



9 OCTOBER 2022

Welcome to worship this morning,
we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary Readings

This week 9 October, 2022

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

Next week 16 October, 2022

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5
Luke 18:1-8

Church Council News

Following the very successful BBQ and bookstall Church Council decided to round up the amount raised and we have sent \$1500 to Frontier Services to assist in their work in outback Australia. They rang this week to express their thanks for your generous support, they are very grateful.

Our Op Shop, in conjunction with our child care centre and Uniting Westmead, has sent 4 large boxes of toys and clothes to the First Steps Early Learning Centre in Lismore. The Centre was severely impacted by the flooding earlier this year and are currently meeting in a group of portable buildings. They were very grateful for our support.

Gail's Message

This Sunday we will continue to look at Love. Our focus will be 'loving our neighbours and our enemies'. During the Children's Address, the puppets and I will look at a painting called the Peaceful Kingdom. We will look at the way in which people and animals are relating and hopefully those cheeky puppets will understand that the love of God expressed in actions could, can and will look like the scene in Edward Hicks famous painting.



Edward Hicks was born in 1780 in Pennsylvania. When he was still an infant his mother died, and so he was sent to live with family friends who were Quakers. Edward is more famously known as a Quaker preacher, than a painter however in order to support his growing family he needed to supplement his meagre ministry earnings by creating decorative paintings. This caused some dissatisfaction within the Quaker community who regarded fancy art works and material objects as vain, irreligious, and worldly.

Despite this Edward continued to paint sixty-two versions of the Peaceful Kingdom based on Isaiah 11: 6-9. He felt less constrained in expressing his faith through his art than in the pulpit and many of his paintings express his belief that Christ comes to dwell within us, thus transforming each individual, person by person until Isaiah's vision becomes a reality. His frustrations in not seeing humans learn to love one another can be seen in his later works in which the animals look tired, strained, and ill at ease. Like Edward Hicks, we live in the in-between time, the "already, and not yet" tension of Christ's Kingdom. Person by person, changed and transformed by God's love let's continue to pursue the peaceful kingdom setting our eyes towards the goal of peace on earth.