



WEEKLY NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
DAPTO ANGLICAN CHURCH

LOST AND FOUND

REV. DAVID RIETVELD

Jesus tells three stories about things being lost and found – a lost sheep, coin, and a son. Why three stories? What do the second and third stories add, that is not said in the first?

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In the first, Jesus talks about the shepherd who “loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?” (Luke 15:4). The sheep does not get lost, nor does it find its way back.

In the third parable, it’s the opposite. The younger son intentionally chooses to disown and walk away from his father. Furthermore, the son “came to his senses... got up and went to his father.” (Luke 15:17,20)

The middle parable is about a lost coin. As opposed to sons and sheep, coins are inert. They cannot lose or find themselves – they do not even know they are lost.

Put these three parables together, and you get this – in some ways, we can find ourselves; but in other ways, we are unaware we are lost, and God finds us. We are found by God rather than find him. Here are two opposites we need to live inside the tension of – we are both seeking to find God, and we are found by him.

There are times in our life when we go looking for God. We think about our purpose, our calling, and what he might have us do as his children in our next step. But there are other times when God finds us. We are happily doing our thing, and he crashes into our world and inserts himself into the equation. I call this ‘disruption’.

Are you spiritually curious and looking out for occasions where God finds you, even when you are not looking for him? Are you looking for how God is finding others around you, whether they follow him or not? Are you a good advocate at those times?

Fundraising for our Fence

\$6,500 needed for the fence
\$1,000 needed for signage



To better utilise our forecourt and keep our children safe we are planning on installing a 1.2m fence at the front of our Ministry Centre. If you would like to contribute towards the fence you can:

- Transfer money to **Dapto Anglican Church**
BSB: 032686
Account Number: 120002
References: "Fence"
- Place an envelope of cash with 'Fence' written on it.
- Visit the office Monday to Thursday and donate via eftpos.

With a grateful heart!

I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for the hard work and dedication during the recent working and cleaning bee at the church. Your efforts have made a significant difference, and the church looks absolutely amazing. It was truly inspiring to see so many people come together and work towards a common goal. Your willingness to give up your time and energy to help is deeply appreciated. Thank you again for all your help and support.

We need to put another 1 or 2 coats of paint on the op shop donation bins. If you can help, please let the office know.

Christine Lane



Mowing Roster

We currently have 2 teams for the mowing roster, but as we head into summer it would be great to have 4 teams. We need a few more volunteers to fill some spots. If we can get 4 or 5 teams, each team would only need to mow the lawns once a month in Summer. Contact Christine Lane if you can help out. We need people who can whipper snipper, use push lawn mowers and ride on lawn mowers.



Letter Box Drop

We have ordered in some Christmas Experience flyers for those who would like to drop to their neighbourhood. If you would like some, please contact the office;
E: office@daptoanglican.org.au
P: 4261 1001



6pm Day Retreat

Saturday 25th November

11:00am Meet at Minamurra Inlet
Bring Tents, Umbrellas, Sports,
Picnic Rugs, Inflatable Rafts etc
BYO Food or get food at local shops.

4:00pm Head home for showers and refuel

6:00pm Dinner in the Foyer, Ministry Centre

6:30pm Session

7:30pm Dessert

8:00pm Head Home



\$20 per person
Rego NOW

EMPTY NESTERS Christmas Dinner

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER
FROM 6PM

AT PASSIONATE PALATE
1 STANTHORPE DRIVE, KANAHOOKA

\$40 PER PERSON
2 COURSE MEAL WITH TEA AND COFFEE
BAR OPEN TO PURCHASE DRINKS

BOOK ONLINE
FULL PAYMENT REQUIRED

CONTACT HEATHER
0408 612 878



Brightening Christmas for Children in need

This Christmas help St Luke's Preschool and Dapto Anglican Church give a special gift to those children who miss out on Christmas. Getting alongside Anglicare, the Preschool has set up a Christmas Tree in the Foyer. We are inviting families to bring a NEW unwrapped toy to place under the tree. These gifts will be used to bless our broader community.

If you would like to contribute bring in your gift by **Friday 8th of December.**



Safe Ministry

Dapto Anglican Church is committed to Safe Ministry Practices. If you have a question or concern, we are here to help.

Please contact:

- Julie Houghton, Parish Safe Ministry Representative, by confidential email safeministry@daptoanglican.org.au or through our church office on 42611001
- Anglican Abuse Report line on 1800 774945



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

We praise you, Lord Christ, that in your infinite love you came to save us from our sins and to bring us to God.

We praise you that you come to us now in the power of your Spirit to strengthen us for service and to abide with us all our days.

Help us to remember that you will come again in your majesty

to be our judge, that we may dedicate our lives to the furtherance of your kingdom.

We ask it for the honour and glory of your name,

Amen.

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

EXPECTANT PARENTS

Tara and Nathan O; Lisa and Matt G.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for Ivy E (8am) who is in St. George, Sutherland, hospital for an operation.

VILLAGES/NURSING HOMES

Please continue to pray for our people in Residential Care Homes: Jean W, Kath H, Phyllis D, Audrey & Alan R, Gae & Allen Q, Elsie N, Barbara L, Pamela B, Gordon M Beth W, Betty B (Piper House, Dapto); Robyn K (Digger's Rest, Corrimal); Helen S (Marco Polo, Unanderra); Ella H, Trevor W (Warrigal Care, A.P.); Wendye C (Farmborough Uniting, Unanderra); Cheryl T (Hammond Care, Horsley); Graham S (The Links, Wollongong).

8AM / WED 2PM

Please pray for Ray G who has been to hospital following a fall, and is now home and recovering; Please continue to pray for Jim B, Phil W and Wal S.

10AM

Please continue to pray for good recovery for Michael V; and also for Andrew W and Phillip P who have health issues.

CAFE CHURCH/CREATIVE CONNECTION

Keep praying for Lynne N's brother, Stephen, that his Targeted Chemo works on his Melanoma. Also keep praying for Lynne N as she goes through the protocols for her new medication for her Crohns and that the Squamous Cell treatment on her ear works well.