



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 2022

Minister's Update

Thank you for your support and prayers as I completed my honours dissertation over recent months. I am pleased to report that the dissertation is now submitted, and I am awaiting the markers' comments. My paper was on how we come to see sacramentally in an age in which the actions of God have become harder and harder to see. I want to share with you a few sentences of what I found:

Christ continues to encounter the contemporary Church through the iconicity of the liturgy that his disciples might look on creation with the eyes of faith. By Word, the Spirit conceives Christ in us anew; in the waters of

Baptism, our senses drown until our lungs burn for the breath of God; at the table, we reach out our hands to the Risen One and consume his grace; and in the practice of Christian community, our muscles learn the memory of Christ's own actions.

Having grown in my own appreciation of worship and liturgy through this process of writing, I am very excited about the month ahead. For we have several important liturgical dates coming up.

This Sunday (November 6) we will celebrate *All Saints* – that time of the year we remember the members of our community who have died and gone to

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glory over the last twelve months. There will be a time for remembrance built into our service as we pray for those we have lost and those who are left grieving. It is also our regular Holy Communion Service.

On November 13, we mark the last Sunday of ordinary time with a visit from the Harpers as our guest preachers (something I know many of you are looking forward to).

Then on November 20, we celebrate the last day of the church year – *Christ the King Sunday*. Christ the King began during the rise of fascism during the 20th Century, as a reminder to Christians the world over that our loyalty is not to powerful men and dictators, but to Christ, and him crucified. It is sad to realise how vital this message is becoming again in our own age, as the world once more turns to violence. The Goulburn congregation will be joining us for the morning service at Crookwell, and at Jerrara in the afternoon we will be sharing in Communion.

Finally, November 27 marks the beginning of Advent – that season of preparation in which we anticipate Christ's coming in history, mystery and majesty. For Advent this year, Crookwell, Goulburn and Grace will be going *off* the lectionary and sharing in a set of resources from Illustrated

Ministry. These will shape our worship, as well as personal devotions. I will also be offering two possible Bible Study options exploring the material: one online, and one in person (possibly on a Wednesday afternoon). **If you would be interested in a Bible Study just for the season of Advent, please let me know.**

The materials will be available for pick up from Sunday November 20th at the latest. You will be able to choose from:

- Family Devotions (aimed for those with young children)
- Written Devotions
- Illustrated Devotions (based on the same written material as the written devotion but with colouring activities for those who feel so inclined).

I'm excited that members of our whole region (from churches like Grace, Goulburn, Collector, Gunning and Crookwell) will be sharing in this Advent focus together.

We are also entering AGM season:

Friday, November 25, 1pm – Church Council AGM

Sunday, December 4, after worship – Congregational AGM

Annual reports should soon be available.

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Finally, my deep thanks and appreciation for those who have been stepping up to lead worship in recent months. In a shared placement, the ongoing worship, witness and service of our congregation is only made possible by strong lay leadership.

If you are feeling God calling you to help serve in this ministry, please speak to me. There is a vast collection of resources and training we can make available.

Yours in Christ
Daniel



Worship & Readings

Sunday 6 November

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Haggai 1:15-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5,
17-21, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke
20:27-38

Sunday 13 November

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Isaiah 65: 17-25; Isaiah 12; 2
Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

Sunday 20 November

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

Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79;
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Sunday 27 November

9:30 Crookwell and
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Readings: John 1:1-5, 14a

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Living Our Values

Uniting Mission and Education is offering the *Living Our Values* course on November 24 and 25 from 1pm to 5pm. The course is available online via Zoom.

Course co-ordinator Dr Matt Anslow says “*Living Our Values* is designed for anyone and everyone”. People who have moved into leadership position within the church may be interested in gaining a better understanding of their responsibilities.

The course is also designed for people training to be Lay Preachers. Dr Anslow stated that the course helps people understand how “everyone, in principle, can have a say in how things happen.”

For further information on this course, please visit ume.nswact.uca.org.au



Christmas Hamper Appeal

St Bartholomew’s Anglican Church has begun a Christmas hamper appeal for local families in need. They are looking for donations of non-perishable foods that they can make into hampers of varying sizes for different families.

If you would like to help St Bartholomew’s with their appeal, feel free to drop off goods in the foyer of the church on Denison Street. Be sure to know your donations will be assisting local people who may have done it a bit tough this year due to factors such as COVID lockdowns, and the relentless rain.

Also, if you know of someone who may benefit from this appeal, please let Janelle Smart at St Bart’s know. You can leave a message for Janelle on 4832 1057.

Thank you for your kindness.



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