

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH



NEWS APRIL 15-17, 2022

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228
Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc 5821 8382 0417 210 447
Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister 0417 723 634
Pastoral Care Convenor Shirley Marven 0438 242 150
Church 4805 1120

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

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 7.00pm Shirley Marven and Lorraine Threlfall

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 9.30am Rev Loni Vaitohi

Readings Is 52-13- 53.12 Ps 22 Heb10.16-25

or Heb 4.14-15, 5.7-9. John 18.1- 19.42

HOLY SATURDAY (no service)

Readings Job 14.1-14 or Lam 3.1-9, 19-24 Ps 31.1-4, 15-16 1

Peter 4.1-8 Mt 27.57-66 or John 19.38-42

EASTER DAY, APRIL 17 9.30am Rev Loni Vaitohi

Readings acts 10.34-43 Ps 118.1,2,14-24 1 Cor 15.19-26 Luke 24.1-12 or John 20.1-18

Praying Together Euroa, Terip-Ruffy

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

GOOD FRIDAY INVITATION, APRIL 15, 7.30PM

St Brendan's Church, Knight Street, Shepparton invites us to share in an ecumenical service on *The Way of the Cross*. Performed by Notre Dame College students with music by the 11.00am musicians and singers. Written and directed by Les Billings, co-ordinated and produced by Dale Wright. Enquiries to Dale 0408 216 522

SHEPPARTON WORSHIP 9.30am (Sunday)
or *Worship online*, www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting

DOOKIE CONGREGATION

Good Friday Rev Dr Helen Malcolm
Easter Day Joan McRae



THEME: Messy Easter Breakfast

*At Shepparton Lake (on western side, past All Abilities Playground) Sunday 17th April at **SUNRISE** 6.30am*

Come and join us for a breakfast of Damper and Hot Cross Buns as we watch the sunrise and celebrate the risen Christ!



BYO chair and coffee cup (tea & coffee provided)

All welcome!

EASTER IS A SEASON, NOT A DAY!

Easter begins with the Resurrection, which we mark with the new Paschal or Easter Candle, as well as our glad hymns of praise. Easter continues for 50 days, concluding with Pentecost ('pent' means fifty), this year on Sunday, June 5. So we have seven weeks to sing the joyous Easter hymns. Every Sunday is a little Resurrection!

However, during Easter, the First Reading does not come from the Old Testament but from the Book of Acts. Here we will be reminded again of the life of the first few years of the Christian Church, from the Ascension of Jesus (this year, May 26), through Pentecost and the gift of the Spirit, often called the birth of the Church, and to its expansion.

PASTORAL PRAYERS.

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Eve, Emma Fethney; Don Gill. All with COVID, or isolating.

The Presbytery prays for Euroa and Terip-Ruffly.

The WCC prays for the lands and people of Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine.

The Assembly invites prayers for

*Christian communities around Australia and the world marking Holy Week, as they dwell in and celebrate the wonderful mystery of Jesus' dying and rising and the promise of new life in Christ for all creation.

*All those involved in preparing for the Federal Election, and that those who will stand for election commit to policies that seek flourishing for all.

*True peace and an end to war in Ukraine, and in all places of conflict and violence across the world.

ALSO THIS WEEK

Tuesday, April 19 Friendship Group Hot Cross Buns 10.00am.

Crazy Whist 1.30pm New players warmly welcome.

Thursday, April 121 Cuppa and Chat. 10.00am – noon

ASSEMBLY LENT STUDY

If you were working through the Assembly's *Going Deeper* study, you might be interested to access Week 7: Going Deeper into new hope, just released. You're invited into the great symphony of Easter in this series. Rev Amanda Nicholas and the Discipling the Next Generations Circle reflect on John's resurrection story. You can access the study from the Assembly website.

UCA PRESIDENT'S EASTER MESSAGE

Copies are available on the narthex table.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The Annual Reports of the Ministers, Congregation, Church Council and all church groups will be required soon for the Congregation's Annual General Meeting. Reports, including financial details, should be emailed to Bron, bronnifisher0@gmail.com by Sunday, April 24. Please see Bron if there are any queries.

A reminder: Ministers, Congregation, Church Council, Treasurer, Catering Committee, Op Shop Committee, Pastoral Care Committee, Property Maintenance Committee, Property Control Group, Publicity Committee, Worship Committee, Young Church, Crazy Whist, Cuppa and Chat, Friendship Group, UCAF, St David's Indoor Bowls, Wesley Indoor Bowls, Women's Afternoon Group.

EASTER IN JERUSALEM

The World Council of Churches Acting General Secretary has called for freedom for Christians to worship in Jerusalem for Easter. The Western Churches celebrate Easter on April 17, but the Eastern Churches are a week later this year (they can be up to five weeks after the West.) As noted previously, the three Abrahamic faiths will be celebrating later this week: at the Jewish Passover, during Ramadan, and at Western Easter. The WCC is particularly concerned about Saturday April 23 when the Eastern Churches' Holy Saturday service of Holy Fire takes place in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The church holds 8,000 (standing closely packed, of course), but this year the police have limited the number to 1,000, which is a blow for eager worshippers for whom this service is so important – many from the Orthodox churches travelling from other countries to worship in Jerusalem. (I was present at this service in 1994, and it was amazing!) The Holy Fire bursts from the central Tomb, then leaps round the church, passed on by worshippers who each have Holy Fire bundles of 30 narrow tapers to catch the flame, while leaders hurry outside with the Fire to go to Jerusalem churches and to nearby countries – for the lighting of Paschal Candles. Joan

CHURCH EMERGENCY APPEALS

Act for Peace Emergency Appeal for Ukraine envelopes are available on the narthex table.

UCA Assembly National Disaster Relief Fund

If you would like to contribute to the Disaster Relief Fund initiated by the President, Rev Sharon Hollis, for relief for flood-ravaged areas, here are some options: *Direct Debit* Westpac BSB 032 003. Acc No 269941

Cheque To UCA Assembly - National Disaster Relief Fund

Mail to UCA Assembly - National Disaster Relief Fund
Box A2266 Sydney South NSW 1235