

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS JANUARY 17, 2021

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc

Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister

Pastoral Care Convenor Shirley Marven

Church 4805 1120

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SUNDAY JANUARY 17 9.30am

Praying Together Violet Town, Strathbogie [1.43-51

Readings 1 Sam 3.1-10 Ps139.1-6,13-18 1Cor 6.12-20 John

Worship Revd Glenys Gill

SUNDAY JANUARY 24 Revd Joan Fisher

SUNDAY JANUARY 31 Revd Glenys Gill

READINGS FOR JANUARY

Jan 24 Jonah 3.1-5,10 Ps 62.5-12 1 Cor 7.29-31 Mark 1.14-20

Jan 31 Deut 18.15-20 Ps 111 1 Cor 8.1-13 Mark 1.21-28

SHEPPARTON RURAL CONGREGATIONS

Shepparton Congregation welcomes you to worship in January.

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

SHEPPARTON WORSHIP ALSO CONTINUES ONLINE

Joining in to Zoom via the phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011 *Step 2:* when prompted enter the meeting ID for that date, followed by #

Step 3: Press # *Step 4:* enter the passcode for that date, then#

January 17 Meeting ID 993 5204 7228# Passcode 931 215#

MINISTER'S LEAVE

Loni is on leave all the week starting January 17. Please be in touch with Glenys or Joan if you require a minister.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION 2020-21

The Annual Meeting (part 1) will be held on Sunday, February 7.

Monday, January 18 2021 very brief updates to Annual reports due - box on narthex table or church letter box or email joanmcr@netspace.net.au (Joan is leading worship elsewhere January 17.)

Sunday, January 24 Distribution of agenda for the AGM, with reports.

Sunday, January 31 Questions about any reports to be with Chair of Congregation (leave as for report updates)

Sunday, February 7 Annual Meeting Part 1. This will be a short meeting, to receive reports and discuss the elections. Call for nominations

Sunday, February 28 Closing date for nominations Box - narthex table

Sunday, March 14 Elections and completion of AGM.

The date for declaration of ballots will depend on whether all voting is in person. *Joan McRae, Chair of Congregation*

PASTORAL PRAYERS

This week, please continue to pray for those who are not well, those returning to good health and those who are still feeling lonely or separated from families. Please remember the Orrman family, following the death of Robbie (funeral Thursday 14). The WCC invites prayers for Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. In the Presbytery we pray for Violet Town and Strathbogie. Always we remember those suffering from domestic violence. And we continue our prayers for the United States at this critical time.

CHURCH ROSTERS

Lorraine is still welcoming those wishing to assist at our services.

WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD

Many thanks to all who have joined our list of subscribers for 2021. If you wish to become a new subscriber, please phone Joan 5812 9320 by Sunday afternoon, January 17.

GOWOLA HOMEWORK CLUB

Gowola Homework Club are seeking volunteers to provide support and educational mentoring for Aboriginal children and youth. The Homework Club, which meets on Tuesdays from 3.50 to 5.00pm, has 45 students, primary and secondary, attending, with 72% attendance rate. Currently there are eight volunteers but more are required so that there can be one-on-one assistance for students needing this level of help. Gowola is a Yorta Yorta word meaning 'kind' or 'kindly'. The Homework Club has now run for four years. It is hoped that there will be 50 students each week, with 25 volunteers.

Gowola Homework Club builds on the strength of existing family relationships within Rumbalara Football Netball Club. It promotes the importance of culture, education and belonging, and provides a culturally safe and supportive environment for students from 'Prep' to Year Ten. At present it is hoped to give extra help to students who may have fallen behind in 2020.

The contact is Janelle Atkinson, Notre Dame College. Joan has a link for volunteers to express their interest.

HOLY SPIRIT: DOVE OR WILD GOOSE? *continued*

'Those upon whom the Spirit rests are forced by that Spirit to become like wild geese - noisy, passionate and courageous advocates of the gospel's radical demands!' (David Clark, a NZ writer)

From time to time I have pigeons in my back yard. They are not noisy. Passionate and courageous? Quite different from the white cockatoos, exuberantly wheeling, screeching, communicating, as I walk round the Lake. Is there something of the Spirit here?

Next time I'll share some of David Clark's very helpful comments about Spirit-as-Wild-Geese *Joan*