

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEAD PASTOR

Hi Church,

This week we start a new 3-week series called 'Uncomfortable: The awkward and essential challenge of Christian community'.

Australian culture is a culture of comfort. It's being sold to us everywhere we look. We're encouraged to do what we want, when we want, with whomever we want. If something is uncomfortable, we want to avoid it at all costs.

The Christian faith, though, is just that: uncomfortable.

This week we are going to see how being part of a church community is full of discomfort and awkwardness, but God uses these challenges to help us know him better.

Then, rather than attempting to find our dream church (which doesn't exist!) we are going to see how we can embrace the uncomfortable and difficult parts of the Christian life in order to grow and experience true gospel community with one another.



Uncomfortable (Part 1)
Embrace the Discomfort

Bible Readings: 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9; John
12:25

Let's be 'uncomfortable' together.

Pastor Ben

Ipswich Lutheran Church

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Mon : 11am-3pm Tue-Thu: 9am-3pm Fri: 9am-2pm

| Upcoming Dates

Day	Date	Location	Description
Sun	19/01	All locations	Uncomfortable (Part 2)
Sun	19/01	Grace	Extraordinary Parish Meeting @ 2.00pm
Sun	19/01	Scholl's Home	Senior Youth Pool Party @ 12:00pm-4:00pm
Wed	29/01	Bethany	Mid-week Holy Communion Service @ 9.30am

| Today

Thankyou to Karen Clohessy & Gavin Sephton for leading at St Johns Worship Centre.

| Happenings & Notices

Office Christmas Hours Normal Hours at the church office will resume from Monday, 13 January.

Extraordinary Parish Meeting Please join us at Grace Worship Centre on Sunday 19th January at 2pm for an important Parish meeting about the changes to our worship services that was trialled during October & November. At this meeting we will review and discuss the reasons this trial was undertaken, the benefits we were hoping to achieve, and present the extensive feedback received following the trial. We will also decide if we make this a permanent change or not. Documentation for the meeting is available at all worship centres today.

Meals on Wheels Thank you to all those who volunteered to help with Meals on Wheels over Christmas/New Year. Your help and service was much appreciated!

Spirited What a blessing it was having Peter Steicke share with us recently! If you would like to purchase a copy of Peter Steicke's book Spirited, you can get a copy by contacting Martin Oldfield on 0418 786 149. For more about Peter's publications, visit incrediblyloved.com.

New Small Group There is a new small group starting up in Brassall in the new year with Anne Scholl. Please contact Anne on 0438 879 416 if interested.



HELLO SUMMER POOL PARTY

Sun, 19 Jan, 12-4pm

Hello Summer Senior Youth Pool Party is being held Sun, Jan 19, 12-4pm at Scholl's House, Brassall. Come along for a day of fun and food to kick off Term 1 Senior Youth! Bring your togs, sunscreen, towels and a \$5 donation for BBQ per child, or \$10 for a family. For more information or the exact address, email senioryouth@ipswich.church.

Save the Date | Exponential Conference is being held 9 May, 2020. Author and Speaker Ed Stetzer holds the Billy Graham Chair of Church, Mission and Evangelism at Wheaton College and has planted, revitalised and pastored churches and will be sharing his insights on how we can make an exponential kingdom impact here in Australia.

Connect Groups (Small Groups): A new church wide study is coming your way this February. As we continue to get to know God and learn how to make Him known through our Connect Groups we join together in a church wide study. Over the next few months we will make use of an LCA New and Renewing Churches resource that will help us to continue to grow in love towards one another and as a community that share that love and good news with others who are not a part of God's community yet.

Ladies Morning Coffee starting again on Thursday 16th January 10am -11:30 am at 16 Chanel Court Walkuraha 4305 (Agnes Farmer and Ermgard Bergman residence) Coming from Ipswich after the Brassall bridge take the first road left onto Sydney St then after the dip in the road take the first St left then the first St right onto Chanel St. For more info contact Val Lucas on 0428677579.

Prayer

Prayer Points

- for those baptised over the past year, that they may follow Christ.
- for justice among the nations.
- for those experiencing loss due to the fires across Australia.
- for those experiencing drought, and that funds raised through our church will bless them and show them the love of Christ.



Small Groups

If you would like to connect more with others and learn more about the God's word, why not join a small group! The journey of discipleship was never meant to be taken alone. Let's continue to journey in faith 'Better Together'!

When	Location	Contact Person	Description
Tue , 2nd & 4th of the month @ 6pm	Flinders View	Jenny Schiller 0439 958 633	All ages.
Mon , Fortnightly during term @ 7pm	Flinders View	Leanne Kreis 0438 280 861	Women's Group, all ages!
Mon , Weekly @ 10am	Raceview	Nicole Hartfiel 0407 574 280	Women's Group, ages 25-45.
Tue , 1st & 3rd of the month @ 1.30pm	Raceview	Janice Boardman 07 3281 1017	All ages. *Nearly full capacity*
Tue , 1st & 3rd of the month @ 2pm	34 Roderick St, Ipswich	Vicki Park 07 3202 4035	All ages.
Tue , fortnightly @ 7pm	Ipswich	Harry Fritsch 0468 540 272	Young Adults (BYO snacks/food)
Thu , weekly @ 2pm	Grace	John Kathage 0438 729 702	All ages.
Sat , 2nd & 4th of the month @ 8.30am	Karalee	Janelle Podlich 0402 058 974	All ages.

Want to know more about Jesus? Head our website: www.ipswich.church or alternatively, speak to one of our pastors. We would love to hear from you and help you if you want to continue in your faith walk, learning more about our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Guests - We trust that you have drawn closer to God in worship today. Our church is blessed by your presence today. Please stay and enjoy a 'cuppa' with us after worship and make yourself known to us. We'd love to answer any queries you may have, and be able to bless you with a special welcome pack & gift – just for you!

Help us to care - If you know of someone who has fallen ill or who is suffering in any way, please let the Pastoral Care Coordinator or one of the Pastors know by contacting the parish office so that appropriate care and follow up can occur.

Looking for Christian Education? - We are blessed to be able to partner with Bethany Lutheran Kindergarten (86 Raceview Street, Raceview, Ph: 3294 0024 | www.qlecs.org.au) and Bethany Lutheran Primary School (126 Cascade Street, Raceview, Ph: 3288 8799 |