

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

AFTER PENTECOST 15

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5 Revd Loni Vaitohi

Readings Prov 22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Ps 125 James 2.1-10, 14-17
Mk 7. 24-27

Praying Together Violet Town, Strathbogie

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12 Rev Glenys Gill

Season of Creation *Humanity*

Readings Gen 1. 26-28 Ps 8 Phil 2. 1-8 Mark 10.41-45

Praying Together Presbytery Ministers - Richard, Tony, Brian

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER Season of Creation

Sept 19 Jer 4.23-28 Psalm 19.1-6 Phil 2.14-18 Mark 15. 33-39

Sept 26 Is 65.17-25 Psalm 48.1-11 Rom 8. 28-39 Mark 16,14-18

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 SEPTEMBER 5

Sunday worship will be online only.

Joining in to Zoom by phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

September 5 Meeting ID 965 6500 7577# Passcode 035 746#

RURAL CLUSTER SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5 as for Shepparton

STAYING CONNECTED SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH CONVERSATIONS

Join the first of these conversations on Friday, September 3, at 7.30pm!

Times for future conversations will be decided at the first meeting.

Make sure you've invited folk who phone in - details were sent Thursday 2.

CHILD SAFE WEEK SEPTEMBER 5-11

This week is the Uniting Church's first Child Safe Week!

'Every child and young person in our Church deserves to feel and be safe, to thrive and be healthy.' 'Being a safe Church - physically, emotionally and spiritually caring for each other - is how we live out our calling as Christians to love God with our whole selves and show that love of all people. This week reminds us of this commitment, gives us an opportunity to share the ways we are living this in our congregations and other spaces, and asks us to reflect on how we can improve', says Rev John Cox, Director of the National Safe Church Unit. 'Being aware, being vigilant and modelling respectful behaviours is how we protect children and young people. We can

* create awareness in our congregation

* encourage children and young people to get creative

* join the conversation

The Synod of VicTas has processes and training to live our child safe commitment. *Assembly News* To read the whole article, ask Joan. Chat to Jeni Fitzgerald

OUR INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

At the recent Meeting of the Presbytery of North East Victoria, the importance of our Church as intercultural and intergenerational was shared.

This week, Thursday September 9, there is an opportunity at 7.30 to join

Let's Yarn about our Intergenerational Church. The link is in the

September 2 Assembly News - ask Joan. Assembly News also has a feature on *What does our Intergenerational Worship Look Like?* Chris Barnett, VicTas Synod, is always well worth reading and listening to.

SEASON OF CREATION September 1 to October 4

Sunday 5 is Earth Sunday, an opportunity to explore the world God loves so dearly, through Creation, Genesis 1. 1-25; John 1. 1-11.

Assembly News is featuring this month-long celebration of how we live in relationship with, and care for, God's creation. In addition to the video message shared by Rev Sharon Hollis, President, prayers and resources from round the Uniting church will be featured.

And this is the first feature! Congratulations, Loni!

Loni's *Prayer for Creation* is in two versions, Tongan and English. Both are printed below.



Prayer for Creation (Tongan)

'E 'Otua Mafimafi mo Aoniu, ko e tupu'anga 'o e me'a kotoa pe, ko e mo'ui'anga 'o e me'a kotoa pe 'i natula moe 'univeesi. Na'a ke fakatupu 'i ho'o 'ofa, pea 'i ho'o 'ilome'a na'a ke fokotu'utu'u ke fekau'aki 'a e me'a mo'ui kotoa pe ki he ma'uma'uluta mo lelei a' ho'o fakatupu. Ko ho langilangi ia.

'Oku ke fakateunga 'a e lile 'o e vao, ko e me'akai 'a e manupuna 'oku 'ikai ke ngalo. Na'a moe lango moe he'e 'oku ke tufa honau 'inasi, pea ko e tangata fakamaama 'oku topono 'i ho feleoko.

'Oku mau kole fakamolemole atu, kimautolu ko ho'o fanga pele, he 'oku mau 'efihia he kupenga 'o e ta'e topono, he tauhele 'o e mafai, moe 'ahi'ahi 'o e tu'unga. Kuo mau ta'etoka'i ho'o fakatupu 'o mau ta'etoka'i ai 'a e 'Afiona, kuo mau si'aki 'a e ngaahi tapuaki 'o 'emau fekau'aki, 'oku mau taki taha fai pe ma'ana pe, pea 'oku tangi 'a mamani mo natula ha tokoni mei he Langi.

'Eiki e keke afeitaulao 'o toe manava mai ho'o manava mo'ui ki ho'o fakatupu mo natula pea ke tuku 'a e Laumalie Ma'oni'oni ke tataki kimautolu 'i he uki kuo fai he fa'ahi ta'u ko eni, kae lava ke fakaakeake 'a homau 'a takai ki he 'emau lelei kotoa. Fakafonu 'ofa homau loto, fakaloto lahi'i kimautolu 'i ho'o kelesi, ke mau tutupu mo mo'ui fakataha mo e me'a kotoa pe 'i natula moe 'univeesi 'o talaki ai ho langilangi.

'I he huafa 'o ia kuo ha'u, 'oku ne ha'u, pea tene ha'u, ke fakafo'ou mo fakaakeake, ke liliu mo taukapoi'i – ko Sisu Kalaisi ko homau 'Eiki pe ia. 'Emeni.

Prayer for Creation (English)

Almighty and all-embracing God, the origin of all that is, and life giver to all in nature and the universe. You create out of love, and in your wisdom made us a family, a household dependent on each other for the welfare of the whole.

The lilies of the valleys you enriched with colours, you provide food for the birds of the air, the locusts and the flies are not forgotten. And, you satisfy the needs of humanity from the abundance of your stores.

We plead for forgiveness of our selfish and careless use of your creation. We are trapped in the nets of our own greed, ensnared by the traps of power, and our continued search for status. We have neglected your creation because we have neglected you our God, and your creation is crying out for help.

Lord of creation look favourably upon us and forgive us. Breathe new life into us and all of your creation, let your Holy Spirit lead us in the call of this Season of Creation, that we may renew our relationship with all things and

each other. Fill our hearts with your love, encourage us with your grace and empower us with your wisdom, that we may equally share your resources and equally accountable for the welfare of the whole universe. That we may live together in an Eden of harmony and peace.

In the name of Him who came, is coming, and will continue to come, to restore, to revive, and to save – Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Lisa, Eve, Bev Mathews

The Presbytery prays for Violet Town and Strathbogie

The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of Benin, Ivory Coast and Togo.

The Assembly prays for

* Family, friends and community members mourning the loss of one of UAICC's (Congress') founding members Aunty Lucy Lester

* A renewal of our relationship with all people and with all of God's creation and actions that will help heal our scarred planet

* Those who are working to make our Church a safe place for all people and to all congregations who are taking part in Child Safe Week

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

We thought the Monday food hampers we had sent to our two remaining Guests, in motels, were the last, as they were to leave quarantine by now. But Friday is the final delivery, as one Guest has motel accommodation until Monday 6. Warmest thanks to Joan who has fetched and delivered while I've been in quarantine. *Joan McRae*