

New Series: Two Roads

Message: The Road to Emmaus

Getting the conversation (and you) back on track

Luke 24.13-35 NIV.

The story of two people walking together, deep in conversation, along the road to Emmaus finds strong echoes in our own behaviour in the face of grief, fear, and incomprehension.

Grief both paralyses and galvanises, you are unable to sit and do nothing, but you can't focus on anything except on what has happened.

Add to this the old adage, 'misery loves company.'

Result, two people in deep grief, a formula for an unending, unhelpful conversation loop.

A revolving door going around and around.

An emotional downward spiral.

What the two friends on the road to Emmaus desperately needed, is exactly what we, and the whole world needs, today. Jesus!

The resurrected Lord, the friend who listens, and gets the conversation back on track.

Walking is a great healing activity, especially with someone you trust.



Our Easter Services

Thank you to everyone who made our Easter Services special at both Imbil and Gympie - with all the planning, behind the scenes preparation and your participation. Wasn't it a joy to welcome so many visitors?

In Gympie, most of the congregation came forward to be anointed with oil on Good Friday and 7 of our church family were baptized on Resurrection Sunday.

Orrell's April Blog

Absolute Surrender and Faithfulness

Will Always Open The Door For God's Restoration To Begin.

In one day, Job lost his 10 children along with all his possessions and wealth.

Shortly after, he was afflicted with a horrible skin disease.

Job didn't understand why he had to suffer so much.

So, throughout the book of Job, we see him expressing heartache and anger at the pain and suffering God was obviously allowing.

As we already know, waiting for God to restore what's been lost or stolen, can be a long drawn-out, painful, and frustrating process.

Yet through it all - and despite his crippling emotions - Job never doubted that full surrender and trust are a vital ingredient in the waiting stage.

Whether it's our hearts, finances, relationships, or lives in need of mending, God always has a plan to heal and restore.

Although I don't know the exact details of His plan for the future for me, you or the church here in Gympie, I know His plans are good, because I know He is good, and I fully believe restoring our lives and our church tops His holy 'to-do' list.

I also believe He has left the best until now (John 2.10), and He will restore what's been lost or stolen + upgrade us to a place better than previously held.



These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open. (Revelation 3.7).

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.

If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. (Revelation 3.20)

Grace and Peace,
Orrell

Grand Friends at Kidz Church

Thank you to our wonderful Kidz Church Team who provide biblical teaching, creative activities and a whole lot of fun for our children during school term and who are now having a much deserved holiday break. Today and next Sunday, our ever obliging Grand Friends are providing school holiday activities in the CE Room for the children.



Rose Sami went home to Jesus on Tuesday, 2nd April 2024.

We don't have any funeral information at this time.

Please keep Rose's family in your prayers.

Sound System, Livestreaming & Data Training

We're offering training on our Gympie worship technology systems - aiming to build a team of proficient operators. If you're interested, please let Joan or Cherylie know and a training date will be arranged in due course.

Operation Christmas Child

During April we're collecting '**Something to Wear**' - Boys and Girls clothing for ages 2 to 14. Only new clothing such as t-shirts, shorts, skirts, socks, underwear, caps, beanies, thongs, etc. to fit in a shoebox-size gift pack with lots of other items. Clothing is required to have sleeves or come with a t-shirt to wear underneath. Thank you for your wonderful support.

HymnFest

HymnFest at our Gympie Church has been popular ... coming together to sing your favourite hymns and enjoy each other's company. You're invited to our next event along with your friends and family - **next Sunday, 14th April, 2.30pm**. Please bring some afternoon tea to share.

Joy Circle

Our next get-together is **Thursday, 18th April, 9.30am** in the CE Room. 'Anzac' will be this month's theme with a particular focus on the brave and amazing 'Australian Light Horse'. We hope you can join us - your friends are welcome.



Combined Churches Prayer Meeting

The Zion Lutheran Church is hosting the next local Combined Churches Prayer Meeting on **Tuesday 23rd April, 6pm to 6.30pm** (9 Nash Street, Gympie - entry by O'Connell Street). All are welcome.

NEWS FLASH Next month, we're hosting this Prayer Meeting at our Gympie Church on 21st May. It would be great if you could support this.

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, 28th April** at our Gympie Church. We'll have a quick morning tea after our worship service which will also allow time for anyone from The Mary Valley to get here.

Tuesday Morning Prayer and Communion

We meet at 8am in the CE room and would love to see you there.

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

Offering & Attendance Over Easter

Attendance: Adults 192 ♦ Children 28 ♦ No livestreaming of Easter services

Total Week's Offering: \$ 3421.60 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.

Tithe & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)