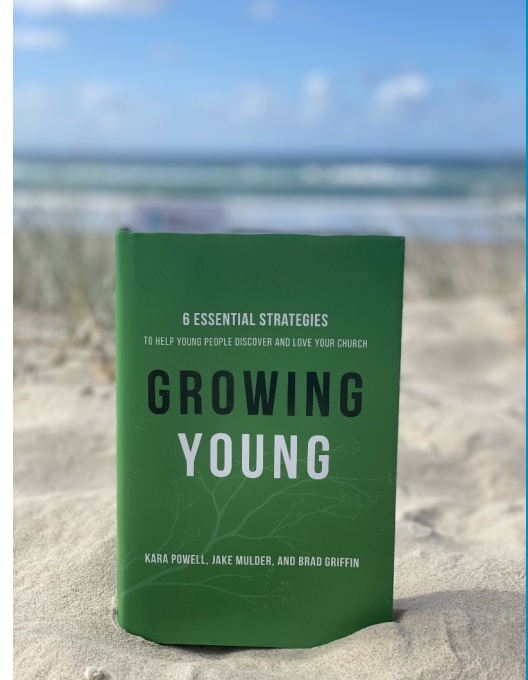




# BANGALOW/BYRON BAY UCA

## Growing Young : We are all in this together...

At the beginning of 2021 we began our Growing Young journey as a congregation. Endorsed by the Church Council and facilitated through our Synod, the Growing Young resource and project took the form of a small group bookclub that met regularly to process the Growing Young book together. This group reached the end of the book at the beginning of November and have since met fortnightly to apply their learnings to our own context here in Bangalow and Byron Bay. There has been a wonderful energy and a growing sense of community amongst those who became part of the small group last year, along with a realistic awareness of our current setting and a genuine hope for our own congregation to grow young into the future. It was wonderful to hear a selection of people share their experiences and thoughts during our worship gatherings at the end of 2021.



In the month of February I will be leading us as a church through the six essential strategies of Growing Young during our worship gatherings on Feb 6, 20 and 27. The six essential strategies are: *Unlocking Keychain Leadership, Empathy For Young People Today, Taking Jesus' Message Seriously, Warm Relationships, Prioritising Young People Everywhere & Being The Best Neighbours.*

We realise that for this project to continue and for our culture to grow and change, we all need to engage in this learning together. The small group has spent much time praying, processing this information, sharing creative and visionary ideas, along with planning for how to implement some of these ideas in our own community.

One of the first initiatives is the move to host 3 family-friendly gatherings at our Bangalow Church each school term. The planning is well underway and will see the first of these gatherings occur on Sunday 13th February, with the theme of New Beginnings. We encourage everyone to join us for that evening and to invite along any families and young people that you are in contact with.

As we continue this journey of growing young, may God open our eyes to the needs of families and the younger generations in our region and enable us to connect with these people, sharing the good news of God's love with them.

Grace and peace, Rev Phil

# MISSION AND MINISTRY

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

## Every Week...

**Open Church:** Tuesday 9-11am @ Bangalow, Wednesday 9-11am @ Byron Bay.  
Open Church begins again from the first week of February.

**Scripture at Byron Bay PS:** Rev Phil Thursday 12-2pm  
(Scripture is currently on pause and will resume in 2022 as a result of the COVID situation and NSW Roadmap.)

## Now Operating...

**Byron Bay Uniting Church Op Shop:** The Op Shop is reopening on Monday 31st January. We will be doing our best with the ongoing COVID cases in our region to maintain the safety of our wonderful volunteers and community.

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

**Growing Young Bookclub:** every fortnight (details below)

## Upcoming events...

**Growing Young:** Monday 7th February, 3pm @ Bangalow UCA

**Family Gathering:** "New Beginnings" Sunday 13th February, 5pm @ Bangalow

**National Church Life Survey (NCLS):** Sunday 20th February during worship gatherings

## 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](mailto:phild@nswact.uca.org.au)

(Minister's Day Off: Friday)

Church Council Secretary: Corinne Nash 6629 1692  
email: [allthenashes@gmail.com](mailto:allthenashes@gmail.com)



## NCLS

The National Church Life Survey (NCLS) is an important tool to collect information about and for churches across our country. The survey usually coincides with the Census but due to COVID in 2021 it has been postponed until February 2022. We will be completing our survey forms during our gatherings on **Sunday 20th February**. The information collected in the NCLS provides valuable information for our denomination in its ongoing planning and funding, so please do your best to complete a survey.

### Family Gatherings At Bangalow (Growing Young)

During each term we are planning to host three gatherings during our 5pm worship time at the Bangalow Church. Each themed gathering will include craft, stories, activities, music and opportunities to explore life and faith in an inclusive, open, fun and engaging way for all ages. These are wonderful opportunities for us to engage with families and young people in our community and to invite friends and families along. The schedule for Term 1 2022 is:

February 13th - New Beginnings

March 6th - Harvest Festival and Auction (with meal)

April 10th - Easter & Fair Trade.

### Lectionary Readings

<b>30 January</b>	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalms 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30
<b>6 February</b>	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)	Psalms 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
<b>13 February</b>	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalms 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
<b>20 February</b>	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38

# Gathered Worship

<b>Sunday 30th January</b>	5pm Bangalow - Picnic at Bangalow Weir	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 6th February (Communion)</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 13th February</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - "New Beginnings" - Family Gathering	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 20th February</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil

## ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

BYRON SHIRE UNITING CHURCHES

*Let us PRAY*

Week of 30 January: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia.

Week of 6 February: Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Vatican City

### Prayer Points:

- Our Growing Young Project, as we as a whole church engage in the idea of ministry to the younger generations and as we respond to new ideas, activities and ministries as they arise.
- Our family gatherings at Bangalow during Term 1. May we connect with young people and their families.
- The Arakwal people of the Bundjalung nation, the local indigenous custodians of our region. May we continue to explore justice and reconciliation and listen to their stories and experiences, as we seek to walk together into the future.
- The people of Tonga and the Pacific who were impacted by the tsunami and the Tongan community in Australia, especially those who are awaiting news from loved ones.

**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.