

### Services – Sunday 4 February, 2024

#### **Epiphany 5**

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* 1 Chronicles 4: 4-10

*Theme:* "When you call my name"

*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.*

#### **Welcome Back**

This is the first newsletter for 2024. Welcome back to those returning from leave, holidays and time with family and friends. Our prayer is that we are all refreshed in body, mind and spirit as the Church year begins to accelerate.



## DIARY DATES

**Monday Bible Study** will resume later this month.

**Sunday 11 February** at 11am  
**Worship Committee Meeting**

**Sunday 25 February 2024** at 11am  
**Church Council Meeting**

Written reports covering November 2023 to February 2024 from the Minister, Treasurer, PAC, Congregation and Pastoral Carers Group. Reports to be at the Church Office by Wednesday 14 Feb for distribution on Sunday 18 Feb.

All Church Councillors to be prepared and ready to comment on the Volunteers Policy.

**Sunday 24 March** at 11am  
**Congregation Meeting**

Reports will be required from the Minister, Treasurer, PAC, Pastoral Carers, Worship Committee, Meals on Wheels, Small Groups, Church Council and Congregation.

#### **Property and Administration Committee**

The minutes of the recent meeting held 30 January 2024, are on the Church noticeboard.

#### **14 February – 24 March 2024**

#### **Lent Event: A Call to Faithful Action on Climate Change**

This year Lent Event is taking action on climate change. Climate change is the number one threat to peace, security and human wellbeing in our world. It is a driver of poverty, food insecurity, conflict and forced migration.

But our God is mighty and faithful, and calling us to respond to the climate crisis with hope, unity and decisive action. It's going to take all of us, doing all we can, with all our hearts, to fight it.

As is our practice, the Congregation will be invited to participate during services and by donation.

**Friday 1 March** at 10am

#### **World Day of Prayer**

This year the World Day of Prayer will be hosted by our Congregation using materials provided by the women of Palestine. As well as running the service we will need to provide morning tea for 50 people. All offers of help will be gratefully appreciated.

#### **Supply Ministry**

Rev Pualilo's current supply ministry term with us expired 31 January 2024. An application to Sydney Presbytery seeking an extension of his supply term means we have approval to continue to enjoy his services while the first step in the approval process is sorted. A response to this first step is expected in mid-March 2024.

#### **Saturday 24 February**

#### **E-waste Drop-off Day**

Council is hosting a free E-waste Drop-off Day for residents. If Congregation members drop off any unwanted computers, phones, household appliances to the Church office by Wednesday 21 Feb, then as a service to the Congregation, these unwanted items will be taken to Cintra Park on Saturday 24 February.



## *Praise and Prayer Points.*

### **CHANGE**

Just before Christmas 2023, two major local infrastructure events were highlighted in the media. One was the opening of the Rozelle Interchange and the other was the almost simultaneous breakthrough of two tunnelling machines into the cavern, which will become the Five Dock Metro West station. No matter what we think about these two events, they represent achievements of human kind.

How are these two events linked other than by 4.6km of parallel tunnels? One of the boring machines is called Beatrice, to honour Beatrice Bush, who many may remember as the woman who for many years, sold newspapers from a traffic island, in the middle of Victoria Road, to drivers stopped at traffic lights. She did this morning and afternoon, rain, hail or shine while dodging lanes of vehicles.

The evening papers the *Sun* and the *Mirror* no longer exist and the distribution of the morning papers has been greatly reduced as many readers now get their morning news electronically.

The *Bible* offers timeless wisdom and guidance about change. Change is deeply rooted in transformation, growth and most importantly, aligning ourselves with God's divine plan. Verses of scripture about change offer stability and hope and remind us that while our circumstances may shift, God's love and promises are steadfast and unchanging.

We are encouraged to see change not as something to fear, but as an opportunity to grow closer to God and to become more like the person he designed us to be.

An example can be found in *Ecclesiastes 3:1* - *There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.* This verse gives acknowledgement to the seasons of life. It is a reminder that every moment, and every change, has a purpose.