

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS JULY 4, 2021

AFTER PENTECOST 6

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

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SUNDAY JULY 4 Revd Loni Vaitohi **Commissioning of Officers of the Congregation, Elders and Church Councillors and Members of Church Council.**

Readings 2 Sam 5.1-5, 9-10 Ps 48 2 Cor 12.2-10 Mk 6.1-13

Praying Together Tallangatta, Eskdale, Red Bluff ARRM

SUNDAY JULY 11 Revd Loni Vaitohi **Baptism**

Readings 2 Sam 6.1-5, 12b-19 Ps 24 Eph 1.3-14 Mk 6.14-29

Praying Together Numurkah, Nathalia, Picola

READINGS FOR JULY

July 18 2Sam 7.1-14a Ps 89.20-37 Eph2.11-22 Mk 6.30-34,55-56

July 25 2 Sam 11.1-15 Ps 14 Eph 3.14-21 John 6. 1-21

NAIDOC WEEK

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 4

Worship will be in the church. The cap on numbers in the building in the regions is 300, but we must observe the *wider spacing* - 2 sq metres/ person - so *leave at least one empty chair* between you and the next one. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Joining in to Zoom by phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

July 4 Meeting ID 991 0389 3537# Passcode 518 803#

RURAL CLUSTER WORSHIP JULY 4

Dookie 9.30am; Pine Lodge 11.00am Joan McRae HC

Please note the spacing - see above

THIS WEEK

Monday 5 *Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter* 5.30pm to 9.00am

Tuesday 6 *Friendship Group* 10.00am; *Crazy Whist*

Thursday 8 *Cuppa and Chat* 10.00am to noon

CHURCH ROSTERS - JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Available from Shirley today.

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We continue to remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Lisa, Eve and Merinda Speedy, Lorraine Threlfall, Philip, Andrew and Lana. The Presbytery prays for Tallangatta, Eskdale, Red Bluff, and also the Alpine Regional Resource Ministry and the Rev Andrew Delbridge. The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda.

The Assembly prays for

* A deepening of relationships of First and Second Peoples in this land and in our Church.

*The members of the 16th Assembly as they prepare for the meeting and gather online in community groups for the first time this Sunday. This includes Loni, among others.

*Those working to contain the spread of COVID-19, those who are sick with the virus, people who cannot work and all those feeling afraid, anxious and alone.

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

NAIDOC WEEK JULY 4- 11

Theme *Heal Country!*

The theme calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

ASSEMBLY COVENANT ACTION PLAN

As we approach NAIDOC Week 2021, the Uniting Church Assembly launches its first Covenant Action Plan. UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer and Interim National Chair of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) Pastor Mark Kickett jointly welcomed the plan and encouraged UCA members to think about how they can live out the covenant in their own local contexts. 'The ACAP rightly places First Peoples, through the UAICC, at the heart of who we are as the Uniting Church and calls us to deepening relationships as First Peoples and Second Peoples living in this ancient land,' said Dr Palmer.

Locally, ***The Greater Shepparton City Council Reconciliation Action Plan*** was endorsed by Council June 18, 2019, and by Reconciliation Australia. The Plan is a 'Reflect' plan, enabling Council to identify opportunities to better benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the broader community. It has a strong focus on truth-telling, acknowledging the distressing and uncomfortable events that happened in this area. It also notes the heroic actions of Indigenous people in the face of these atrocities, people such as Auntie Marge Tucker, Shadrach James, William Cooper, Nanny Nora Charles, Gereldine Briggs AO, Sir Doug Nicholls and many others. The Plan helps achieve Council's vision for a future where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have equitable access, inclusion and opportunities and where their cultures are honoured and respected. The Council employs Aboriginal and Islander people. And we now have Councillor Greg James. Some businesses also have RAPs.

ASSEMBLY NEWS

****Six weeks of Dwelling in Prayer.** Sixteenth Assembly, July 17,18, theme *Dwelling in Love*. The third prayer, is written by Rev Sandy Brodine, in Chinese - that the Assembly become a community of discernment - wise, open, curious and alert to the movement of the Spirit.

***Worshipping Together in an Intercultural Church** - we should note this!

***20 days to the 16th Assembly** - meet 20 members of Assembly!

***Lay Preaching Unleashed** - National Conference of Lay Preachers
Go to the Assembly website and explore these really interesting stories.

<https://assembly.uca.org.au>

ANNUAL CUPPA FOR CANCER - SUNDAY JULY 11

Enjoy a very special and delicious morning tea provided by the Women's Afternoon Group for everyone to share.

Those wishing to make a contribution towards cancer research may do so at the morning tea.

Lois reports that *Cuppa for Cancer* was first held at St Andrew's, then at Wesley and now at Shepparton Uniting Churches. From 2008 to 2019, \$7,540 has been given, an average of \$685 over 11 years. You will surely wish to continue such generous giving to this worthy cause.

ALSO ON JULY 11

Tatura Congregation will hold its first service in its new church premises. On July 4 the closing service in the Thomson Street building will be held. Then the congregation moves to Hogan Street to the former Gallery Cafe. This exciting move gives the congregation a main street site, the cafe space, a commercial kitchen, two spaces each holding 65 people, an outdoor space and a three bedroom residence. Please pray for the Tatura Congregation and minister Brian Spencer - and the Waranga Cluster!

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

Winter Night Shelter completed its third week at our venue on Monday June 28. The numbers of guests have fluctuated between two and four, with one new person. The guests continue to benefit from the welcome and security offered by the project, not to mention the splendid meals!

Prayer for Volunteers: Please keep praying! You have no idea what the prayers of all the churches are bringing about!



GSWNS