



Geebung Wavell Heights Uniting Church

30th March 2025

Our Mission Statement

*"Sharing the love of Jesus together
in welcoming all people into the
fellowship of the church as well as
ministering to the community"*

Scar

Excerpted with permission from *Anne Neilson's Angels* by Anne Neilson, copyright Anne Neilson Fine Art LLC.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. — Psalm 147:3

We were well into a three-year process of building a new home for our family in the early 2000s — a process that challenged me and caused me to draw near to God in a new way. After crossing hurdles regarding whether to build or not, with drawing and pricing the plans, and with laying the foundation, we were eager to begin framing the house.

We continued seeking God's will in the process, and we pressed forward with construction. I was overjoyed to see the framing begin to shape our future home. Much to my dismay, when I visited our rapidly rising home, I found not-so-clean two-by-sixes and wood covered in knots — ugly wood that I argued surely couldn't build the strong house in which we were going to reside. I brought up my concerns with our builder. He simply told me, "Anne, the more knots there are in the timber, the stronger the wood is."

Along this process of building our home, and anytime I sought control or began to give in to my doubt, the Lord would nudge me and say, "Come back to Me." I couldn't have heard the words He spoke to my heart more deeply in response to my builder's explanation. "The more knots are in our lives, the stronger we are."

I was reminded of every trial, every battle, and every victory that was a mark on my heart, creating a knot and strengthening my spirit. I was encouraged that the knotty beams holding our house upright were similar to the scars that Jesus used to mark me and hold my life upright.

Once I embraced the marred timber, we claimed it in the Lord's name, inscribing scripture on the framing. I was deeply moved when, as a final step to seal the inner framework of our home, our construction crew came in and covered the wood with white drywall, covering the marks with a clean slate, exactly the way Jesus covered my knots by hanging on the Cross. His blood that was shed was shed for me — all my knots, my sins, my scars. His covering was His righteousness, and what a beautiful picture is that!

The word *scar* isn't typically associated with something positive. However, I see things differently now, and I've come to value those places in my own life that show up as scars. How can you see some of your own scars as symbols of strength or victory?

Dear God, I know that You have allowed me to walk through fire for Your purpose. Help me not to hide my scars from those battles, but instead wear them with confidence so that all who see me will see Your glory and the victory You promised me.

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For your Diary

For your attention

Weekly Activities -

- Tuesday** Indoor Bowls 1:30pm @ Wavell
- Sunday** Worship Service 9am
See below for locations

Special Events & Services — March

- Sunday March 30th Today**
Combined 9am Service
@ Wavell with AGM to follow

Special Events & Services — April

- Sunday April 6th** Combined 9am Service
@ Geebung
- Sunday April 13th** Combined 9am Service
@ Wavell
- Thursday April 17th Maundy Thursday 6:30pm**
@ Wavell
- Friday April 18th Good Friday 8:00am**
@ Geebung
- Sunday April 20th Easter Sunday**
Combined 9am Service @ Geebung

- Sunday April 27th** Combined 9am Service
@ Wavell

Special Events & Services — May

- Sunday May 4th** Combined 9am Service
@ Geebung (Subject to change)
- Sunday May 11th** Combined 9am Service
@ Wavell Mother's Day
- Sunday May 18th** Combined 9am Service
@ Geebung



Today @ WAVELL Church after the 9am Service.

There are a few printed reports available from the foyer table.

Sincere apologies to Marj McKenzie who provided a Financial Report for Adult Fellowship in mid February which Debbie left out of the printed copy of the report.

Please take an insert to add to page 16 of the printed report.

All the best as you Praise God together for all he has done in 2024.

A Possibility at Geebung

There is a Possibility the Geebung Church Hall will be chosen as a venue for the Federal Election Early Polling.

With Election Day being called for May 3rd, Early Polling Centres could possibly opening from Easter Monday 21st April.

This may mean we are unable to use the Geebung Premises over Easter due to Polling set up. We'll keep you posted.

The People Who Need Our Prayers

Ann Bain

Maree Massey

Dell Merchant

Graham Power

Bert Wilton

Edna Street

Norma Jenkins

Lian Tan

Margaret Ferris

Marj & Bruce McKenzie

Sylvia Marson

Len Ferris

Malcolm & Judy McMillian

Beris Urquhart

Nev Bryans



By Rev Paul Clark

(From Uniting Church News Tuesday March 25th)

I was a good kid growing up.

I had heard the stories of Jesus and prided myself on being someone who looked out for the outcast, the forgotten, and who followed the rules.

So, I'm pretty ashamed of this story.

In year 6 a new girl arrived at our school. She happened to have a big nose. For some reason everyone in my grade started to tease her. It probably wasn't *everyone*, but enough that somehow, I was drawn into this. I'm not sure why, but it seems that in that moment, I gave up good sense for a chance to be a part of the in-crowd, who were feeling big by making someone feel small.

I knew it was wrong, but it was just fun, wasn't it? It wasn't long before we heard that this girl wasn't coming back to school. We had made her life so miserable that she had to move to another school. I lived in Tenant Creek. A new school meant leaving town.

It suddenly hit me. I did that to her! I chased her from town. How would I like that to be done to me? I suddenly saw the hatred and venom in my heart, and it made me sick. I wanted to find this girl and say I was sorry. I wanted to hold her so she would know someone loved her. I was the good kid! I was the kid who knew enough about God to know that Jesus was the friend of the outcast, not the cause of their outcast. I cried and wished and prayed I could turn back time.

But she was gone.

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The only thing I could do was plead for God's forgiveness, but I had a dilemma. How could God forgive me, when this girl deserved justice? This girl deserved to see someone squirm and suffer for all that she had gone through. If God forgave me, she would never see justice done.

That's when I realised, someone did suffer; Jesus. Jesus could forgive me, because he had suffered and squirmed and been called names for all the pain I had caused. Justice could be done and be seen to be done, with forgiveness also given.

This realisation undid me. My sins were real, but so was God's forgiveness. The Easter story wasn't simply a fairy tale from the past, but a story about my future.

"In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting our trespasses against us." 2 Corinthians 5:19

Questions for reflection:

Imagine being the young man in the story of the prodigal son, who walked away from his Dad, and then was welcomed back. How would you feel?

Have you ever felt terrible because of how you treated someone? What did you do?

Has someone ever forgiven you for something, when they really didn't need to? How was that?

Verse of the week:

And Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." John 6:35 (NKJV)

March 30

Lent 4

Jos 5: 9-12

Ps 32

2 Cor 5: 16-21

Lk 15: 1-3, 11b-32

April 6

Lent 5

Is 43: 16-21

Ps 126

Phil 3:4b-14

Jn 12: 1-8

April 13

Palm Sunday

Is 50: 4-9a

Ps 18: 1-2, 19-29

Phil 2: 5-11

Lk 19: 28-40

April 20

Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43

Ps 118: 1-2, 14-24

1 Cor 15: 19-26

Jn 20: 1-18

GEEBUNG

Alternating

59 Simla Ave

Sunday Worship 9.00am

Holy Communion 1st Sun.



Visit us at:

Geebung Uniting Church

WAVELL HEIGHTS

Alternating

147 Rode Road

Sunday Worship 9.00am

Holy Communion 1st Sun.



Visit us at:

Wavell Heights Uniting Church

G/W CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson—

Secretary—

CHURCH OFFICE

147 Rode Rd

Wavell Heights 4012

Ph 07 3266 9211

Normal Office Hours

Thurs 9am—3pm

Friday 9am—1pm