

7 November 2021



BANGALOW/BYRON BAY UCA

Growing Younger...

Last Tuesday our enthusiastic bookclub group met with Pastor Molk from our Synod to process the final chapter of the Growing Young book and to tie together some of the key learnings from this fantastic journey we have been on this year. Although this group has now finished this stage of the journey with the book, the journey is far from over for us as a congregation, as we consider the key insights that we have learnt and particularly how they apply to our context in Bangalow and Byron Bay, as we move into the future of ministry in our area.

The **Growing Young** resource focuses on six essential strategies that researchers have identified in congregations and faith communities who are growing young...that is focusing on ministry with families and the younger generations in a meaningful way. Even the titles of the six strategies are worthy of reflection and consideration. As a whole church, we are engaging in this Growing Young journey and so it is helpful for us all to be aware of the language and strategies involved as we consider our way ahead into the future.

The six strategies are:

Unlocking Keychain Leadership- instead of centralising authority, empowering others, especially young people to lead.

Empathising With Today's Young People- Instead of judging or criticising, stepping into the shoes of the younger generations and their experience of life.

Taking Jesus' Message Seriously- Instead of asserting formulaic gospel claims, welcoming young people into a Jesus-centred way of life.

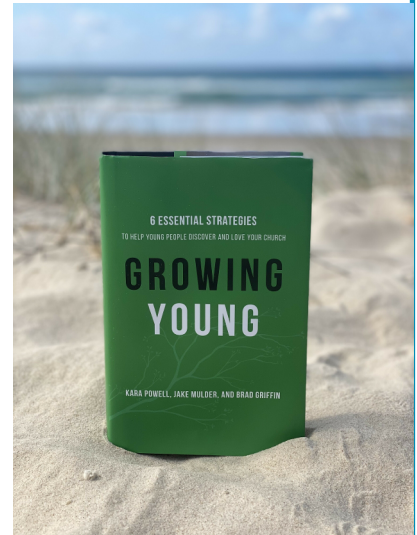
Fuelling A Warm Community- Instead of focusing on cool worship or programs, aiming for warm peer and intergenerational friendships and connections.

Prioritising Young People (And Families) Everywhere- Instead of giving lip service to how much young people matter, looking for creative ways to tangibly support, resource, and involve them in all facets of our congregation.

Being The Best Neighbours- Instead of condemning the world outside our walls, enabling young people to neighbour well locally and globally.

I wonder which of these strategies resonated for you as you consider our ministry to the younger generations. As a church we will be hearing more about these strategies as we all engage more in this concept of Growing Young. In the next few weeks as we move from this extended season of Ordinary Time and into the exciting new season of Advent, may we be open and expectant for what God is stirring in our hearts as we seek to grow younger in our mission and ministry.

Grace and peace, Rev Phil



We acknowledge the Arakwal people of the Bundjalung nation, the original custodians of this place. We acknowledge their deep spiritual connection to these lands and waterways upon which we live and gather, and honour their elders past, present and emerging.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

Please contact us to find out more about any of our programs and activities.

Every Week...

Men's Cooking @ Bangalow Uniting Church: 10am Fridays (Not yet running)

Scripture at Byron Bay PS: Rev Phil Thursday 12-2pm

Open Church: Tuesday 9-11am @ Bangalow, Wednesday 9-11am @ Byron Bay

Now Operating...

Byron Bay Uniting Church Op Shop:

Reopening dates will be confirmed shortly as we consider the NSW Roadmap and its changing nature.

Uniting Sewing and Social Group @ Byron: 9am-3pm and 6pm-9pm, Mondays

Growing Young Bookclub: every fortnight (details below)

Upcoming events...

Frontier Services Gathering & Baptism: Sunday 14th November 5pm @ Bangalow UCA

Growing Young: Monday 15th November 3pm @ Bangalow UCA

Congregational AGM: Sunday 21st November (following both gatherings)

Church Council Meeting: Tuesday 23rd November 11am @ Bangalow UCA

Bangalow Fair Trade Fair: Saturday 4th December 8am-1pm @ Bangalow UCA

Kids Christmas Crafternoon: Tuesday 7th December 3pm-5pm @ Bangalow UCA

Saltbush Gathering: Saturday 11th December 9am-4pm @ Lismore UCA

Banking Details:

Giving your offering or tithe by Direct Debit or EFTPOS is a helpful way of engaging in this important act of worship.

If you would like to do this the banking details for our church are:


BSB:634-634

Account Number: 100 018 564

Speak to our Treasurer George Graham for more details on offering, gifts or bequests.

Bangalow Byron Bay Uniting Church: 6601 2010

<https://byronshireunitingchurches.uca.org.au>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BangalowByronBayUnitingChurch>

Minister: Rev. Phil Dokmanovic

Phil: 0425 291 955 // phild@nswact.uca.org.au

(Minister's Day Off: Friday)

Church Council Secretary: Corinne Nash 6629 1692
email: allthenashes@gmail.com



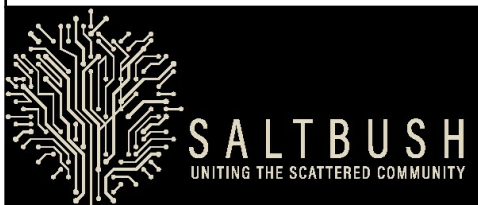


Frontier Services Gathering & Baptism Sunday 14th November 5pm @ Bangalow UCA

On Sunday 14th November, after rescheduling a few times due to lockdown, we will be gathering for a combined service at the Bangalow Church. During this gathering we will consider the ministry of Frontier Services and raise funds for their important work, so please come prepared to give generously. We will also share in the baptism of Matilda & William Jarrett, the children of Luke and Courtney (and great grandchildren of Kevin & Edna). Please mark this on your calendar and join us for this special celebration.

Advent Small Group

One of the enjoyable parts of the Growing Young Bookclub has been meeting with a small group of people from our church regularly. To keep this momentum going, Rev Phil is organising an Advent Group that will meet weekly during Advent (probably on Thursday mornings starting Thursday 2nd December). At this stage the plan is to meet together and consider some of the writings of Richard Rohr that explore the idea of incarnation, a major theme of Advent. If you are interested in being part of this group, please let Rev Phil know and he will give you some more details.



Saltbush Gathering

Saturday 11th December, 9am-4pm @ Lismore UCA

This gathering is a good opportunity to meet with people from your region, the Saltbush Team and the Synod! These gatherings are designed for people from all locations who want encouragement, ideas, conversation around Christian community and who are willing to open themselves to the reality of grounded discipleship. As we enter a new season of exploring our regional governance, we are invited to engage in a much-awaited and rescheduled Saltbush Gathering. This event is open to everyone in our congregations, not just Presbytery representatives. The day will also include the Induction of Rev Peter Overton, who joins the Saltbush Team as the Far North Coast Regional Minister. To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/saltbush-scattered-community-gathering-tickets-198600488407>

Congregational AGM - Sunday 21st November

On the **21st November** we will be holding a Congregational Meeting (AGM) following each of our gatherings. This is an important time to review the previous twelve months, to consider the governance of our church and it will also include a ballot/reaffirmation for positions on the Church Council and Eldership.

Church Council & Eldership Nominees

Our current governance structure requires a functioning Church Council and Eldership to administer the spiritual and administrative life of our congregation. Church Council focuses more on governance and administration and Eldership focuses more on spiritual and pastoral aspects of our communal life. Those selected for both Church Council & Eldership combine to form our Church Council. The following names are being brought to the Congregational AGM on Sunday 21st November:

George Graham for Church Council (5 years)

Shirley Graham for Elder (5 years)

Janelle Jarrett for Elder (5 years)

Sybil Johnston for Elder (5 years)

Mollie Strong for Elder (5 years)

Gathered Worship

Sunday 7th November	9.30am Byron Bay - Communion 5pm Bangalow- Communion	- Rev Phil
Sunday 14th November	5pm Bangalow - Baptism and Frontier Services	- Rev Phil
Sunday 21st November	9.30am Byron Bay - Followed by Congregational meeting 5pm Bangalow - Followed by Congregational Meeting	- Rev Phil
Sunday 28th November (Advent 1)	5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil

Lectionary Readings

7 November	Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17	Psalm 127	Hebrews 9:24-28	Mark 12:38-44
14 November	1 Samuel 1:4-20	1 Samuel 2:1-10	Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25	Mark 13:1-821
21 November	2 Samuel 23:1-7	Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)	Revelation 1:4b-8	John 18:33-17
28 November	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Psalm 25:1-10	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36

ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

Week of 7 November: Oceania: French Polynesia, Kanaky, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Week of 14 November: Aotearoa - New Zealand, Australia



Prayer Points

- The work of Frontier Services as they minister to Australians in rural and outback areas, many of whom have experienced such painful and difficult circumstances in recent years.
- Matilda and William Jarrett (and their parents Luke and Courtney) as we celebrate their baptism on the 14th November.
- Our congregation as we continue to process the Growing Young resource and explore opportunities for ministry into the future with families and the younger generations.

Newsletter Items If you have an event or item for the newsletter, please email Phil the full details by the Tuesday before release, so that we can keep people informed and up to date.