

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS AUGUST 1, 2021

AFTER PENTECOST 10

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 AUGUST 1 Revd Glenys Gill HC

Readings 2 Sam 11.26-12.13a Ps 51.1-12 Eph 4.1-16 Jn 6.24-35

Praying Together Mt Beauty Alpine Regional Resources Ministry

SUNDAY AUGUST 9 Revd Loni Vaitohi

Readings 2 Sam 18.5-9, 15, 31-33 Ps 130 Eph 4.15-5.2 Jn 6.35, 41-51

Praying Together Shepparton Rural Cluster - Dookie, Pine Lodge

READINGS FOR AUGUST

Aug 15 1 Kings 2.10-12; 3.3-14 Ps 111 Eph 5.15-20 John 6.51-58

Aug 22 1 Kings 8.22-30, 41-43 Ps 84 Eph 6.10-20 John 6.56-69

Aug 29 Song 2.8-13 Ps 45.1-2, 6-9 Jas 1.17-27 Mk 7.1-8, 14-15, 22-3

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 AUGUST 1

With the partial reducing of Lockdown restrictions, churches are permitted to have a maximum of 100 people at the service. But the social distancing restrictions remain: we must allow 4 square metres per person. That means we can't have rows of people sitting together, but must allow an extra seat between people. The church can hold 98 people with this spacing - *using all the rows of seats!* So you will all need to spread out.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated in the way we have been doing it all this year.

Or you may wish to worship online.

Joining in to Zoom by phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

August 1 Meeting ID 926 6491 3631# Passcode 457 972#

RURAL CLUSTER SUNDAY AUGUST 1

Dookie	9.30am	Revd Loni Vaitohi	HC
Pine Lodge	11.00am	Revd Loni Vaitohi	HC

THIS WEEK

Monday 2 *Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter* 5.30pm to 9.00am

Tuesday 3 *Friendship Group Stamps* 10.30; Crazy Whist

Thursday 5 *Cuppa and Chat* 10.00am to noon

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We continue to remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Lisa, Eve, Merinda Speedy, Lorraine Threlfall, Philip, Andrew and Lana, Alison Finlayson, Uzembe and Jeannette.

The Presbytery prays for Mt Beauty and the Alpine Regional Resource Ministry. Andrew Delbridge is the Resource Minister.

The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of the Republic of the Congo (not DR Congo - last week), Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe.

The Assembly prays for

*all First Nations children to grow strong in spirit - for deep connections to culture, family and community.

*those who are vulnerable in the fight against COVID-19 and for equal and safe access to vaccines.

*survivors and families grieving the discovery of unmarked graves at residential schools in Canada and the work of the United Church of Canada towards truth-telling and reconciliation.

**NEWS FROM THE 16TH ASSEMBLY:
UNITING CHURCH LEADERS 2021-2024**



Revd Sharon Hollis
President

Colleen Geyer
General Secretary

Revd Charissa Suli
President-Elect

(Assembly News)

As noted last week, the four key leaders of the Uniting Church Assembly for the next three years are all women - a first for our church, and any other! Dr Deirdre Palmer, the Ex-President, is not included in this photo. Nor is Revd Rob Floyd, Associate General Secretary.

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH WORSHIP ONLINE

On July 25 we had a new congregation - at Harmony Village, thanks to Keith Smith. Our service also goes to Mooroopna Place in lockdown when Joan McRae cannot lead their usual worship. And sometimes to Maculata Place during lockdown.

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

Monday 26 was our seventh night to offer hospitality to the homeless on behalf of this Congregation. We were expecting five or six Guests, but only the usual three usual arrived. I learnt that one of the three others had obtained shared rental accommodation. On Wednesday 28 I was invited to dinner at St Brendan's - for a birthday - but met one of the two who didn't arrive on Monday. I have assured him of a warm welcome on August 2. We are all looking forward to the new air conditioning in the hospitality area!

I remarked at dinner last Monday that it has been a great gift, especially to me, that of our 27 Volunteers, only seven are from the congregation. These are cherished and warmly thanked for their great contribution! I knew two of the other 20 - one is a former student - but have made 18 wonderful new friends. This is an 'unanticipated consequence' of Winter Night Shelter that is being experienced by all the Monday Volunteers - and those at some other venues - who are sharing the rich blessings of this project. Some venues are completely staffed by members of the host church. As noted previously, several of our volunteers work at two venues, sometimes on a different shift, and find this an affirming experience: they know the Guests and meet new Volunteers. All good!

Sunday	Seventh Day Adventist (Graham Street)
Monday	Uniting Church
Tuesday	St Mary's and Uniting Church Mooroopna, at Ardmona
Wednesday	St Brendan's
Thursday	Syro-Malabar (Indian congregation from St Brendan's) at the SDA
Friday	St Mel's and South Shepparton Community Church at SSCC (formerly St Andrew's)
Saturday	Salvation Army

Please continue to pray for Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter, the seven venues, all Guests and, of course, the wonderful Volunteers. And also the Project Co-ordinator and Deputy, the Volunteer Co-ordinator and others who have special tasks.