

5 June 2022

BANGALOW/BYRON BAY UCA



The Day of Pentecost...

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you." - John 14:25-26



Sunday the 5th of June this year is the Day of Pentecost, which is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter Sunday and indicates that the Easter season in the Christian calendar has come to a close. Around the world, this day is celebrated as the birth of the Church, as the Holy Spirit came in a new way to the disciples and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks (see Acts Chapter 2).

And so we find ourselves some 2000 and more years later, commemorating this event. This is an opportunity for us to reconsider the role of God's Spirit in our lives and in our church. Jesus spoke about the coming of the Spirit during his ministry. The Spirit's role is presented in Scripture as taking on many forms, some of which are guiding, teaching, advocating, empowering and comforting. We rely on the Spirit to reveal God to us, as we journey through life and as we grow in faith.

I wonder how you have experienced the Holy Spirit working in your life? I wonder if you have a particular story of experiencing the Spirit in a powerful or life-changing way? Maybe this is an opportunity for you to share your stories of God's Spirit working in your life to encourage others or even to witness to others about the active working of the Spirit of God in today's world.

Pastor and challenging author A. W. Tozer claimed that,

"If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference."

Although Tozer was speaking over sixty years ago, there is a deep challenge here for us in our church and ministry today to consider how we seek guidance and empowerment from the Holy Spirit, as we engage in ministry and community life.

So in these days of Pentecost, may we be open to a new experience of the Holy Spirit, just as the disciples were all those years ago, and may we invite the Spirit of God to fill us again as we seek to follow God's leading into the future.

Grace & 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 @ 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...

Induction Service for Rev Tay Lee: Sunday 5th June, 3pm @ Mullumbimby UCA

Growing Young: Monday 6th June, 3pm @ Bangalow UCA

Family Gathering: "Fruit of the Spirit": Sunday 26th June, 5.00pm @ Bangalow UCA

Hamlin Fistula Soup Lunch: Sunday 31st July, 10.00am @ Byron Bay 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



"Talking About Salt"

The Saltbush Team have designed a fantastic resource called "*Talking About Salt*" to encourage congregations and individuals to consider their missional calling and who they want to be as a Christian community, through some important conversations. Last week our Church Council decided to engage in this resource which involves 5 weekly conversations, focused around Christian community and connection to our contemporary context. All of our Church Council are committed to engaging in this group and we are inviting anyone from our congregation who wants to join us to be part of this journey. The 5 session engagement will be facilitated by Rev Tim Jensen from the Saltbush Team. Each session runs for about 90 minutes and we are currently finalising a time-slot for this group to meet and a starting date.

Family Gathering & Meal: "Fruit of the Spirit"

Sunday 26th June, 5pm @ Bangalow

Our next Family Gathering is being held on Sunday 26th June at 5pm at Bangalow UCA. The theme for this gathering is "*Fruit Of The Spirit.*" Following the gathering we will be sharing in a soup meal together. Please mark this on your calendar and we encourage you to invite any families and young people you have connections with to enjoy this gathering with us.

Lectionary Readings

5 June	Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9	Psalms 104:24-34, 35b	Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
12 June	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalms 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
19 June	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a	Psalms 42 and 43	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
26 June	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	Psalms 77:1-2,11-20	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62

Gathered Worship

Sunday 5th June (Pentecost)	9.30am Byron Bay - Communion & Morning Tea 5pm Bangalow - Communion	- Rev Phil
Sunday 12th June	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
Sunday 19th June	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
Sunday 26th June	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - Family Gathering: "Fruits of the Spirit"	- Rev Phil



ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

Week of 5 June: Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini

Week of 12 June: Botswana, Zimbabwe

Prayer Points:

- The ongoing journey of healing, reconciliation and relationship between First and Second Peoples in Australia.
- Common ground and shared life for Australia's Christian Churches as together we find our identity and purpose in Christ.
- The incoming Australian Government and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese; that those who represent us will work to build communities of care and compassion where all belong and may flourish.
- For the housing crisis in our region. May our leaders prioritise creating and sourcing affordable accommodation, so that those in need can find shelter and safety.

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.