



REACHING OUT February 16, 2020

Weekly News for Wodonga West and Rural Uniting Churches

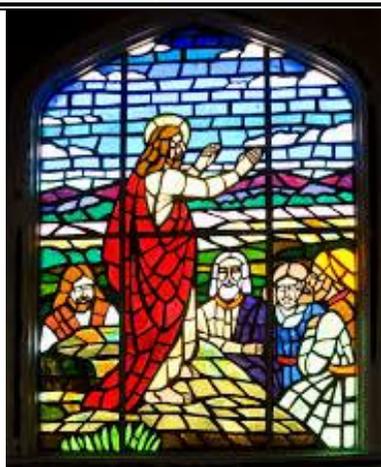
Epiphany 6

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

6:00pm Kergunyah Uniting Church

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37



'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and

you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Matthew 5:21-37

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COMING EVENTS

| | | | |
|-------|--------|---------|--|
| Sun | 16 Feb | 10:30am | AGM Emmanuel Congregation |
| Mon | 17 Feb | 9:30am | Prayer Group at Emmanuel |
| Tue | 18 Feb | 10:00am | Playgroup for children 0-5 years, parents and carers |
| Wed | 19 Feb | 9:00am | Emmanuel Grounds and Maintenance Group |
| Thurs | 20 Feb | 7:30pm | Simply Christian Studies Ian Bedford's Home (see note below) |
| Sun | 23 Feb | 3:00pm | Enthronement of 11 th Bishop of Wangaratta |
| Wed | 26 Feb | 7:30pm | Ash Wednesday Service, Lent commences |
| Fri | 6 Mar | 10:00am | World Day of Prayer at St John's |

AGM OF EMMANUEL CONGREGATION

The Annual General Meeting of the Emmanuel Church will be held on **Sunday February 16, 2020**, commencing at 10:30am after worship.

SIMPLY CHRISTIAN

Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense

This discussion material addresses the question of the reasonableness of the Christian faith in the modern world.

It features Tom Wright and is based on his best-selling book *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*. In this ten-session discussion, Wright begins by exploring what seem to be universal longings — for justice and relationship, spirituality and beauty — and goes on to simply and powerfully explain the core of Christian faith.



Topics of Video Presentations in each Session

1. Feb 6: Simply Christian Introduction (20:45)
2. Feb 13: Justice & Spirituality (16:30) – Ch 1&2
3. Feb 20: Relationships & Beauty (15:22) – Ch 3&4
4. Feb 27: God (16:47) – Ch 5
5. Mar 5: Israel (17:24) Ch 6
6. Mar 12: Jesus (19:49) – Ch 7&8
7. Mar 19: The Holy Spirit (16:27) – Ch 9&10
8. Mar 26: Worship & Prayer (18:43) – Ch 11&12
9. Apr 2: Scripture (18:33) – Ch 13&14
10. Apr 8 (Wed – Thur is Maundy Thur): Church & New Creation (18:37) – Ch 15&16

Tom Wright is a former Bishop of Durham in England and one of the world's leading Bible scholars serving as the Chair of New Testament and Early Christianity at the School of Divinity at the University of St. Andrews Scotland.



Phillip Styles is offering transport to Wangaratta next Sunday (Feb 23) for the Installation of Venerable Clarence Edgar Bester as Bishop at 3:00pm. Contact Phil on 0497 188 763 to arrange pick up and departure time.

Commencing: Thurs 6 Feb
7:30pm

Location: Bedford's
12 Jevington Dr
Wodonga

Facilitator: Ian Bedford
0412 544 770

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I love a sunburnt country,
 But would now prefer some rain
 I don't care if it pelts down
 And overfills the drain.
 The flowers are all dying
 The grass is crunchy brown
 Come on rain in gallons
 Come on, thunder down.
 It hasn't rained for such a while
 The tank is almost dry

The wind is blowing hot and hard
 It's enough to make me cry.
 But there is a consolation
 On these days so hot and dry
 As I look out of my window
 I see lorikeets fly by.
 They soon return to bathe
 In a dish that I can see
 And their gaudy colours thrill me
 As they splash so joyfully.

Reflection:

As I finished this piece our country was dealing with unprecedented bushfires in several states. I felt humbled when some rain came and revived my garden, and thought of those people who had lost absolutely everything in the bushfires. A strong sense of community is at work and we pray this will ease some of the immense pain many are experiencing.



GIFTS AND DONATIONS | Gifts, major donations & trusts – help the work of the Church today

Gifts can take many forms, including cash, shares, real or things such as valuable paintings. Some people choose to establish a trust which commences during their lifetime, others choose to establish a testamentary gift (bequest) in their will, others as a memorial to a loved one.

Want to know more?

Speak to your solicitor or financial advisor, or visit the Synod's website:
www.victas.uca.org.au

MINISTERS OF THE WORD & OTHER CONTACTS

UCA: **Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies**
 02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069
stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au
 [weekly RDO: Friday]

Emmanuel Pastoral Care: *Speak with an Elder or Warden*
Emmanuel Prayer Chain: *Give requests to Betty Siggers on 0427 761 044*

Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Office Phone: Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460
Office Open: Not staffed at present
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com or LouAnne Stabb 02 6059 2244 stabb@iinet.net.au by **Wednesday**.
Website: <http://www.emmanuel.unitingchurch.org.au/index/htm>

BIBLE READINGS *for* NEXT SUNDAY

Transfiguration of Jesus

Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2 or Psalm 99, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9



WORSHIP SERVICES *for* NEXT WEEK

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church
 6:00pm Kergunyah Uniting Church

ON DUTY

| | Sunday Feb 16 (Anglican) | Sunday Feb 23 (Uniting) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Readings | Ted Stabb | Scott Felstead |
| Elders/Wardens | Ted Stabb Carol Harris | Ted Stabb Carol Harris |
| Organist | LouAnne Stabb | LouAnne Stabb |
| Prayers | LouAnne Stabb | Carol Harris |
| Early Word | LouAnne Stabb | Carol Harris |

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

World Council of Churches

France, Germany, Monaco

We pray for:

- overcoming fears and suspicions that still remain from 20th century atrocities, and more recent terrorist attacks.
- churches and governments to effectively counter anti-immigrant populist sentiments in these countries so that they truly will become more multi-ethnic.
- economic decisions that are accountable to those who are most vulnerable and not only to those making a profit.

election of political leaders who will further the common good not only for their country but for the sake of Europe and the rest of world.