



Bathurst Uniting Church

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

Newsletter Sunday, 6 September 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: 6 September 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:
Forest Sunday,
the first Sunday in the Season of Creation.
"Our Inter connectedness with nature and Spirit."

Readings:

Genesis 2: 4b – 22
Psalm 139: 13 – 16
Acts 17: 22 – 28
John 3: 1 – 16



ONLINE KUCA

Since Friday 3rd April Bathurst Uniting's KUCA Club has met online every Friday from 5-6pm (except over the July school holidays). That's 20 weeks of KUCA online! Each week we have a similar schedule. We begin with welcome, news and technology tips led by Sharynne, followed by games led by Gwynne, a Bible story and prayer time led by Ellie, a fun craft led by Sandra, then end with grace so the children can go and have dinner with their families. The children enjoy seeing one another, showing us their pets and toys (we regularly have toy penguins joining us), praying together, and heading to their KUCA pack that we delivered to their homes to get out the craft materials to create something wonderful.

Last week, we had Minh attend KUCA all the way from Vietnam! He used to attend KUCA for four years while he lived in Bathurst, and wanted to drop in (online) and say hello to the leaders and his friends. It is wonderful that we have been able to stay connected with the children and families this year.

WE PRAY TOGETHER - A Fathers' Day Prayer

Blessed are you Lord our God, creator and redeemer of all; You father us from all eternity giving life to creation and pouring your love into all you have made.

From the beginning we have known you as "Father", and all our families have their origin in you. Through the love of earthly fathers you give us a glimpse of your everlasting love.

We give thanks for those fathers who strive to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice. And we pray for those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become good fathers.

We thank You for those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support.

We also give thanks for those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives and for those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.

We thank you for those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earn their step-children's love and respect.

And we ask your special blessing on those fathers who have lost a child to death, and who continue to hold those children in their hearts.

We also give thanks for those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own. We pray for those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides

We ask your blessings on those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.

And we continue to pray for those fathers who have died, but live on in our memories and whose love continues to nurture us.

May the love of our earthly fathers draw us ever nearer to you and perfect in us the image of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

(Source: St. John's Episcopal Church website)

Meet the congregation

Each week we have been learning more about someone from the congregation. Please consider being part of this. Don't assume that everyone already knows all about you and never think that you have nothing interesting to say.

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

MEET WENDY



Question 1

I moved to Bathurst from Tamworth with my husband and daughter in 2001. I was born in Newcastle and moved to Cessnock not long after I was married and then to Tamworth because of my husband's work.

Question 2

I did not love being in Bathurst for a few years because of the cold winters and always said that I did not want to retire here. A few years before Garry's retirement I was walking past Kings Parade thinking how beautiful the gardens and parks were. I still don't like the long cold winters, but I love the extreme four seasons and the gardens are still beautiful. I think we are to stay.

Question 3

I think like most of the previous stories featured, I love the inclusiveness of my Church family. I miss my family and friends in Newcastle, but my Church family make up a little for company and fellowship.

Question 4

We are a small family of three with Evelyn living at home full time. I love to travel and we own a caravan and camper trailer for our holidays. Garry and I have recently bought a larger caravan that will allow us to travel with Evelyn. We love the Australian deserts and have driven the Canning Stock Route, travelled across the Simpson Desert, Arnhem Land, Cape York and many other off road destinations in between.

Question 5

I will tell you one of Evelyn's favourite family stories. Garry and I went on our honeymoon with his best friend. It isn't as it sounds, but that is how Evelyn loves to begin the story. Garry and his friend have ridden motorcycles since their teen years, and we both purchased new Ducati motorcycles from the factory in Italy. We travelled through Europe and Britain for nine months. And yes, he is still his best friend - he's a part of our family. Oh, and Garry and I are still married after forty-two years.

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.)

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!

MESSAGE OF THANKS

This message was received by John last Sunday. It shows how far our Sunday services can go and how much they are appreciated.

Date: 30 August 2020 at 11:49:19 am AEST
To: Bathurst Uniting Church <bathurstuca@gmail.com>
Subject: Today's Worship

Thank you John, and all those who participated to bring today's worship...in word, music and expertise...to my lounge room! Greatly appreciated.

Blessings ongoing, Wendy

‘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

As we are no longer able to donate food or money as we used to on Communion Sunday, our Welfare Fund has become rather depleted. If you would like to help replenish the fund, which in turn helps less well off members of our community, you may do so by depositing/transferring money to:

Reliance Bank

BSB: 882000

Account/Member No: 1125

Account Name: Council of Elders

Money in this account is used to purchase supermarket vouchers which the recipient can then use to purchase food and other basic necessities