

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



**The building is closed.
The Church is alive!**

NEWS OCTOBER 18, 2020

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc

Pastoral Care Convenor Shirley Marven

Church 4805 1120

Website sheppartonuc.org.au

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shepparton.unitingchurch>

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

Praying Together Cobram, Katamatite

Readings Ex 33.12-23 Ps 99 1 Thess 1.1-10 Matt 22.15-22

Worship Revd Loni Vaitohi Duty Elder Melissa Graham

The service will be live on Zoom, or by phone, 9.30am See details opposite or use the website (above) to view the service.

READINGS - OCTOBER

Oct 25 Ex 34.1-12 Ps90.1-6.13-17 1 Thess 2.1-8 Matt 22.34-46

FOR YOUR OFFERING THE TREASURER

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the region, the Bangerang People of the Yorta Yorta Nations, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

SHEPPARTON WORSHIP ONLINE

Joining in to Zoom via the phone

Step 1: To join the meeting via a Phone call please dial one of the five following phone numbers: The 03 number is for Victoria so is likely to be a cheaper call than one of the interstate numbers.

03 7018 2005

02 8015 6011

07 3185 3730

08 7150 1149

08 6119 3900

Step 2: when prompted enter the meeting code on the Zoom invitation.

The Meeting Code for October 18 is 959 1070 8288#

Step 3: you will be asked if you are the meeting host or a participant

Don't worry about this question, just press #

Step 4: when prompted enter the passcode on the Zoom invitation, which will also change each week.

The Passcode for October 18 is 157034#

FAITH-SHARING BY ZOOM

Our first faith-sharing group on Zoom has begun on Wednesdays at 2.00pm. If you'd like to be part of another group, please contact Joan Fisher, 5821 8382; 0417 210 447, or Shirley Marven, 0438 242 150, so another time can be arranged.

PASTORAL PRAYERS

This week, pray especially for all caught up in Covid-10 testing, including Lorraine and Gordon, and those carrying out the tests. This week we remember the family of Rene Pell who died Monday 12, remembering with loving sympathy Norma, Melissa, Rob, Breanna and Liam. The funeral will be Tuesday 20. We also remember the family of Murray Russell who died October 8 and was buried October 15.

AND ALSO

As well as praying for congregations within the Presbytery (see Sunday October 18), you are invited to pray for countries of the Caribbean in the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle. The WCC also invites churches to pray for the olive harvest in Palestine. 'Olive trees know neither religious nor territorial boundaries and bear fruit even under occupation. With the annual olive harvest season commencing the WCC

launches a global initiative this week, highlighting the spiritual, economic and cultural importance of the olive harvest for Palestinian communities, and witnessing to the impact of the occupation.' The olive harvest is cause for festivity and a source of income. This year it takes place under Covid restrictions.

ST LUKE'S DAY SERVICE

The annual St Luke's evening service to celebrate, thank and pray for our health workers, first responders, volunteers and for everyone affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying restrictions will be hosted by St Augustine's Anglican Church on Zoom on Sunday, October 18 at 5.30pm. October 18 is the feast of St Luke who was a physician and is considered the patron saint of physicians and surgeons - as well as of artists, bachelors, students and butchers!

If you would like to join this service, by Zoom or phone, please contact Joan for the link. 5812 9320

UNITING CHURCH EMERGENCY FENCING TEAM

Bronwyn Pitty, Secretary, writes to thank Uniting Church members for past support with the Recovery Fire Fencing. At Corryong the volunteers have completed 6,000 personal hours, helping 33 landholders. There has been a core group of regular helpers, averaging six a week. They expect to be in the area for many months, still doing boundary and containment fences, though they hope to have completed the Corryong work by Christmas. The farmers were reluctant to seek help but now welcome the team.

If you can spare the time, you would be very welcome to join the team. You don't need to be an expert fencer as there are many jobs. Cudgewa Community Centre has generously made its facilities available for some accommodation, offers room for caravans and a well-equipped kitchen.

Contact Cath 0427 845 996 if you or your group would like to assist.

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES ONLINE

Waranga Cluster 10.00 am Check warangaunitingchurches.net.au
Brunswick Uniting Church brunswick.unitingchurch.org.au/worship-with-us/
Mt Eliza Uniting Church mteliza.unitingchurch.org.au 10.00am or recorded
Bairnsdale Uniting Church [Worship@Home27th September](http://Worship@Home27thSeptember) a couple of days before the Sunday. Remember to adjust the

ADVENT STUDIES *Hammer on Anvil*
Shepparton Congregation in conjunction with the Presbytery of North East Victoria The Presbytery is offering Advent Studies by Zoom. There will be an introduction to the studies and a trial for Presbytery on Wednesday November 4 at 3.00pm, repeated Thursday November 5 at 7.00pm. RSVP to Loni - lonivaitohi@gmail.com

'Advent is more the sound of hammer on anvil than carols and bells'

UNITING SPRING CONGREGATION CONNECT

In this edition (in the emailed NEWS), you can read about our recent submission to the Victorian Government's Inquiry into Homelessness, a property sharing opportunity between Uniting Vic.Tas and Shepparton Uniting Church and the fantastic national response to our making masks initiative.

It also talks about the **Coffee Cup Challenge** which officially launched on 1st October however it is still not too late to get involved. All funds raised from the Coffee Cup Challenge will support people experiencing crisis, vulnerability and disadvantage.

For more information or to register your congregation to join the Coffee Cup Challenge, please visit <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/coffee-cup-challenge/>

I have also attached a copy of our **Spring Supporter Newsletter**, which features stories of hope in the face of crisis. On page 5, there are examples of just some of the ways our dedicated teams have kept our support going during these challenging times. You can also read about the difference your giving has made this past winter and discover new ways to get involved.

Uniting Christmas cards are now available to order with 4 new additions to the range. Each design has been thoughtfully selected by members of the Uniting Church to reflect the joy and hope of Christmas and all proceeds will support people in crisis. Phone 1800 668 426 to order cards.

GIFTS TO UNITING IN SHEPPARTON

You may make gifts to Uniting in Shepparton - or Goulburn NE. Check with Lorraine.