



## Crookwell Uniting Church

### “To Know Christ and Make Christ Known”



August 2026

### How Beautiful Are The Feet Of Those Who Bring Good News!

What do you think of when you hear the word evangelism?

Many of us may have a picture of a television preacher, imploring people to find Jesus, while asking for a donation you call in from the comfort of your living room.

Others may think of brow-beating, chest-thumping types, who lecture on the perils of damnation, with catchy songs under studio lights.

Both can feel performative, and even transactional, and ultimately completely fake representations of what Paul envisaged when, quoting

Isaiah, he exclaimed “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (*Romans 10:15*) as we will remember in our Sunday services and home prayer pack this month.

The word “evangelism” has been so bruised that it can be synonymous with being pushy, or insincere. Yet it wasn’t always so.

In his letter to the Romans, Paul asks a series of simple questions about how faith takes root. “How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?” (*Romans 10:14*) When Paul draws back on the words of Isaiah, it directs our attention not to

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flashy studio lights, perfectly coiffured choirs, polished performances, or even to the loudest voice. Paul directs our attention to **feet**.

Of course, in Paul's time there was no 24 hour news cycle, no internet or satellite television. News travelled at the speed of the walk of people. A messenger carrying tidings from afar, traversed rocky roads through dust and rain and heat until their feet were blistered, tired and dirty.

When the messenger came into a new town, its people didn't care if he was a great orator, as much as someone had cared enough to walk to their village to share the news from afar. And thus it was in Paul's time, with the Word spreading slowly but earnestly, by those who sincerely believed the message was worth sharing. Not for any payment or glory, but for faith.

When we understand evangelism through this lens, we can see that sharing the Good News was never supposed to be about memorizing a script, or convincing people to buy into a religious "brand". It is simply moving our feet toward our neighbours in the spirit of love and kindness, whether to lend a hand in tough times, share a

coffee for a chat, or just be there to listen and be present in the moment.

This is evangelism in its purest form. It is not about selling a product. It is living in a way that the grace and hope of Jesus becomes something visible, tangible, and real in our quiet streets and surrounding paddocks.

In a world exhausted by noise, hustle, side projects and self-promotion, it is timely to remember Jesus didn't offer grand marketing strategies, key performance indicators, or outcomes based on task descriptions. Jesus told people to travel light, as the quality of the message and the authenticity of the messenger would be louder than any microphone.

As we move towards spring, and a world of new beginnings, let us release any awkwardness we have in sharing our faith. It doesn't cost much. Some time. A willing heart.

And a pair of feet.

- Matthew

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## August Roster

| AUGUST 2026 | WORSHIP LEADER | ELDER/PRAYERS | BIBLE READER | STEWARDS        |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 2/08/2026   | Bret           | Kate          | Joi          | Kate            |
| 9/08/2026   | Irene Lund     | Phyllis       | Elina        | Phyllis & Elina |
| 16/08/2026  | Kate Thornley  | Pat M         | Gale Collins | Pat M & Jan     |
| 23/08/2026  | Russ Neale     | Barbara       | Margi        | Margi & Dal     |
| 30/08/2026  | Alan Harper    | Barry         | Ane          | Barry & Ane     |

## Annual Report Nudge

Although we're still working our way through winter, it is timely to remind those who need to submit articles for the Annual Report, that the date is quickly approaching.

Matthew will need all reports in by mid-September in order to have the report ready to go at our next Annual General Meeting.

If this is you, can you please start thinking what needs to be done over the coming weeks. Thanks!

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## Worship & Readings

### Sunday 2 August

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Genesis 32:22-31; Isaiah 55:1-5;  
Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

### Sunday 9 August

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

### Sunday 16 August

9:30am Crookwell

2:30 pm Jerrara

Readings: Genesis 45:1-15; Isaiah 56; 1, 6-8;  
Romans 11:1-2, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28

### Sunday 23 August

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Isaiah 51:1-6;  
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

### Sunday 30 August

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Exodus 3:1-15; Jeremiah 15:15-21;  
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

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## Green Bin Update

As we move into spring, and our gardens sprout, there is relief at hand when it comes to the collection of our green waste bins.

At a recent Council Meeting, a motion was passed to resume collection of green waste each fortnight, beginning on Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

For collection schedules and further information, visit Council's website <https://upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/services/waste/> or contact Council's Water, Waste and Sewer Team 02 4830 1000 or [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)



## Science and Faith – Partners In Curiosity

It's National Science Week from August 15-23, and each year we hear about supposed tension between a belief in science and trust in our faith.

It's a relatively new phenomenon, with evidence from the time of Galileo citing belief in God speaking to us through the book of scripture, as well as the book of nature. When we read these together, science doesn't erode faith – it fuels wonder.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Century German astronomer, Johannes Kepler viewed studying the natural world as “thinking God's thoughts after him”, while Psalm 19:1 states “The Heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands”.

So, this National Science Week, we don't need to choose sides. Both are quests for eternal knowledge; partners in curiosity.

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