



July 2020

In this issue:

Minister's Message	p2
This month in worship	p3
Returning to gatherings.....	p4
Services & Groups.....	p5-6
What to expect.....	p7-9
Nurturing Faith through Small Groups	p10-14
Kids & Youth.....	p15-16
Meet the team	p17-18

What's On?

Visit terriganlunitingchurch.com for links to the following events

Online Worship

Sundays at 9am (until Aug 2nd)

8am & 9:45am services will be streamed live after August 2nd

Sunday 6pm

From 19th July

[Register online](#)

Sunday 8am & 9:45am

From 2nd August

[Register online](#)

Prayer Connection

Tuesdays at 3pm - contact

prayer@terriganlunitingchurch.com

Post-service Discussions

These will discontinue from 19th July for the 6pm chat, and 2nd August for the 10:30am chat

Kids & Youth Connection

Fridays at 4pm Kids, 6pm Youth

Dinner included



Minister's Message

Over the time of lock down I talked to some people whose faith has really grown and who said they felt a lot closer to God. It is interesting for me. Church was online and we were not gathering together in person. Despite this, some people were feeling closer to God.

It is surprising how busy our lives can become and how easily we can miss some of the things we do to keep our faith healthy and growing.

During lock down, many lives were slowed down due to the shutdown of society. Now that things are slowly coming back, our lives are starting to speed up again.

One of my prayers of us all is that in speeding up we do not squeeze God out of our lives again. I also know that for some, particularly families with young children, the reverse was true. Life became busier and more hectic in lockdown. My prayer for them is that as things become more normal, they may find the space

to nurture their faith and connect with God more.

Over the months of July and August our church leadership has set a theme for us to focus on. The theme is *nurturing our faith*.

Starting next week, I hope to have a small spot in worship where we may hear from someone who can share one thing that they do to nurture their faith. I might also use the front of the notice sheet to focus on some simple things you could consider to improve your spiritual life and draw closer to God.

Our relationship with God is the same as all relationships in our lives. It is dynamic and can change depending on what we do and how we treat our faith. I would encourage you to consider what you could do to nurture your faith in the coming weeks because our relationship with God is something to value and grow.

Blessings,

Richard

This month in worship

July 12

Luke 11:1-4 & 15:11-32
Lord's Prayer wk 1

July 19

Luke 11:1-4 & 1 Peter 1:13-16
Lord's Prayer wk 2

July 26

Luke 11:1-4, 17:20-21
& Luke 13:18-21
Lord's Prayer wk 3

Aug 2

Luke 11:1-4 & 12:22-31
Lord's Prayer wk 4



PRAYER POINTS

Remember in your prayers:

- Resurgence of Covid-19 in Victoria
- Return to worship at TUC
- Church family in aged care facilities
- Kids & Youth Connection & KidsLife



We're coming back!

Don't forget to register for church! - terriganlunitingchurch.com/events



RETURNING TO **CHURCH GATHERINGS**

JULY 1

Small Groups
Kids & Youth Groups
Other Ministries and Groups

JULY 19

Sunday 6pm Service

AUGUST 2

Sunday 8am Service
Sunday 9:45am Service

AUGUST 4

Tuesday 11am Service



ONLINE SERVICES
will continue each week

EACH WEEK REMEMBER TO

- Register online ✓
- Stay home if sick ✓
- BYO Bible and pen ✓

WHAT TO EXPECT



RSVP and Sign-on

You will need to register on our website for the services each week, and your name will be ticked off when you enter.



Social Distancing

No contact means no handshakes or hugs for the time being.



No Singing

You are welcome to clap, hum, dance or just sit back and enjoy the worship.



No Shared Meals

You may like to go to a cafe or restaurant after church to catch up.



Offering

There will be a contact-free collection point near the doors.



Limited Kids Activities

Please BYO toys, food & drink, and a pencil case for your children, as we are unable to provide these for now.

To view our detailed return to on-site worship plan visit www.terriganlunitingchurch.com

SERVICES & GROUPS



Small groups

If your small group would like to start meeting at your home, or in the church building, you are welcome to do so. Each group will need to have their own safety plan and adhere to the actions in the plan, such as social distancing and food sharing. It is also possible that your group will need to meet in a different room in the church if your group exceeds the allowed people limit for your usual room. Please talk to Deb in the office if you will be meeting so she can go through the safety plan with you – admin@terrigalunitingchurch.com

Kids and Youth Groups

Our kids and youth groups will now meet in the church building each Friday night. Dinner will be prepared in our commercial kitchen according to food-safety guidelines. If you are planning to attend, please contact Craig and Emma – craigandemma@terrigalunitingchurch.com

Other ministries and Groups (such as hirers)

If you run a church ministry and would like to start this up again, or if you would like to hire the building for an external organisation, please contact Deb in the office – admin@terrigalunitingchurch.com.

6pm service recommences July 19th

We are starting this service a couple of weeks before our other services for a few reasons. Firstly, we want to give people the opportunity to get back to the church building as soon as possible, and as this service will not be streamed we are able to manage this sooner. Secondly, the majority of this congregation fall into a low risk category for COVID-19. And thirdly, it will give us an opportunity to establish and practice a process for this new style of worship.

The gam online-Sunday service will continue to be made available until the 8am and 9:45am services return.

If you are planning to attend our 6pm service, you will need to RSVP via our events page on our website each week. This is to ensure we do not exceed our allowed people limit.

8am and 9:45am services recommence August 2nd

We are excited to welcome all of our service back to the church building on August 2nd. We are aiming to eventually live-stream both of our morning services, so that those who do not yet feel comfortable returning to a group setting can continue to participate online.

The transition from our current pre-recorded service to a live broadcast is technically complex and will be a big learning curve for everyone, especially our tech and sound teams. We ask that you please be patient with us as we set this up, and expect a few bumps in the first few weeks as we get used to the new system! While we will aim to stream both services from this date, we may need to start with the 9:45 and include the 8am after a few weeks.

If you are planning to attend our 8am or 9:45am services, you will need to RSVP via our events page on our website each week. This is to ensure we do not exceed our allowed people limit.

Tuesday Service Recommences August 4th

We will aim to start this service on this date, however there are a number of issues to consider in order to ensure the safety of this congregation. Our pastoral care team will communicate more information about this service closer to the time.

WHAT TO EXPECT



Before Coming to Church

- Register for the service via our events page (this needs to be done weekly)
- Do not attend if you have any cold/flu symptoms
- Bring a pen and a Bible with you as we will not have them in the seats
- Bring any necessary toys/drinks/food that your children will need

Although we can start to gather in person again, we still have a number of restrictions in place which means that to start with, church will look quite different to what we're used to.

Here are some of the things that will be different:

Singing

When it comes to virus transmission, singing is currently classified as high-risk (similar to coughing or sneezing) and therefore churches are being strongly advised to avoid this activity. We will still have music in the service, but it will be either performance based, or in an on-screen worship video. You are welcome to hum, dance, clap along, or just sit back and enjoy the music.

Communion

Due to food safety concerns, serving and receiving Communion safely will be a challenge. We are considering some possible options, however given there is no simple solution, the church Elders have decided to postpone

communion for the month of August. This will be discussed in more depth over the coming month, and further information will be communicated to you later in August.

RSVP-ing and information gathering

Each Monday, we will add the following Sunday's services to the website on our events page. Please register for the service you will attend so we know how many people to expect. In the unlikely event that we reach our allowed limit, we will need ask people to participate via the online broadcast instead of in person. As part of the registration process we will ask you for contacts details (name, phone and email). Even though we might have these details on file, we are asking you to enter these each time you RSVP to a service. This will allow us to print off a list of those attending and should help speed up the entry process. You will also be asked if you are happy for us to keep these details on file for future contact. There is no pressure to say yes, and if you decline your information will be deleted after 28 days as per government regulations.

Entering church

When you get to church there will be people to greet you as usual, however this will be a contact-free greeting and there will be no news sheets handed out. You will need to have your name marked off the list, and you will be asked to confirm if you are sick (which includes any cold/flu symptoms) or have travelled overseas in the past month. If you answer yes to either of these questions we will have to ask you to participate in worship online rather than in person. If you have forgotten to register, you can still turn up, however places may be limited. We will need to give priority to those who have booked online, so we may need to ask you to wait until the service starts to see if there are any spare places. We will also need you to fill out a form with your details so we can add them to the attendance list.

Morning Tea/Dinner

For the time being no morning tea or dinner will be served after church, so you might like to head down to a local coffee shop or restaurant to catch up with people after the service. We will continue to re-evaluate this as restrictions continue to be eased.

Seating

We have the seats set up in groups of 2 with the required 1.5m between each set of seats. This will allow couples to sit together. Larger households are welcome to pull multiple sets of seats together, or to sit one household per pew, so long as the 1.5m distance is maintained around each group.

Socially distancing

Please make sure you keep the 1.5m rule with anyone who is not in your household. Unfortunately, that means no handshakes or hugs for the time being!

Passing the peace

Given the no contact rule, we will not be passing the peace in the usual way. There may still be a place in the service to turn and say hi to each other, but it we won't be able to move around during this time.

Offering

Instead of passing around the offering bags, there will be a place near the front door for you to drop in your offering (or use the donation point facility) as you enter or leave the worship centre.

Children

Due to rigorous COVID-19 cleaning requirements, we are unable to have our usual toys available for children to use during worship. For this same reason, and also due to social distancing advice from the Uniting Church Synod, Kids Church will not run until further restrictions are lifted. If you will be bringing kids to worship, please bring your own toys as well as food and drinks since the kitchen will be closed.

TUC Goals

Share Faith

Nurture Faith

Connect, care for &
support one another

Strive for Social Justice

Care for God's creation

Participate in active worship
& prayer



Focus
July-Aug

Nurturing Faith Through Small Groups

Article by Lesley Earp (TUC Elder & Small Group Co-ordinator)

At Terrigal Uniting Church we are very blessed to have many Small Groups for Bible study, nurturing faith and discipleship. These groups also form the backbone of our Pastoral Care for many of the church members. We have groups that cater for all different age groups, and for men, and women, and mixed

groups for both men and women together. It is easier to get to know people on a deeper level if you are in a group, spending time studying God's word together and sharing what is going on in your lives – your struggles and your joys – and praying for one another. We can share what we have learned in our

faith journey and encourage others to learn more – we will never stop learning! We can also provide that deeper fellowship that we learned about last year in our Philippians study – Koinonia. Fellowship that really feels for the other person, and shares in their joy or their pain. It enables us to support each other. Meeting only at worship services on Sundays does not achieve the same depths of learning or support.

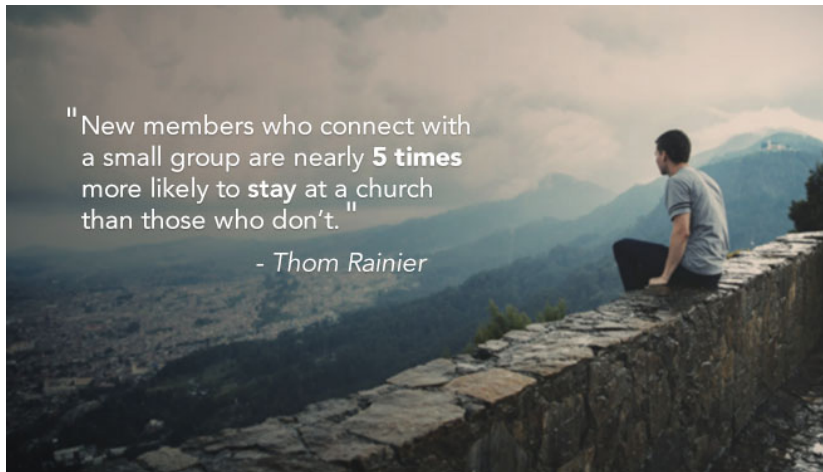
I, personally, have been part of small Bible study groups for over 50 years, starting in my teens when I was part of an ISCF group at High School. At University I found the small group that I belonged to as part of the Evangelical Union was a great way to grow my faith – and through those EU connections I grew closer to many friends – and even met my husband, Barry! By the time we joined Terrigal Uniting Church when we moved to Terrigal in September 1978, I was passionate about small groups being a way to nurture spiritual growth, but not only that, I had experienced their

power to provide wonderful pastoral care, and I was determined that we should start groups in this church, where I believe there had been groups in the past, but at that point in time none were operating. Denis Towner became the minister a few months later and Anne and I shared the same vision so, together, we began a group for Young Mums, as that was what we ourselves were at that time. It wasn't too long before other groups started that could have mixed male and female attenders, and even a group that Denis led to take a few of us through a short Theological Course from a Theological college.

As leader of a group I find that preparing for a study makes me dig deeper into God's word and I do more background reading than I might otherwise do, which helps me understand the Bible even more. In many of the small groups I have run over the years I actually share the leadership of the studies round a bit so that others share in that extra learning and growing. In

fact I encourage all members of my groups to prepare the studies ahead of time as I firmly believe they learn more that way and can contribute more effectively in the group discussion.

I have watched new Christians grow tremendously through small



group participation - as they can ask questions that they would never have an opportunity to ask in a church service. Sometimes we search for the answers to their questions together, or the leaders research it and come back to them later with the answers - and that way my faith grows as well as I am forced to think about questions I may not have thought about before - or issues I have just taken for

granted I now need to work out why I believe that. We all grow together!

Also, others who have been part of church for many years, suddenly have their eyes opened to new insights in the Scriptures. One man I can remember in our night time group for both men and women

years ago, suddenly realised as we studied John chapter 14, that God had prepared a place in heaven even for him if he accepted Christ - and he realised he had never actually

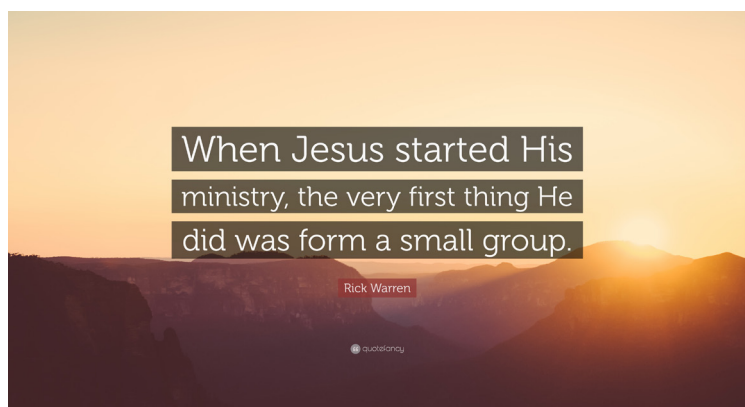
done that! It was a huge growth step in his faith. He is now in that home in heaven in God's presence. It is our prayer that each and every one who is part of one of our small groups, has the experience as Job did, of meeting God face to face and realising that just hearing about God is far different from knowing God personally.

In the late 1980's as our church

went through a Charismatic renewal process which stretched and challenged many of us as individuals and as a church family, God sent many new people along to us, enquiring about the Gospel. They were often placed in our small groups to learn what the gospel really was about – or if they had come to enquire about baptism for their baby, this was also where they were invited to learn more about the faith. This was a really exciting time for us spiritually. It really stimulated the Young Mums' small group which grew and grew and had to multiply. In the end there were 4 groups arising from that one group – one a group specifically for the new Christians and enquirers so we could answer their questions. We also started an evening group to provide for the ladies who wanted to be part of a group but couldn't come during the day due to work commitments. Some of these groups still exist today although with mostly different members now. Some of the husbands were inspired by the growth and enthusiasm in the women

and Barry started the Men's group to accommodate them – they, too, have learned much over the years. The membership has changed much over the years, but the rich bonds which were established by working through many personal and family issues, have been maintained by continuing to meet up and encourage one another even though many now attend other churches.

We have so many resources available to us to learn more and challenge us to grow in our faith that our small groups won't run out of ideas and stagnate! Once each year or two we also try to do a "Whole of church"



study, as we have just done with the book of Job, where the preaching adds even more as we all study together and we invite everyone

to join a small group for those few weeks. As with Job, these are opportunities to study a book of the Bible which we might not otherwise think to study. We believe all of God's word is helpful to us for learning. These have been very valuable studies over the years and some who joined in for these studies have stayed in the groups as they realise the value of the faith-nurturing and pastoral aspects of the group. Some of our groups have been together for so long, and helped each other through such deep times of struggle, that they cannot bear the thought of ever having to break up.

If you are not part of a Small group, but would like to be, I would encourage you to get in touch with the church office ph 43851248 or email admin@terriganlunitingchurch.com and we'll do our best to place you in a group suitable for you.

I am sure you will not regret your decision. You will find your faith grows and you can mutually love and support the other group members.

Even during the Covid 19 crisis most of our small groups have continued to meet using Zoom – the fellowship helping to ease anxiety and loneliness, whilst faith is still nurtured through the studies. In fact my two ladies' groups, which usually meet fortnightly, both wanted to meet weekly on Zoom, so one had to change its day for that period of time! We all valued being able to stay connected and pray for one another as well as learning together.

Do you want to grow in your faith?
Join a small group that studies the Bible.

Do you have questions about the faith which you've never had the courage or opportunity to ask? Join a small group!

Do you want to get to know a few people more deeply, and share with them and support one another? Join a small group!

The invitation is there – please join us!

Blessings,
Lesley Earp

UPDATE

Kids & Youth Connection

Our Kids and Youth Groups have returned to church! After 12 straight weeks of meeting on Zoom, it was a relief to get back to meeting together and hanging out in person.

Over the 2 weeks that they have met, the kids worked on a special craft project making shell crosses. These were inspired by a beautiful shell cross made by a small Indigenous Australian community on the North coast of WA, which Craig and Emma visited on their trip around Australia. Together the kids talked about symbols of Jesus, and how it is important to surround ourselves with sybols such as these crosses, as they provide a constant reminder of how much God loves us.



After 23 straight weeks of meeting (due to continuing through the last school holidays), both groups are finally on a break but will return after the school holidays.

Kids Connection meets from Fridays from 4pm-6:30pm, and Youth Connection meets Fridays from 6pm-8pm. Both groups include dinner.

Contact craigandemma@terriganunitingchurch.com for more info.



Meet our team



Richard Harris

Minister

richard@terriganlunitingchurch.com
0408 427 880



Deb Callender

Administration (relieving
Claire Earp)

admin@terriganlunitingchurch.com



Claire Earp

Administration (currently on
maternity leave)

claire@terriganlunitingchurch.com



Emma Hunter

Pastoral Care
Children and Youth

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Kristy Tritton

Music, Art & Communication

kristy@terriganlunitingchurch.com



Craig Hunter

Children and Youth

craigandemma@
terriganlunitingchurch.com



Jan Fellows

Pastoral Care

jan@terriganlunitingchurch.com

Anne & Arthur Hand - Prayer Team - prayer@terriganlunitingchurch.com

Diane Maloney & John Davison - Finance - treasurer@terriganlunitingchurch.com

Church Council

Barry Earp (Chairperson)

John Davison (Treasurer)

Andrew Davison (Cong. Rep)

Gerri Koelma (Cong. rep)

Ray Crawley (Cong. Rep)

Alisha Hawkins (Elders Rep)

Steve Earp (Elders Rep)

Claire Earp (Minutes Secretary)

Elders

Phil Rogers (Secretary)

Sue Braund

Faye Crawley

Carmen Daniels

Meryl Davison

Sacha Davison

Barry Earp

Claire Earp

Lesley Earp

Steve Earp

Kristin Gale

Alisha Hawkins

Marilyn Hales

Anne Hand

Arthur Hand

Karina Hollands

Craig Hunter

Emma Hunter

Lesley Hunter

Gerri Koelma

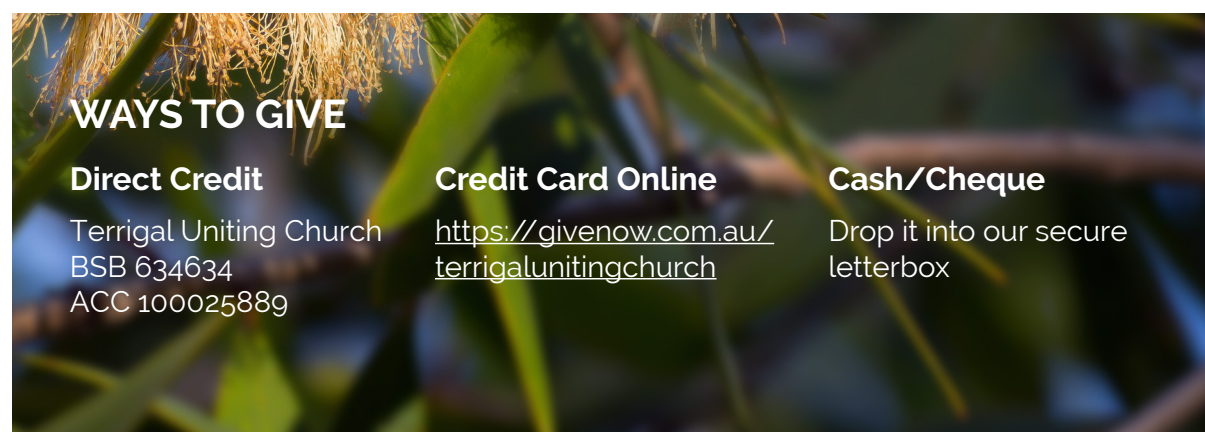
Jim Munday

Len Samuel

Kristy Tritton

Leigh van Aswegan

Sandra Wingrave



WAYS TO GIVE

Direct Credit Terrigal Uniting Church BSB 634634 ACC 100025889	Credit Card Online https://givenow.com.au/terrighalunitingchurch	Cash/Cheque Drop it into our secure letterbox
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CONTACT US

Want to connect with us or find out more?

We gather online:

Sundays at 9am

Followed by a Zoom meeting at 10:30am and 6pm

You can contact us via

Phone: 43851248 or 0408 427 880

Email: admin@terriganunitingchurch.com

See inside for individual email addresses

Postal Address

380 Terrigal Dr, Terrigal, 2260

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