

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS OCTOBER 17, 2021

AFTER PENTECOST 21

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

Website sheppartonuc.org.au

Email: sheppartonuca@inet.net.au

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shepparton.unitingchurch>

SUNDAY OCTOBER 24 Joan McRae

Readings Job 24.1-6,10-17 Ps 34.1-8 Heb 7.23-28 Mark 10.46-52

Praying Together Beechworth, Stanley, Yackandandah, Myrtleford

At this service Joan's 60 years as an accredited Local and Lay Preacher will be celebrated.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 31 Rev Loni Vaitohi *Reformation Day*

Readings Ruth 1.1-18 Ps 146 Heb 9.11-14 Mark 12.28-34

Praying Together Strath Creek Faith Community

READINGS NOVEMBER 7

Ruth 3. 1-18 Psalm 127 Heb 9. 24- 28 Mark 12. 38-44

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 OCTOBER 24

Sunday worship will be online only, using You tube.

Go to www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting

When the Sunday 24 service link comes with the video link: click the link and you will be taken to the service. This may take a short while.

Check the yellow sheet you received October 10 for a reminder - keep that sheet!

We apologise that those with only landline phones will not be able to listen on October 24. We're working on that! But tune in at 10.30 to chat.

SUNDAY MORNING CONVERSATION AFTER WORSHIP

Joining in to Zoom by phone 10.30AM

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

October 24 Meeting ID 953 5531 8727# Passcode 930 904#

RURAL CLUSTER SUNDAY OCTOBER 24

Dookie

9.30am

Elders/Zoom

STAYING CONNECTED FRIDAY OCTOBER 22 7.30PM

Here is the phone-in link for this week, Friday 8, 7.30pm:

Step 1 Dial 03 7018 2005

October 22 Meeting ID 968 1537 3326# Passcode 892 668#

RE-OPENING FOR FACE-TO-FACE WORSHIP

See the final section of the *NEWS*, so you can keep the page.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

On October 22, 1961, I was accredited as a Methodist Lay Preacher while a member at Nathalia. The Presbytery of North East Victoria will recognise my sixty years as Local and Lay Preacher towards the close of Sunday's service - which will be a little longer because of this. Some of you have travelled the last half-century with me! Others are more recent friends. I hope you might be able to join me on Sunday. *Joan*

TREASURER'S NOTE - YOUR OFFERINGS

If you are giving by EFT or direct giving, please contact us for account details.

Cheques (made out to Shepparton Uniting Church) may be sent to Shepparton Uniting Church Box 6223 Shepparton 3630. Thanks to all supporting offerings during lockdowns. With thanks *Lea Watts*

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Eve, Lisa and her family.

The Presbytery prays for Beechworth, Stanley, Yackandandah, Myrtleford

The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of the nations of the Caribbean.

The Assembly prays for

* People escaping family violence and for the work of UnitingCare agencies as they roll out a new program that will support women, children and families to leave abusive situations.

* For survivors of institutional child sexual abuse and their families, we acknowledge and lament the complicity of the church and pray for healing.

* The Act2 Conversation as it enters a new phase - for the leading of the Spirit to guide discernment and discussion about the future of the UCA.

NEWS FROM THE OP SHOP

The Op Shop plans to re-open on Wednesday November 3. All of the volunteers must be double-vaccinated. If there are any volunteers who do not feel comfortable working at the Op Shop during the pandemic, please let the Day Person know. If anyone in the Congregation would like to assist as a COVID Marshall for 2 to 3 weeks of opening the op Shop again, please contact Val. We will organise a roster. We would like to have two shifts each day: 10.30am - 1.00pm and 1.00pm - 4.00pm. Val/

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTHORISED WORKERS - paid or volunteer workers

As of Friday October 22, any authorised worker in Victoria must have received at least one dose of COVID vaccine, and must receive their second dose by November 26 - to be able to work from any workplace other than their own home. They must also have provided evidence of their vaccination status to their workplace. This applies to paid or voluntary work.

The list includes faith leaders, marriage celebrants and funerary services, including broadcasting or pre-recording. It also includes people providing the essential safety maintenance of properties, cleaning, gardening, op shop volunteers and even church organists,

Lorraine, as Church Council Secretary, is collecting this information which will remain confidential. Please contact Lorraine with date of second vaccination, 12-digit vaccination certificate number, type of vaccination (AZ, Pfizer) OR date of first vaccination, appointment date for second vaccination, type of vaccine OR date and number of Certificate of Exemption for those who are medically exempt.

RE-OPENING FOR FACE-TO-FACE WORSHIP

At its meeting on Wednesday 20th of October, the Church Council made the following decisions regarding our return to face-to-face worship, acknowledging that **as a community of faith, we want to make our decisions with love for the whole of community.**

1. Face-to-face worship services will resume for members of the public who have received both doses of the vaccination, one dose and proof of a booking for a second, or a certified medical exemption, from the Sunday two weeks following the state reaching 80% full vaccination. It is estimated that our first Sunday for face-to-face worship will be on the 14th of November.
2. Worship will continue to be streamed online and the printed service material will continue to be available to those who want it.
3. All information regarding the requirements of entry, density limits etc will be clearly displayed on all entry points to the building and published in the newsletter and on the website.

If you are having problems working with the QR Codes and Digital Certificate information on your phone, please let Lorraine Threlfall via our email address. The Church Council will schedule a time to open up the Narthex on a Sunday afternoon, with some technical gurus, to help get these things set up for you.

The latest information from the Synod Crisis Management Team (published 21/10/21) regarding numbers in the building is

Religious gatherings and ceremonies –As of October 22:

●If all attendees are fully vaccinated, up to 30 people can attend indoors, with a density quotient of one person per 4 sqm, or up to 100 people may attend outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 sqm.

● If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known, there is no change to the prior cap of up to 20 people with a density quotient of one person per 4sqm.

●COVID check-in marshals must ensure all attendees check-in and, if it is a service for the fully vaccinated, that all attendees over 12 have proof they are fully vaccinated or medically exempt.