



Bathurst Uniting Church

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

Newsletter

April 2022

Physical Distance - Social Connection - Community Care

Worship Services

9.30am on Sundays in the church.

You can join worship on Zoom by going to <http://www.bathurstunitingchurch.com.au/> and pressing the purple button.

'Sunday @ 5'

At 5pm – contemporary, informal, all ages worship in the Activities Hall.

Please note: There will be no 5pm service on Easter Sunday (17 April)

Easter Worship Services



10 April - 9.30am - Family Worship - Rev Keith Hamilton

In the Church and on Zoom

Monday 11 April - Tuesday 12 April - Wednesday 13 April 7.30am - 8.00am - Rev Keith Hamilton

In the Church and on Zoom



14 April - 6.30pm - Activities Hall

Please come and share in a service and a simple meal as we remember the Last Supper Jesus had with his disciples.



GOOD FRIDAY

15 April - 9.30am - Rev Keith Hamilton

In the Church and on Zoom

Easter Day



17 April - 9.30am - Rev Keith Hamilton

In the Church and on Zoom - *Including congregational reaffirmation of baptism and Holy Communion*

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.

You can also contact our minister, Rev Keith Hamilton on 0417487446 or email keith.hamilton.bathurstuc@gmail.com

Zoom link <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/6039333548>

Luke 24:1-12, revised 31 March 2013, 21 March 2016

1 But on the first day of the week, at the crack of dawn, the women went to the tomb carrying spices which they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, 3 They entered the tomb, but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And as they became perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes came near to them. 5 And as the women became terrified and bowed their faces to the earth, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has been raised. Remember how he spoke to you while still in Galilee, 7 saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of people who are sinners and be crucified and on the third day to rise again.'" 8 Then the women remembered his speech, 9 and returning from the tomb they announced all these things to the eleven and all the remaining. 10 And they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the rest of the women with them. They told the apostles these things. 11 But these words appeared to them as nonsense and they disbelieved them. 12 But Peter, rising, ran to the tomb and having stooped to peep in, saw the linen wrappings alone, and he went home wondering what had happened.

(Translation by Keith Hamilton)

Reflection

We are about to enter holy week. This year at each of the services commencing Palm Sunday, through Holy Week to Easter Day, we shall hear excerpts from the pilgrimage of Egeria. Egeria was a woman of some means who went on a three-year pilgrimage, staying in Jerusalem between 381 and 384. What Egeria provides us is the first written document of a Christian pilgrimage, and also documentation of the religious practices of the church in Jerusalem.

The Good Friday service appears to have been what today would be called a Stations of the Cross, in the morning, and in the afternoon from midday until 3 pm. a service of psalms, readings and prayers, culminating in the reading of the account of the death of Jesus in John's Gospel. While our service will be in the morning, concluding in time to have hot cross buns and coffee at Julie's and my house at 11:15, we will have a reading of the passion narrative from St John.

Egeria refers to a vigil between Holy Saturday and Easter Day. A second celebration was held on Easter Day that included the Eucharist and a reading of one of the gospel accounts of the resurrection. We shall be hearing Luke.

The first Good Friday ends with Jesus dead in the tomb. Perhaps the Roman Empire and the religious authorities have vanquished the challenger from Galilee? All is over. All is lost. Now to complete the burial preparations that were suspended due to the Sabbath requirements. But.

Luke's resurrection narrative is different to the other gospels in some important ways. All that happens, the women going to the tomb, the first appearances, the road to Emmaus, the gathering in Jerusalem in the upper room, the ascension, take place on the same day, the day of resurrection. Luke's points to the impact of the resurrection of Jesus. But, have a close look at the opening words. Luke 24:1 begins with 'but.' "But on the first day of the week." The 'but' qualifies everything that has gone before. A new thing has happened. Death and destruction, powerplays, do not win. Pilate has overseen a death, but not the end of a movement. Indeed, the movement has begun *because of the death*. For Christians' failure and death is not the last word. God's 'but' to failure, is God's yes to life. Christian hope arises from the empty tomb.

Blessings, Keith Hamilton

CREATIVITY AT KUCA.

Recently the KUCA children learned from Ellie Mowbray about the circle of Jesus' life: His birth, boyhood, ministry, death and resurrection. They played games with Gwynne Taylor, and ate delicious food prepared by Roc Read and John Judge. Then Sandra Judge led the children in this vibrant craft activity.



SAFE CHURCH AWARENESS WORKSHOPS

There is a Safe Church Awareness Workshop coming up that you can be part of. It is being run through the Catholic Diocese, but that is fine as it is recognised by other denominations.

Saturday 21 May 9.30am-2.30pm St Mary's Church gathering space at Park St, Orange.

Cost to attend either session: \$35 To Register: <https://forms.gle/fQLH15KSfLuF8FUBA>

Please let Rocelyn Read know when you have booked. The fee will be reimbursed by the congregation if you provide your receipt.

BUSS Update

- The Housing situation in Bathurst is now at a critical point and we are getting constant calls from individuals and families who have no-where to live. Wattle Tree House, the Government Funded Emergency Housing provider, tells me that they have not “one single room” left anywhere in town. As a consequence we have had a number of rough sleepers sleeping at the church around the outside wherever they can find shelter. We are opening the bathroom each day for showers and providing meals as needed. Please pray for this situation.
- The café is continuing to be popular with up to 25 visitors over the two days. The meal options are very popular. We are always in need of more cooks who are willing to prepare meals at home and freeze them. The costs of ingredients can be reimbursed. Please contact Lynne Collett if you would like to help.
- On Easter Sunday there will be a barbecue instead of the usual frozen meals.
- This week there will be an Easter biscuit decorating afternoon for families which will be great fun and an opportunity for parents to share an activity with their children.
- See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BathurstBUSS> or speak with one of the Management Team if you would like to help.



The February Presbytery at Dubbo saw Certificates of Recognition and Appreciation for Accredited Lay Preachers, presented to... Brian Turrell of Dubbo – 70 years service Brian Mowbray of Bathurst – 50 years service We congratulate both Brians. We give thanks to God for their ministry. We give thanks for the blessing they have been to so many people.



The Knitters, Knotters and Natterers, knitting group is holding a pop-up Tea Cosy Café on Saturday 23rd April, 10:00am to 3:00pm at Bathurst Uniting Church.

This event is to launch our Knitted Scarves project; knitting scarves for people in Bathurst who are cold.

The Tea Cosy Café will be quaintly decorated with baskets of wool, knitting needles and partly knitted scarves. People can join in this community event by knitting a few rows of a scarf while catching up with friends over a delicious Devonshire Tea/Coffee. Homemade scones with jam and cream or gluten free muffins, along with tea or coffee are available for an optional gold coin donation.

For further details contact Julie Hamilton.

Orange Regional Conservatorium and the Allegri Singers

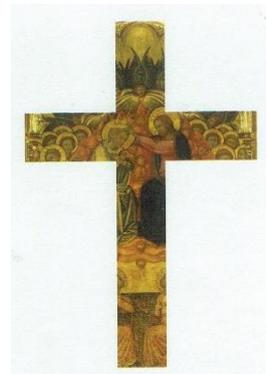
present

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Conducted by William Moxey

Saturday 9 April 2pm at All Saints Cathedral

Tickets \$45 Booking information at www.orangecon.org.au



The Silver Tunnel

A hell of a play in a holy place
presented by the Rev Bill Crews
Foundation in support of the poor,
homeless and needy.

Friday 8th April at 8pm and Saturday 9th
at 4pm and 8pm

in Bathurst Uniting Church

Free entry but bookings are essential

www.thesilvertunnel.org



How you can help

Moderator's Flood Appeal:

<https://appeals.nswact.uca.org.au/>

By cheque: Moderator's Appeal, PO Box A2178,
Sydney South NSW 1235. Make cheque payable
to: The Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of
NSW/ACT.

By Direct Bank Transfer: Account Name:
Moderator's Appeal BSB: 634-634 Account No:
100044774

