

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS MARCH 21, 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 MARCH 21 Rev Glenys Gill

Praying Together Yarrowonga, Bundalong

Readings Jer 31.31-34 Ps 51.1-12 Heb 5.5-10 John 12.20-33

SUNDAY MARCH 28 Palms and Passion Rev Loni Vaitohi

Praying Together Bright and Porepunkah

Readings Is 50.4-9 Ps 118.1,2,19-29 Phil 2.5-11 Mark 11.1-11

or Is 50.4-9 Ps 31.9-16 Phil 2.5-11 Mark 14.1-15.47

READINGS MARCH

Holy Week Monday Is 42.1-9 Ps 36.5-11 Heb 9.11-15 Jn 12.1-11

Holy Week Tuesday Is 49.1-7 Ps 71.1-14 1Cor 11.23-26 Jn 12.20-36

Holy Week Wednesday Is 50.4-9a Ps 70 Heb 12.1-3 Jn 13.21-32

Good Friday Is 52.13-53.12 Ps 22 Heb 10.16-25 Jn 18.1-19.42

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 #

March 14 Meeting ID 936 7788 4628# Passcode 010 242#

CHURCH ROSTERS

	March 21	March 28
<i>Opening</i>	W. Gibbs	W. Gibbs
<i>Elder</i>	L. Threlfall	J. Fitzgerald
<i>Welcome/Sign In</i>	B. Fisher, K. Read	B. Fisher, K. Jones
<i>Readers</i>	L. Threlfall, Jan Le Q.	B. Hardy, J. Fitzgerald
<i>Data Projector</i>	T. and N. Maile	L. Threlfall
<i>Audio-Zoom</i>		TBA
<i>Counting Offering</i>	W. and V. Gibbs	L. Watts, D. Spratling
<i>Flowers</i>		D. Metzke
<i>Morning Tea March</i>	E. Brewster, J. McCaffrey, N. Howard, J. Lavery	

THIS WEEK

Sunday 21 *Annual Meeting Part 2* 11.00AM *Messy Church Picnic* 5.30-6.30PM *Journeying with Jesus* 6.30-8.00PM

Tuesday 23 *Friendship Group* 10.00am; *Crazy Whist*

Wednesday 24 *Women's Afternoon Group* 2.00pm; *Lent Study* 2.00pm

Thursday 25 *Cuppa and Chat* 10.00am to noon; *Lent Study* 7.00pm

ANNUAL MEETING PART TWO MARCH 21

AGENDA

Gathering
Ballot for Church Leaders (with Introduction of Nominees)
Conversation on the Congregation's Vision and Mission
Votes of thanks
Vote of thanks to, and discharge of, the Property Planning Task Group
Declaration of the ballot
Closing

An online ballot will be available for those who had intended to be at AGM Part 2 on March 14 and are now not able to attend, given the change of date. *To take part*, please email Joan by 6.00pm Saturday 20 for details and instructions joanmcr@netspace.net.au
Please join us: it's important! *Joan McRae Chairperson*

REV LONI VAITOHI - HEALTH BULLETIN

Loni writes: 'I am taking it easy this week and should be in full service next week with no more surprises. Thank you all for the well-wishes, prayers and emails.' Wednesday March 17, 9.41pm

Loni will update me when any further news is available. I will email this news to you. And we continue our prayers for Loni and his family.

PASTORAL PRAYERS

This week we pray for those who are not well, remembering Emily, Tracy Ford, Heather Turner, Ailsa, Jim, Eve, and Merinda Speedy.

We remember Kaye and John Teague following the death of Kaye's sister (funeral service March 25). The Presbytery prays for Yarrowonga and Bundalong.

The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

The Assembly asks prayers for

- First Nations People as we mark Close the Gap Day on 18 March - for support and funding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led solutions that end inequality and allow First Peoples to live out their right to self-determination.
- Women who have experienced sexual violence and harassment.
The people of PNG and frontline workers responding to the surging number of COVID-19 cases.

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON GROUP

The first meeting is on Wednesday March 24 at the church at 2.00pm. Please meet briefly with Lois and Isobel at morning tea - before the AGM!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jen Shields completed her term as a member of the Synod Standing Committee at the recent meeting of the Synod of VicTas. At that meeting, Cam was elected as a member of Synod Standing Committee and is at his first meeting this weekend. He is now also a member of the Property and Operations Committee of Synod.

OP SHOP GARAGE SALE

The Op Shop will hold a Garage Sale on Saturday March 27 to reduce excess stock. With nothing priced over \$5, we would welcome church members to assist on the Saturday morning between 8.00 and noon.

Please contact Geoff or Val if you can assist. Thanks *Val Gibbs*

HARMONY DAY 2021

Harmony Day is officially March 21, but Shepparton celebrations will be held the previous day, *Saturday March 20*, at African House, (St Paul's Lutheran Church), Poplar Road, from noon to 1.00pm. Sponsored by The Ethic Council and Amnesty International, the programme includes

Lunch (free)

Speakers

Ali al Battaat, Youth of Colour and Culture

Chin Tan, Race Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Comm

Paul Briggs, Executive Chair, Kaiela Institute

Dr Judy Tang, Victorian Multicultural Commission

Contact info@ethniccouncil.com.au to RSVP I'd allow more than an hour for the event! *Joan*

SHEPPARTON INTERCHURCH COUNCIL

The InterChurch Council will meet at St Brendan's Parish Centre on Tuesday, March 23 at noon. BYO lunch. All welcome!

NEWS FROM THE ASSEMBLY

'Enough is Enough' Uniting Church women and men were among the thousands who marched for Justice on Monday, calling for an end to violence against women. The President, Dr Deidre Palmer, affirms their call for justice and meaningful change.

Child Safe - in many languages Principles of a Safe Church are now available in eight languages

Raising the Rate for Good UnitingCare's National Director was at Parliament House March 17 in the call for a permanent increase to JobSeeker so people can have needs met and live with dignity.

#sacredearthssacredpeople Uniting church members have joined with people of faith and conscience all over the world in global mobilisation for action on climate change.

Assembly Standing Committee Update At its meeting last weekend, ASC set up a task group on Church in the Digital Age. An extension to arrangements for online Holy Communion was approved until November 2021.