

Blue Christmas

by Helen Taylor
On behalf of Taree congregation

God, where is your Spirit leading us? A Blue Christmas service! What's that you want us to do? Something strange, new, never been done here before. Okay God, there's only a few of us but we will step out in faith aware that you are calling us into new ministries.

A Blue Christmas is a service of remembrance and hope. The Christmas season is not necessarily happy for everyone. Grief, pain, and loss of any kind can lend itself to sadness, disappointment and, at times, deep despair. A Blue Christmas service is designed to hold space for those who are hurting, so they need not suffer in silence or alone.

Invitations were given to local funeral homes, other ministers and denominations, and the wider community. Wendy Ballard led the service providing a time of reflection, comfort and hope for hurting hearts.

God, where is your Spirit leading us? From the faithful steps taken into the unknown, new friendships were created, old friendships strengthened, tears fell, each one creating a wave of ministry given and received. Amongst the comments heard were: 'it's beautiful, we need to do this again, it's just what I needed'.

God is up to something, and so are we!