

WEST EPPING UNITING CHURCH



Our Vision:

We strive to be a diverse community transformed by God's love, living fully in the power of the Spirit, with Jesus's teachings at our core.

Connection. Community. Commitment. Christ



Newsletter

Reading

Sunday
10th August 2025

Luke 12:32-40

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or

toward daybreak. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."



PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Each year, from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family across denominations unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home.

As followers of Christ, we share a common call to care for Creation.

This year the theme is "Peace with Creation" with the symbol "Garden of Peace", inspired by Isaiah 32:14-18.

To mark the Ecumenical Season of Creation we invite you to come together for prayers, readings, discussion and lunch

Thursday 4 September 2025 at 11.30am
Saint Alban's Anglican Parish Hall,
3 Pembroke Street, Epping

We will hear from three Sydney Alliance Interns about their hopes for the future, their experience of caring for the earth in their own countries, Vietnam, South Korea and China, and what they have observed in Sydney.

Organised by communities of
the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford;
the Epping Uniting Church; West Epping Uniting Church;
and the Anglican Parish of Epping

All welcome — please invite your friends

The Anglican Church Hall is very close to Epping Station; parking is very limited on site; parking for the lunch is available at Our Lady Help of Christians, entry to the Car Park is at 6 Cambridge Street, Epping, a short walk away.

There is no charge

To assist with numbers for catering please indicate your attendance



PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home.

This year, the theme for the season is "Peace with Creation."

Please see the events we share with our ecumenical friends to mark this occasion.

More information can be found [here](#)



PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025

SEASON OF CREATION BUSHWALKS

Come for a bushwalk to celebrate the Season of Creation, during September, in our local bushland with an experienced guide.

Use all your senses to enjoy the tranquillity of nature.

Friday 5 September 10.30am

A one and half hour stroll in the Field of Mars Gladesville. This flat one kilometre walk will be within most people's abilities.

Tuesday 30 September 10.00am

A two hour walk starting at Waterloo Park Marsfield, and walking down to Brown's Waterhole. This walk will be a little challenging, some on a rough bush track and include a hill to climb.

Bookings essential as places are limited
Please email office@eppinganglicans.org.au

Meeting Place and what to bring will be advised in reply to your booking email

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.



Ministry Leadership Team

Our The Ministry Leadership Team will be holding prayer meetings at The Cottage on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, from 10:30 to 11:30am**

All are warmly invited to attend

Men's Fellowship

Our Inter Church Men's Fellowship is on:

Monday 11 August @ 10am



Police Post Trauma

The speaker will be Chaplain Gary Raymond APM, OAM from the NSW Police Post Trauma Unit.

Cost \$10.00 includes a great morning tea. Bring a friend.

Please advise your attendance by Wednesday 6 August to b.sheldrick@optusnet.com.au



Friday Discovery

Our next meeting is on:

Friday 15th August @ 10am

Our guest speaker is Jennifer Farrer, on "Plants in Colonial Sydney". A fascinating subject!

All Welcome!

Enquiries - Joan Ross, 9873 3713



If you're feeling the cold of winter and need some warming up, come along to the next Jazz on Hammers:

Sunday August 17, 6:00-8:00 pm @ Northmead UC

Bop, clap, sing along to the music and warm yourselves in the company of others. Share a drink, food and conversation. All are welcome.

Living God, remain with us today.

Fill us with your Spirit that we may dwell in Christ.

We praise and adore you.

Amen.



Worship this Sunday will be a hybrid service

Everyone is welcome to attend or join us on zoom.

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[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Telephone 02-8015-6011

Meeting ID 864-749-2332 passcode 2121

Or you can watch on our youtube channel

[WEUC - Youtube](#)

Mid-Week Devotion



Join us on **Wednesdays at 10am** on zoom led by Pastor Lyn Graham.

Join Zoom Meeting at 10am

[https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09)

[pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91952761718?pwd=WmtNRfhKbDV3OTZLaVJVRWk4VGvKZz09)

Meeting ID: 919 5276 1718 Passcode: 2121

Family & Intergen Service

Sunday's @ 5pm

A relaxed church gathering with bible readings, discussion, kids craft and a light meal



Zoom Prayer Group

You are invited to join our weekly prayer time on zoom on **Thursdays at 4pm**.

Everyone is welcome to join in. For more information contact Lois Rees.

Join Zoom Thursday Prayer Group at 4pm

[https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09)

[pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09](https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/98939453219?pwd=dG9paSs1eGg4MGZDbGozNWdqOHlQQT09)

Meeting ID: 989 3945 3219 Passcode: 2121

Geoff's Reflection



The video reflection this week is called:

The Courageous Way of Faith

It can be found at: [The Courageous Way of FAITH...](#)



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



From the Cottage

A Fresh Look at 'Surprise the World'
by Michael Frost

Encouragement for Everyday Evangelism

Many of you will remember reading *Surprise the World* by Michael Frost and participating in small study groups around it not too long ago. It's a book that left a mark on many of us.

I was given a copy by Alison a few months back, but I didn't get around to reading it until a couple of weeks ago. And I'm glad I finally did!

Michael Frost's insights are both encouraging and practical.

He offers us a natural, down-to-earth way of doing evangelism—something we often find intimidating. Let's be honest: many of us cringe when we hear the phrase, "Share your faith in Jesus!" But Frost's approach, built around five simple habits, provides us with practical tools for connection and community-building in everyday life.

Why Revisit This Now?

Revisiting this book now can be a great support to:

- * **Jeane's Pastoral Care Conversation Training** (with members of the Mainly Music and Play Group)
- * **Our Upcoming "Growing Young" Conversation**

Five Habits That Align with Our Vision

Frost's five key habits complement the four core words in our Strategic Mission Plan:

Connection, Community, Commitment, and Christ.

In the coming week, I'll share a short reflection on each habit—as a reminder and encouragement for us all.

Let's continue to grow together as a community shaped by God's mission and love.



Surprise the World!

Living as Everyday Missionaries — A Simple Guide from Michael Frost

What if living out our faith could become a natural part of our everyday lives — not just something we do on Sundays?

In his inspiring little book, *Surprise the World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*, Michael Frost invites us to become people who live questionable lives — lives that cause others to ask why we are so generous, hospitable, and joyful.

The answer? Jesus.

Frost offers a simple but powerful rhythm for daily discipleship and mission, captured in the acronym **BELLS**:



B – Bless

Choose to bless three people this week through a kind word, a thoughtful gift, or an act of service. At least one should be outside your church family.



E – Eat

Share a meal with three people this week. Hospitality is one of the most natural and powerful ways to build relationships and share God's love.



L – Listen

Spend time each week listening to the Holy Spirit. Turn off distractions and tune in to God's voice — guiding, comforting, and sending you.



L – Learn

Commit to regularly learning about Jesus through Scripture and other resources. Knowing Jesus deeply fuels a life that looks like His.



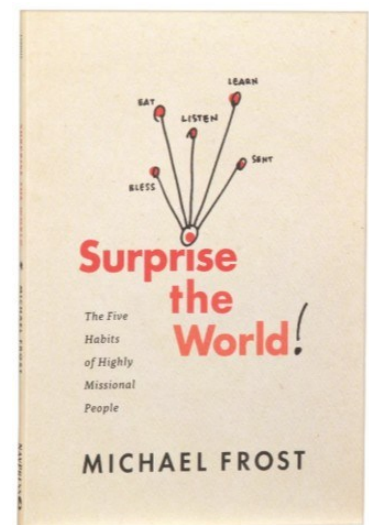
S – Sent

Reflect each week on how you are sent into the world to represent Christ. Consider keeping a journal or sharing stories with a friend or small group.

These five habits help us develop a missional lifestyle — one that is intentional, Spirit-led and grounded in Jesus. As we live this way, we will naturally surprise the world and invite others into God's story.

Let's practice these habits together as a church family — not to add more pressure, but to live more purposefully in the everyday moments God gives us.

From The Cottage

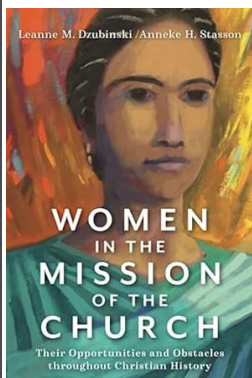


What's on this week

Sunday 10th August	Worship Service 9.30am Intergen Worship Service 5pm
Monday 11th August	Men's Fellowship 10am
Tuesday 12th August	Mahjong & More! 9.30am Playgroup 9.30am
Wednesday 13th August	mainly music 10am Zoom Mid Week Devotion
Thursday 14th August	Zoom prayer group 4pm
Friday 15th August	Friday Discovery 10am
Sunday 17th August	Worship Service 9.30am Intergen Worship Service 5pm

Rosters

17th August	9 30am Worship Service
Liturgist	Rev 'Oto Faiva
Preaching	Rev 'Oto Faiva
Ministers Assistant	Jan Lintott
Welcomer	Helen Aiton, Sue Elliott
Stewards	Andrew Aiton, Bruce Elliott
Reader	Jean Chapple
Prayers for the people	Jeane Finnegan
AV desk	Morris & Helen T
Flowers	Margaret Wilson
Lectionary Readings	Is 5:1-7 Ps 80:1-2 Heb 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56



You're Invited: Missional Reading Group Gathering

Exploring Women in the Mission of the Church by Leanne Dzubinski and Anneke Stasson

When: **Tuesday, 26 August, 1-3 PM**
Where: Online via Zoom

Join us as we uncover the stories of women who shaped the mission of the church, celebrating their contributions while reflecting on the barriers they've faced. Co-author, Leanne Dzubinski, will be joining us! Whether you've read the whole book or just a chapter (or haven't read it and just want to come along and listen to the conversation), come and be part of this rich discussion. Bring your questions, reflections, and a heart open to learning from the often hidden stories of mission and ministry.

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8443695651?omn=83010723112>

Meeting ID: 844 369 5651

Email ReneeK@nswact.uca.org.au for more details

Leading This Sunday's 9.30am Service:
Rev. 'Oto Faiva



**Join us at our next
Presbytery Meeting**

Saturday 16th August 2025 | 9:30am
Parramatta Centenary Uniting Church
46 Sorrell St, North Parramatta

For further information, please contact
the Presbytery office: (02) 9683 5023

Generous | Vibrant | Diverse

Minister

Rev 'Oto V Faiva 0405 636 088

Church Planter

Rev Tennyson Chan 陳志偉牧師 0411 896 274

Children & Family Ministry Worker

Jeane Finnegan 0452 001 876

Office Administrator

Emma Butler 9868 3574

Safe Church Contact Person

Erica Harrison 0409 044 923

Church Office

35 Orchard St Epping 2121 p: 9868 3574

Office Hours Thursday & Friday 8.30am to 2.30pm

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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.