

**NEWSLETTER**  
**Elanora Uniting Church**  
**3 November 2019**

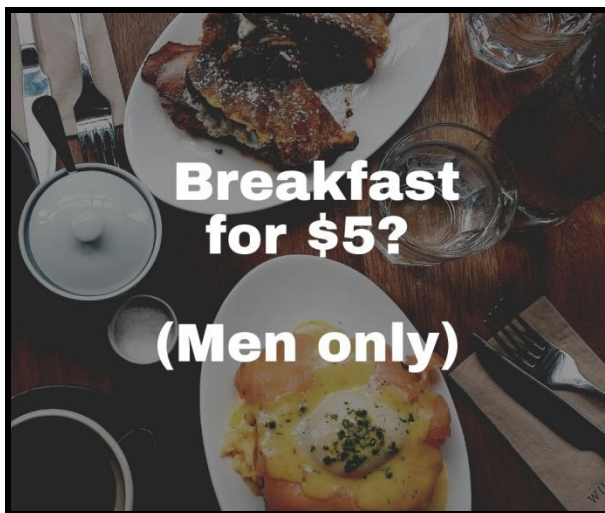


Today at Currumbin Valley we will be celebrating the sacrament of Baptism for an 18 month old child, Madelaine Lobban. A sacrament simply means a sacred space celebrating Christ's grace. The Uniting Church recognises two sacraments – Baptism and Holy Communion. In these sacred moments, God's presence is celebrated and acknowledged through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit the person/people are forgiven and renewed.

Some church traditions don't baptise babies or infants as Baptism can be viewed as a declaration of one's faith and commitment to Christ (a believer's Baptism). Since an infant has no choice or cannot make such a declaration some denominations believe Baptism should be left until they are an adult to decide and respond. The Uniting Church believes in infant baptism because we understand Baptism to be initially about the love relationship God has with the child. 1 John 4:19 "We love because God loves us first." From the parent/s request, the child enters the covenant relationship of love and grace with God. The first part of a Baptism liturgy focuses on the relationship between God and humanity and God and the child. The second part moves into how the family, Godparents and the Church will support this child in their faith growth so that later in life they can confirm their baptism and declare publicly their commitment to loving and serving Christ (called Confirmation). Simply put, The Uniting Church views Baptism as a means of grace to grow into the likeness of God.

For those who are baptised, may this encourage you and remind you to live out your baptism in worship, witness and service. For those who are not baptised and would like to know more, please contact me and we can chat further.

**Rev Catherine Solomon**



**Our next combined Men's Breakfast will be at Elanora Uniting Church, in the Robinson Hall, at 7.30am on Saturday 16th November. Our speaker will be Andrew Solomon, and his subject will be his recent trip to India as part of the Dostana Group.**

**Cost will be \$5.00 per head. A cooked breakfast will be provided.**

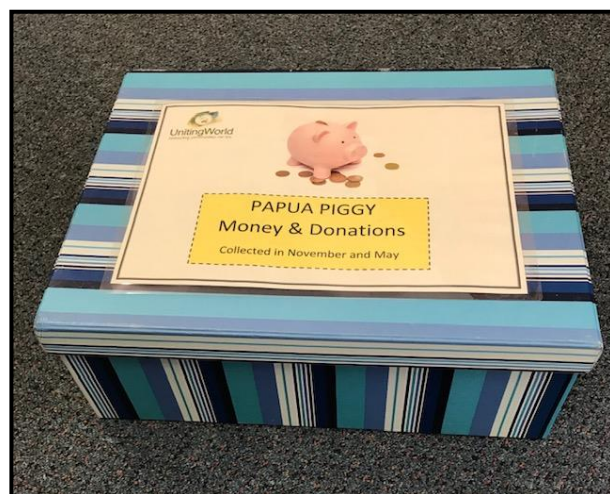
**Please let Kingsley know you will be attending – 5598 3821  
Invite a friend.**



**Are you NEW or VISITING? Make sure you have a copy of 'ELANORA UNITING CHURCH At-A-Glance'. It will give you a good snapshot of our church life.**

**Ask at the door or take a copy from the noticeboard.**

**If you have a PAPUA PIGGY money box, there's no need to bring it to church (unless you don't want it any more). Please empty it and leave the money in the box at the church door. Ziplock bags are available for your use. Please return any Sunday in November. One-off donations are very welcome!**



**Average Attendance  
Elanora 9am Service  
October 2019  
Adults: 77  
Children: 2**

**THE RECOVERY COURSE**, developed in the UK, is open to anyone struggling with any sort of addiction or compulsive behaviour - drugs, alcohol, food, pornography, shopping, gambling, self-harming, etc.

You might be ready to embark on a journey of recovery or you might have been in recovery for years.

Everyone is welcome to find out more at the

**INFORMATION NIGHT – Wednesday 27 November at 7pm.**

This course uses the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as they were originally intended, with Christ at the centre.

[www.therecoverycourse.com](http://www.therecoverycourse.com)

More information: Damien Kinnear 0401 313 258

[kinneark@bigpond.net.au](mailto:kinneark@bigpond.net.au)

- **May we as a church be useful to you, Lord.**
- **May we be a community where people find kindness, faith, love and peace.**
- **May we bring the good news of Jesus to all those around, transforming society & changing our world in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**Nicky Gumbel,  
Holy Trinity Brompton, London**

<b>Contact Books</b>	If you would like a Contact Book for your personal use, please complete the order form. Books are \$3
<b>Name Badges</b>	If you would like a Name Badge, there is also an order form for that. Badge with pin \$7, with magnet \$10
<b>Church Database</b>	If you are not on our database, please collect a form today. Have any of your personal details changed, e.g. a new phone number or email address? Please advise the office in writing.

**Our Church Diary**



**Contact Details**

<p><b>MONDAY 4/11</b>  Cooinda open, 9-1;  Meditation, Currumbin Valley 9;  Adult Fellowship 9:30 for 10;  Bible Study 1:30 Roach home</p>
<p><b>TUESDAY 5/11</b>  Carpenter's Workshop 8-12;  Cooinda 9-1;  *Discipleship Team Meeting 3:00</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY 6/11</b>  Cooinda 9-1;  Carpenter's Workshop 8-12;  Leisuretime 9-12</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY 7/11</b>  Prayer Group 8:30;  Cooinda 9-11;  Ladies Card Group 10:00</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY 8/11</b>  Cooinda 9-1;  Carpenter's Workshop 8-12</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY 9/11</b></p>
<p><b>SUNDAY 10/11</b>  Worship at Elanora, 9:00</p>

17a Applecross Way, Elanora 4221  
Email: [church@elanorauniting.com.au](mailto:church@elanorauniting.com.au)  
Website: [www.elanorauniting.com.au](http://www.elanorauniting.com.au)  
Phone: 5534 5817 (9-12 weekdays)

Rev Catherine Solomon  
[minister@elanorauniting.com.au](mailto:minister@elanorauniting.com.au)  
Mobile: 0438 557 677  
Please ring for an appointment.

\*The Discipleship Team will meet at the church on Tuesday 5th November at 3pm. Anyone interested in helping to select Advent studies or encouraging discipleship is very welcome to attend.  
Contact Rhonda Coleman



We have two Facebook Pages:  
'Elanora Uniting Church'  
& 'Currumbin Valley  
Community Church'

## A message from our Treasurer, Mervyn Head

We are installing a 16.17 KW Solar System for the church complex at a total cost of \$8,759 after government rebates and GST. The cost is to be shared equally with The Carpenter's Workshop. A couple of people from our congregation have offered donations to cover the congregation's share of the cost. The system will comprise 49 solar panels which will be installed on the roof of the Robinson hall. It is estimated that the system will save in excess of 50% of the church's annual electricity costs.

Church Council was made aware of some structural issues with a patio slab and retaining wall at the manse last year and decided to have this investigated further.

We now need to urgently attend to this problem as the concrete slab has moved and allows water to enter the house. An engineer's report was commissioned and his estimate is that the cost will be at least \$13,000; we are awaiting quotes from a couple of firms. After this work is done we know we will have to resurface the road leading up to the manse. This is not a priority for Catherine or Andrew. However we do not want anyone hurt by tripping on this road. Council has been looking at how to fund this work for almost two years. We believe that the total cost of all this work will be close to \$25,000, spreading the work out over time as funds become available.

Once Council has firm quotes, we will be requesting donations from the congregation to help with the cost of this work. If you wish to donate to this or other projects, such as youth ministry, you can do so at any time by using one of our new offering envelopes and marking it as a special gift for whichever purpose you wish it used, or alternatively you can deposit funds directly into the church bank account; details for this are shown on the new offering envelopes.

### Elanora Uniting Church

Please place your offering in this envelope

To make your offering regularly by direct debit, these are the bank details:

BANK: St George  
A/C UCA Southern Gold Coast  
BSB: 344 040  
A/C No: 553861206



"A Caring Community with Christ"

Envelopes are available on Sunday  
or from the office.  
Take a box or a few.

## **A message from our Church Council Chair, Rhonda Coleman**

- ❖ A Church council meeting was held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, and we welcomed Shirley Lord, Alan French and Mervyn Head.
- ❖ Council is planning a one-day retreat on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.
- ❖ Christmas program planning is underway – we will encourage people from Elanora to attend the Christmas Eve Carol service at Currumbin Valley. Elanora primary school is not available this year for a combined carol service.
- ❖ We finalised a Dog Policy which explains how dogs need to be well controlled on the premises to ensure the safety of everyone. A copy is on display in the office.
- ❖ The Recovery Course, a program for people with addictions, is planned for early next year.
- ❖ A calendar of events for 2020 will be compiled. Please advise details of any planned events to the church office in writing.
- ❖ We discussed the lack of regular live music and expressed our appreciation of Catherine's abilities; we thank her for jumping in to play in addition to organising and leading worship. She and Pam Ganderton have worked hard to arrange live music for most of the rest of the year.
- ❖ Youth worker - we are already talking to other people working with youth in the area and are planning to hold a stakeholders meeting to better understand the needs of the youth in our area. We are also looking at the possibility of having a well-known youth ministry team taking a special service here in 2020.
- ❖ Currumbin Valley News: the Meditation group on Monday mornings has commenced, a youth Alpha group is well underway, and some of the chairs in the church need to be reupholstered.

### **Any questions for Church Council? Ask one of these people:**

**Rev Catherine Solomon, Rhonda Coleman (Chair), Mervyn Head (Treasurer), Liz Mahon (Secretary), Lorraine McRae, Michele Lake, Victoria Kirk-Lamburd, Pam Ganderton, Greg Malimonenko, Shirley Lord, Alan French (Currumbin Valley). Next meeting: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.**