



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.*

November 2020

Prepared For a Rough Landing

As we prepare to regather for worship, I have been reminded of the books of Ezra and Nehemiah in the Hebrew Scriptures. These books cover the period at the end of the exile when the Jewish people return home after their time in Babylon.

I'm not sure whether any of the people thought that returning home would be easy – believing that returning home would fix all their problems must have been attractive – but it didn't take long until they realised that the hard part was only just beginning.

For 'going back' they discovered that the land no longer looked the same as they remembered it. Things had changed in the meantime. Other tribes (who also saw

themselves as the true descendants of Israel) had taken up residence in the land.

And after generations without worshipping in the Temple, the people had to rebuild, and rediscover what it meant to live their faith now.

Going home was tough.

As, I suspect it will be for us.

For COVID-19 is not defeated, and regathering for worship will be inherently risky. Church Council has taken as many steps as it can to reduce the risk, as you should have seen in the pastoral letter we sent home last week. Nevertheless, gathering at all will continue to be risky for

Contact Us

Minister of the Word

Rev Daniel Mossfield

0432 648 676

crookwelluniting@gmail.com

Congregation

(02) 4832 1026

PO Box 75

Crookwell NSW 2583

the foreseeable future, which means our worship too will have to look different.

It will be strange to worship without singing, especially if you grew up Methodist.

It will feel utterly bizarre to be sitting spaced out throughout the sanctuary and the hall, and not being able to hug our friends or shake their hands (though I'm looking forward to having people sitting near me at the front).

There are going to be faces missing that were there before. Empty pews left by those who do not feel safe yet to gather, or who feel frailer after months of isolation.

And it is going to be a little while before we figure out how to share communion again in a way that is safe.

We will not be able to have morning tea together at the Church – but it is OK for us to gather in small groups at local cafes after worship.

In a word, it is going to be strange.

But how good it will be to be together, even in this strange way and time.

How good it will be to gather to pray the psalms, and hear the Scriptures, and listen for God speaking to us in the sermon.

How good it will be to pray together for our world, be reminded of our calling, and sit silently, together, in the presence of God.

How good it will be to remember those we have lost in our time apart, and know we are part of a community that can hold us in our grief.

May God be with us as we walk into the next stage of our journey.

-Daniel

A Thought for Students

2020 has been difficult for many of us; not least our community's students. Adjusting to online learning, while being apart from their friends at a critical time has proven to be challenging.

Yet, with the help of parents and teachers, our students have endured. Now that they are near the end of a demanding year, let us spare a thought for their tribulations; and wish them every success.

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” – James 1:2-4

Good luck to you all!!

Contact Us

Minister of the Word

Rev Daniel Mossfield

0432 648 676

crookwelluniting@gmail.com

Congregation

(02) 4832 1026

PO Box 75

Crookwell NSW 2583

Happy Birthday

Although we cannot always physically gather, let's join together to celebrate the birthdays of our fellow congregants.

Kira Moorby – November 5th

Reta Beattie – November 20th

Daniel Mossfield – November 22nd

Matthew Geddes – November 29th

If your birthday is in November, and your name is not on our list, please let us know. And have a very Happy Birthday!!



Worship & Readings

Sunday 1 November – All Saints Day

9:00 Wesley; crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday 8 November

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-18; Matthew 25:1-13

Sunday 15 November

9:00 Wesley; crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday 22 November

9:00 crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday 29 November

9:00 Wesley; crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Contact Us

Minister of the Word

Rev Daniel Mossfield

0432 648 676

crookwelluniting@gmail.com

Congregation

(02) 4832 1026

PO Box 75

Crookwell NSW 2583

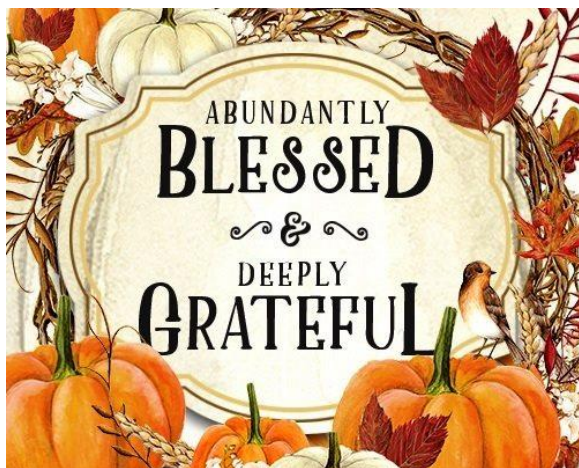
Giving Thanks

November is traditionally the time of the year for thanksgiving. Although known as an American holiday, thanksgiving has its roots in the reign of Henry VIII of England, in 1536. There is an Australian connection too. The holiday was brought to Norfolk Island by American whaling ships.

In what has been a tumultuous year, it is important to remember to give thanks. It may seem hard to find something to be thankful for at this time, but perhaps we can find solace in the little things: birds singing in the garden; a cup of tea in the sunshine; a phone call from a friend.

We can give thanks for family and friends; the safety and security of our town; children, grandchildren and pets.

And of course, we can be thankful for our faith. *"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* – 1 Thessalonians 5:18



Playgroup to Return

After a long absence, Playgroup returns to Crookwell Wesley in November, every second Friday from the 6th. Of course, under the circumstances, it will operate under strict COVID-19 safety rules, including limits, and social distancing.

Children will participate in indoor and outdoor play, and craft activities. At the moment, morning tea cannot be provided under the COVID-19 safety plan, so parents are encouraged to bring morning tea from home for their children.

If you would like further information, please call 4832 1026.



Contact Us

Minister of the Word
Rev Daniel Mossfield
0432 648 676
crookwelluniting@gmail.com

Congregation
(02) 4832 1026
PO Box 75
Crookwell NSW 2583