

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH



NEWS FEBRUARY 13, 2022

Epiphany 6

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc

Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13 Rev Glenys Gill

Readings Jer 17.5-10 Ps 1 1 Cor 15. 12-20 Luke 6.17-26

Praying Together Rushworth, Colbinabbin, Murchison, Tatura

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20 Rev Joan Fisher

Readings Gen 45.3-11,15 Ps 37.1-11, 39-40 1Cor 15.35-38, 42-50

Lk 6.27-38

READINGS

Feb 27 Ex 34.29-35 Ps 99 2Cor 3.12- 4.2 Luke 9.28-36

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.

WE WELCOME LONI back from leave, on Tuesday February

There are two options for worship every Sunday:

Worship in the church at 9.30am

or Worship online, using Youtube.

Go to www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting

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

REQUIREMENTS FOR WORSHIP, ALL SERVICES

COVID Marshalls will ensure that you are correctly checked in – QR code

Masks are mandatory for worship in Victoria. This includes funerals held in churches.

**DOOKIE CONGREGATION February 13
9.30am. Anglicans Revd Dr Helen Malcolm**

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Eve, Bron, Lisa and her family, Emma Fethney; Vern and Shirley Marven; Don Gill and Heather Turner (surgery); all our Tongan members and their families. All with COVID, or isolating.

The Presbytery prays for Waranga – Murchison, Colbinabbin, Rushworth, Tatura. *The WCC* prays for peoples of Austria, Liechtenstein and Switzerland *The Assembly invites prayers for*

*Those feeling vulnerable in the current debate round the Religious Discrimination Bill, and all who seek to make our churches safe, welcoming and inclusive.

*Our emerging partnership with the United Methodist Church in the Philippines and our continuing partnership with the United Church of Christ there.

*First Peoples as we mark the 14th Apology of the National apology to the Stolen Generations on Sunday. For justice, truth and healing from deep trauma and for strength of connection to culture and country.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Our World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday March 4 at 10.00am at St Brendan's Church, Knight Street. The Planning Meeting will be held on Monday February 14 at St Brendan's at 10.00am. Please bring a friend who is interested in World Day of Prayer. *Lois Hardy*

2022 APOLOGY 'BREAKFAST'

MONDAY FEBRUARY 14, QUEEN'S GARDENS 8.00 – 8.55am.

All welcome! Note: breakfast is not being served this year!

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, February 15 Friendship Group *Favourite poem or short story to share* 10.00am.

Crazy Whist 1.30pm. New players warmly welcome.

Thursday, February 17 Cuppa and Chat 10.00am to noon

OP SHOP NEWS

The Op Shop plans to re-open on Monday, February 14. We realise that not all Volunteers might feel comfortable at this stage and we respect that.

However, could you please contact the Day Person if you are not available?

Thanks. *Val Gibbs*

COMMUNICATIONS CONNECTIONS FOR TONGA

It is encouraging that our Tongan families are gradually making contact with relatives in Tonga. But some islands may only be contacted by boat – if boats can get there!

Did you know that the optic fibre cable to Tonga which needs repairs was laid in the 1980s, replacing an earlier copper cable? All undersea cables break; this one was laid in 2013. There are two breaks, 37 and 47 kilometres from Tonga, in the 827 k cable linking Tonga to Fiji and the Pacific cable, which connects them to Australia, the US and the world. This cable is at depths up to 3.5 kilometres below sea level.

There are 1.3 M kilometres of cables on the ocean floor and a world fleet of 59 vessels to lay and repair cables. The *Reliance*, which has been in PNG, is now sailing 4,000k to Tonga (via Samoa) where it is expected to arrive February 13. Then begins the work of splicing broken optic fibres, about the breadth of a human hair, and gluing in the new section of cable. This could take up to a week. Then Tonga will be able to communicate with the world!

Thanks to *The*

Age, 7/2

Gifts for Tonga

Gifts through this congregation may be made to the Treasurer, Lea Watts – or in a labelled envelope in the offering bowl.

You may also choose to subscribe to the *UnitingWorld* appeal: contact unitingworld.org.au or phone 1800 998 122

or to the *Act for Peace* Tonga Emergency Appeal: contact actforpeace.org.au or phone 1800 025 101

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Rob and Mel 40+40

MESSY CHURCH

**Sunday February 20, 4:30-
6.30pm**

(tea provided)



New Beginnings!

Messy Church aims to give space and opportunity for all ages to ponder the spiritual side of life together, through craft, games, puppets and other activities. It includes opportunities to develop community through both worship and the sharing of a meal. Do join us!

CHRISTMAS CHEER 2021

A big 'thank you' to everyone who responded to this appeal. Your generosity made it a great success. 35 diverse families received goods, ranging from care hampers for single people to boxes of food, treats, toiletries, laundry goods, gifts, clothing, toys and games for larger families.

Your donations brought joy to many surprised recipients. Donated cash is spent by us on food as this is the first priority. Your generosity touched the lives of over 53 adults and more than 60 kids and young people. Recipients often share with others, so donated vouchers are most suitable for some families.

We also received support from a local company closing down and the Melbourne business who once again kindly supported us. The donation of Pental Products enabled us to give practical gifts and there is enough for Christmas top-ups. Quality goods were given to delighted children, parents and grandparents.

One lady with young children whose husband is ill sent a beautiful card thanking everyone. Recipients are overwhelmed by your donations and we often hear 'no-one has ever done anything like this for me', accompanied by smiles, happy tears and 'please pass on my thanks; I'm so grateful.' Dobbin again earned his oats and Christmas Cheer could not happen without his horsepower and the assistance of willing helpers.