

3-23 July 2022

BANGALOW/BYRON BAY UCA



Forty Five Years Old...

"We are the Uniting Church because of where God is leading us and calling us.

Our mission lies before us, and not behind."

- Rev. Simon Hansford, The Moderator, Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT



June 22nd this year marked the anniversary of the inception of the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA). We are part of a national group of churches that is now forty five years old. In one sense this may seem like a short time. However, if we are to reflect upon the changes in our world and especially on the changed approach towards church and institutional religion in our country, it may seem like quite a long time. We still have a number of people in our congregation who remember the time of union in 1977 and the changes that occurred at that time. Three distinct denominations (Methodist, Congregational & Presbyterian) attempted something that may have seemed almost crazy, but was intentionally an effort to follow a call to Christian unity and that was through uniting together to engage in God's mission in this world. I believe that the words of our Moderator above, as he reflected upon this anniversary, are crucial to our ongoing understanding of our identity as a church. We are a pilgrim people on the way and our part in God's mission into the future, should be a key focus for us at this time. Although we may have memories of what church was like in the past, we are the Uniting Church of the present and future and our mission lies before us. What legacy will we begin, or leave, for those who follow? What mission is God calling us towards with the resources that we have and the opportunities to shine the light and love of Christ in our local community? Surely this is a time for us to explore new ways of being church and serving our community as we follow the path of Christ in our days and into the future and as we prepare the way for those who will follow. The Basis of Union, which was central to the union that occurred forty five years ago, is a visionary document and it still speaks to us today. The Basis of Union reminds us of the centrality of Christ for the church and that despite the changes that occur in history, the Church will continue as the message of Christ is shared.

"The Uniting Church acknowledges that the Church is able to live and endure through the changes of history only because its Lord comes, addresses, and deals with people in and through the news of his completed work."

- The Basis of Union of the UCA

As we reflect on the life of the UCA, may we give thanks to God for the courage, energy and insight of those who formed the UCA, for the faithfulness of UCA communities all over the country, and for the Spirit in our midst, leading us into the future. May we also thank God for the role of the UCA in our local community here in Bangalow and Byron Bay and how through our church God's love has been shared in both word and deed. Let us look forward to what God will unfold for the UCA in our community as we move 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 (On a pause until 19th July)
Cuppa & Conversation: Wednesday 10:00am-11.30am @ Bangalow UCA (On a pause until September)
Talking About Salt: Wednesdays starting on 20th July, 10am @ Bangalow UCA
Scripture: Thursday 12pm-2pm @ Byron Bay PS during the School Term (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 18th July, 3pm @ Bangalow UCA
Talking about Salt: Wednesday 20th July, 10am @ Bangalow UCA
Saltbush Gathering: Saturday 23rd July @ Ballina UCA
Family Gathering: "Fire": Sunday 24th July, 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

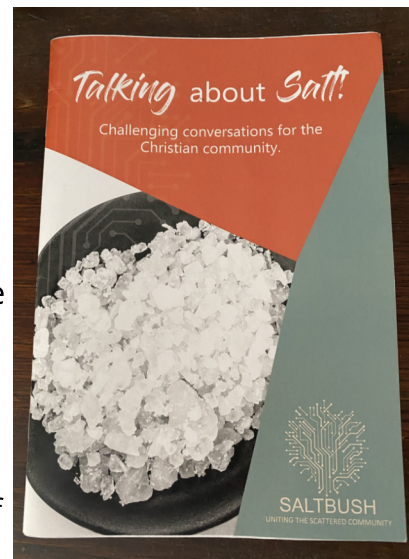
(Minister's Day Off: Friday)

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



“Talking About Salt” 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.



Saltbush Gathering - Saturday 23rd July @ Ballina UCA

As part of our new way forward as a Presbytery, Saltbush gatherings are being held to provide opportunities for ongoing engagement and inspiration at a regional level. The next gathering is set for Saturday July 23rd at the Ballina UCA and will include special guest speaker Rev Dr Peter Walker, who is a wonderful communicator and holds the position of Principal of United Theological College and Lecturer in the Charles Sturt University School of Theology. More details will come shortly, but please mark this date on your calendar and all are welcome to attend.

Family Gathering & Meal: "Fire" - Sunday 24th July, 5pm @ Bangalow

Our next Family Gathering is being held on Sunday 24th July at 5pm at Bangalow UCA. The theme for this gathering is "Fire." This gathering will take place outside in the carpark, so be sure to dress warm. During the gathering we will have some fire pits safely set up and will be reflecting on an ancient story of people trusting God in the midst of adversity. Following the gathering we will be sharing in a meal which will include a BBQ, Garlic Pizzas and marshmallows of course! 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.

Catherine Hamlin Fistula Soup Lunch - Sunday 31st July, 10am @ Byron Bay UCA

Our annual Soup Lunch Fundraiser is just a few weeks away. On Sunday 31st July we will join together for a combined worship gathering at our Byron Bay Church starting at 10am and the Soup Lunch will follow from 11am. This is a great event to invite friends and family, as we seek to raise funds for the life-changing work of the Catherine Hamlin Fistula Foundation with women in Ethiopia. A selection of soups and desserts will be served free of charge, so please come prepared to donate generously and enjoy time with our community.

Lectionary Readings

3 July	2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalms 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
17 July	Amos 8:1-12	Psalms 52	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10: 38-42
24 July	Hosea 1:2-10	Psalms 85	Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13

Gathered Worship

Sunday 3rd July	9.30am Byron Bay Communion & Morning tea 5pm Bangalow - Communion	- Rev Phil & Mr Phil Bailey (from Gideons) - Mrs Pam Neale-Justins, Dr Charlie Justins & Rev Phil
Sunday 10th July	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Rev Phil
Sunday 17th July	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow	- Mr George Graham
Sunday 24th July	9.30am Byron Bay 5pm Bangalow - Family Gathering: "Fire"	- Rev Phil

Minister's Leave

Rev Phil will be on annual leave from **Monday 11th July until Sunday 17th July**. If you have any pastoral needs in this time, please contact a member of Church Council or our Secretary, Corinne Nash, for direction.

Term 3 Family Gatherings

Sunday 24th July - "Fire"
Sunday 14th August - "Fair Trade"
Sunday 18th September - "Creation"

ECUMENICAL PRAYER CYCLE

Week of 3 July: Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda

Week of 10 July: Eritrea, Ethiopia

Week of 17 July: Djibouti, Somalia

Prayer Points:

- The Uniting Church in Australia as, with deep thanks to God, we joyfully celebrate 45 years of worship, witness and service, and look to the future with hope.
- Refugees in Australia who enrich our communities with vibrant diversity, gifts and contributions. May those who seek safety across the world find hope and welcome.
- The families and children in our community as they enter a time of school holidays. May they be refreshed and enjoy quality time together.
- The upcoming *Talking About Salt* conversations and that they may encourage us to reflect on our ministry as individuals and as a congregation.

Bangalow Byron Bay Uniting Church

Let us
Pray



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.