



Crookwell Uniting Church

“To Know Christ and Make Christ Known”



*Witnessing to God's love for the world
From the main street to the paddock.*

April 2020

We Are Mutually Bound Together

“Now if a deadly epidemic strikes, we should stay where we are, make our preparations, and take courage in the fact that we are mutually bound together [...] so that we cannot desert one another or flee from one another.” (Martin Luther, ‘Whether One May Flee From a Deadly Plague’)

Hopefully by now you have received my pastoral letter dated the 20th March about the arrangements we are putting in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. In case you missed it, the summary is that:

- Live streaming and recorded videos of worship are available from our website: crookwelluniting.org

- Other Faith Formation Resources are constantly being uploaded to the site for you to continue your worship and discipleship at home.
- For those without the internet, we will send resources occasionally by post (like this newsletter). It would be helpful to know what is or not helpful for you to receive (for example, would you like to be sent copies of my sermons after the fact?)
- If you need to talk, please call either myself or your Pastoral Partner. Your Pastoral Partner should be in frequent contact with you either way.

Contact Us

Minister of the Word
Rev Daniel Mossfield
0432 648 676
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Congregation
(02) 4832 1026
PO Box 75
Crookwell NSW 2583

- If you need financial support or are unable to leave the house, and need help getting groceries, please let either myself or your Pastoral Partner know as soon as possible. We have had some offers of members willing to volunteer to help.

In addition, attached to the newsletter you should be receiving a list of resources to support you developing your own pattern of prayer at home.

Also, if you have email, but cannot access the resources online for some reason, please call me to make other arrangements.

We are living through a strange moment in history, but I truly believe that now more than ever the Church has a role to play in helping people find hope in despair and light in the darkness. And I genuinely believe God comes to us in moments such as these.

Please, live out your discipleship by being a blessing to your neighbours and those you encounter currently.

If you are getting cabin fever, want to talk about how we can support your ministry and discipleship, or need help getting technology working, please feel free to give me a call.

And, as Martin Luther said when his town of Wittenburg was hit by the Bubonic Plague in the year 1527, let us 'take courage in the fact that we are mutually bound together [...]so that we cannot desert one another or flee from one another.'

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Daniel Mossfield

Pastoral Partners

Pastoral Partners gather for mutual support and training. We are on the lookout for more people to join the Pastoral Partners team. Let Daniel know if you are interested.

Pastoral Partners meetings are currently suspended due to COVID-19. Daniel will be in contact with each Pastoral Partner individually during April.

Proposed dates for 2020 meetings are as follows: -

June 19th

August 21st

October 16th

December 18th

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PANDEMIC

What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.

Centre down.
And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and
beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)

Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.
Promise this world your love--
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.

Lynn Ungar

Worship & Readings

Palm Sunday 5 April

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew
21:1-11

Maundy Thursday 9 April

7:00pm crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; Psalm
116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17, 31-35

Good Friday 10 April

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22;
Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

Easter Vigil Saturday 11 April

7:00pm crookwelluniting.org

Easter Sunday 12 April

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2,
14-24; Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-23

Sunday 19 April

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1
Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

Sunday 26 April

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Act 2:14, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4,
12-19; 1 Peter 17-23; Luke 24:13-35

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Keeping Busy

We are living through interesting times. While many of the activities we have taken for granted are currently unavailable, there are some substitutes we can find in our very own homes.

Exercise for the Body

We can still go for a walk, but those who are used to going to a gym, or taking the kids or grandkids to the playground can get creative. Younger kids may enjoy an obstacle course set up in the backyard; while others may enjoy pottering around the garden, or trying out yoga. It is important for all of us to keep active.

Exercise for the Brain

The extra time at home may be an opportunity to drag out that jigsaw puzzle you've been wanting to complete, but have never had time.

Some may knit or sew. This is a chance to brush up on your skills. Winter is coming, and who doesn't love a warm knitted jumper?

Sudoku, Crosswords and Find-A-Word puzzles keep the brain thinking. Free sudoku can be found at <https://sudoku.game/> with puzzles from beginners to experts.

A free daily crossword is available at <https://www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/services-information/games/crossword> and there are plenty of find-a-word puzzles available at <https://thewordsearch.com/>

If you don't have access to the internet, but would like to access some of these activities, please leave a message on the church's voicemail on 4831 1026.

Other Boredom Busters

- Revisit some classic movies on DVD
- Listen to old CDS and records
- Sort out the stamp collection
- Indulge in cooking. Try out a new recipe
- Call an old friend
- Play with pets
- Sit quietly with a cup of tea in the afternoon sunshine

Whatever it is, try to take time to do what just makes you feel happy. Stay safe!

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Exploring Faith At Home

The following resources are aimed to help develop a regular prayer life for you and your family at home. When we come together to pray and worship on Sunday, this should reflect our prayers from throughout the week. Unfortunately, in our busy lives, and with various personality types, there is rarely a one-size-fits-all approach to prayer. So here are some suggestions to explore. Try them out and see what works for you.

Each of these resources, in their own way, draws on a long history of Christian Prayer grounded in the Monastic Tradition. 'Praying the Hours' was a practice of regular prayer and recitation of the Psalms kept throughout the day in Monasteries right up until the modern time. In many traditions this has been simplified into a pattern of daily 'Morning Prayer' and 'Evening Prayer.' In our modern times, some people have found it helpful to be able to 'Pray on the Go' via their phone while driving our out and about.

Whatever the pattern of prayer, the point is the same – to keep our eyes fixed on God as we live out our discipleship each and every day.

More resources are available at <https://saltbushcommunity.uca.org.au/>

[A Short Guide for Daily Prayer \(2009\), Uniting Church in Australia](http://crookwelluniting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ShortGuideforDailyPrayer2009PDF.pdf)

<http://crookwelluniting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ShortGuideforDailyPrayer2009PDF.pdf>

A simple 7 day pattern for daily prayer based on Uniting in Worship 2. Available to download and print in its current format.

[With Love to the World](http://www.withlovetotheworld.org.au/), Various Uniting Churches in the NSW.ACT Synod

<http://www.withlovetotheworld.org.au/>

With Love To The World is a much loved devotional resource by many in the Uniting Church. It contains the week's lectionary readings with daily reflections and hymn suggestions. Follow the link to order a hard copy by mail.

[Daily Prayer](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/daily-prayer/), Presbyterian Church (USA)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/daily-prayer/>

Click the link to find out how to download the App to your phone. Alternatively, just search for it in the app store on your phone. Offers Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer & Prayer at the End of the Day with a good rotation of Psalms and Bible Readings.

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Pray As You Go, Jesuit Ministries
<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

Pray As You Go is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection in one audio file. Available through a web browser on the computer, or by downloading the app from the app store on your phone.

A Simple Daily Examen: What are you thankful for? What are you concerned about?

A simple pattern of prayer used by the Grace Community. At the end of each day, perhaps while sitting down to dinner or writing in a journal before bed, take the time to ask yourself and the members of your household the following questions: What are you thankful for today? What are you concerned/worried about today? Then offer these to God with a simple Amen. If you have kids, you might also like to think about lighting a 'Christ Candle' at the dinner table to reflect on how Jesus, the light of the world, is present with us.

Name: _____ Date: _____

**BIBLE EASTER
WORD SEARCH**



K C T E K A M S R H T O A Q T L T J T S H P
 L G D A B H C I A A O Z F S S P C X E U Z I
 M A G P K K R M E P A W E S A A A B Z N M L
 Q R M C M R U O S O B U E Q I C V A T D P A
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 F P F G F A I O R T O G N W F A J I O Y K E
 P P W Q A R F F I L O O V R Q W T S F R G D
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 R A S Y J F X Y E S N M S T N R B J E H C U
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 N R I V O R O E G O T D U M C R O S S G L Y
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 S Z K M J R E E V R I B L E F Q Z S V P L M
 G Z N Z W G Y R S J T G R Y E D F D H R O O
 R O B E R O M A N S K S O N O F G O D I X Z
 T S Q B E N A I L S Y U H N Z M B A L E S V
 P J B T H R E E D A Y S N S N G H G K S L N
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|------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| ROMANS | GOLGOTHA | SON OF GOD | MARY |
| RISEN | BLOOD | TOMB | CRUCIFIXION |
| SACRIFICE | SIMON OF CYRENE | APOSTLES | PILATE |
| THREE DAYS | JESUS | CALVARY | HIGH PRIEST |
| ANGELS | ROBE | CROSS | PASSOVER |
| SAVIOR | LAMB | NAILS | SUNDAY |

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