

The Lockdown Lowdown



Gordon-Pymble Uniting Church

Sunday 6 September, 2020



The valuable church

Today's gospel reading contains the oft-quoted promise of Jesus: "For when two or three gather in my name, I am there in the midst." How many sermons or exhortations have we heard about Jesus being present even in a small group or tiny prayer meeting? Yet reading the verse in context reveals a different meaning. Jesus is talking about conflict in the church and his words here may be more threat than promise. Jesus will be present even as we navigate the tricky relationships and negotiate conflict. The Church is given authority that seems to have eternal consequences (binding and loosing) so it is just as well that Emmanuel - God with us - is present in every situation.

Happy Father's Day to all our Dads.

Steve

Join us for **Virtual Worship**: [Click for our Youtube channel](#) to catch up with latest videos.

Morning Tea by Zoom: Click on the following link on Sunday at 10.30 am: <https://zoom.us/j/92246333740>
Meeting ID is: 922 4633 3740 Ph. 8015 6011

Visiting the Church: Please register your arrival/departure with a contact number and use hand sanitizer. You are encouraged to social distance, remaining 1.5 metres apart. This is part of the COVID 19 Safety Plan, legally required to keep us safe.

Angela Cadena has featured our Playgroup in the latest edition of Insights. Please click here to read the article: <https://www.insights.uca.org.au/when-zoom-becomes-a-playground/>

Check our Website for all our latest news! www.gpuc.org.au

At GPUC, following the NSW Health guidelines, we are asking anyone using our facilities **to wear a mask if they are in the public areas**. Thank you for keeping us safe.

Reach out to those in need and make a mask We are encouraging our community to make masks so we can give them to the **Exodus foundation**. We have material available and a limited amount of kits. Please contact Lesley on 0480 223 981 or email info@gpuc.org.au if you would like one. Completed masks can be placed in the boxes outside the Gordon and Pymble churches. If you are unable to make masks you might like to donate bought ones.

Please note a change to the Daily Coffee & Chat Zooms – We are offering the Zoom afternoon chat sessions on just **Monday and Wednesday @ 4 pm from next week**. If you would like to join, click on the Zoom link below at 4 pm on Monday or Wednesday. The link is the same each day, and is: <https://zoom.us/j/306846915> Meeting ID: 306 846 915. If you would like help connecting, or if you know of someone who may like to join, please ring Lesley on 0480 223 981. We remain committed to these chats, and trust that just twice a week will meet the needs of our community at this time. Please note that if no one has joined after half an hour, the host will close the session.

SPECIFIC MADOW DONATION APPEAL MADOW is keen to respond to a request from our friends in Griffith. It is still very cold and as well as their own clients, they are helping neighbours. Recently the Aboriginal Medical Centre has notified severe needs in Murrin Bridge at Lake Cargelligo. Doctors, from Griffith, have been taking large loads in their cars for distribution. Specific requests have been for clean handbags (makeup bags), sports bags, warm headwear, warm gloves, warm socks, soap, toothbrushes, powder and especially face washers. Our local hero, Michelle, uses the bags to make up personal care packs for people who are unable to manage or afford these dignities and comforts when they are admitted or attend as Outpatients.

Thank you for putting any of the above-mentioned requested items in the "MADOW" labelled box next to the Exodus/Lifeline box. Pam and Margo will be collecting the donations which will be taken to the transport company on Wednesday 9th September, therefore we need the donations made, **at latest on Monday 7 September**. Diane Ph. 0466 103 553

The Luncheon Group – the next Zoom meeting of the Luncheon Group will be on the second Thursday of September – on **Thursday, 10 September at 12 noon to 1 pm**. We plan to have another surprise visitor for our time together – so please plan to join us on Thursday next. The link to the Zoom meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83307561065> Meeting ID: 833 0756 1065

Something to Look Forward To: Save the date of **Sunday, 27 September** at 2.00 pm in your diary – this will be a Zoom Fundraiser for our Uniting World Kiribati project. More details to come – we are aware that we can't meet together in large numbers, but something innovative is planned. More information next week!

Stir Up Someday is replacing this year's Stir Up Sundays. Book in, pay for the packaged ingredients (to be collected late October) and make your pudding(s) at home when convenient, perhaps organising a few friends or family members to join you.

You can have instruction by Judy via YouTube (available in November and December) or join Courtney and Messy Church's pudding makers via interactive Zoom on Saturday 1st November at 5 pm.

The booking and payment deadline is 30th September. For bookings please contact Judy at gpucstirups@gmail.com

Our **Book Stall** at Pymble and Trading Table at Gordon will be closed for a while due to COVID. Thanks.

Donations for Exodus and Lifeline It's easy to drive through and keep your social distance! At Pymble donations can be left in food box, near the letterbox, at the top of the driveway. We are emptying it regularly. Andrew is normally there to sort food on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 – 10.30am and can give a hand if necessary. At Gordon a labelled box will be left outside next to the door with access from the carpark. Nicola will be available from 10 am – 11 am on Wednesdays & Fridays.