

## Message: 'Encounter the Storms - Dance In The Rain'

with Rev David Fanning

Scriptures: Mark 4:35-41 and Philippians 4:4-8 (Good News Translation)

**"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain".**

Storms come in all shapes and sizes. There are personal storms, storms which threaten the cohesiveness of community and a nation. International storms are not only brewing, but are breaking out on most continents around the world.

Storms do not discriminate. They attack everyone no matter who they are. People of faith or no faith are not exempt. And of course that means all Christians as well. Storms, in this life, never cease. There will always be the next storm.

Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, teaches us how to dance in the rain. There are four steps to the dance:

1. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. In the Good News Bible, the meaning is expressed well - "May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord." (Phil 4:4)  
Not rejoicing in the storms, but in your relationship with the Lord - being in Christ.
2. "Show a gentle attitude towards everyone." (4.5a) In The Message, Eugene Petersen puts it this way - "Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them". Be generous towards others.
3. The Lord is near - Never forget the nearness of the Lord. (4.5b)
4. Don't worry over anything whatever, tell God every detail of your needs in earnest and thankful prayer (4:6) (J.B Phillips). We ask in a spirit of thanksgiving.

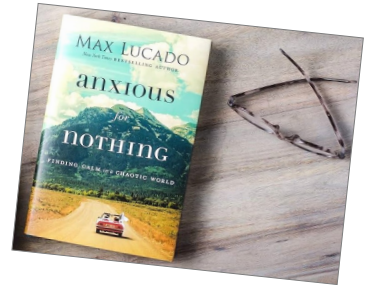


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And the outcome of the dance - The peace of God will guard your hearts and minds in (your union) with Christ. (4:7). It does not mean the storms will disappear.

P.S. My thinking on this topic has been greatly influenced by Max Lucado's book, "Anxious for Nothing - Finding Calm in a Chaotic World".

*Grace and peace  
~ David ~*



Next Sunday Rev. Dr. Peter Hall will be back with us with a message and leading us in Communion.

**Gympie Worship**

Thanks to everyone who did a great job providing us with a smooth running worship experience last week and for Naomi's stirring message. Great job Team!

### **Christmas Shoeboxes July Collections**

Next month we're collecting '**Something Special**'. Nothing too big as they'll need to fit into shoebox-size gift packs. Here are some suggestions ... soft toys, plastic animals, purse/wallet/small bags, stickers, bangles, necklaces, small puzzles, hair ribbons/clips, sunglasses.

### **Christian Music Event**

Gympie's Positive 91FIVE radio station is hosting this event at Nelson Reserve this **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July** from **5pm** - and it's **FREE!**

'The Afters' (currently visiting Australia) will be performing along with local Christian bands. There'll be coffee/tea available at the venue and the Gympie Friday Night markets will be operating from nearby Reef Street where you can buy from the food vans. So rug-up the family and have a great night out!

### **Shine Women's Gympie Conference**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August** from **9am to 3pm** at the Stan Baker Hall, 1 College Rd, Southside. The theme is 'Forever Free'. There'll be, teachings three guest speakers, a market, morning tea and lunch. The cost is \$40 ... Early Bird tickets can be purchased for \$35 until this Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July. Register at [www.shinewomen.com.au](http://www.shinewomen.com.au).

### **Next Hymn-Fest**

The next favourite hymn singing event will be held in Spring on a date to be advised. Looking forward to a lovely gathering after Winter.

- \* **Uniting 4570 Prayer Warriors** - 8am, Tuesday mornings, CE room
- \* **Joy Circle** - Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30am, CE Room

# sunshine people

even in the rain

Isn't it great to encounter a person who brightens your day?

They are happy and enthusiastic and make you feel like a special person.

I met such a person recently while doing some grocery shopping. It was early in the morning and there were very few

checkout lanes open, so I had to stand in line for a while. Once I got to the checker, I was greeted with a smile and a hardy "Good Morning!". While she scanned my items, we exchanged small talk along with a touch of 'people philosophy' mixed in. I asked her if she was this happy all of the time and she replied, "Yes, I try to be".

About that time an older gentleman walked by and said, "Good morning sunshine!". "See", she said, "Most people think I'm a happy person. They don't remember my name so they call me 'Sunshine' ". I complimented her attitude and thanked her for being so encouraging.

Wouldn't it be great if all Christian people were known as 'Sunshine People'? I think that's what Jesus was talking about in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven".

How will anyone be drawn to Christ if our demeanor is sad and dark?

This week, why don't we try to be Sunshine People? Let's show others that we're walking in the light of God's love!

- Jay Launius (Maud Church of Christ) -

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***“Live like Jesus died yesterday, rose this morning, and is coming back tomorrow.”***

— DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
(1929-1968)  
Baptist Minister and Civil Rights Leader



*Our Soul Sisters study and fellowship group is currently reading a book recommended by Orrell earlier this year titled - REJESUS - by Michael Frost and Alan Hirsch.*

*From our session this week, Judy was inspired to share this Martin Luther King Jr. quote about keeping our FOCUS ON JESUS and SEIZING THE DAY.*

**POWER IN CHOICE**

# PRAYER

**God wants to do more. Some things only happen if we pray.**

**UNITING 4570 PRAYER WARRIORS** meet in the CE Room at 8am of a Tuesday morning. This is a terrific time of fellowship, prayer and sharing in Communion together. We'd love to see you there.

**CALL TO PRAYER FOR UNITING 4570** wherever you may be, at 7.30pm on Fridays (or at a time that better suits you) ... Praying for our next ministerial appointment - someone who will share our vision and plans; for those coming to deliver messages in the meantime; and for Christine and Orrell's future journey.

*When you call me and come and pray to me, I will listen to you." Jeremiah 29:12*

**Worship**

**Worship Services...** **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)  
**Imbil:** 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

**Live-streaming...** Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

**Contact Us**

**Church Office...** M: 0493 442 250 P: (07) 5482 2985 E: [cherylie@gruc.org](mailto:cherylie@gruc.org)  
[www.gruc.org.au](http://www.gruc.org.au) F: [www.facebook.com/guchurch](http://www.facebook.com/guchurch)

**Office Hours...** Mon & Wed 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

**Pastoral Care...** Please contact the office by phone or email.

- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Glenda 0418 187 698
- Need help with your computer? ... Mike 0403 271 413
- Need a lift to church? ... Jill 0421 333 538
- Need prayer? ... call the church office 0493 442 250



**UNITING 4570**  
Better together

## Offering & Attendance Last Week

Attendance: Adults 77 ♦ Children 4 ♦ Facebook 136 ♦ Youtube 34

Total Week's Offering: \$ 2,408.00 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.

Tithes & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)