



Theme: Be Strong in the Lord!

Rev. David Fanning

Scriptures: John 6:56-69,

Ephesians 6:6-20, (NRSV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10. But Why?

First and foremost, God has a plan which God will complete when the time is right, to bring all creation together, everything in heaven and on earth, with Christ as head." (1:10)

Secondly, God's plan is already a reality in the person of Christ. It is a gift, freely given. For Christ himself has brought us peace by making Jews and Gentiles one people (Ep 2:14)

Thirdly, God intends that that the reality of his plan will be seen in the lives of His people. Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds us together (4:3). This gift of Unity is Christ's Will.

So, be strong in the Lord so we may preserve the unity the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds us together Why is that? So we may stand against the wiles of the devil. (6:11). The "devil" is here defined as the "rulers, authorities, cosmic powers of this present darkness, spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (6:12). The "wiles of the devil" seek to destroy the unity which is Christ's Gift and Will.

Paul urges the Ephesians to take up the whole armour of God so we may preserve the unity given. The armour here is defined as the "belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit". (6:14-17)

Stand firm (6:13) Paul says. He did this while still in chains (6:20) And the key to standing firm- Pray for one another (6:18-20), so we may preach the gospel of peace (6:15).

Grace and Peace

David

Rev. David Fanning will be joining us again for Worship in Gympie next Sunday

Christmas Shoeboxes

We continue to seek funds to cover the **Cost of Freight** (which is \$12.50 per box). If you can help with this, your donations can be placed in an envelope labelled "Shoebox" and dropped into the offering plate/box; given directly to Helen Ward (at Imbil); or deposited into our bank account identified as "Shoebox" (our bank account details are on the back page). If you have any shoebox gifts sitting at home, please bring them in by next Sunday, 1st September.



Shoebox Packing We will be packing the shoeboxes at our Imbil Church Hall on Wednesday, **11th September** from **2pm**. We'd appreciate as many helpers as possible and when we finish we will enjoy some afternoon tea together.

Please let Helen know if you can be there 5484 3143.

Thank you for your support - just look at the joy on these little girls' faces!

Hope Reins Bush Dance

This will be a great family-friendly outdoor event where you can have a lot of fun while helping raise funds for HOPE REINS. **Next Saturday, 31st August**, 5:30 to 9:30pm at the home of HOPE REINS, 727 Eel Creek Rd, Langshaw.

Tickets can only be purchased in advance at www.trybooking.com/1194736

\$30 Adults, \$25 Adult concession, \$70 family pass (2 adults + 2 children under 17yrs + \$10 for each additional child). Tickets include 1 burger and a drink (sausage available). Extra drinks and burgers can be purchased on the night.



What's
Happening

- * **Uniting 4570 Prayer Warriors** - 8am, Tuesday mornings, CE room
- * **Vivaldi Spring (Strings Concert)** - Next Sunday, 1st September, Anglican Church (Gympie). Gold coin donation, refreshments afterward.
- * **Early Childhood Educators Day** - Wednesday, 4th September, 10am
- * **Joy Circle** - Thursday, 19th September, 9.30am, CE Room
- * **Spring HymnFest** - details to come.

Uniting Early Learning Gympie

On **Wednesday 4th September**, we'll be **Celebrating our Early Childhood Educators**. This will be a bit of an all-day event for the centre (at 17 Cartwright Road, Gympie) with a special morning tea at around 10am. If you can bring along some food to share, that would be truly appreciated - please see Judy Brown or Joan Burke.

The Gympie Uniting Church Early Learning Centre is where our Grandfriends interact with the children of a Wednesday morning ... come and celebrate the Educators on the 4th of September and see what our Grandfriends do.

These Wednesday mornings together have become very special for the Children, the Educators and our Grandfriends alike. We can always do with more Grandfriends on the team - if this peaks your interest, have a chat with Judy Brown (coordinator).

*When God is our strength, it is strength indeed;
when our strength is our own, it is only weakness.
(Saint Augustine)*



Office Leave

Cherylie is now on Annual Leave until Tuesday, 24th September - we have a team who will be performing various admin functions. You can continue to contact the office by email and Joan Burke will look after these. If you need to speak with someone more urgently, please phone Keith Brown on 0401 397 160. The Vibe will continue to be published in simpler format during this period.



We have MORNING TEA together after our Sunday Worship Services (at both Imbil and Gympie).

It's a terrific opportunity to get to know each other better and build friendships.

HOPE YOU CAN STAY THIS MORNING.

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 fill with theological 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)*

The People of God on The Way

The Uniting Church affirms that it belongs to the people of God on the way to the promised end. The Uniting Church prays that, through the gift of the Spirit, God will constantly correct that which is erroneous in its life, will bring it into deeper unity with other Churches, and will use its worship, witness and service to God's eternal glory through Jesus Christ the Lord.

~ from Uniting 4570's Operational Guidelines ~

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

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



UNITING 4570
Better together

Offering & Attendance Last Week

Attendance: Adults 73 ♦ Children 12 ♦ Facebook 112 ♦ Youtube 11
Total Week's Offering: \$ 2,163.00 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.
Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101
(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)