



Hope...



"But we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope."(Romans 5:3-4)

In this season following our celebrations of Pentecost a fortnight ago, we continue to reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The above passage from Romans Chapter 5 is an important reminder to us of the reality that in this life we will experience challenges and suffering. Through all of this, God's Spirit is active and working with us, within us and through us.

Paul in effect is saying that we will face suffering and this does not contradict what he has also been saying about the wonderful blessings of being a follower of Christ earlier in this letter. In fact, God works through these sufferings and brings about unforeseen and unknown blessings. We may not know in the intensity of the experience why we are facing suffering or the challenges that come our way and we may not ever know in this life why it happened that way. But we do trust that God still has a purpose, despite what is happening in our lives and that hope exists even in the midst of our experiences. As Paul says, our character will grow through such experiences, we will develop depth and perseverance. Paul suggests, that this will lead to hope and

"hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Romans 5:5)

Our hope is grounded in our faith in a good, wise and loving God. A God who through the Holy Spirit has poured out love into our hearts. This is a God who through the coming of the Holy Spirit now resides within us. This means that when sufferings come, God is not some distant God that is far off and unaware of our experience. We need to come back to the reality that God is present with us and most strikingly within us. This is where we can find a hope that does not disappoint. A hope that in the midst of our sufferings, God is in the thick of it with us. We have this hope as followers of Christ. A hope that we will share in his glory.

May you experience the presence of God with you whatever you are experiencing in this season and may your heart be filled with God's love.

Grace & 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 9:30am-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...

Growing Young: Monday 20th June, 3pm @ Bangalow UCA

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

Talking about Salt: Wednesday 20th July, 10am @ 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

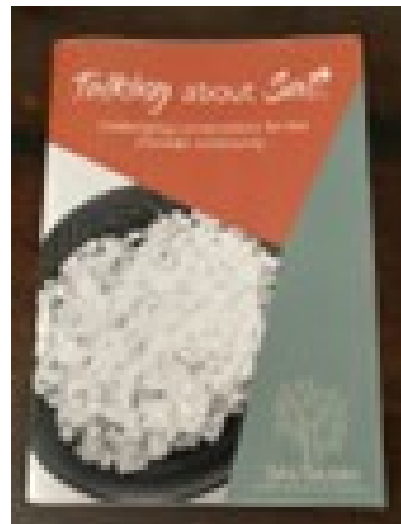
(Minister's Day Off: Friday)

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



“Talking About Salt” Starts 20th July 10am @ Bangalow UCA

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. Our Church Council has decided to engage in this resource, 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. Talking About Salt will begin on Wednesday 20th July and will run each Wednesday for 5 weeks beginning at 10am at the Bangalow Church. Please let Rev Phil know if you are interested in participating so that we can organise resources.



Safe Church Awareness Training Workshop - Saturday 2nd July, 9.30am @ Kyogle UCA

As part of our ongoing approach to being a Safe Church, all who are involved in ministry that connects with children must complete a Safe Church Workshop. These workshops aren't offered often in our region, but the next one is scheduled for Saturday 2nd July at Kyogle UCA from 9:30am-4pm. There is space for 50 people to attend and if you want to participate please book quickly using this link:

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/safe-church-unit/safe-church-training/>

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

19 June	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a	Psalm 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
3 July	2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30	Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
10 July	Amos 7:7-17	Psalms 82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10: 25-37

Gathered Worship

Sunday 19th June	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
Sunday 26th June	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - Family Gathering: "Fruit of the Spirit"	- Rev Phil
Sunday 3rd July	9.30am Byron Bay Communion & Morning tea 5pm Bangalow - Communion	- Rev Phil
Sunday 10th July	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil

ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

Week of 19 June: Malawi, Zambia

Week of 26 June: Kenya, Tanzania



Prayer Points:

- Congregations and communities across the Uniting Church stepping out in faith and courage to innovate, experiment and dream a new future.
- Peace, safety and comfort for all those impacted by devastating gun violence in the United States of America, particularly those mourning the loss of loved ones.
- The upcoming Talking About Salt conversations and that they may encourage us to reflect on our ministry as individuals and as a congregation.

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.