

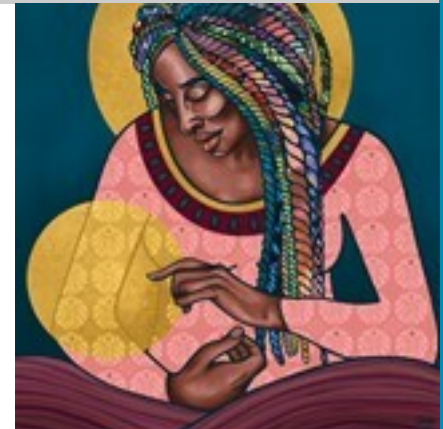
8 May 2022

# BANGALOW/BYRON BAY UCA



## *Honouring Women...*

Mother's Day this year is celebrated on Sunday 8th May and we will acknowledge this in our worship gatherings. In the Uniting Church in Australia we value the role of women in the life and ministry of our churches. Since Union in 1977 the theological statements of the Uniting Church in Australia have affirmed the role of women and recognised those women called of God to preach the Gospel, to lead the people in worship, to care for the flock, share in government and to serve those in need in the world. Our current National Assembly President is Rev Sharon Hollis and both our Moderator-Elect and President-Elect are female. We are blessed to have such amazing women leaders in the life of our church. Locally, in our own congregation we have so many wonderful women who are actively involved in leadership and in the ministry life of our church. At this time we recognise this and honour all the women who are engaged in the life of our church and who are such amazing examples for us of God's love and grace.



*Artwork by by Lauren Wright Pittman (A Sanctified Art)*

In Scripture, there are so many examples of women in leadership and actively involved in the life of God's community. The first people to see Jesus following his resurrection and witness to this were women. In the New Testament it is clear that women were leaders in the early Church and fully involved in sharing the good news about Christ. Let us recognise the extraordinary acts of women in Scripture and in the life of the church. Below is a liturgy that reflects on the role of women in Scripture. It is written by Rev Dr Jana Childers a Presbyterian minister and Professor of Homiletics and Speech Communication at San Francisco Theological Seminary.

For Rahab's red cord and for all who risk their lives to give refuge to your people,  
We thank you, O God.

For Ruth's loyalty and Esther's courage, and for all who serve you in foreign lands,  
We thank you, O God.

For Deborah's leadership and Miriam's dance and for all who break glass ceilings,  
We thank you, O God.

For Sarah's faithfulness and Jael's fierceness and for all who take things into their own hands,  
We thank you, O God.

For Hagar and all the unnamed women who survived to do your will in the wilderness,  
We thank you, O God.

For the Alabaster Jar Woman and for all who flout convention in your name,  
We thank you, O God.

For Mary Magdalene's heart and for all who linger at the cross,  
We thank you, O God.

For all the grace-filled women who cross borders and dismantle fences, who face down soldiers and walk picket lines, who like Mary the Mother of Jesus carry your love into the world,  
We thank you, O God.

As we reflect this Mother's Day, may we all have gratitude for the women in our lives who have birthed us, mothered us, cared for us, nurtured us and loved us. May we seek to empower women in the life of our church and community and may we all work towards gender equality and the end of violence towards women in our world.

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...

**Open Church:** Tuesday 9:30am-11:30am Byron Bay UCA

**Cuppa & Conversation:** Wednesday 10:00am-11.30am @ Bangalow UCA

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

**Byron Bay Free Feed (YWAM):** Wednesday 12pm-2pm @ Byron Bay UCA

## Now Operating...

**Byron Bay Uniting Church Op Shop:**

Open Monday-Friday from 9am-1pm

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

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

## Upcoming events...

**Growing Young:** Monday 9th May, 3pm @ Bangalow UCA

**Combined Byron Shire Churches Prayer & Worship:** Wednesday 11th May, 6.30pm @  
Byron Bay UCA

**Church Council Meeting:** Tuesday 24th May, 11.30am @ Byron Bay UCA

**Family Gathering:** Sunday 29th May, 5.00pm @ Bangalow 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](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)



## Brunswick Valley UCA Calls New Minister

After a long period of discernment, we celebrate with the Brunswick Valley (Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads) & Tweed Valley (Murwillumbah and Burringbar) congregations who are pleased to announce that their new minister is Rev Kyung Tae Lee (to be known as Rev Tay Lee). Rev Tay and his family will move from Sydney following his ordination later in May. He will begin his placement in early June. We will provide more information about his induction service when this is finalised.

## Family Gatherings Term 2

The remaining dates for these gatherings in Term 2 are:

**29th May and 26th June.**

Please mark these on your calendar and join us for these creative and interactive gatherings of worship. So far there has been a positive response to these gatherings and some new families have joined us, which has been great to see. We encourage you to invite any families and young people you have connections with to enjoy these gatherings with us.

## Combined Byron Shire Prayer & Worship - Wed. 11th May, 6.30pm @ Byron Bay UCA

Twice a year the regional minister's group organises a combined evening of worship, prayer and connection. This is a great opportunity to join with other churches and people from our region in prayer and worship. The next event will be held at our Byron Bay Church on the 11th of May. There will be tea and coffee served from 6.30pm and the time of worship and prayer begins at 7pm.

All are welcome.

## Lectionary Readings

<b>8 May</b>	Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelations 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
<b>15 May</b>	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelations 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
<b>22 May</b>	Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5	John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9
<b>29 May</b>	Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelations 22:12-14,16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26

# Gathered Worship

<b>Sunday 8th May</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - Communion	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 15th May</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 22nd May</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
<b>Sunday 29th May</b>	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - Family Gathering	- Rev Phil

BYRON SHIRE UNITING CHURCHES

*Let us PRAY*

## ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

Week of 8 May: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Week of 15 May: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal

### Prayer Points:

- All the women and mothers in our congregation. Thank you for the blessing that they are to us all and for the way they demonstrate God's mothering love to us.
- The 16th Assembly of the UCA as it meets face-to-face on the Sunshine Coast from May 6th-9th.
- People of the Pacific, our church partners in the region and Pasifika communities in the Uniting Church. We give thanks for their deep faith, theological insights and their prophetic voice for peace and creation.
- Our country as we move towards a Federal Election on May 21. We pray for all the candidates as they engage in the community during this time. May those successful candidates and our government have wisdom in their decision making and show a genuine concern for those on the margins and those who are struggling.

**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.