only started attending the Bathurst Uniting Church in September 2019. Probably that I am an accountant, and work as the Treasury Accountant for Unity Bank, working remotely out of the Reliance Bank building, which is a division of Unity Bank based in Sydney, and a widow.

5. **What is something not many people know about you?**

I did not achieve my Bachelor of Business until 2016 at the age of 59, I have four amazing and much loved children, two girls and two boys of which one lives in Denmark and the other in England, and seven beautiful grandchildren.

I have a love of hobbies: sewing, cross stitch, tapestry, knitting, quilting, gardening, and playing the guitar (learning again at the moment) when I have the time.

I have always and is a passion of mine to volunteer and the positions I have held over the years are coach, manager, player and selector of local and regional hockey clubs and regional teams, State Selector for Hockey NSW, inaugural President of a Local Diabetes Support Group, Treasurer of a local Rugby League Football Club, Central West Women's Health Centre and the Midwest Committee of the Men of League Foundation.



Dates for your Diary

Please note that – despite the NSW Government’s easing of restrictions – all ‘in-person’ events and groups of our Church *continue to be suspended* until further notice, following guidance from Presbytery and Synod. Our priority is not ‘resuming activity’, but ensuring the safety and well-being of our church family and community. (See the full-page *Notice: Update on Gatherings* on the website for more details.)

Photos for the Bathurst Uniting Church webpage, social media and newsletter

If you are happy for photos of you to be included on the Bathurst Uniting Church webpage, social media and in the newsletter, please email YES to BUConnect@gmail.com. Most of the photos have been taken by Sharynne and she will only include ones where you look good!

The Newsletter

The Newsletter will continue to be sent out (and posted on the Website) weekly with updates and resources.

Please contact Ruth at BUConnect@gmail.com if you wish to be added to the e-mailing list – or to submit prayer requests or good news stories of how you are staying connected and active!

THE LOST SHEEP STORIES

After the service last week I have had some enquiries about the lost sheep story that Sandra Judge so beautifully read for us. If you love the Lost Sheep books as much as my grandkids and I do you might like to watch the “Stuck at Home” series that Andrew McDonough did while he was in 14 days of isolation during the pandemic. In each 10 min episode on Youtube he reads one of his stories and then shows you how to draw one of the characters. The kids and I loved working through the books with him. You can find the episodes at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofcZ3p-4B6s&list=PLXD7zYLIM2ZTvhw7z3uK5u7uMonusyrhn&index=2&t=1s> or go to Youtube and search for Andrew McDonough. Julie

Prayer Matters

We pray together:

- For wisdom and care in our communities as the country ‘opens up’
- For our Shelter Café, its volunteers and guests
- For Rev Claire as she prepares to move.
- For each other and for your neighbour – whether known to you or unknown

Remember to contact your Pastoral Partner or one of the Elders if you’d like to pray with someone – or contact BUConnect@gmail.com

‘With glad and generous hearts’ (Acts 2:46)

Even though we aren’t physically attending worship, please remember that we rely heavily on your generosity in making regular financial offerings, to enable us to continue to minister to you, and our networks and neighbours - *especially* in a time of widespread distress.

Money can be deposited by calling into any branch of the Westpac Bank and depositing to

BSB: 634634

Account No: 100027964

Account Name: Bathurst City – Giving Direct

Internet transfers can also be processed to this account. Alternatively contact BUConnect@gmail.com to obtain a Direct Debit form to send to Uniting Financial Services