

North Lake Macquarie Uniting Congregation

Office: 342 Hillsborough Road, Warners Bay NSW 2282, Ph: (02) 4956-5544

E-Mail: nlmu@bigpond.net.au;

Website: nlmunitingchurch.com

Postal Address: P.O. Box 352, Warners Bay, 2282.

Minister: Rev. Dr. Kenneth Brown

Ph: 0422 526 269; **Email:** kennethbrown.nlmchurch@gmail.com



G'day my Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. I know we have all been worrying about each other and each other's families. In all likelihood by this stage you will either have contracted the Covid Virus, know of someone who has contracted it, but definitely will have been affected in one way or another by it.

Previously I was writing to all church members while we were in lockdown, why the letter now when not in lockdown? Well, not all of our church members have returned to Sunday morning Worship. Some have been unable to attend due to ongoing health issues, compromised immunity or the desire to stay safe. So, Church Council and myself thought a pastoral letter from the minister would be a good encouragement to all at this time.

I do want to encourage you, whether you have returned to Sunday worship or are still having to remain somewhat distant. Church Council has endeavoured to make sure the church is a safe place. We still QR Code into the building, masks are still being worn, we are not singing and neither is there morning tea as yet. So, should you wish to attend, please be assured that we are making worship as safe as possible.

I am trying to keep myself safe too. I've always been worried that if I contracted this Virus I'd pass it on. I have been in the room with the Virus, I've been in the room with others having the Virus I've had my three jabs, and I test myself often to be sure. With that said I am encouraged to only do critical visits which I appreciate for your safety, but, which is a real handicap and a great frustration.

Still, we continue to offer support to the REACH programme in their work with the homeless. Christmas saw 55 people, male and female requiring assistance. Currently my vestry is filling up once again with items such as toiletries (sunblock, toothpaste, female items, etc.), along with clothes, food, blankets and more. Many thanks to you for every item provided.

We can be hopeful that further normality will return. Despite not singing we are having some great video clips of singers: sometimes in their local church, in living rooms, songs by choirs or by individuals and many of these are being enjoyed so very much by us all. Be assured, you are not forgotten. You are, each one, loved and appreciated by your church, as we all seek to reveal the love of Jesus to each other and all.

Prayer: *Loving God, thank you for our church family I pray for them and their families. Your love unites us in one body and in one Spirit, together we will continue to share your love with our neighbour. Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Amen.*

1 John 4:18: "There is no fear in love; for perfect love casts out fear."

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you. Amen.

Kenneth.