

# WEST EPPING UNITING CHURCH

## Our Vision:

*We are people sent to share the love, hope and compassion of Jesus Christ with all the world*



Sunday 10 November 2019

Welcome 환영합니다

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Ki ora Malo ē lelei

## GOD OF THE LIVING

Our gathering as congregations of Christians is largely about memory. We remember stories of peoples and cultures ancient and distant. We listen to their stories in which we hear wisdom and the voice of God coming through history, story and memory. They are ancestors in this spiritual journey, part of the movement that embraces God's Reign of justice, peace and love. We remember the way Jesus interacted with people, rich and poor, powerful and outcast. We listen, we remember and remember who we are as God's people. We regularly share in the symbolic meal of Communion, where we gather around an open table, welcomed by the Risen Christ in the name of God who is love. We remember his life given up for the sake of God's Reign and how he stood against the powers of the world, the evil and injustice, and commit ourselves to this memory in our lives. We remember and in remembering we become!

On Monday there will be another day of remembering, called Remembrance Day. It is a day of entering into the stories of those who have been called into the various wars and conflicts around the world. We remember those whose lives were sacrificed, given for the sake of their family, friends and a freedom they believed in – enough to risk life. We remember the depth of struggle and sacrifice, the living hell, those who fought went through in trenches, in jungles, in deserts... I have recoiled from many stories I have heard over the years from those who have been willing to relive a memory or two. The horror, the hell and the sheer guts and desperation, the fear and despair, the exhilaration at the end, the mateship bonds formed under duress and stress all speak of the world I've not encountered. Some have been reticent to share their memories because the pain in reliving is too hard. Others bear the emotional and psychological effects of this hell on earth. Others will quietly share their stories with a tear and a laugh. They will gather with mates and attend memorial services of Remembrance. They will remember and hold before us something of the truth of war. They will recall the grief of lost mates, lives sacrificed far too young. They will recall the high costs of war and offer us a warning that there are other ways to resolve conflicts. There is a time to talk and listen, to negotiate and work together in non-violent ways to resolve our differences. There may be other times when war seems inevitable but we should never enter into this 'inevitability' until all else is exhausted. We will remember and in remembering honour their lives, their sacrifice and their stories. We will honour their warnings and we will resolve to seek new ways of seeking peace and freedom.

In our gospel reading this week (Luke 20:27-38) there is a line at the end that says: *"Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."* When I hear this I understand that God is about life, about living life in all its fullness. God invites us to open our hearts and minds to the memories, light and bright, deep and dark and to allow the remembering of who we are to form us into people of hope, life, freedom, peace and joy – people of love and grace!

*Rev Geoff Stevenson*

## Prayer Points

- ✚ Remember all those who lost their lives or were badly wounded in the Great War of 1914-18 and in all wars that have taken place around the globe.
- ✚ Pray for peace in a world that is still divided and held ransom by expressions of hate and ongoing acts of violence.
- ✚ Pray for peace and wisdom for all students and their families during these HSC exams.
- ✚ Give thanks for this congregation its members, leaders and ministers.
- ✚ Give thanks for the CSI congregation and the Korean congregation who worship here each Sunday in this church.
- ✚ Ask God's blessing on all those with particular needs today – the sick, the lonely, the grieving, the lost, the tormented and the heart broken.



## A Prayer for Today

May today there be peace within.  
May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.  
May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

*(St. Theresa)*



**We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we gather, the Wallumedegal people of the Eora nation and give thanks for their care of the land over many generations.**

## REMEMBRANCE DAY

Tomorrow, 11 November marks the anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War (1914–18). Each year on this day Australians observe one minute's silence at 11am in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

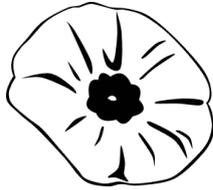
World War One saw more than 70 million people mobilized and it left between 9 and 13 million dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave. The allied nations chose this day and time for the commemoration of their war dead.

### Prayer:

God of love and liberty,  
We bring our thanks today for the peace and security we enjoy,  
We remember those who in time of war faithfully served their country.  
We pray for their families, and for ourselves whose freedom was won at such a cost.

Make us a people committed to peace, and hasten that day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither learn war any more.

This we pray in the name of the one who gave his life for the sake of the world: Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Left We Forget*

## TOGETHER SERVICE AND AGM

**Sunday 24 November**  
**Together Service at 9am**

Followed by the

**Annual General Meeting at 10.30am,**  
to be held café style over morning tea in the hall.

Please bring a plate of finger food to share at morning tea.  
(slice, biscuits, cakes etc)

Please forward any Other Business items to the Chairperson, Phil Chapple, by email or phone, by Sunday 17 November.



## CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

**Sponsored by**  
**Inter-Church Men's Fellowship**

An event for all at West Epping  
to come together at years end

**Monday 2 December** | 6:00pm for 6:30pm Cost: \$35

### Entertainment

**Ambre Hammond** | *Concert Pianist*

### Christmas Message

**Rev Vernon Prowse** | *Men's Fellowship Chaplain*

#### BOOKINGS TO:

Bruce Elliott 9869 7633    David Newton 0419 200 791  
John Planner 0419 747 100    Ivan Drury i.van@iinet.net.au

## Community News

**PRAYER GROUP** ~ If you would like prayer for yourself or for others please contact Lois Rees, Helen Campbell or Annabelle Avern who convene a weekly Prayer Group each Thursday in the Cottage 12.15-1.00pm. **During this time we pray for all members of the West Epping Community and for the needs of others.**

New members of the Prayer Group are always welcome.



## Welcome!

Today we welcome Rev Geoff Stevenson as our guest preacher. Geoff is chairperson of the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery.

**INTER-CHURCH MENS FELLOWSHIP** ~ Monday 11 November. Dinner at 6.30pm followed by the speaker at 7.45pm; **Lachlan Turner**, and his subject '**Cobb and Co – Mail and Passenger Service**'.

Dinner bookings to:

Bruce Elliott 0438 180 342

David Newton 0419 200 791

John Planner john@introspec.com.au

**FRIDAY DISCOVERY** ~ Friday 15 November  
Last month, we had a quick change of plans, so enjoyed a fun morning of "Scattergories". Our travel tales of South America with Susan & Bruce Elliott will now take place on Friday 15 November at 10am. All Welcome!  
Enquiries: Joan Ross 9873 3713

**WOMBAT WALKERS** ~ Saturday 16 November  
North Head Sanctuary. We meet at Epping Station in time to catch the train leaving at 8:40am to Central and then to Circular Quay. We then travel by Manly Ferry and bus to North Head where we will enjoy the walks, views and historical features. The walk distance will be 4km or so, following the Sanctuary Loop and should be quite easy. I hope you can join us for our final walk of the year.  
Enquiries: Bruce Elliott 9869 7633



### MID-WEEK COMMUNION

Midweek Communion is on Tuesday 19 November at 10am. This service is open to all, but is particularly for those who find it difficult to get to church on Sundays. Morning tea to follow the service.  
Everyone is welcome!



### RECYCLING WEEK

this week  
starting Monday  
11 November!



# Readings

## Haggai 1:15- 2:9

On the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

## Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.'

Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.'



## SAFE CHURCH AWARENESS WORKSHOP

**Saturday 30 November**

at West Epping Uniting Church

**Full Workshop:** 9.30am - 3.30pm

**Refresher Workshop:** 9.30am - 1.00pm

**Cost:** Full \$25 Refresher: \$20

Light refreshments provided

Bring own lunch

### Registrations:

Web: [ume.nswact.uca.org.au](http://ume.nswact.uca.org.au)

Email: [safechurch@nswact.uca.org.au](mailto:safechurch@nswact.uca.org.au)

Phone: 02 8838 8900 or

Contact: Helen in church office

## WE ARE SO LUCKY!.....

Why are we lucky? We are so fortunate to have a wonderful bunch of ladies who are willing, week after week, to arrange flowers in our church. They are Alison Anderson, Annabelle Avern, Sandra Cadman, Helen Campbell, Helen Elvery, Jean Chapple, Margaret Gibbons, Marnie Kilby, Margaret Leivesley, Janki Mudliar, Barbara Newton, Lois Rees, Joan Ross and Margaret Wilson .

15 ladies to spread over the year.

### WE NEED SOME EXTRA HELPERS.

If you can only do one Sunday a year that is helpful. Please consider joining our roster. Nice silk flowers are available for use with some fresh greenery when flowers are expensive. No one is expected to spend a lot of money.

Contact: Carolyn Button 9871 2661 for further information.

We need to share the load. Thank you.



## HALF A MILLION STEPS ~ MOVIE

### Screening at:

Northmead Bowling & Community Sports Club, Windsor Rd, Northmead.

**On:** Thursday 21 November, 6.45pm

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/HAMSNorthmead>

### For screening info contact:

Rev Niall Reid p: 9890 5814

### Fair Treatment - the reform on drugs

A film calling for a change in our response to illicit drug use.

See notice board for more information

Initiative of Uniting Church NSW/ACT and Uniting



# Diary Dates

- ◆ **Tuesday 19 November** ~ Mid-week communion, 10am
- ◆ **Sunday 24 November** ~ Together Service, 9am & WEUC Annual General Meeting
- ◆ **Tuesday 26 November** ~ Ecumenical Advent Service, 7.45pm, Catholic Parish Epping. Speaker: Rev Howard Bennett
- ◆ **Saturday 30 November** ~ Safe Church Awareness Workshop, 9.30am
- ◆ **Sunday 1 December** ~ Combined Service : West Epping Uniting Church and CSI, 9am
- ◆ **Monday 2 December** ~ Inter-church Men's Fellowship Christmas Function, 6pm
- ◆ **Saturday 7 December** ~ CSI Carol Service, 6.30pm
- ◆ **Monday 9 December** ~ West Epping Women Christmas event
- ◆ **Thursday 12 December** ~ Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance, 7.30pm
- ◆ **Tuesday 17 December** ~ Ladies Fellowship Christmas Dinner, 7pm
- ◆ **Sunday 22 December** ~ Christmas Carol Service, 9am

## PRAYERS

If you would like to know of some specific names of people with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please **contact Annabelle Avern** (member of the Pastoral Care Team) on 0428 368 870, preferably on weekday evenings. Alternately, you are welcome to come along to the Prayer Group that meets on Thursdays at 12:15pm.



West Epping Uniting Church uses information and news provided by its members, adherents and officers for the purposes of conducting its pastoral ministry. In the course of that ministry, material published in this bulletin may reach an audience wider than the membership of the congregation.

## What's on next week!

Monday 11 November	10.00am 10.00am 6.30pm	English conversation classes KYB Men's Dinner & speaker
Tuesday 12 Nov	9.30am	Men's Shed at Arrunga
Wednesday 13 Nov	9.30am 9.45am 7.30pm	Men's Shed at Arrunga Mainly music Aspergers Support Group
Thursday 14 Nov	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am 12.15pm	Men's Shed at Arrunga Playgroup Thursday Craft Prayer Group
Friday 15 November	10.00am	Friday Discovery
Saturday 16 Nov		Wombat Walkers
<b>Sunday 17 November</b>	<b>8.00am 10.00am 5.30pm</b>	<b>Worship Worship : JAM for children CSI Service in English</b>

## Serving next Sunday 17 November

	8.00am	10.00am
Welcomers	Margaret Leivesley Thelma Marshall	Jennifer West Jan Williams
Stewards	Doug Blunden Alan Herron	Ian West Bruce Elliott
Ministers Assistant	Mavis Hall	Jean Chapple
Reader	Mavis Hall	Desy Chapple
Prayer Ministry	John Planner	
Prayers for Others	John Planner	Erica Harrison
Sound/Computer	Marnie Kilby	Phil Chapple
Flowers	Alison Anderson	

## It's just a thought...

....But it could change your life

If you want to help others,  
don't just know your faith—show your faith.

*John Maxwell*

West Epping Uniting Church is a member of an Ecumenical Covenant with the Anglican Parish of Epping, the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford, Epping Baptist Church and Epping Uniting Church.



## Ministers

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (on leave until 11 November)  
Rev Samata Elia (Pastoral Care) 0488 230 238

## Office Administrator

Helen Tattersall 9868 3574

## Safe Church Contact Person

Erica Harrison 9873 3989

## Church Office

35 Orchard St Epping 2121 p: 9868 3574  
Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8.30am—3.00pm  
Friday 8.30am—12.30pm

Email [weppinguca@gmail.com](mailto:weppinguca@gmail.com)

Website [weppinguca.org.au](http://weppinguca.org.au)

Facebook [facebook.com/weppinguca](https://facebook.com/weppinguca)

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