



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 2024

The Work Of The Spirit

In the month of May, we are going to undertake a Sermon Series titles, *The Work Of The Spirit*. In Christian theology, the Holy Spirit may be the most misunderstood and most overlooked person of the Trinity. This is a great shame, for the work of the Spirit is vital for the life of the Church. Indeed, without the Spirit, none of us would be here at all.

In his book, *What Happens in Holy Communion*, the German theologian Michael Welker writes,

If we want to get clear about God’s presence and activity among human

beings, we must talk about God’s spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, God works among creatures. Through the Holy Spirit they are connected, strengthened, preserved, and renewed. Through the Spirit they are brought into communion with the risen Christ. In the Spirit the risen Christ is near them and active among them. Through the Spirit they are enabled to act in remembrance of him and live in his memory. The activity of the Holy Spirit in the Supper is a source and leaven: for the creation of community both between human beings and God, and among human beings; for the

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reestablishment of justice; and for the liberation of human beings from the power of Sin. (pp 172-173).

Over the next few weeks, our lectionary texts present us with the opportunity to engage more deeply with the work of the Spirit among us, as we celebrate several key festivals of the Church: Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday. Our weekly themes will be:

May 5 – The Spirit consecrates outsiders.

May 12 – The Spirit baptises failures.

May 19 – The Spirit gives life to the dead.

May 26 – The Spirit adopts us as children of God.

On May 26, we will also be hosting our friends from St Bart's for the next of our joint Anglican-Uniting services for the year.

There is a lot coming up. I hope you will be able to join us.

- Daniel

Worship & Readings

Sunday 5 May

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

Readings: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Sunday 12 May

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

Sunday 19 May

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34; Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, 16:4-15

Sunday 26 May

9:30 Crookwell and
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Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

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National Prayer Chain

In the lead up to this year’s meeting of the National Assembly, we are being invited to join in prayer for other Uniting Church congregations across the country. In particular, we have been assigned the communities of Cunnamulla Burke ad Wills Remote Area Ministry and Cowes (St Johnas Philip Island).

From May 19, we will begin 35 days of prayer across the national Uniting Church. We will begin to pray for these communities in our gatherings, and ask that you keep them in your private prayers.

Information on the Uniting in Prayer project can be found at

<https://www.act2uca.com/unitinginprayer2024>



Cunnamulla Uniting Church

New Access

Coping with stress can be hard. Changes in your life, work and relationships can have an impact on your emotions and wellbeing.

New Access us a confidential and free of charge service developed by Beyond Blue to assist in managing stress. You don’t need a GP referral, and it is delivered by local service providers.

For more information, visit

<https://www.wellways.org/our-services/newaccess> or call 1300 921 535.



May Roster

Please find below the roster for May services. If you would like to volunteer for future services, please contact Daniel.

MAY 2024	WORSHIP LEADER	ELDER/PRAYERS	BIBLE READER	STEWARDS
5/05/2024	Daniel	Barry	Nicki	Margaret & Reta
12/05/2024	Daniel	Phyllis	Ron	John & Jan
19/05/2024	TBA	Barry	Heather	Gill & Allan
26/05/2024	Daniel	Margaret	Phyllis	Louise

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Uniting Church Supports Youth Survey

The Uniting Church is assisting Mission Australia in getting out the call to our youth to participate in their Annual Youth Survey. Since its inception in 2002, the survey has highlighted the challenges facing Australians aged 15-19, and has been a strong advocate to government and other policy makers in addressing the issues.

Close to 20,000 people completed the survey in 2023, nominating the environment, mental health, the economy, and racial discrimination among their top concerns.

The fastest growing issue in 2023 was housing and homelessness, which is set to feature even more prominently in 2024. When launching this year's survey, Mission Australia CEO, Sharon Callister stated that "cost of living issues (and) housing stress are impacting families."

The survey focuses on a wide range of topics, including schooling, general and mental health, relationships, employment opportunities, further study opportunities, regional issues, climate change, racism, sexism, stress, bullying and body image.

In 2024, there is a heightened focus on social media issues, domestic violence, drug and alcohol use including vaping, and loneliness.

The survey is open to all Australians aged 15-19 until August. It takes about twenty minutes to complete, and is completely confidential.

If you or anyone you know would like to participate in this survey, please visit <https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/what-we-do/research-impact-policy-advocacy/youth-survey>

The results of the survey will be made available to governments, schools, policy making organisations and the media. It is hoped that Mission Australia will continue to press organisations to help implement policies that improve the lives of Australia's younger generation, and tackle the issues that will be highlighted in this survey.



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