

	Epiphany 5 4 Feb 2024	Transfiguration of Jesus 11 Feb 2024
Preacher	Myung Hwa Park HC	Ian Pearson
Organist	Margaret Neville	Lyn Phillips
Bible Readers	Elizabeth Gillespie Peter Whalan	Merril Hillis Stephen White
Vestry Elder	Kerry Jordan (V&HC) Mel Macarthur (Assist)	Dennis Christie
Welcomer	Kate Prowse	Bob Hendy
Steward	Dennis Christie	Stephen White
Prayers of the People	Laurel Barr	Stephen White
Flowers	Annie Cox	Denise Cameron
Morning Tea	Peggy Goldsmith Anne Lawrence	Lorraine White

## Rosters

	Epiphany 5 4 Feb 2024	Transfiguration 11 Feb 2024
<b>Bible readings</b>	Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9

### Sunday

Morning Worship (& Zoom) 9.30am

**Taize Services** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 5pm

Contact Carolyn 0413 993 368

**Twilight Services**

4th Sunday at 5pm

### Monday

**Playtime** 10am – 12 noon during school term.

Contact Denise 0427 784877

**Book Club- 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 2.30pm** Contact Delma 0407 140 837

**Retreats** - .Contact Carolyn 0413 993 368

**Leura Forest Holy Communion** Contact: revmel@bigpond.com

### Friday

**Meditation/Prayer** 11.30am-12

Contact John Connor 47841819

**Open Table**

Tuesday lunch

Thursday breakfast

**Junction 142 Katoomba**

Contact John Cox 0408 993007

## Activities

## Online giving

For those who wish to contribute via Bank Transfer, the details are: Leura Uniting Church – General Account  
BSB 634 634 A/c No. 100031809

**Website:** <https://leura.unitingchurch.org.au>

**Facebook:** <https://facebook.com/LeuraUnitingChurch>

**Bulletin Editors** Peter & Robyn tel: 0497 674213

Email: currawong2785@gmail.com **Bulletin Deadline Wednesday 8pm**

# Leura Uniting Church



## EPIPHANY

*Welcome!*

A very warm welcome to everyone joining us today, especially any visitors and those joining us on Zoom. It's good to be worshipping together here. We hope you will join us for Morning Tea and a chat after the service! If you are on Zoom, if you are able to, please stay on the line for a chat after the service.

### Epiphany 5 4 February 2024 - Walking and not fainting—Isaiah 40:21-31

*but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint. Is: 40.31*

We are all captive to AGE and the ageing process. I can no longer do what I used to do.. But our present age and culture values faster bigger higher.

When I studied biblical languages, I learned triplets in Hebrew poetry, like the one at the end of Is 40, grew in emphasis from the first to the third. In other words, the last line is more important than the middle, and the middle, more important than the first. In this case, it seems counterintuitive.

If the writer were writing today, we would expect, “They shall walk and not faint, they shall run and not be weary, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.” Flying like an eagle should be the pinnacle moment of this poem, not walking without falling down.

What I love in this poem is, no matter how much we long to soar like an eagle, all we can do is barely manage to put one foot in front of the other, over and over and over again. This is the pinnacle. That the very best thing is simply to be able to walk, in faith and with strength, because God accompanies us. Waiting on the Lord is discovering God's presence in the walking and not fainting.

*Early in the morning while it was dark Jesus went out to pray. Mark: 1.35.*

*John Cox*



**February**

Fri 9—Christian meditation/prayer  
11.30am

Mon 12—Pastoral Care Elders 2.30pm

Mon 12—Church Council 7pm

Wed 14—Ash Wednesday service 7pm

Thurs 15—Junction 142 Board 7pm

Sun 18—Taize service 5pm

Sun 25—Twilight service 5pm

**For our thoughts and prayers.** We pray for all students, parents & teachers as they embark on a new school year. We pray for Betty Allen and Iris Swan, recently deceased, and for their families. We pray for those who are sick, in pain, grieving, lonely. We pray for Richard Morphew, recovering from back surgery (Richard is recovering quite well in St Vincent’s Hospital and will be in their Rehab Unit until later next week).



*Congratulations!*

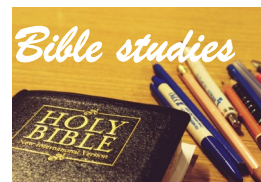
**Congratulations to everyone who received honours on Australia Day**, including **Joy Connor** who was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community through social welfare organisations. Congratulations Joy!

**Pastoral Care Elders** will be meeting on **Monday 12th February at 2.30pm** in the Church Hall. Are you interested at all in serving with the Church in the provision of pastoral care? Have a word with Myung Hwa Park, if you would like to make an inquiry about joining our church’s pastoral care team.



**Weekly meditation/prayer**—the Christian meditation or contemplative prayer time will recommence in the Church this **Friday 9th February from 11.30am to 12 noon**. Please note the change to Fridays. For details contact John Connor 4784 1819.

- Minister**  
Myung Hwa Park 0400191880
- Congregation Chairperson**  
John Cox 0408 993 007
- Congregation Secretary**  
Stephen White 0474 224533
- Congregation Treasurer**  
Kerry Jordan 4784 3051



**Bible Studies begin soon:** There will be two forms of study offered:

- (i) A six-week **Lenten Study Series starting the week beginning on Sunday 18th February**. More information will be provided in the next couple of weeks. Mark Hillis is surveying our members about meeting time preferences. Let him know if you want to be involved in this series (0408 412 414).
- (ii) A **'Foundations of Christian Faith'** series (details below), the dates of which will be settled and announced soon, on weeknights. Myung Hwa Park is coordinating this study, with Laurel Barr and Tim Corfield. It will run for at least 9 weeks. Let Myung Hwa know if you would like to take part or receive more information.

**Foundations of Christian Faith Study incorporating Bible & Christian Life Studies**

**First Study Starting the week of February 18**

Venue: The Manse, 223 Katoomba Street  
Time 7pm-9 pm weeknight tbc

Topic: **Belonging and Believing**

Duration: 5 weeks Facilitator: Rev. Laurel Barr



**Second Study Starting the week of April 15**

Venue: Leura Uniting Church Hall  
Time 7pm-9 pm weeknight tbc

Topic: **Christianity in the 21st Century**

Duration: 4 weeks Facilitator: Tim Corfield

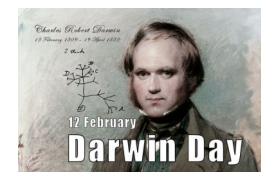


**Third Study Starting the week of May 27**

Venue: The Manse, 223 Katoomba Street  
Time 7pm-9 pm weeknight tbc

Topic: **Jesus Christ According To The Basis of Union**

Duration: 4 weeks Facilitator: Rev Myung Hwa Park



**THANK GOD FOR EVOLUTION - Sunday 11 February**

Close to Charles Darwin’s birthday, Ian Pearson is planning on celebrating wonder in Evolution during our worship next Sunday. You are invited to respond to the theme in a group conversation after morning tea.

Maybe someone in your life would also like to be invited to explore this theme with us. Feel free to ask them without embarrassment.

In any case, don't forget to bring your wonder to worship as we Thank God For Evolution. Enquiries: Ian Pearson [ihpearson@bigpond.com](mailto:ihpearson@bigpond.com)