



Bathurst Uniting Church

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

Newsletter Sunday, 9 August 2020

Physical Distance - Social Connection - Community Care

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 Zoom app.

'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!

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.

Sunday Morning Worship: 9 August 2020

Resources for this Sunday's worship will be available by Sunday morning on the website <http://www.bathurstunitingchurch.com.au/blog/>

including a video to download.

Theme:

God is with us.

What does it mean to be open to the transformation that Christ brings, and then move in new ways and directions with the Gospel - that will drive us forward in faith?

Readings:

Psalm 105: 1 - 5

Matthew 14: 22 - 33

WANTED

Your own photos and stories of Harvest Festivals, flowers, vegetables etc. required (by end of August)

The theme for the service on Sunday 13th September is "Land". It is part of the Seasons of Creation series during September. Sharynne will be leading the service, and would like to feature photographs and stories of Harvest Festivals you have been involved in, as well as photos of any flowers, vegetables, plants or farmland that are special to you. Please either send a copy of your photo and accompanying explanation or story to Sharynne via bucconnect@gmail.com or you can drop your photo into her letterbox and she will return it (If you drop in a hard copy don't forget to include your name and address).

The last date for receiving the photos and stories is end of August so there is time to incorporate them for the service.



Making masks for others

Are you interested in being in a group to make masks using the guidelines from the Government for distribution to people at the Uniting Safe Shelter Café, the Condobolin UAICC congregation and people in our own congregation who may like to have a washable mask?

Here are the guidelines from the Australian

Government: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/how-to-make-cloth-mask>

Here are the guidelines from NSW Health: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/how-to-make-a-cloth-mask.aspx>

You don't need to be able to sew to be in the group. You could be the person who:

* has fabric/elastic at your house for others to use

* cuts fabric

* threads elastic

* prints off information

* delivers/posts the masks

* organises the group

OR * sews the masks

Please contact Sharynne (bucconnect@csu.edu.au) if you are interested and we'll work out our plan once we know who is interested. (Sharynne has a lot of fabric that may be suitable)

THANK YOU

I would like to express my thanks to all those who have prayed, sent cards and good wishes, and made telephone calls while I have been having the radiation treatment over the past six weeks. This has been very much appreciated.

Brian

I saw this on the wall of the Radiation Room at Orange Hospital and found it inspiring.

WHAT CANCER CANNOT DO

It cannot cripple love
It cannot shatter hope
It cannot corrode faith
It cannot destroy peace
It cannot kill friendship
It cannot suppress memories
It cannot silence courage
It cannot invade the soul
It cannot steal eternal life
It cannot conquer the spirit.

Meet the congregation

Each week we plan to learn more about someone from the congregation. One will be included each week so who will be next?

Send in your answers to these questions and a photo to BUCCconnect@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 ?**

Ruth

1. I was born in Sydney but spent my childhood at Gerringong and Nowra, on the South Coast where my father had pharmacies. I spent six years as a boarder at PLC Sydney and then stayed in Sydney while I studied at Macquarie University and there met my husband, Ross and we married and were both teaching in Sydney. We moved to Canberra and then Blaxland, in the Blue Mountains, before moving to Bathurst almost twenty-five years ago. We moved to Bathurst as we had dreamed of living in a country town and after our son, Andrew's life-changing accident which left him quadriplegic we decided that it was time to live the dream and create a positive adventure out of a challenging situation. We lived at Evans Plains on 29 acres for 15 years and loved it.
2. Where else could I live in a home where I watch spectacular sunrises from my couch, where I can watch a mob of kangaroos and some horses every day out my kitchen window but still live only a few minutes from the centre of town? I also love the very distinct seasons.
3. I enjoy the people in the congregation and seeing the way so many are living out their faith every day. I love the way that the congregation is so willing to be adaptable to changing situations.
4. Most people know that my family is everything to me and that my son and two daughters and I are a very tight knit bunch. We have always been close but it became more so as we dealt with Andrew's sudden and unexpected disability and we all pulled together to make things work for him as well as each other. Each of them now has a partner who has wholeheartedly become a part of this support group. I now have the added bonus of being an involved grandma to eight grandchildren. They have all been my support team since the sudden death of my husband, Ross, some years ago. I feel truly blessed!
5. I have always had a "thing" for VW Kombis. My Dad bought my Mum one in 1966 and we went on many family adventures in it. That one was upgraded in the early 70s to a yellow one and then Dad bought his own, also yellow so they had matching Kombis. I drove Dad's to uni every day and on many adventures of my own including an extended road trip with my best friend around Victoria and Tasmania. I wanted to use them as my wedding cars but my Mum was horrified and I had to have boring black hire cars!



When Andrew became quadriplegic we had to have a van so, obviously it had to be an adapted VW. It was a very updated version – not quite the same as the old Kombis but very practical. The best moment was when I had to drive it through the city of Sydney and into the grounds of Government House. I then had to drive up under the beautiful sandstone portico there while the staff unrolled a red carpet for Andrew to wheel out onto. We were guests at an awards ceremony for emergency workers. Andrew's life was saved by an off-duty ambulance officer from the South Coast who happened to be driving through Blaxland on holiday when he witnessed Andrew being hit by a car and Gary was receiving an award for his actions.

Gathering in Machattie Park – 1ST August 2020

It was wonderful to see BUC and KUCA friends and families enjoying each other's company while socially distancing on a glorious Bathurst "winter" day. Gwynne organised some fun children's games (including a treasure hunt). Everyone had a lovely time chatting and admiring how much Charlotte had grown. We hope to do this again as long as the COVID-19 restrictions allow for it. Stay tuned.



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!

Prayer Matters

We pray together:

- For the people of Beirut in Lebanon as they try to recover after the tragic explosion in their city.
- For the people of Victoria as they deal with the devastating situation they are living with.
- For all health care workers as they do their best for their patients in difficult times.
- For our leaders as they try to make the best decisions they can in difficult times.
- 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