



# The VIBE

Father's Day  
1st September 2024

**Theme: Lead on Good Shepherd**

**Scriptures: Psalm 23**

**Rev. David Fanning**

## LEAD ON GOOD SHEPHERD

Shepherds (probably not called that now) in the twenty-first century do not lead. Instead, they muster. And indeed they, often more than one, and with the help of horses, motorbikes, dogs and possibly helicopters drive the sheep forward from behind.

The flock may be several thousand in number and sometimes pain may be inflicted to keep them moving forward and ensure the wayward sheep do not wander too far. There is no time to get to know each sheep. How many of them have names? Sheep have dollars signs written all over them and the amount is probably related to the quality of the fleece or meat and of the course the current market.

Shepherding in Biblical times was so different. Tradition tells us that shepherds were often lone operators, each of whom had responsibility for about one hundred sheep. It also tells us that a shepherd knew the name of each of his sheep who in turn recognized the voice of the shepherd and followed.

According to Psalm 23, The Lord (God) is described as a shepherd who walks in front (leads on) of his sheep (his people), not driving from behind. His sheep follow because he takes them to the green pastures, the still waters, the rights paths and places of restoration (recreation). The Lord is **trustworthy**.

The same Lord God is like the shepherd who leads on by coming alongside. The Lord is there to **comfort** (rod and staff) when walking through the darkest valleys in life. He is also there to dress the wounds (oils) and prepare a meal, even when the enemies still surround.

With The Good Shepherd leading on, being trustworthy and comforting, the psalmist declares that goodness and mercy shall follow, and he would dwell in that presence of Good Shepherd forever.

Come, Good Shepherd, lead us on!

David

## Rev. Dr. Peter Hall will be joining us for Gympie Worship next Sunday

### Christmas Shoebox Packing

#### Shoebox Packing

We will be packing the shoeboxes at our Imbil Church Hall on Wednesday, **11<sup>th</sup> 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.

If anyone would like a lift out to Imbil, please contact Glenda on 0418 187 698 as she is happy to carpool a few people out when she goes.

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



### Uniting Early Learning Gympie

This **Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> 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).



What's  
Happening

- \* **Uniting 4570 Prayer Warriors** - 8am, Tuesday mornings, CE room
- \* **Vivaldi Spring (Strings Concert)** - 4pm today, Anglican Church (Gympie). Gold coin donation. Refreshments afterward.
- \* **Early Childhood Educators Day** - This Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 10am
- \* **Joy Circle** - Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 9.30am, CE Room
- \* **Spring HymnFest** - details to come.

Happy Father's Day!



## Dad's Perfect Gift

By Lill Pluta

I picked some yellow flowers  
that were growing in our yard,  
put them in a fancy vase,  
and made my Dad a card.  
My sister laughed and boldly said,  
"Your gift is very silly.  
Dads like ties and grills and tools,  
not stuff that's sweet and frilly."  
But when I gave my Dad his gift,  
his face was all aglow.  
"Why thank you, son, for pulling weeds,  
now I'll have less to mow."

**Heavenly Father,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary,  
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.**

**Bless all fathers as they care for their families.**

**Give them strength and wisdom,**

**tenderness and patience;**

**support them in the work they have to do,**

**protecting those who look to them,**

**as we look to you for love and salvation,**

**through Jesus Christ our rock and**

**defender.**

**Amen.**



### *Psalm 103:13*

*As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has  
compassion on those who fear him;*

### Office Leave

Cherylle is now on Annual Leave until Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Our Name, Our Calling.

"Holy Father, keep them safe by the power of your name. It is the name you gave me. Keep them safe so they can be one, just as you and I are one."  
(John 17.11 NIRV).



**UNITING 4570**  
**Better together**

These words were spoken by Jesus the night before He died, as He prayed for us to His Heavenly Father (John 17). Five times He expressed His desire for our unity – not only a unity of the original apostles – but also of all who have followed in their footsteps, generation by generation.

## 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!

~ 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](mailto:cherylie@gruc.org)  
[www.gruc.org.au](http://www.gruc.org.au) F: [www.facebook.com/guchurch](https://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

## Our Bank Account Details

Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

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