



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.*

May 2022

Is There Such a Thing as a ‘Christian Vote’?

This week I heard an American Methodist Minister say, “I’ve never known any Christian to change the way they vote because of the Gospel. But I’ve known plenty of people who were willing to change their Church because of the way they vote.”

Such a statement worries me greatly as a Christian minister, for it points to a deep-seated idolatry – many of us are far more comfortable in our worship of our political allegiances than we are in our worship of Christ.

For the fact is Christians vote for all sorts of political parties and then

justify their vote in the name of their faith. But there is no one ‘Christian’ way to vote – nor does any political party have the right to claim the votes of people of the Christian faith.

One of the reasons for that is all of us (Christians included) are fallible. We must be careful then not to turn any politician or political party into a ‘Messiah’.

For, as theologian Stanley Hauerwas warns, ‘there was a democratic moment in the Gospels, and the people asked for Barabbas.’

Contact Us

Minister of the Word

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Congregation

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But our Messiah – our Saviour -is not the one the people chose, but the one they rejected. The one who was despised and hated. The one who was obedient to God, even when it cost him his own life. And the one who God ultimately vindicated, by raising him from the dead. And that fact changes everything.

Because now the cross of Christ stands over all human history as the judgment of our decisions. The cross and the empty tomb become a whole new way to see the world.

As Paul says, in the face of this gospel of the crucified and risen one, 'There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female [*might we add, there is no longer Liberal or Labor, there is no longer Green or National?*] **for all of you are one in Christ Jesus'** (Galatians 3:28).

On the 21st of this month, we will once again go to the polls and vote. My hope is you will vote prayerfully, reflecting carefully on your values and who you think might have the best policies for our community going forward.

Ben then, on Sunday morning, we will gather together once more to proclaim that none of the people we voted for are God. None of them are our Messiah. None of them have claim to our whole allegiance.

For all of us, no matter who we vote for, belong to Christ, who is the light of the world – and whose grace alone can save us.

- Daniel



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Worship & Readings

Sunday 1 May

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 9:1-6, Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

Sunday 8 May

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sunday 15 May

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org
2:30 Jerrara

Readings: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Sunday 22 May

9:30 Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22:5; John 14:23-29

Sunday 29 May

9:30 Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

100 Years of the CWA

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Country Women's Association. As you may know, Crookwell played a major part in the foundation of the CWA, as it was the first town to open a branch in 1922.

Florence Laver was a tireless campaigner for the rights of people living in rural areas, and settled in Crookwell with her husband, Steven, in 1920. In 1922, she attended the Bush Women's Conference and shortly afterwards formed the local CWA branch. She travelled to Boorowa, Cowra, and Young, establishing new branches.

Laver's work helped rural communities of all faiths with baby health care centres, hospitals and ambulances. The CWA meeting rooms opened in 1955, and they are still operational today.

Many members of the CWA over the last 100 years also had active ties to the local church, in its present and previous incarnations. The issues may have changed, but there is still a common cause of helping those in need.



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Name Tags Available

Those of you who have been members of our congregation for some time may remember we once had name tags.

Goulburn Uniting Church is looking to get quotes for name tags, which can be helpful for new congregants.

If you would like a name tag for worship services, please let Matthew know at the office on 4832 1026, or via email at matthew.geddes@crookwelluniting.org

Can You Help?

A family connected with our Uniting Church friends in Goulburn is seeking rental accommodation for a six month period.

If you know of anybody who has a house to let on a short term lease, please let Daniel know for more details.



John Flynn Foundation

The morning worship on Sunday May 15th will be the John Flynn Foundation order of service for 2022, with Gill Aynsley as guest speaker.

Rev. John Flynn had a continuing vision for the inland of Australia. He loved the people of the bush, showing his everlasting care and support for these isolated people.

Flynn's work continues today through Frontier Services. Following our service on May 15th, there will be a retiring offering towards the ongoing support of people of the outback.

**Thanks to Norma Collins for the information*



Rev. John Flynn

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