



14 JULY 2024

Welcome

Welcome to church this morning. We hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary readings

This week 14 July, 2024

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

Next Sunday 21 July, 2024

2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study will meet on Tuesday at 3pm in the chapel. They are looking at Study 2 "Two Paths" Proverbs 1:8-7:27

UCA Assembly Meeting

The 17th meeting of the Assembly of the Uniting Church (our National body) is on this week, 11-17th July, in Parramatta. The gathering will be installing Rev Charissa Suli as the next President of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Defibrillator Information

As mentioned a few weeks ago, we have recently purchased an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) which is in the kitchen next to the First Aid Kit.

Some basic on-line training is included in the purchase and we are planning to run this after morning tea this morning in the chapel for anyone who might be interested. It should only take about 15 minutes to watch.



threads of love

WEAVING CHRIST'S LOVE ACROSS
CULTURES & BOUNDARIES



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The Uniting Church Assembly and the NSW/ACT Synod have both made commitments towards becoming a multicultural, cross cultural and intercultural church but what does that actually mean and what is the difference between the three?

A multicultural church or society is one made up of many different cultures who get along but remain in isolated groups. The UCA appreciates "the richness that each individual, community and Congregation brings and fosters a sense of belonging for all. By recognising and celebrating our multiculturalism, we affirm our commitment to cultural inclusivity, uniting, as the body of Christ, as Church." (Living cross-culturally as a multi-cultural inter-cultural church. Proposal to synod 2023).

A cross cultural church will have some movement from one ethnic group towards the other. A "crossing journey is needed. And for us as Christians there is an added meaning, because it is the cross of Christ that makes it possible for us to cross over to one another." (Revd. Helen Richmond and Revd. Dr Myong Duk Yang in Crossing Borders). "Cross-cultural engagement involves developing understanding, empathy, and respect for cultures other than our own. It allows us to bridge divides, break down barriers, and build meaningful relationships with individuals, communities, and Congregations from different cultural backgrounds." (Living cross-culturally as a multi-cultural inter-cultural church. Proposal to synod 2023).

An intercultural church creates spaces "where the diverse tapestry of our community and Congregations can interweave harmoniously. Intercultural spaces go beyond the surface level of cultural coexistence; they encourage genuine interaction, collaboration, and mutual learning. These spaces cultivate an environment where different cultures are not just tolerated but embraced, to enable a fuller expression of the growth of the Church's worship, witness and service in Jesus Christ." (Living cross-culturally as a multi-cultural inter-cultural church. Proposal to synod 2023).

When you read through the definitions above which words stand out to you? What challenges do you think we may face as we strive to become an intercultural church? Reflect on the following phrases, are they a recipe for God's peace on earth?

*a sense of belonging for all,
developing understanding, interweaving harmoniously,
empathy, and respect for cultures other than our own,
bridging divides, breaking down barriers.*

- Rev Gail