

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



NEWS DECEMBER 5, 2021

ADVENT 2

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 DECEMBER 5 Rev Loni Vaitohi HC

Readings Mal 3.1-4 Lk 1.68- 79 Phil 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6

Praying Together All Ministers in the Presbytery, including those who have retired

DECEMBER READINGS

Dec 12 Zeph 3.14-20 Is 12.2-6 Phil 4.4-7 Luke 3.7-18

Dec 19 Mic 5.2-5a Luke 1.46b-55 Heb 10.5-20 Luke 1.39-45

Dec 24 Is 9.2-7 Ps 95 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14

Dec 25 Is 62.6-12 Ps 97 Titus 3.4-7 Luke 2.8-20

Dec 26 1 Sam 2.18-20, 26 Ps 148 Col 3.12-17 Luke 2.41-52

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the region, the Peoples of the Yorta Yorta Nation and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.

SHEPPARTON WORSHIP SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28

There are two options for worship on Sunday, December 5: ***Worship in the church at 9.30am*** Note explanations next page.
or ***Worship online, using Youtube.***

Go to www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting

When the Sunday December 5 service link comes with the video link: click the link and you will be taken to the service. This may take a short while. Remember to tune in December 5 at 10.30am for a chat.

SUNDAY MORNING CONVERSATION AFTER WORSHIP

Joining in to Zoom by phone 10.30AM

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

December 5 Meeting ID 967 0806 2577# Passcode 390 342#

RURAL CLUSTER SUNDAY DECEMBER 5

Dookie 9.30am Rev Glenys Gill HC

Pine Lodge 11.00am Rev Glenys Gill HC

ARRIVING AT CHURCH DECEMBER 5

Remember to bring your certificate of double vaccination (on your phone) or your certificate of medical exemption.

* ***Plan to arrive early***

* ***QR Code (or signing in) and proof of double vaccination or medical exemption*** at the table outside the entrance door.

* ***Hand sanitiser*** will be available in the narthex.

There is now no limit to the numbers who may attend worship, as everyone will be double-vaccinated.

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Eve, Bron, Lea, Lisa and her family; the family of Anne Wright (funeral Monday, 11.00am)

The Presbytery prays for All ministers in the Presbytery

The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of the nations of Myanmar and Thailand

The Assembly prays for

* People working to respond to the Omicron variant, to those sick with the virus and all experiencing fear and anxiety.

* The people of the Solomon Islands in the wake of unrest in the capital city, Honiara. We pray for a peaceful resolution.

* Those across the world who are taking a stand against gender-based violence.

ADVENT ONLINE STUDIES *What are you waiting for?*

Presbyteries of North East Victoria and Loddon Mallee.

- Wednesday afternoons – 53 participated on December 1.
- Sunday evenings – over 30 took part on November 28. It's not too late to join in – contact Joan for tonight, or Wednesdays. The studies are based on the Lectionary readings for the Sunday, the Advent candles and how these relate to our experiences during the pandemic. Small group discussion is the centrepiece, between the plenary opening and closing.

Second Sunday of Advent

Bringing Peace to children in Gaza



The recent bombing of Gaza and the escalation of tensions between Israel and Palestine can make peace feel more distant than ever, especially for children. Through the Christmas Bowl, you are helping our local partner run three health clinics across Gaza. They provide medical care and psychosocial support, including counselling and a place where children can play and feel safe. Your support gives children in Gaza a chance at the childhood they deserve. **Please give today.**

CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

CHURCH ROSTERS January, February, March 2022

Rosters! Request slips are available in narthex for the rosters – January, February and March 2022. If you are already on the roster and there are no changes please only record the dates when unavailable. OR ring/email Shirley Marven – Many thanks.

KATANDRA WEST UNITING CHURCH CLOSING SERVICE

Remember to RSVP by Sunday December 5 for the closing service December 12, 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome – provided they are doubly vaccinated, use the QR code and wear a mask. Afternoon tea will be served. RSVP to Bronwen Bray,

OP SHOP COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

As you will realize the Op Shop is a big part of the church community and as such it also plays a big part in the outreach of the church .

The Covid Pandemic has caused great havoc in the running of the Op Shop more particularly with the need to close the shop when in Lockdown. Recently we have been put under more pressure with the need to check everyone's double vaccination on entry after they QR code in. This has made it necessary to have extra volunteers at the shop each day to check the customers in.

This is why I am appealing to the congregation.

Is there anyone in the congregation who would like to offer to work as a Covid Marshall at the shop, please? Not full time but a day now and again when needed. The role is not a particularly onerous one, below are the two roles:

1. Making sure they QR code in, or put their name in the book (full name and phone number)
2. Asking for proof of double vaccinations.

If you feel comfortable to be able to help in this area, please get back to me so we can be assured of having a Covid Marshall on duty each day
Geoffrey Thompson

CUPPA AND CHAT

Cuppa and Chat will meet on Thursday, December 16 for the last time in 2021. We look forward to friends joining us for a Christmas morning. Cuppa and Chat provides a great opportunity to get to know our church members and visitors. Even if you have not attended before, you will be warmly welcomed.

We hope to resume on January 20, 2022; Thursday mornings 10am to 12 noon in the Narthex. I. Cameron

ASSEMBLY NEWS December 1- 7

'A space for exploration, retrieval and fresh witness' was the description of the day when 70 people reflected on the *Basis of Union*. The group explored the present and future of the *Basis*, giving voice to post-Union generations, and allowing fresh theological and cross-cultural engagement.

Want to find out more? Check the Assembly website:

<https://assembly.uca.org.au> for this and other really interesting and informative articles, including Act2.