

# **SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH**

## **WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH**



**NEWS MAY 1, 2022**

**EASTER 3**

### **MINISTERS**

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc 5821 8382

Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister

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### **SUNDAY, MAY 1 9.30am Rev Glenys Gill HC**

*Readings* Acts 9.1-6 Ps 30 Rev 5.11-14 John 21.1-19

*Praying Together* St David's Albury

### **SUNDAY, MAY 8 9.30am Rev Glenys Gill**

*Readings* Acts 9.36-43 Ps 23 Rev 7. 9-17 John 10.22-30

*Praying Together* Alexandra

### **READINGS**

*May 15* Acts 11.1-18 Ps 148 Rev 21.1-6 John 13.31-35

*May 22* Acts 16.9-15 Ps 67 Rev 21.10, 22- 22.5 John 14.23-29

*May 29* Acts 16.16-34 Ps 97 Rev 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17.20-26

*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.*

## **SHEPPARTON WORSHIP 9.30AM**

*Worship online* [www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting](http://www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting)

## **DOOKIE CONGREGATION 9.30am Rev Loni Vaitohi HC**

### **MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION**

#### **Extraordinary Meeting, Sunday May 15, after morning worship**

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the report of the Joint Nominating Committee (to fill the vacancy left by the completion of Placement of the Rev Rosalie Rayment-Hewitt) and to discuss the recommendations in the report. At the conclusion of the service, You Tube will be discontinued and the meeting will be held on Zoom – a link will be given in the *NEWS* that weekend.

#### **Annual General Meeting, Sunday May 29, after morning worship**

Thanks to all who have submitted their annual reports. *Bron Fisher, Secretary*

### **RECONVENED MEETING OF THE 16<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY, MAY 6-9**

**Friday May 6** At the beginning of the reconvened meeting, there will be a renewing of the Covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, entered into in 1994. Uniting Church President, Rev Sharon Hollis, said the act is both a confession and a celebration.

'It invites us again to place the work of covenanting at the heart of our life as a Church affirming the sovereignty of First Nations people, to celebrate their achievements, joy, and strength, and to be serious about facing the truth of the church's ongoing participation in colonisation.

It means listening to and acting on the wisdom of First Nations People and supporting Congress to be self-determining in their ministry.'

#### **Connect with the Assembly as it happens**

The Assembly's Friday night worship will be available for the Church to watch on livestream at 7.30pm. [16thassembly webpage](#), or Facebook. Share in the Assembly Bible studies at 9.00am Saturday and Sunday online National Update will provide a wrap of each day by email. Subscribe online.

Follow the conversation on social media - Facebook, Instagram and Twitter [#uca2022](#)

Loni, a member of the Assembly, will be at the Sunshine Coast for the meeting.

## PASTORAL PRAYERS

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

*The Presbytery* prays for St David's, Albury

*The WCC* prays for the lands and people of Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

*The Assembly invites prayers for*

\*Those who will gather for the Building Harmony Iftar Dinner being hosted by the Uniting Church and the Affinity Intercultural Foundation Wednesday night, and all who seek to build interfaith connections, making our diverse communities places of understanding and care for one another.

\*The binding relationship between the Uniting Church and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress as we prepare to renew the Covenant at the 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly reconvened meeting.

\*People of the Pacific, our church partners in the region and Pasifika communities in the Uniting Church. We give thanks for their deep faith, theological insights and their prophetic voice for peace and creation.

## THIS WEEK

**Tuesday, May 3 Friendship Group Stamps** 10.00am. **Crazy Whist** 1.30pm

**Thursday, May 5 Cuppa and Chat** 10.00am – noon

**Assembly online Forum** *Safeguarding our Children and Young People* noon to 1.00pm See below

## SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

An online forum to be jointly hosted by the National Safe Church Unit and UCA Redress Ltd will be held on Thursday May 5, 12 – 1 pm. The forum is aimed at all adults across the Church including ministry agents and Safe Church contacts.

Email [info@safechurch.uca.org.au](mailto:info@safechurch.uca.org.au) to register. A Zoom link will be sent to you.

## STOP PRESS! PRESBYTERY ONLINE EASTER STUDIES

***Born in Trauma*** The Christian Church was born in trauma. The disciples and other followers gathered round Jesus suffered a traumatic experience with his death. ... But it is trauma transformed, helping to shape the Early Church – and our lives. This is a series of seven studies, taking us from Easter almost to Pentecost. They will be held Tuesdays, from May 10, 2.00- 3.30pm, or Wednesdays, from May 11, 7.00- 8.30pm. See the extra material on the narthex table and notice board. We will seek expressions of interest for a group at the church, as well as the online study.

## **GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**

The Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter programme will run again this year, from June 1 to August 31. We will again host the Monday Venue, Joan McRae being the Venue Co-ordinator. Winter Night Shelter offers homeless men a hot dinner, evening activities, bed and breakfast. Up to ten men are brought from the central location at 6.00pm; the programme concludes at 9.00am Tuesday morning. Volunteers are required for the following shifts: Evening 5.30 to 10.00pm; Dinner (cooks) 5-30 – 8.30; Overnight, taking turns to sleep; breakfast, 7.00 to 9.00am. All 2021 Volunteers have been contacted about their availability for 2022. New volunteers are being sought. All volunteers must attend training sessions - a weekend half-day, dates to be announced. Cooks and Overnight volunteers have other, online training to do. This year three volunteers from each venue will be required to do Mental Health training. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, the Registration link is <https://forms.gle/XGL9XhFW8h7QzdDr6>

## **CHURCH EMERGENCY APPEALS**

**The 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

### **DID YOU KNOW? In relation to St Thomas and his ministry in India**

(Sunday April 24) This was not included in the earlier versions of last week's *NEWS*. Did you know that there are two churches in Shepparton who were born in India as a result of the first century ministry of St Thomas? The Syro Malabar church formed after a rift from the church in Malabar, mid-1660s, and linked with the Latin (Catholic) rite. A congregation worships at St Brendan's, with Fr Varghese. The Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church dates to another split, in 1665, and is part of the Oriental Orthodox churches. A small congregation worships at St Augustine's – and has previously worshipped in Wesley Hall during Lent. These two churches from Kerala in South India have other congregations in Victoria. The Mar Thoma (St Thomas) Church has two congregations in Melbourne. It is a member of the Victorian Council of Churches.