

The VIBE

5th November 2023

Message: The Bigness of the Gospel | Dr Mike Frost

Scripture: John 10.1-21. NIV

Michael Frost is an Australian Baptist minister, missiologist and theologian who is one of the leading voices in the missional church movement.

He is the founding Director of the Tinsley Institute, a mission study centre located at Morling College in Sydney, Australia.



As I mentioned in last week's Vibe, for the next couple of weeks, as a lead-up to this year's AGM (which will be held on Sunday 12th of November 2023, at 1:30pm in our Gympie Church) we will publish excerpts from my 2022 AGM report.

I'm hoping this will be helpful as we get ready to focus on what has happened in the life of our church for the last 12 months.

A Taste Of What Is To Come

On the 11th of September 2022, we had a 'Parent Dedication Service' for one of our Child Care Centre families. It was the launch of our version of 'Octoberfest', no beer but three more babies, three more 'Parent Dedications' followed - 9th, 16th and 23rd of October.

Seeing so many new people and so many young families was not only a high point, but it was also a taste of what is to come as we make reaching out to young families our primary objective.

'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,' is more than a command, it is a 'KPI' a Key Performance Indicator for the church.

“Every New Beginning Comes From Some Other Beginning’s End (Seneca).”

A new chapter in life brings new opportunities and opens new doors.

All the lessons learned in the previous chapters are used in the new chapter.

At the risk of sounding overly dramatic, the new chapter has the possibility of being either our final or our finest.

- Surface level changes, that don’t address the core issues we all face, **will fail.**
- Changing a few stylistic elements, whilst keeping the same underlying model of how we have always done church, **will fail.**

Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.

The 10 last words of dying churches -

“We’ve never done it that way before! We’re not changing!”

The New Chapter Requires A New Model Of Ministry For Both Imbil And Gympie.

- Every pastor Is an Interim Pastor.
- The pastor’s primary role is to work himself/herself out of a job.
- The most productive pastors are those who reproduce themselves.
- The most successful pastors are those who develop leaders not followers.

From the Moses - Joshua handoff, the David - Solomon handover, to the Jesus’ training of the Twelve, succession planning is both Biblical and essential. Unfortunately, the ‘no plan’ plan of succession has been the most common pattern in the Church.

Benjamin Franklin puts it best - **“If you fail to plan, you plan to fail!”**

A God directed succession plan, is a plan for success.

The truth is, The Uniting Church has not done Succession Planning well. Simply replacing one Minister of the Word with a different one, is **not** succession planning.

- **Proposal:** I propose we begin this process immediately.

Grace and Peace,
Orrell

Helpers for No.17

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came to paint and clean our 17 Red Hill Road property over the past week. Terrific response and great work!

There are some jobs still to do ... can you help out this Tuesday, 7th November? If so, please see Brett or give him a call on 0408 081 860.

AGM

Our Annual General Meeting is set for **next Sunday, 12th November, 1.30pm** in our Gympie Church. The Annual Report was emailed to the congregation on 26th October and paper copies continue to be available from our church foyers. If you've already taken a paper copy, please remember to bring it along to the meeting next week. Should we run out, you can order one from the office.

Church Council Membership Nominations

Nominations for Church Council Membership opened last Sunday and will close next Sunday, 12th November 2023.

To nominate a Church Member for Council: *After prayerful consideration* - use the yellow forms which you'll find in our foyers. Voting will take place on Sunday 17th December - the logistics of which we'll advise in due course.

Bible Society Meeting

You are welcome to attend the Gympie Branch's final meeting in the CE Room on **Wednesday, 15th November, 9.30am**. We appreciate that this will be a sad time for the team and we give thanks for all that the Gympie Branch has done to help promote and distribute The Bible around the world over many, many years.

Joy Circle Party

More than 20 people came along to a hugely fun morning of games, laughter, a delicious banquet and an hilarious skit performed by Bryan, Thea, Jan C., and Mike. A massive thank you to Jill and Jo who organised a wonderful morning, to those who brought food to share and to all who participated.

We're looking forward to seeing what Jill and Jo 'cook up' for Joy Circle's monthly gatherings in 2024.

~ **There is no livestream message this week** ~

- * **Prayer & Communion** - Tuesdays, 8am, CE Room
- * **Unifying 4570 AGM** - Next Sunday, 12th November, 1.30pm, in our Gympie Church
- * **Church Council Nominations Close** - Next Sunday, 12th November
- * **Final Bible Society Meeting** - Wednesday, 15th November, 9.30am, CE Room
- * **Bible Society Christmas Carols** - Friday, 1st December, 9.30am, our Gympie Church
- * **Kidz Church Presentations & Child Care/FDC Graduation** - Sunday, 3rd Dec. 9am
- * **Church Council Nominee Profiles** - to be published 3rd December
- * **Church Council Voting** - Sunday, 17th December

Our Church

Our primary purpose is to fulfil our calling - the calling of exhibiting the character of Jesus, a spirit of humility, love, and unity, coupled with resurrection power, proving that the church is truly 'The Body of Christ' inhabited by God Himself!



UNITING 4570
Better Together

God's Goal

"God's overarching goal is to produce men and women who demonstrate the character qualities of Jesus Christ.

God does not want a church filled with white robed saints.

He does not want a church filled with theological authorities or cultured clergy.

He wants a church filled with ordinary men and women who exemplify the extraordinary integrity, temperament, wholeness, compassion, individuality, boldness, righteousness, earnestness, love, forgiveness, selflessness, and faithfulness of Jesus Christ!" *Ray Steadman*

Worship

Worship Services... **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)
Imbil: 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

Live-streaming... Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

Contact Us

Church Office... M: 0493 442 250 P: (07) 5482 2985 E: cherylie@gruc.org
www.gruc.org.au F: www.facebook.com/guchurch

Office Hours... Mon & Wed 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

Rev Orrell Battersby.. 0423 985 200 orrell@gruc.org

Pastoral Care... Please contact the office by phone or email

- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Call Glenda 0418 187 698
- Need help with your computer? ... Call Mike 0403 271 413
- Need a lift to church? ... Call Jill 0421 333 538
- Need prayer? ... Call the office 0493 442 250

Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Gympie Attendance: Adults 63 • Children 11 • Facebook 76 • YouTube 24
Total Week's Offering: \$2,999.20 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,792.00.
Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)