



## UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

### YASS PARISH MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

PASTORAL CARE *phone* 0408 400 542 or 6226 1132

CHAIRMAN Church Council: Barry Banks

SECRETARY Church Council: Ruth Thompson

TREASURER Church Council: Lesley Cox

GUEST EDITORS: Ruth Thompson

Barbara Rayner

; [krthompson54@bigpond.com.au](mailto:krthompson54@bigpond.com.au)

[brrayner@bigpond.com](mailto:brrayner@bigpond.com)

---

*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.*

---

Luke's Gospel chapter 24 verses 13 – 35 when some disciples found it hard to recognize Jesus.

This story is told to us since childhood as the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

A person or word seen in an unexpected way or place may be hard to recognize at first.

Sometimes when I am selling raffle tickets down the street I can look at someone I know but I can't think of their name so I have to ask.

In this case Jesus was dead. Perhaps he wore a cloak with a hood, but in some way they were prevented from recognizing him.

The best conversations can happen on walks – walking side by side there is no eye contact and sometimes this allows us to share what's on our minds.

We see this happen between Jesus' followers when he joins them on their walk to Emmaus. Jesus approaches them while they're deep in conversation about everything that has just happened regarding Jesus' death. I like to imagine that they're using their walk to process the emotions and traumatic events they've just endured, and that in

between the heavy sombre moments they crack jokes and rehash the family drama going on back home. Jesus followers were simple people after all. Then a man, a stranger engages them. Their walk has lowered their barriers, so without screening questions, a name or any kind of second thought, they loop him into the story. All of it. Jesus lets them tell the story he already knows, the story he lived, because the followers needed to share it.

Despite God knowing all, we are invited to tell our stories. To bring our experiences to God. To approach God with lowered walls, deep conversations, and the desire to move forward. God engages us, knowing who we are and what we're going through because God wants to walk alongside us as we work through it.

Christ may first appear like a stranger, but as we share and listen, he will be revealed to us in the stories we tell, the memories we have and the moments we experience.

God meets us wherever we may be on our journeys. He invites us to share our stories with him.

It is in the moment that he blesses the bread at the table in Emmaus. That the disciples realize who he really is. As soon as they realize who they are about to dine with, Christ disappears. Poof! We can imagine how the must have felt. They longed to hear his voice again. They wished they had said something different and listened to him more closely.

*Lord God, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in our most human moments. Help us to see you in the humanity of others. Amen*

Contributed

### UCAF NEWS

A small group joined us for a light luncheon on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March. We enjoyed the chance for a chat.

Next Meeting will be on 8<sup>th</sup> May at 2 pm. All welcome

Ruth Thompson for UCAF members

## MAY LECTIONARY READINGS:

	DAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
<b>7</b>	Easter 5	Acts 7:55-60	Ps 31:1-5,15-16	1 Pt 2:2-10	Jn 14:1-14
<b>14</b>	Easter 6	Acts 17:22-31	Ps 66:8-20	1 Pt 3:13=22	Jn 14:15-521
<b>18</b>	Ascension Day	Acts 1:1-11	Ps 47 or Ps 93	Eph 1:15-23	Lk 24:44-53
<b>21</b>	Easter 7	Acts 1:6-14	Ps 68:1-10,32-35	1 Pt 4:12-14, 5:6-11	Jn 17:1-11
<b>28</b>	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 or Num 11:24-30	Ps 104:24-34,35b	1 Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 7:37-39

### **Prayer Points for May:**

- For those in Somalia affected war caused by a power struggle
- For blessings for all the visiting preachers
- For those who are ill
- For those recovering from floods in Australia

### **Church Council News:**

Report from Church Council

The Church Council will meet on 10<sup>th</sup> May.

In March the Church Council initiated some congregational meetings to firstly discuss some options for our future and then to vote whether or not Yass Parish should participate with Goulburn, each independently supporting 50% of a total 100% Ministerial Agent's calling. This was agreed to by 90% of those voting.

Therefore we will pursue this pathway when Goulburn indicate their agreement. At the same time members of the congregation were asked for their opinions on the way they see our Parish moving forward. These ideas have been collated and will form the basis of changes to our Mission Plan.

Ruth Thompson – Secretary – Yass Parish Church Council

**Congregation meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**

At the AGM of the Yass Congregation all nominees were elected unanimously.  
**Chairperson:** Owen Graham, **Deputy Chairperson:** Gordon Henshaw,  
**Secretary** Christine Anderson: **Church notices:** Christine Anderson,  
**Presbytery** Representative: Sue Demoor, **Chief Stewards:** Gordon Henshaw,  
Barry Banks, Ray Armour, Russell Mills, **Newsletter:** Ruth Thompson, Barbara  
Rayner. There were no nominations to join the **Property Committee.**  
The general meeting of the Yass congregation followed. An election was held  
for two positions on the Church Council with the two nominees elected Judith  
Banks, Barry Banks unanimously for 3 years.  
Three Elders were nominated and elected. Judith Banks 3 years, Barry Banks 3  
years, Ann Ranyard 2 years.  
There was a discussion on the provision of cushions in the pews, and Barry  
reported on Pastoral Partners.  
Christine Anderson - Congregation Secretary



### MORNING TEA

The residents of Linton Village are hosting a morning tea on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May,  
at 10 am to raise funds for CanAssist Yass Branch. Come and join them for a  
cuppa and catch up with old friends and make new friends. Lots of lovely home  
cooked food and a great atmosphere in the Len Waters Lounge. All welcome

**WORSHIP ROSTER----ST ANDREWS CONGREGATION**  
**May-----2023**

DATE	WORSHIP LEADER	BIBLE READER	PRAYERS	MORNING TEA	FLOWERS
May 7th	Rev Christine Moimoi HC	Ruth Thompson	Ruth Thompson	Ruth Thompson	Sandra
May 14th	Rev Charles Vasely <b>Mother's Day</b>	Suzie Graham	Owen Graham	No morning tea	Ruth
May 21st	Russ Neal	Tim Holmes	Sandra Henshaw	Sandra & Gordon	Ann
May 28th	Rev John Braakman	Gordon Henshaw	Sandra Henshaw	Chris	Ruth

Stewards: Della and Ray Armour  
Counters: Gordon Henshaw and helper  
Duty Elders: Ann Ranyard and Cheryl Maxwell

## PARISH CALENDAR MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Property C'tee 10 am	3 Morning Tea GWL	4	5 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am	6
7 Yass 10 am Rye Park 5:30pm	8 UCAF meeting 2 pm	9	10 Church Council 7:30 pm	11	12 Playgroup 9:30-11:30	13
14 Yass 10 am	15 <u>Newsletter</u> <u>Items due</u>	16 Services TEG 11 am Warmington Lodge 2pm	17	18	26 Playgroup 9.30 am -11.30 am	27
28 10am Yass Rye Park 5 pm	29	30 Anzac Day	31			

