



# Welcome to Worship Connections



## **Binding Braids by Nicolette Peñaranda**

Acrylic, markers, paper, & mixed media collage on canvas

### **Advent Two: We can't go alone**

Read Ruth 1

## **Sunday 8 December 2024**

**This week's Lectionary readings**

Advent 2: Mal 3:1-4; Lk 1:68-79; Phil 1:3-11; Lk 3:1-6

**Next week's readings**

Advent 3: Is 61:1-4, 8-11; Ps 126 or Lk 1:46b-55; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28

# In our Region Ministry



## **WHEN WILL YOU COME BACK ? by Rev. Sarah A. Speed**

Yesterday I visited an old man in the hospital.  
I was not the only one. We talked on the elevator ride down  
Has he gained any weight? Will he stay in that room?  
Does he like the food? Has he called?  
All the man wanted to know was, When will you be back?  
We ask that question in a thousand different ways  
every single day,  
our hearts leaning over themselves,  
bending to get closer to love.  
We say, Text me when you're home.  
Call me when you're free.  
One more kiss!  
I love you all the time.  
When will you be back?  
What we really mean is—  
I can't go through life alone.  
Please don't let me go through life alone.



## **ADVENT SERVICES**

You are welcome to join any of our events or services below  
full details are on our website [nbuniting.org.au](http://nbuniting.org.au)

- Sat 7 Dec** Afternoon of Music @ 4pm @ @ Balgowlah
- Tues 10 Dec** School for Seniors Christmas Lunch @ 9.30am @ Balgowlah
- Wed 11 Dec** Advent Bible Study @ 10.30am @ Balgowlah
- Mon 16 Dec** Little Footsteps Christmas Morning Tea @ 10am @ Balgowlah
- Wed 18 Dec** Advent Bible Study @ 10.30am @ Balgowlah
- Wed 18 Dec** Carols by Candlelight @ 5.30pm @ Cromer
- Sun 22 Dec** Worship Service @ 9am @ Cromer and Freshwater.  
Family Focused Service @ 9.30am @ Balgowlah
- Wed 25 Dec** NBUC Christmas Day Worship Services @ 9am  
@ Cromer & Freshwater, Balgowlah





## Coming up events ...



**An Afternoon *of* Music**

Don't forget this Saturday is our last get-together for 2024 with Christmas themed music followed by a **Christmas Potluck dinner**

**Saturday 7 December from 4pm**  
**Balgowlah UC, 122 Condamine St**

**All welcome**

Any queries please contact  
Jeremy on 0416 015 152



**NBUC Annual  
Congregational Meeting**

Don't forget our ACM for 2024 is this  
**Sunday 8 December @ 11am**  
**@ NBUC@Balgowlah**



BALGOWLAH

**Annual Christmas Lunch**

**Tuesday 10 December from 10.30am**  
**Balgowlah Uniting Church**  
**122 Condamine St**

It is not too late if you would like to join in the festivities this coming Tuesday with carols by Manly West Choir, a delicious Christmas lunch and lucky door prizes.

Tickets cost \$15 pp please email Steph asap on  
[comms@nbuniting.org.au](mailto:comms@nbuniting.org.au)

# Balgowlah

## ADVENT DEVOTION

**In the fullness and busyness that is December, take time to be still with God as you reflect and prepare to celebrate our Saviour's birth.**

*The Balgowlah church will be open for a time of devotion and prayer lead by Trish on the following days:*

*Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December*

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December*

*10.30-12noon*

**All are welcome**



Calling all festive voices! 🎵 Join us for a joyful morning of Christmas caroling and help spread the holiday cheer. Whether you're a seasoned singer or simply a lover of traditional Christmas carols, come share in the joyous spirit!

We will also be joined by Manly Presbyterian Church. Contact Jeremy for more information at [jeremykoay@hotmail.com](mailto:jeremykoay@hotmail.com)

**When: Sunday 22 December from 11.30am**  
(after morning tea)

**Where: Wesley Heights Residential Aged Care,  
7 Birkley Rd, Manly**

## BALGOWLAH WORSHIP NOTICE

Please note there will be NO worship service at Balgowlah Uniting Church on Sunday 29 December, you are welcome to join Cromer or Freshwater 9am services.



## Freshwater



**ONE MEAL**  
IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



**Christmas Hampers Food Collection**


This week we have filled and delivered fourteen (14) hampers to One Meal depot this week. Local kindergarten Explore & Develop Freshwater, with our lovely Yordi's encouragement, collected 7 of these hampers. Thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause. *God's blessings*

## Cromer



**Carols By Candlelight**  
Come and celebrate the joy of  
Christmas  
With Carols (Chapel Ensemble), Candles, Nativity Play  
(Come dressed as an Angel or Shepherd), & Sausage Sizzle  
Cromer Uniting Church | 20 Carrington Ave, Cromer  
Wednesday 18th December | 5:30pm

## Community Event



**Lifeline**  
Northern Beaches

**Giant Book Fair**  
12 to 15 December @ St Augustine's College, Brookvale  
Come along there will be lots of books, puzzles, lego, games and more.  
Full details please visit their website [www.lifelinenb.org.au](http://www.lifelinenb.org.au)

## Notice

Please note the office hours over the Christmas / New Year period; Thursday December 19 will be the last day anyone is onsite at the office; staff will be available via email until Tuesday 24 December. The office will be closed from Wednesday 25 December to Friday 3 January, for all urgent pastoral matters please see your sites contact details below:

Rev. Trish Rooney for Balgowlah site on 0414 771 266 or [revtrish@nbuniting.org.au](mailto:revtrish@nbuniting.org.au)

Barbara Williamson for Cromer site on 0416 089 708 or [wombat@smartchat.net.au](mailto:wombat@smartchat.net.au)

Kaye Lewis for Freshwater site on 0414 757 857 or [kayelewis59@gmail.com](mailto:kayelewis59@gmail.com)

The office will be back open from January 6, please email all your queries to Steph on [comms@nbuniting.org.au](mailto:comms@nbuniting.org.au) in case she is not in the office.



## NBUC Preaching Roster

Balgowlah @ 9.30am: Rev. Trish Rooney

Cromer @ 9am: Rev. Rev. Sisilia Tupou-Thomas

Freshwater @ 9am: Rev Stephen Ratcliffe

## Prayer Requests

Please keep Jean Aldren, Ian Lovelace, John Bennett, Heather Peterson, Marjory and Derek Gallagher, Ruth Jackson, Trish Byrne, Ailsa Nixon, Peggy Mathys and Barbara Easton in your thoughts and prayers.

Continued prayers for all in our community who have recently lost a loved one.

Continued prayers for all in our community sleep rough.

Continued prayers for our upcoming Advent activities.

Continued prayers for all in Spain as they continue to clean up after recent flooding.

Continued prayers for all in our community undergoing medical treatment.

Continued prayers for our NBUC community, sites, our mission, ministry and activities.

## NBUC Activities

### Mondays

**Little Footsteps Playgroup @ 9.30am @ Balgowlah**

### Tuesdays

**Cromer Craft @ 9.30am @ Cromer – end of year luncheon this coming Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>**

**School for seniors @ 9.30am @ Balgowlah**

**Crumbs Small Group @ 7pm (online)**

### Fridays

**Cromer Gentle Exercises @ 9.30am @ Cromer - this week is our last one for the year**

## Offerings

Please see below NBUC bank details for those wish to transfer offerings, Balgowlah also has access to a Square for electronic payments.

Site	Account Name	BSB	Account Number
Freshwater	Freshwater Giving Direct	634-634	100031353
Cromer	Cromer Working	634-634	100094243
Balgowlah	Balgowlah Giving Direct	634-634	100025865