

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS JULY 25, 2021

AFTER PENTECOST 9

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

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SUNDAY JULY 25 Revd Loni Vaitohi

Readings 2 Sam 11.1-15 Ps 14 Eph 3.14-21 John 6.1-21

Praying Together Euroa, Terip-Ruffy

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

READINGS FOR AUGUST

Aug 8 2 Sam 18.5-9, 15, 31-33 Ps 130 Eph 4.15-5.2 Jn 6.35, 41-51

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 JULY 25

Sunday's service is online only. Join Revd Loni Vaitohi

Joining in to Zoom by phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

July 25 Meeting ID 955 8595 3255# Passcode 080 974#

DOOKIE WORSHIP JULY 25

Join Shepparton online!

ANNUAL ECUMENICAL SERVICE

The

service planned for July 25 may be rescheduled later in the year.

THIS WEEK as COVID restrictions allow

Monday 26 *Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter* 5.30pm to 9.00am

Wednesday 28 *Women's Afternoon Group* 1.30pm Bring a cup!

Thursday 29 *Cuppa and Chat* 10.00am to noon

INSTALLATION OF AIR CONDITIONERS

Permission has finally been given for the installation of the reverse-cycle air conditioners into the Hospitality Space and the Hall. Dickson's Refrigeration and Air Conditioning plan to commence the works next Tuesday, completing the work in the Hospitality Space first, then moving into the Hall. It is hoped that there will not be too much disruption to the regular activities which take place in the building.

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 Euroa and Terip-Ruffy. *The WCC* invites prayers for the lands and peoples of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda.. *The Assembly prays for*

*the people of Fiji and Indonesia as they grapple with COVID-19 outbreaks.

We pray particularly for our church partners who are working to provide for people's needs, deliver messages of safety and provide pastoral care.

*those in Australia impacted by the latest COVID-19 outbreaks and lockdowns. May we find ways to look out for and support one another.

We join Shepparton churches in praying for Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter, offering bed and meals in the seven venues each week.

NEWS FROM THE 16TH ASSEMBLY

Revd Sharon Hollis was installed as President of the Uniting Church in Australia on Saturday, July 17, receiving the symbols of office from Ex-President Dr Deirdre Palmer. Sharon is the third woman and first ordained

woman to become President. Later in the two-day online Assembly, members voted for the President-Elect from three women nominees. The President-Elect is Rev Charissa Suli, a Second Generation Tongan, ordained in 2014, and still in her 'thirties. The term of the Assembly General Secretary, Colleen Geyer, was extended for 3.5 years. For the next three years, the entire Uniting Church leadership team - Ex-President, President, President-Elect and General Secretary - are all women! (The Associate General Secretary, however, is Rob Floyd.) At present, only two other national churches have women heads - the Society of Friends and the Samoan Congregational Church. (In her 44 years, the Uniting Church has had many distinguished women leaders of the Assembly and Synods.)

Ps Mark Kickett brought a report from Congress and, using video, shared stories about relationship, culture and faith from our First Peoples. Greetings were brought, online, from our Partner Churches around the world.

Sunday's Bible Reflections were led by staff and students from Nungalinya College, Darwin. Speaking from their own cultural and theological perspectives, they reflected on the Assembly theme, *Dwelling in Love*.



Rev Sharon Hollis

Colleen Geyer

Rev Charissa Suli

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

Monday 26 will be our seventh night to offer hospitality to the homeless on behalf of this Congregation. The project for 2021 has now completed six weeks, the halfway point. Although there have recently been several new Guests, we continued with three, who greatly enjoy sharing our hospitality. Their sense of security and wellbeing has increased; this is especially so of our newest guest. Meanwhile the Volunteers have become a very experienced and well-honed team, all polishing their skills to welcome and provide hospitality and care for the Guests. The brilliant catering is another feature of Monday nights! We started offering sandwiches for our Guests' lunches but now are able to pack them another dinner which they are able to heat at the Salvation Army next day - except for one who prefers to take just two muesli bars. Uniting's Job Search assistance has continued; one of our Guests is almost ready for employment. When did you last read a book from the shelves in the narthex? The shelves and the narthex table are sources of reading material each week for some of our Guests as well as our Volunteers. The notice boards are scanned for anything new. Providing this is part of the congregation's mission, of course!

Please keep praying for each of the seven nights!

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