

Welcome to Worship Connections



Sunday 9 March 2025

This week's Lectionary reading

Lent 1: Dt 26:1-11; Ps 91:1-2, 9-16; Rom 10:8b-13; Lk 4:1-13

Next week's Lectionary reading

Lent 2: Gen 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17 - 4:1; Lk 13:31-35 or Lk 9:28-36 (37-43a)

In our Region Ministry



The season of Lent and Easter is a journey rather than a single event. It is a journey that takes us from Ash Wednesday (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21) through to Passion, or Palm, Sunday (Luke 19:28-40) and Holy Week to the cross on Good Friday (Isaiah 52: 13 - 53:12) and to the joyous discovery that the tomb is empty, and that Christ is risen on Easter Day (Luke 24:1-12).

No matter how many times we walk this path there are ideas and images to be shaken loose and repented of, there are wounds we have not attended to or been ready to be healed of, and there are divine embraces and feasts to be enjoyed. Because the Lenten journey is very much the faith journey it is about letting go and receiving, being driven into the wilderness and ministered to, taking each step attentively even when the terrain we are travelling through is hard or momentarily uninspiring.

There are many resources for reflection during the season of Lent from within the UCA (Lent Event with a focus on recovery in Tonga and elsewhere: The Tear Fund's devotional series A World Transformed by Love to name a couple).

The above extract was provided by Rev Sue Lodge-Calvert who also has an online Lenten devotional series The Path of Descent - <https://www.companionsontheway.com/blog>


Suggested readings taken from With Love to the World.

Blessings Jane

Uniting Climate

Ucan enlivens the Uniting Church community in their care for God's creation and action for a safe climate future for all, as an integral part of faith and discipleship. Keep up to date on upcoming events, actions and resources via this [link](#)



 **Little Footsteps** **Playgroup Coordinator**

If you or anyone you know would be interested in our Playgroup Coordinator role, it is part time (10 hours per week), and a great opportunity to meet with families and carers in our community. For more details or a copy of the Position Description and Job Tasks, please email Steph at comms@nbuniting.org.au

Coming up events ...



World Day of Prayer **AUSTRALIA**

You are welcome to join a local churches in your area, as we come together for a service and morning tea.

Manly Presbyterian Church
56 Raglan St, Manly
Friday 7 March @ 10am

The Salvation Army Dee Why
1 Fisher Rd, Dee Why
Friday 14 March @ 10:30am

AFTERNOON OF ART

Saturday 22 March
3.30-5.30pm
Balgowlah Uniting Church, 122 Condamine St

Join our creative activity for the community providing an experience that intertwines creative expression with inner reflection, inspiration and useful creative skills which help participants become confident with continuing their own creative spiritual journaling practice outside of 'Afternoons of Art'.

This monthly creative space is for adult learners, including older teens.

Please use the booking link to secure your place or visit our website www.nbuniting.org.au

<https://www.trybooking.com/CUROM>

For More Info comms@nbuniting.org.au




Come join us to play, sing or listen to music. All levels, genres and instruments welcome, a piano is provided. If you need backing tracks, a sound systems available. Light refreshments are provided.
FREE ADMISSION

SATURDAY 12 APRIL, 4 - 5PM
NBUC @ BALGOWLAH, 122 CONDAMINE ST

All enquiries contact Jeremy
jeremykoay@hotmail.com or 0418 015 152

Balgowlah



PASTORAL NOTICE

Ruth Jackson

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Ruth Jackson who was a long standing, dedicated and faithful member of our Balgowlah Uniting/Methodist Church and will be remembered for her kindness and compassion. Ruth would have turned 93 later this month and recently has been unable to attend church due to ill health, but for those of us who knew her we are thankful for her wisdom and guidance and will keep her in our hearts.

Please keep Ruth's children Terry and Sonia in your prayers along with their family and friends.

Think Communion
Think Community



This week at our Communion service at Balgowlah donations of food cards or cash for Opal Cards will gratefully be received for the Women's Shelter.

Last Friday I attended the NBWS's *International Women's Day Breakfast* and speakers reflected on various aspects around *this year's theme: March Forward*.

What does this look like for the workers and for the women that come through the 12-week Crisis programme?

Speakers talked about the people behind the scenes that encouraged the women in their journey; about it being an opportunity to reclaim and rejoin. Of being empathetic to the women, but at the same time, being able to drive them forward to prepare to re-enter the *real world*. Many spoke of the need to pivot – the ability to adjust and change & see where the need is.

What moved me this year was the District Commander of NB Police Unit, and the Head of Domestic Violence Team received a huge round of applause when they were introduced. There is a team of three full time police officers in the NB Command's DV unit – one of those is specifically for children. I found this quite disturbing, to me it seemed quite a large level of resources just for our NB area. Sadly, the need is very real. *Jane*



Shrove Tuesday

On Tuesday SFS enjoyed pancakes for morning tea signifying the start of Lent. We raised \$50 which we will donate to NB Lifeline for the vital work they do in our community.



Cromer

ORGANIST NEEDED

Cromer Uniting Church are still looking for a pianist to play at their weekly worship service on Sunday mornings @ 9am.

If you or someone you know are able to assist, please contact Barbara Williamson on 0416089708.



Freshwater



**YOUTH
GROUP**

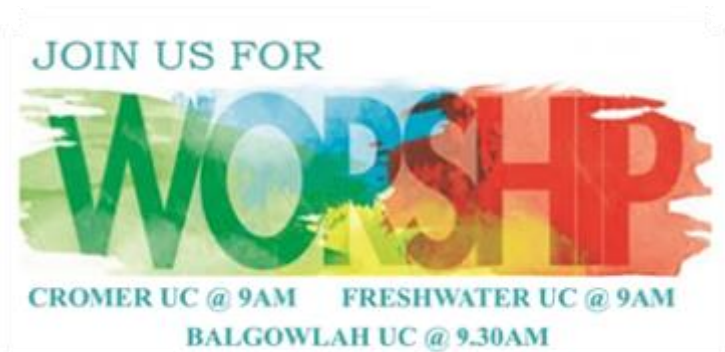
OUR YOUTH ENCOURAGES OUR COMMUNITY TO STEP UP FOR YOUTH. YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US WE WILL BE ENJOYING GAMES AND SHARING A MEAL TOGETHER.

**FRIDAYS
FORTNIGHTLY
@ 3.30PM**

FRESHWATER UNTING CHURCH
16 MARMORA ST

All inquiries email Amelia
ameliap2706@gmail.com

Join us this Friday 7 March



NBUC Preaching Roster

Sunday 9 March

Balgowlah: Jane Yabsley with Rev. Ben Gilmour presiding over HC

Cromer: Rev. Sisilia Tupou Thomas (HC)

Freshwater: Pastor Jennifer Johnson

Prayer Requests

God help us to change.

To change ourselves and to change our world.

To know the need for it. To deal with the pain of it. To feel the joy of it.

To undertake the journey without understanding the destination

The art of gentle revolution.

Amen

Prayers for all who are being impacted by cyclone Alfred.

Prayers for all the animals in our environment with World Wildlife Day on Monday 3 March.

Please continue to keep Win Garland, Margaret Rees, Jean Aldren, Ian Lovelace, John Bennett, Heather Peterson, Trish Byrne, Ailsa Nixon, Peggy Mathys and Barbara Easton in your thoughts and prayers.

Continued prayers for the Northern Beaches Women's Shelter and their clientele.

Continued prayers for Pope Francis.

Continued prayers for all as we embark on Lent.

Continued prayers for our sites and their activities.

Continued prayers for our NBUC community.

NBUC Activities

You are welcome to join us at any of our activities below, for more information on any activity please email comms@nbuniting.org.au

Mondays

Little Footsteps Playgroup @ 9.30am @ NBUC Balgowlah

Life Group (fortnightly) @ 10-11.15am @ NBUC Cromer **next one is 10 March**

Tuesdays

Cromer Craft @ 9.30pm @ NBUC Cromer

School for seniors @ 9.30am @ NBUC Balgowlah

Crumbs Small Group @ 7pm (online)

Fridays

Cromer Gentle Exercises @ 9.30am @ NBUC Cromer

Cromer History & Travel Talk @ 11am @ NBUC Cromer

Youth Group @ 4pm @ Freshwater (fortnightly) **next one is 7 March**