

Nambour Retirement Village Services

NO VILLAGE SERVICE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

CHURCH	37-39 Coronation Avenue Nambour QLD 4560 opposite Nambour State College
CHURCH EMAIL	nambouruca@gmail.com
FACEBOOK	www.facebook.com/nambouruniting.church
WEBPAGE	nambouruniting.org.au
YOUTUBE CHANNEL	nambouruca.youtube

Service Roster

FOR TODAY

**20th September 2020
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

Minister: Rev Ian Stehbens
Music: Rosemary Ramm
Readers: Graham Kent, Helen Staines
Prayers: Ian Woodward
Data Projector: Sue Nichols
Sound system: Rob Nichols
Offering: Retiring offering will be in place until further notice
Welcome: Linda & Ian Woodward,
Graham & Anne Kent
No Morning Tea

Minister & Pastoral Care

Rev Ian Stehbens 0477 160 578

Additional Pastoral Care Ministry

Rev Graham Warne 5478 9747

Eva Donaldson 5441 3381

Congregation Chairperson

Ian Woodward 5441 1069

Church Council Chair

Rev Ian Stehbens 0477 160 578

Church Office: 5441 1135

PO Box 1100, NAMBOUR, Q 4560

Office: most Tuesdays and Thursdays

AFTER 9AM to 2PM

Jimmy 0411 314 306

**THE
BIRTHDAY
BOOK FOR
THIS WEEK**

24 Rosemary Ramm

25 Jim Stewart

Jean Scott

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
Rosemary,
Jim & Jean!**

Attending worship confirms that you do not have COVID-19, or symptoms associated with COVID-19, or awaiting results from a COVID-19 test, or have been to a designated 'hotspot', or have not been in contact with any known or suspected cases of COVID-19, or that you have been in contact with anyone who has travelled from overseas in the past 14 days. You are aware that people aged 70 and over, and people with chronic medical conditions are at a greater risk of serious illness by involvement in public group places.



Nambour Uniting Church

9AM Sunday Worship Service

We are called to be evidence of God's
love breaking into the world

Sunday 20th September 2020

Thanks For the Gift Matthew 20:1-16

It's great to be given a gift, isn't it? Or is it? What if it's a puppy and you're not ready for the food and vet bills, the exercising and training that goes with owning a dog? And the receiver is placed under obligation to the giver, for example: you receive a gift and then feel the need to reciprocate in some way. We know that there is no such thing as a free lunch. There's an uneven power balance between giver and receiver. The choice lies with the giver. Even if hints are given, the receiver has to accept what someone else has chosen.

Maybe that is why people have trouble with the grace of God. They have to accept that they are not in charge; they have to accept whatever they are given. They are under obligation to use the gift of life, and all other gifts, properly. If salvation is by grace, then it is not to be looked upon as a reward for services rendered.

In the parable of the Labourers in the Vineyard, Jesus made it clear that life at its best, life lived in the love and grace of God, is a gift. Heaven is not a reward for services rendered; it is a gift. People who approach it in terms of wages will be disappointed. Instead of trying to win heaven as a reward in the future, let's live the life of heaven now, as far as it is possible, with gratitude and joy. Enjoy the gift of life; enjoy the gift of new life in Christ.

- Think of examples of the power imbalance between giver and receiver. When has receiving a gift placed you under an obligation to the giver?
 - List some of the gifts have you received from God.
 - If salvation is a gift, why do people think that they have to earn it?
 - How can we best show our appreciation for God's gift of new life in Christ?
- Rev Ron Potter - piulapublications.com

Nambour Uniting Church Welcome to Sunday Worship

Rev Ian Stehbens welcomes you to worship.
We accept all who gather to worship in peace,
with an invitation to pray and reflect in the
Prayer Chapel at any time our Church is open.
May the peace of the Lord be with you

PASTOR IAN'S MESSAGE TO THE NAMBOUR CHURCH THIS WEEK

This week and next week our readings include selections from Paul's Letter to the Philippians. It really is a very precious letter and contains profound insights into God's action in coming to us in the person of Jesus, and also remarkable insights into our human behaviour and circumstance.

*It strikes me that two very significant circumstances have generated the deep truths expressed.
One is that Paul has suffered greatly prior to writing the letter. The long list of traumas that he has survived has acted as a filter disregarding dross and half-truths, and enabling him to appreciate real truth.*

The second circumstance is that there is a very strong and faithful bond between Paul and the people in Philippi, and this mutual love flows through the letter. Luke tells the story of the beginning of the Paul-Philippian Church relationship in Acts 16.

It is a graphic account written by Luke who was there at the time - an eyewitness.

Paul (and various companions including at times Barnabas, Mark, Luke, Silas and others) had travelled through Cyprus, Turkey, Macedonia and Greece to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with communities. As people responded a church was established in those centres. Philippi was one of them.

In reading the narrative in Acts, I have identified seven principles which I have carried in my heart and head as I have formed new congregations and revitalised others during the years of the ministry to which God called me. I offer them to Nambour as you continue to witness in this growing city.

- 1 A strong encouraged congregation can be courageous & fruitful as we break into the world*
- 2 Prepared leaders and compatible mission teams are the means of effective mission & evangelism*
- 3 Understanding of & sensitivity to the culture of the community minimises blockages to mission & evangelism*
- 4 Recognition of the Holy Spirit leading & opening doors of opportunity empowers people as they realize that this is God's idea*
- 5 Renewal, revival & fruitful mission ride on the back of prayer*
- 6 Be strategic thinkers who are open to God's leading*
- 7 Spiritual opposition is real but futile for suffering gives us new lenses to see, interpret and live truth.*

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**Welcome to Rev Chris Crause and Rev Phil Smith,
who have come to talk with our Church Council on matters relating
to future ministry at Nambour Uniting Church.**

Thursday 24th September 2020

Adult fellowship will meet in the downstairs rooms at 9.30AM for friendly communion and a chat, you are all invited to come along.

NEXT SUNDAY 27 September 2020

An invitation has been given to Rev Geraldine Wheeler to attend Sunday Worship Service next week and she has delightfully accepted. Rev Geraldine will be preaching the Good News.

HOW IS YOUR MEMORY?

Uniting Care is researching the history of Wagner House in Nambour. They also would like to hear any facts and memories of the Wagner's themselves. Please let Eva know.