



EMMANUEL

—Uniting Church—

www.emmanueluca.org.au

www.facebook.com/emmanueluca

12 August and 19 August

Real People *with* Relevant Faith *for* Our Community

Front and Centre

Worship

Sunday 12 August

Luke 10:25-37

Ian Weaver

8am, 9.30am

Sunday 19 August

Matt 14:13-21

Ian Weaver

8am, 9.30am

Sunday 26 August

Matt 18:1-6

Ian Weaver

9am Combined

Coming Events

21 Aug Friendship Group Bus Trip

26 Aug Emmanuel Day and combined church

1 Sept 2pm Peter Blakes Ordination

1 Sept 7pm Ei-steddfof Prize winners concert

5 Sept Day Fellowship

Next Newsletter will be 26 August

Welcome to everyone reading this Newsletter.

I hope by now you've received your 2018 stewardship letter, including response forms, and are planning to join us for our "Emmanuel Day" Celebration Service, followed by our Big Brunch and family games. It should be a great day to give thanks to God for all he's given us and to offer ourselves afresh to the mission he's calling us to!

You know me well enough by now to realise that I try to keep these letters bright and breezy but today marks the beginning of some rather more serious dialogue.

Many in the Uniting Church, me included, feel betrayed by the 15th Assembly's resolution 64 which provides for an additional understanding of marriage to include marriage between partners of the same gender. They wish us to believe that it is perfectly reasonable to hold two mutually exclusive beliefs about marriage as equally valid. On the one hand they wish us to say "Christians believe that marriage is exclusively between a man and a woman" and on the other that "Christians believe marriage can be between any two persons, regardless of gender". Whilst the second allows for the first, the first certainly does not allow for the second. **So they have delivered us an illogical, nonsense,** (and one which places us, especially registered marriage celebrants, in legal jeopardy if challenged).

But there are two, far more serious grievances.

1. The Assembly decided that this was not a matter of "vital importance to the church" and therefore that it did not require wider consultation or "concurrence" (agreement between all of the Councils of the Church, ie, Assembly, Synod, Presby-

tery, Church Council and especially you, the members of the congregations).

In claiming that marriage between two persons of the same gender is "biblically valid" they have in effect led our church into what is known as Apostasy (heresy – ie rejecting a religious belief). Let me state this again - **there is absolutely no biblical affirmation for homosexual marriage** – not one scrap. **The only "biblically valid" form of marriage affirmed by scripture is the traditional one, between a man and a woman.**

The horrendous truth before us is that our church leadership neither value our opinions nor worse, is quite happy to mislead us into false teaching. How could this happen? I have included a reflection from a UCA Minister from NSW for one perspective.

As a result, many congregations are agonising over whether to leave the Uniting Church, and some already have. In fact, any congregation which is *not* considering their future is in effect saying, "We agree with this new teaching on marriage".

By my reckoning we are about two thirds of the way through our 40 days of prayer and fasting. In addition, this past week I have been on four days retreat focussing on how to respond both pastorally and institutionally. I urge you, please, to pray for our Church Council as we face this crisis and try to find a way through. [I can tell you there are moves afoot, amongst wider networks, to find alternative ways of belonging whilst still maintaining our integrity as orthodox Christians and I (amongst many others) am working hard to find a palatable solution.]

God bless, Ian.



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Follow-Up Questions

SUNDAY AUGUST 12TH – LUKE 10:25-37 – THE GOOD SAMARITAN

What would you say if someone asked you how they could be guaranteed living forever? Why would someone want to live forever?

What do you think the religious expert meant by eternal life? If Jesus says it is correct and life-giving to love God and neighbour, in what way does Jesus himself play a role in our eternal life?

What do you know of the relationship between Jews and Samaritans? What did they have in common? How did they differ? What is so startling about a Samaritan helping a Jew?

List the various ways in which the Samaritan helps the injured Jew. Which part could you see yourself undertaking?

When you read Jesus saying, “Go and do likewise”, does that thrill you or chill you? Why? If you were being brutally honest, what’s the “worst kind” of person you would struggle to help?

In what ways might you/we be called to “have mercy”?

SUNDAY AUGUST 19TH – MATTHEW 14:13-21 – JESUS FEEDS 5000 PLUS

Why was Jesus in a “solitary place”? What does this tell you about Jesus? How might that inform your own response to grief?

What were the people thinking by coming out to Jesus without provision? What would cause you to do that? What does that tell you about their character? What does it tell you about Jesus’ character?

Compare what you think the disciples were thinking before the miracle with what they must have been thinking afterwards?

What in your/our ministry seems just too big to imagine? Is there any way in which we are sending people off to have their needs met elsewhere? What might Jesus be saying to you/us about providing for our needs?

Explore Groups

Explore groups are a great way to Explore faith as a growing disciple by meeting regularly with others to study God’s Word, and spend time in prayer and reflection. Explore groups also build relationships and promote pastoral care.

How can I join? Speak with one of the Ministry Team Members, or one of the Church Council Members.

I’m interested, but not available when existing groups meet? Please let the church office know. We may be able to start a new group at a different time.

Solfa

2nd & 4th Mon 9:30am

KYB

Tues 9:45am

Living Water

1st & 3rd Tues 10:00am

Wednesday Morning

Wed 9:15am

Wednesday In the Word

Wed 7:30pm

Bunnies Explore Group

Tues 7:00pm

Wednesday Wonderers

Fortnightly Thurs 7:00pm

Thursday Thinkers

2nd & 4th Thurs 7pm

Women’s Bible Study

Mon 12.45pm

Walking Women

Thurs 6pm



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care

At Emmanuel, pastoral care is "for everyone by everyone" and this often happens within an Explore Group. For other Pastoral Care needs we have a dedicated team of volunteers headed by Bronwyn Kelly who can be contacted in the first instance on 3354 4961.

Prayer Points

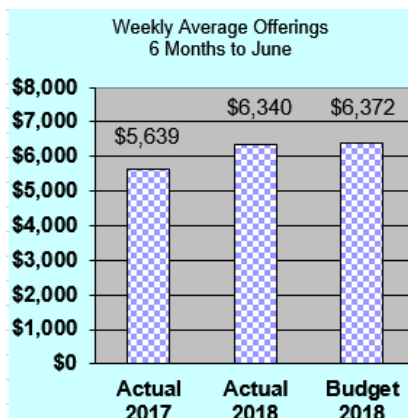
- ✝ For those grieving in our community .
- ✝ For continued growth in our community (Tiny Town, ESS, Brigades, Playgroup, Army Barracks) both in numbers and in faith.
- ✝ For guidance of the future in respect to the Assembly decision.
- ✝ For the farmers and those affected by the drought.
- ✝ Those sick and in hospital.

Prayer Chain

Other matters requiring prayer attention can be passed to Bronwyn Kelly in confidence who will enlist the help of our Prayer Team.

Finances

Please contact our Treasurer Barry Jardine if you want any further information.



Notices & Coming Events

FRIENDSHIP GROUP BUS TRIP 21 August The Friendship Group Bus Trip is Now full thanks to everyone who has put down your name to attend. Payments can be made to Ted or Val Farnsworth \$48 Please contact Val Farnsworth on 3355 0210 for more information.

During September and October we will be conducting '**Operation Christmas Child**'. We would really appreciate donations of cloth bags to include in the shoe boxes. Queries may be directed to Heather Hall, 33530328 or 0429 036 230.

Day Fellowship The month of August is when Day Fellowship collects toiletries and letter/note paper for prisoners and their families. All members of our congregation are invited to contribute donations of suitable items for this appeal. A collection carton will be available in the lobby during August for your donations which would be appreciated.

Proposed visit to Noro, Solomon Islands during next school holidays – Sep 24 – Oct 7, 2018. Expressions of interest to Maureen **asap** will be welcomed. Ph 3354 1171, leave message, mobile 0419 469 873 or email rwitheyman@bigpond.com

Emmanuel Day Sunday 26th August 9am will be a combined church service followed by a brunch and celebration. What a wonderful way to bring your friends and family along to Emmanuel. A church service, brunch and board games (both indoor and outdoor) what a better way to spend a Sunday and end our 40 days of prayer and fasting.

Girls' Brigade Papua New Guinea

This term 70th Brisbane Girls' Brigade is collecting money for Girls' Brigade in Papua New Guinea.

Money raised will help build an office and womens' shelter.

Bring along loose coins and put them in the mini house in the foyer before and after church each Sunday.



Trinity College Upcoming Events



- Open Evening – 10 September 2018 (7pm-9 pm)
- Open Day – 11 September 2018 (9am – 4pm)
- Trinity Unplugged - Guest Speaker : Sam Chan "Things I wish I knew when telling my friends about Jesus", Thursday 1st November 2018



Emmanuel Day

9.00am Sunday 26th August



FREE fun for everyone
Church Service followed by Brunch
board games and more

Emmanuel Uniting Church 92 Laurel St, Enoggera next to Enoggera State School

more info: jess@emmanueluca.org.au 0438 168 706 www.emmanueluca.org.au



Ministry Team Contacts

Minister

Rev Ian Weaver
0409 604 006

ian@emmanueluca.org.au

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

Families Pastor

Jessica Pinkerton
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Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

Worship Pastor

Dom Chan
0423 902 762

dom@emmanueluca.org.au

Mon, Thurs, Fri

Office Coordinator

Helen Smith
Church Office: 3355 2162
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Enoggera Q 4051

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Office Hours

Monday to Friday
830am - 3pm

We are a
Fairtrade
community.



Guarantees
a **better deal**
for Third World
Producers



Church Council

Chair	Alison Anderson	3356 8563
Secretary	Christine Manning	secretary@emmanueluca.org.au
Treasurer	Barry Jardine	treasurer@emmanueluca.org.au
	Rosemary Costello	3355 4074
	Kristy Johnson	kristywakem@gmail.com
	Dennis Shanks	dennis.shanks2099@gmail.com
	Graham Emblen	gpemblen@bigpond.com
	Nathan Robertson	njrobertson01@gmail.com

Team Leaders

Support & Resources	Mark Robinson	property@emmanueluca.org.au
Pastoral Care	Bronwyn Kelly	3354 4961



A hearing aid loop is installed on the car park side of the church.

Banking Information

This is for anyone who would prefer to use Internet Banking for their Offerings, Special Appeals or payments for events e.g. Lights Camera Christmas, Community Helping Hand etc.

BSB: 334 040 Account Number: 553 839 228

Account Name: UCA – Emmanuel Uniting Church Enoggera

Note: Please ensure that you include name and a brief reason for the payment.