



Church Profile

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Mission Statement

We exist:

- To honour and glorify God our heavenly Father.
- To serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To make disciples and encourage them towards spiritual maturity by obedience to the Word of God and discovery and use of their Spiritual Gifts.
- To impact our community and the world with the message of Christ.



What We Believe

The Nature and Unity of the Godhead

There is one God Who is eternal personal Spirit. He is infinite in power, wisdom, holiness and love. God is Triune in essential being and revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Deity and Humanity of Christ

Jesus Christ as the second Person of the Godhead is eternally one with God the Father of whose person and glory Jesus is the accurate expression. To become human He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, so that two whole and perfect natures, the nature of God and human nature, were united in one Person; truly God and truly human.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit as the third Person of the Trinity is eternally one with the Father and the Son yet He is sent by Them to achieve the divine purpose in the world and in the Church.

The Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures

The Scriptures, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, are the infallible Word of God. They were written by holy people of God inspired by the Holy Spirit and have supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

The Sinfulness of People

People were made in the image of God and for fellowship with God. By transgression of God's command humankind fell from fellowship with God and their nature was corrupted. As a consequence all people are spiritually dead under Satan's dominion and control and subject to God's wrath and condemnation. Therefore, apart from God's grace, people are helpless and hopeless.

Christ's Atonement for Human Sin

In order to redeem people from the guilt, penalty and power of sin, Jesus Christ became human and died a sacrificial death as our representative substitute. By His resurrection, God's acceptance of His atoning death was demonstrated. This atonement is sufficient for the whole world, but effective only in those who received it. The sinner is justified and reconciled to God, not through any personal merit, but solely on the basis of God's gracious gift of salvation in Jesus Christ received through faith.

The Work of the Holy Spirit in Salvation

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is necessary for the acceptance of God's provision of salvation. The Holy Spirit convinces sinners of their sinfulness, leads them to personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and so brings them to spiritual birth as God's children and to fellowship in Christ. Working within the life of believers the Holy Spirit makes real the presence of Christ, witnesses to their relationship with God, leads into all truth, bestows gifts for effective service and produces graces for holy living.

The Church

The Church is the body of people whom God has separated from the world through faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. All regenerate persons are members of the universal Church of God which takes local form wherever groups of believers unite for worship, fellowship and service in accordance with scriptural principles. All believers are called to a priestly ministry in the offering of spiritual sacrifices and sent into the world to be witnesses. God calls individuals to positions of oversight and leadership or to special ministries. The Church recognises such by ordaining pastors, commissioning missionaries, appointing deacons and other leaders, following New Testament practice.

The Baptism of Believers Only by Immersion

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a public declaration of a person's faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. In accordance with New Testament Scripture it should be administered only by total immersion which symbolises the believer's identification with Christ in death, burial and resurrection, the remission of sins and the believer's dedication of himself to God to live and walk in newness of life.

The Communion

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus Christ instituted by Him to be celebrated with the elements of bread and wine by believers in Christ until the end of the age. It commemorates and declares our thanks for the Lord's substitutionary death. The celebration of the ordinance expresses our fellowship with and in the Lord Jesus Christ as members of the Body of which He is the Head.

The Return of the Lord Jesus Christ

At the end of this age, according to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in His glory to the earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom of God awaits His return.

The Resurrection of the Dead

At the end of the age, there is to be a resurrection both of the righteous and the unrighteous. After death people's bodies return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God – the righteous to be with Him and the unrighteous to be reserved for the judgment.

Rewards and Punishments in a Future State

God has appointed a day of final judgement for the world. At that time Jesus Christ will judge every person and each will receive reward or punishment according to their deeds. Those judged righteous, in their resurrected and glorified bodies, will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment.



Who Are We?

- We are located on the coastal strip 220 km south of Sydney (See photographs). The church auditorium, office complex and Men's Shed only occupies a small portion of our available land and offers the potential for further building expansion.
- Milton Ulladulla Baptist Church was established over 25 years ago (1981). We are a congregation of approximately 250 comprising members, adherents and children. The church serves a community of approximately 15 000 people, partly rural but increasingly urban. It is involved in a number of cooperative programs with other local churches.
- All ages are well represented except those between 19 and 25 years, who appear to leave for employment and educational opportunities. Single parents, unemployed young people and low-income families are under-represented compared to the wider community.
- People from the church come from a variety of denominational and employment backgrounds. Many have business, managerial or professional skills, or are self-employed. Many retired people with previous Christian experience have come to the church. "Empty-nesters" and young families are the predominant groups in the congregation.
- Changes are desirable in the church management structures because of need to accommodate growth requiring delegation, support for the increasing number of ministries, and the three Sunday worship services.
- There is a need to:
 - Discuss issues as a whole church to discover God's direction for our church.
 - Consider the need for ministries involving the whole church, preserving unity.
 - Identify, tutor and mentor people for future leadership, especially younger people.
 - Reach other socio-economic groups, especially the unemployed.
 - Continue our support for youth activities (the age when most people are saved).



Our Story...

- Established in 1981 with 7-8 members, meeting in member's homes.
- During the early years the church was led by John Buckle (visiting), Geoff and Gladys Chissell (interim), Terry and Lyn Keen, and David and Jenny Griffin.

Senior Pastors

- John and Julie Reading pastored the church from 1990-2004. During their time here growth accelerated to 350 regular worshippers.
- Following John's ministry, Bill Taplin, with his wife Carol served as an interim Pastor for 18 months.
- Rob Tanner, with wife Sue, was called to full time ministry in 2005, serving as Pastor until June 2011.
- Incumbent Senior Pastor, Doug Knight commenced the role in April 2012 with his wife Suanne.

Associate Pastors

- In 2000 the Church saw need for a Youth Pastor, and Nathan Reid, with his wife Cath were called to that role.
- Following Nathan's departure in 2003, Mark and Tracy Medhurst were called in 2004 and served till 2006.
- Incumbent Associate Pastor, Justin Ratcliffe, took up the role in February 2007 with his wife Danielle, and served four years before taking leave to complete his studies in February 2011. Having completed his studies Justin returned to the Pastorate in February 2012.



Current Church Ministries

- **Children**

- Busy Bees (3-5)
- Kid's Church (K-6)
- Kid's Alive (K-6)
- Play Group (0-5)

- **Seniors**

- Prime Timers
- A choice of Services

- **Bible Studies**

- Over fifteen groups
- Most in members homes
- Everyday of the week
- Over 50% are in a group

- **Fellowship**

- Ladies Fellowship
- Prayer meetings
- Bi-Annual Church Camp
- Men's Breakfast
- Women's Breakfast
- Carpet Bowl

- **Youth**

- MAD Youth
- Connect Bible Study
- Sunday Night Worship Service
- Sunday Night Outreach Youth

- **Music**

- Choir
- Band
- Youth Band

- **Missions**

- Over ten missionary families
- Annual Youth Mission Trip

- **Outreach**

- Milton Market stalls
- Sarah Claydon visitation
- Christian Surfers
- UCEF
- Hospital Chaplaincy
- Craft groups
- Quilting groups
- Ulladulla Colour
- The Men's Shed
- Play Group



Youth Specific Ministries

The ministry areas that currently exist include the following, however, these are able to change as the Youth Pastor will bring leadership and oversight into the youth ministries.

Friday Night 'MAD YOUTH'

Friday Night, 6:30PM - 8:00PM

A Friday night Youth Group with a core attendance of around 20-30 youth from ages 12-18. A rotational roster of leaders exists with generally three adult leaders present on any one night. Maintaining a consistent leadership team has been difficult.

Sunday Night Worship Service

Sunday Night, 6:30PM - 8:00PM

A contemporary worship service with a core attendance of around 25 individuals. In the past this service had attracted as many as 80+, the majority of which were youth.

Sunday Night Outreach Youth

Sunday Night, 5:30PM - end time varies

A group catering for around 9-15 youth who face obstacles or difficulties in transitioning into a mainstream church service.

Fuel Youth Bible Studies

Wednesday Afternoon, 4:00PM - 5:30PM

A Bible Study led by Ps. Justin of around twelve youth from Years 7 through 10.

Young Adults Bible Study

Monday Afternoon, 5:00PM - 6:30PM

A Bible Study led by Ps. Doug for those from Year 11 through to their early twenties.



Church Life

- The church offers, by way of direct coordination or support, ministry activities that are typical of a church of its type and size. Where the church is not directly involved in the coordination of some ministries, individuals organise and facilitate groups and activities for which the church offers varying levels of support.
- There have been ministries operating in the past that some members believe have been under-utilised or under-recognised. This may have been the result of a lack of advertising, or may simply reflect a low level of interest by the general church population.
- The style of worship is in keeping with typically less formal styles operating within the Baptist denomination. A variety of music styles forms an integral part of worship.
- Most practicable steps are taken to cater for people with a disability such as hearing or vision impairment, or limited mobility.
- Christian education caters to the general church population rather than those with special needs, and there was some comment as to the opportunities that exist to provide services to specific special needs groups in the community.
- Christian education for adults is mainly delivered via a combination of weekly bible study and during the Sunday service. Children's education is via Sunday School and Kids Alive. Youth education is enthusiastically facilitated by the "MAD" group and associated Bible studies.

- Outreach ministries include Thursday morning playgroup for parents and children. Sarah Claydon services and the Milton Markets represent regular outreach, whilst Christmas carols obviously operate seasonally. The Men's Shed provides a place for men to find company, activity and provides an opportunity to hear the gospel via talks and fellowship. There is an active pastoral care program administered by the senior pastor, and a pastoral prayer program via email network. Informal pastoral care for bereavement is provided.
- Denominational and interdenominational support are given to Global interaction, SAO, BWAA, World Vision, UCEF and various missionaries.
- Decision making in the church is moving towards delegation of responsibility, however major decisions are via majority rule as per the constitution. Elders, Deacons and other leaders have responsibility to make certain decisions. Decisions are communicated via various forms of formal and informal media. The Senior Pastor and Elders have spiritual oversight of the church.
- The church building provides some space for social events, is generally comfortable, and provides amenities that accommodate people with some level of disability. The facilities are available for the use of other organisations. Off-street parking is available, although some of this is unsealed and may present problems in wet weather. There is a significant level of debt associated with the church building. There is no manse, however rental assistance is provided as part of ministerial stipend.