



## UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

### YASS PARISH MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

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*As part of God's people we are called by God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to share the love and grace of Jesus Christ, within our community through regular worship, faithful witness and humble service.*

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#### **Matthew 17:1-9**

What happens when we pray? Would that we, like Jesus, could experience the power of being transfigured!

How often we approach prayer in a rush from a day filled with doing too much doing. Too often we come to prayer without the slightest sense that we are entering the presence of God. Too often we forget that in God's presence things can be changed – **we** can be changed – made more like God, transformed.

Would that we could see ourselves as entering into the infinite mystery that is God! How might we be moved beyond our limited vision of our capabilities? Jesus was changed beyond anything the disciples could have imagined of him. Imagine what it must have been like to watch as Jesus' face changed while in prayer. What if we remember that others are watching the effect our praying has on our lives?

Times of prayer always hold the possibility that we too may be called, invited into the Holy of Holies to stand in God's presence. Scripture encourages us to imagine that we are with Jesus experiencing what the disciples felt in the presence of his transfiguration.

Take a moment to reread the passage slowly and allow your mind and spirit to embrace the words. Sit up tall and straight. Breathe in deeply and exhale slowly.

See yourself along with Jesus and the disciples together in prayer. Allow yourself to enter this text and pray this prayer.

*Light of God, I ask that you flow freely through me. Change me so that I radiate your love in my day and my world. Amen.*

**FEBRUARY LECTIONARY READINGS:**

	DAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
<b>5</b>	Lent 2	Gn 12:1-4a	Ps 121	Rom4:1-5; 13-17	Jn 3:1-17 or Mt 17:1-9
<b>12</b>	Lent 3	Ex 17:1-7	Ps 95	Rom 5: 1-11	Jn 4: 5 - 42
<b>19</b>	Lent 4	1 Sm 16: 1-13	Ps 23	Eph 5: 8 - 14	Jn 9: 1 - 41
<b>25</b>	Annunciation of the Lord	Is 7:10-14	Ps 45 or Ps 40:5-10	Heb 10:4-10	Lk 1:26-38
<b>26</b>	Lent 5	Ez 37:1-14	Ps 130	Rom 8:6-11	Jn 11:1-45

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**Prayer Points for March:**

- For discernment for members of the congregations as we attend meetings and vote on future directions for our Parish.
- For blessings for all the visiting preachers
- For those who are ill

**Special Congregation Meeting**

A special Congregation meeting will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March to discuss the possibility of Yass Parish supporting the cost of %50 of a minister for 3 years. The proposal is for Goulburn Multi Centre to contribute the other %50 there by employing a minister %100 between the two churches. The congregation is encouraged by Church Council to attend, be informed, and express their opinion. A special Congregation meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March will vote on this proposal.

Christine Anderson  
Congregation Secretary

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**Church Council News:**

Members of Church Council have been busy contacting as many people as possible in our congregations to have a conversation about future directions for our Parish.

The proposed alliance with Goulburn and Crookwell congregations to form the Southern Tablelands Region of the ACT Region Presbytery has been taken off the agenda for now. We are now asked to discuss the possibility of having a 50% minister for our congregations in conjunction with a 50% placement with the Goulburn Multi Centre. So we still need to look at changes for our Mission Plan.

To enable everyone to take part a Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, after the service. This will be a chance to share information and have questions answered. Rev Andrew Smith will be at this meeting.

On Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, a Special Congregational Meeting will be held after the service to vote on the proposal. This will be followed by a luncheon – see UCAF news.

*(Ruth Thompson – Secretary – Yass Parish Church Council*





## Rye Park News

As our numbers at Rye Park drop, it is no longer possible for us to hold our traditional Harvest Festival. However, we have been given the opportunity to hold a stall at an event being held on March 11, in the Recreation Ground at Rye Park.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK - Saturday, March 11  
 Rye Park Uniting Church will be holding a  
**HARVEST STALL**  
 at the Rye Park Recreation Ground  
 from 10am  
 in conjunction with the Rye Park Art Trail

All donations of produce, preserves, cakes & slices would be much appreciated.  
 Drop them off on the day or contact: Lorraine Veness

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### **WORSHIP ROSTER----ST ANDREWS CONGREGATION March 2023**

DATE	WORSHIP LEADER	BIBLE READER	PRAYERS	MORNING TEA	FLOWERS
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Combined Yass Churches	Vine Church	-----	Combined Churches lunch	-----
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Rev Christine Moimoi	Tim Holmes	Ruth Thompson	Ruth & Kerry	Barbara R
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Russ Neal	Gordon Henshaw	Sandra Henshaw	Chris & Ann	Ruth T
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Rev John Braakman	Chris Anderson	Ruth Thompson	UCAF finger food	Sandra H

**Stewards:** Cheryl and Richard Maxwell  
**Counters:** Gordon Henshaw and helper  
**Duty Elders:** Della Armour



**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> March at 8 am at The Vine Church there will be a Breakfast Meeting.** The men decided to invite the women this time so breakfast and speaker is for everyone on 4<sup>th</sup> March.



**COMBINED CHURCHES SERVICE**

Combined Churches Service/family fun day at the Vine Church.

A family friendly service followed by lunch and kids activities.

Sunday 5 March. 10am

Yass ministers decided on this venue as it is family friendly with all the facilities needed on site.

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**UCAF NEWS**

**You are invited to come to a finger food and pancakes luncheon on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March after the service and meeting.**

We will be serving a light luncheon followed by freshly cooked pancakes with a variety of fillings. \$5.00 per person. Please let us know if you are coming by signing the sheet in the porch

UCAF members continue to supply morning tea for the residents of Warmington Lodge on the first Wednesday of each month. A small group is allowed to present a worship service each month but still no general visiting.

The next UCAF meeting will be held on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, at 2pm.

Everyone is welcome.

*(Ruth Thompson for UCAF members)*

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**Parish Calendar: MARCH 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Morning Tea GWL	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> World day of Prayer at Anglican 10am Playgroup 9.30 –11.30	<b>4</b> Breakfast Meeting at Vine 8 am
<b>5</b> Yass Combined Churches Service 10 am at Vine Church Rye Park 5pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Elders 2 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Playgroup 9.30 am – 11.30 am	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10am Yass Congregational meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Playgroup 9.30 am – 11.30 am	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10am Yass Rye Park 5 pm	<b>20</b> <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Items due</u>	<b>21</b> Services TEG 11 am Warmington Lodge 2pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Playgroup 9.30 am – 11.30 am	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10am Yass Congregational Meeting to vote Lunch after	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>				

