

# SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

## SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



**NEWS JUNE 6, 2021**

### ***AFTER PENTECOST 2***

#### **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 JUNE 6 Revd Glenys Gill**

*Readings* 1 Sam 8.4-11,16-20 Ps 138 2Cor 4.13- 5.1 Mk 3.20-35

*Praying Together* Alexandra

**Holy Communion** will not be celebrated on June 6

#### **SUNDAY JUNE 13 Joan McRae**

*Readings* 1 Sam 15.34-16.13 Ps 20 2 Cor 5.6-10,14-17 Mk 4.26-34

*Praying Together* Broadford

#### **SHEPPARTON WORSHIP JUNE 6 WILL BE ONLINE!**

**Joining in to Zoom via the phone**

*Step 1:* Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

**June 6** Meeting ID 986 1918 6683# Passcode 181 871#

*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 SUNDAY JUNE 6**

The decision to return to face-to-face worship must be made by Church Council. The Council has resolved that worship at Shepparton Uniting Church on Sunday, June 6, be by Zoom, and on the printed service sheets delivered June 3. The Shepparton Congregation will return to face-to-face worship on June 13, subject to COVID-19 regulations.

This decision was not available in time for the June 3 hard copy of the *NEWS*, so please pass this information on to those you know who are not on the internet.

## **RURAL CLUSTER WORSHIP JUNE 6**

The services at Dookie and Pine Lodge will be led by Revd Loni Vaitohi, at the churches. Holy Communion will not be celebrated on June 6.

## **THIS WEEK Covid-19 Restrictions Permitting**

Tuesday 8 *Friendship Group* Friendship Group Birthday

Wednesday 9 *Worship at Banksia Lodge*, 10.45am, led by Revd Glenys Gill. Kialla Gardens residents very welcome.

*Church Council* 7.30pm

Thursday 10 *Cuppa and Chat* 10.00am to noon

## **CHURCH ROSTERS - JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER**

Thank you to all who volunteer for specific duties each Sunday. In order for the next roster to be printed in plenty of time, would you please indicate any changes in your preferences, and dates for which you are unavailable? I know it's a long way ahead but it helps if holidays or long-standing days of unavailability are factored into the roster if possible. There are printed forms on the narthex table for when you can get back in! Many thanks.

*Shirley Marven*

## **PASTORAL PRAYERS**

We continue to remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Lisa, Eve and Merinda Speedy. The Presbytery prays for Alexandra. The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and eSwatini.

The Assembly prays for

\*Those whose homes are not safe places

\*Pray for all who have contacted COVID, all sharing in Victoria's lockdown and all health workers. \*The National Safe Church Unit

\*Victoria in further lockdown and all Covid-care workers across the world  
And pray for Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter and all Volunteers!

## **CUPPA FOR CANCER June 13**

Women's Afternoon Group will hold the annual Cuppa for Cancer morning tea on June 13 after the morning service. Donations towards cancer research may be made on the day.

## **ASSEMBLY NEWS**

\*This week the Assembly launched *Beyond Violence*, a new resource to help congregations and communities begin a conversation about Domestic and Family Violence.

\*June 1 was International Children's Day. The President, Dr Deidre Palmer sent a message to the church about what it means to be a Safe Church.

\**A Gift of God, a Sign of Hope* - a webinar series being hosted by the Becoming a Multicultural Church Circle and Assembly Resourcing Unit.

\**Anaditj*, the second book by Aunty Rev Dr Denise Champion, minister in the Synod of South Australia, will be launched online on Tuesday June 8

## **VALE REVD RON CROXFORD**

News has been received that the Revd Ron Croxford, who worked in Shepparton and especially at the Corio Centre, in the mid-1990s, died on May 30 aged 93, after a short illness. He is remembered for his wise leadership and healing ministry at the Corio Centre. A Thanksgiving Service will be held later.

## **JUNE 3 MABO DAY which concludes Reconciliation Week**

Eddie Mabo, as we know him, was a Torres Straits Islander, born on Murray Island. When he was 31, he began working as a gardener at James Cook University, Townsville. At that time he and his wife set up Black Community School in Townsville so Indigenous children could learn their own culture. Eddie Mabo spent his free time in the University's library learning about 'White Man's' law. Staff members who realised that he saw himself as an owner of Murray Island told him about Crown Law and later assisted him in working for Land Rights for Indigenous people. After he spoke at a Land Rights conference in 1981, lawyers at the conference suggested that Indigenous land claims be used as a test case in the court system and offered a legal team for this work. It took ten years. Eddie Mabo died on January 21, 1992, aged 55, of cancer. On June 3 that year, the High Court of Australia overturned the *terra nullius* (nobody's land) understanding of Australia from 1770, recognising the rights of Aboriginal Australians to own and use the land on which their families had lived for millennia. Eddie Mabo was posthumously granted the Human Rights Medal in 1992, and other well-deserved Human Rights honours

## **GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**

God is good! This week I have received four more Volunteers, one from this congregation. A couple of people have volunteered for the Overnight Shift. I am working to have shorter Overnight units so that some Volunteers need not be at the church all seven hours. If we have enough, it will only be a couple of times a month. If you would be interested in exploring this, please contact Joan 5812 9320 joanmcr@netspace.net.au We still need more Overnight Volunteers.

The two later versions of the *NEWS* last week indicated that Winter Night Shelter would be delayed by a week, starting Tuesday June 8. Our first night is Monday 13. The project will conclude on August 31, as planned.

Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter now has well over 200 Volunteers, with more coming! Fundraising has proved very successful. Please pray for the project - for the Project Director, the Core Project team, the various Co-ordinators, the Venue Co-ordinators and all Volunteers. And pray for our guests!

Guests will register at Beyond Housing who will indicate the names of that night's guests to a Co-ordinator who will relay them to the Venue Co-ordinator who will advise the drivers who will collect the appropriate bedding and bring it to the venue. The Guests will gather at the Salvation Army, 99 Nixon Street, at 5.30 and be driven to the venue. They will be welcomed by the Evening Shift and will set up their beds. Dinner will be served at 7.00pm. The Evening Shift will socialise with the guests, and offer any help which is sought. At 10.00pm, the Evening and Overnight Shifts change; the doors are locked and guests may not go out to smoke. During the night, two of the three Overnight Volunteers must be awake at all times.

The Breakfast Shift arrives at 7.00am; guests may go out to smoke. After breakfast, guests are responsible for attending to their bedding, assisted by the Breakfast Volunteers. Cleaning is done. Guests and Volunteers leave the venue at 9.00am, the guests being driven to the Salvation Army.

A volunteer may not be alone with a guest. Procedures are in place in case there is any inappropriate behaviour or any health problem. As I've indicated, we have the Building and Temporary Occupancy Permits and the hard-wired smoke detectors have been installed. All good!

**If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Joan, details above.**