

### Services – Sunday 5 November, 2023

#### ***Pentecost 23***

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* Isaiah 43: 18-25

*Theme:* "Past and Future, Relevant"

*We are glad to have you with us today in worship.*

*It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.*



### DIARY DATES

**Monday 6 November** at 3pm in the Church  
**Monday Afternoon Bible Study** is planned for every Monday in November, this week studying Psalm 90.

**Frontier Services service and Lunch Sunday 22 October**

Following the service, the Congregation gathered to share fellowship over a chicken and salad lunch. A donation of \$1,000 has been sent to Frontier Services.

**Wednesday 22 November** at 1.30am  
**Property & Administration Committee** meets.

**Sunday 26 November** after Service  
**Church Council Meeting**

Written reports covering July to November 2023 are due from the Treasurer, Minister, PAC, Congregation and Pastoral Carers group. All reports to the Church office by Wednesday 15 November ready for distribution Sunday 19 November.

#### ***Upcoming Services***

Sun 26 Nov: Praise & Thanksgiving Service

Sun 3 Dec: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Sun 10 Dec: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

followed by Congregation Christmas Lunch

Sun 17 Dec: Lessons and Carols

Sun 24 Dec: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Mon 25 Dec: Christmas Day Service **9am**

#### ***Tanya***

Uniting Church Adult Fellowship NSW/ACT Synod Committee has presented an Encouragement Award to Tanya who is working and studying part-time for her Bachelor of Theology with the United Theological College supervised by Charles Sturt University. Tanya is currently attached to Wesley Church, Castle Hill as a Student Minister.

Wattson, Grace and Jireh must be very proud of their wife and mother for this acknowledgement, as is our Congregation. The award will be presented next year.

#### ***New life-saving equipment for our community***

The new Automated Electronic Defibrillator (AED) has been purchased and installed on the corner of the church office near the entrance to the Church. The Congregation watched a short video on the use of the AED. Thanks to Lea for organising and following through the purchase and installation of this device which was funded by Council. The AED has easy access 24/7.

#### ***Uniting Act2 Project Report***

This national Uniting Church planning initiative produced a draft report setting out options for changes to how Uniting Church communities of faith operate and are administered. After being raised at the last congregation meeting, copies have been made available for us to consider and make comment. Our congregation's response to the report recommendations will be considered at this month's church council meeting. Please pass on your comments and ideas to a Council member by 25 November.

#### ***Rosters***

The Rosters for Church and Meals on Wheels participants will soon be drawn up for 5.1.2024 to 30.6.2024. If you intend being away during this period please advise the office.



### ***Praise and Prayer Points.***

#### ***Money Matters***

Our Monday Bible Study group appreciated this final topic of John Stott's Study and Commentary, of 1 Timothy entitled 'Fighting the Good Fight.'

In 1 Timothy 6 verse 17 Paul encourages Timothy to: "Command those who are rich in this present world, not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth but to put their hope in God."

then in verse 18 "Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds and to be generous and willing to share."

John Stott writes:

We see Paul's balanced wisdom in this chapter.

Against materialism (an obsession with material possessions) he set simplicity of lifestyle.

Against asceticism (the repudiation of the material order) he set gratitude for God's creation.

Against covetousness (the lust for more possessions) he set contentment for what we have.

Against selfishness (the accumulation of goods for ourselves) he set generosity in imitation of God.

Simplicity, gratitude, contentment and generosity constitute a healthy balance for Christian living.

**May we live that way.**