

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH



NEWS JUNE 5, 2022 PENTECOST

MINISTERS

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SUNDAY, JUNE 5 9.30am. Rev Loni Vaitohi

Readings Acts 2.1-21. Ps 104.24-34, 35b, Rom 8.14-17 John 14.8-17

Praying Together St Stephen's Wodonga; Uniting Wodonga

SUNDAY, June 12 9.30am Rev Glenys Gill

READINGS

June 12 Prov 8.1-4, 22-31 Ps 8 Rom 5.1-5 John 16.12-15

June 19 1 Kgs 19-1-4, 8-15a Pss 42,43 Gal 3.23-29 Luke 8.26-39

June 22 UCA anniv Deut 30.1-10 Ps 100 1 Cor 3. 10-17 John 15.1-8

June 26 2 Kgs 2.1-2,6-14 Ps 77.1,2, 11-20 Gal 5.1,13-25 Luke 9.51-62

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

DOOKIE 9.30 Rev Glenys Gill HC

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

PENTECOST, A MAJOR CHURCH FESTIVAL

Sunday marks 50 days since the Resurrection. Pentecost was the Jewish festival of the wheat harvest, 50 days after Passover. On this festival day, the disciples experienced the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit. On this day we celebrate the fullness of God's promises in Jesus Christ: we recall the whole event of his death and resurrection, his ascension 'and the sending of the Holy Spirit with all God's gifts and commissioning power for our ministries. This great occasion should be marked with special gatherings and a festive common meal. It is especially fitting to celebrate the Lord's Supper with great joy.' (Hickman, Saliers, Stookey and White). For us the festive meal is indeed the Lord's Supper, celebrated in both congregations at Pentecost.

Pentecost is also a special day for baptisms, confirmation and the renewal of our baptismal covenant. We celebrate the birth of the Church.

You will recall various ways you have celebrated Pentecost: balloons, or a church birthday cake may come to mind. This year the Church of Scotland is encouraging every congregation to have a Pentecost Picnic, at which they will fly Pentecost kites made for the occasion. What a great Northern Hemisphere way to celebrate! How will we celebrate the gift of this dynamic power – with wind, flames, voices, perhaps?

STOP PRESS!

Kim Read, Chairperson of the Congregation, announces the wonderful news that the Rev Kerrie Needham has accepted the Congregation's Call to a new Placement at Shepparton Uniting Church! She is expected to begin her ministry with us in October, 2022.

THIS WEEK

Monday, June 6 Winter Night Shelter

Tuesday, June 7 Friendship Group *Stamps* 10.00am.

Crazy Whist 1.30pm *Born in Trauma* Study 45 2.00-3.30pm

Wednesday, June 8 *Born in Trauma* Study 5 online, 7.00- 8.30pm

Thursday, June 9 Cuppa and Chat 10.00am – noon

PRESBYTERY ONLINE EASTER STUDIES *Born in Trauma*

Study 5 *Understanding Trauma* – the new normal. No going back.

Scripture: Resurrection appearances. Luke 24.36-52; John 20.11-23

NEWS FROM THE AGM, MAY 29, 2022

There are two outstanding items that will be addressed at a special congregational meeting, with the date to be advised.

1. Budget to be presented. 2. Use of the car park by paying customers vs the need to have available parks for the Op Shop customers, and funeral/meeting attendees.

The ballot was held for all the nominated positions. All were elected with the exception of the presbytery representatives, for which only 3 positions were available. The voting was very close for all nominees, with the positions being allocated in accordance with the order of votes received.

Kim

Chair of the Congregation

Kim Read

Secretary of the Congregation

Bron Fisher

Elder; representative to Church Council

Bron Fisher one year

Representatives to Church Council

Rob Graham one year

Gail Jones one year

Representatives to Presbytery Elaine Brewster

Cam Shields

Jen Shields

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Tracy Ford, Eve, Emma, Don Gill, Lea Watts, Gwen Wallace, Rita and Wendy Mathews. All with COVID, or isolating.

The Presbytery prays for St Stephen's Wodonga. *The WCC* prays for the lands and people of Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The Assembly invites prayers for

*Uniting Church communities celebrating Pentecost Sunday; for transformation as we are open to the Spirit of the living God renewing, disturbing and energising our faith and witness.

*A new step forward in the journey of reconciliation as we seek to respond to the invitation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

*The glorious, precious and fragile environment we inhabit; that we may seek to sustain the life of our common home as it sustains our lives.

Please pray for Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter:

the Homeless, Volunteers, the Project and Volunteer Co-ordinators, the Board and Project Committee, all venues. The 2022 Shelter began on Wednesday, June 1, at St Brendan's.

CUPPA FOR CANCER

After worship Sunday June 5 there will be opportunity for members of the congregation to make gifts to support work for cures for cancer. A delicious morning tea will be served.

GREATER SHEPPARTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

Our first night is Monday, June 6. We are hugely grateful to have more than enough Volunteers for each shift, knowing well that COVID, flu and other winter ills may mean changes, often last-minute. You can still volunteer, if you wish. I have the three-hour training materials available. Don't forget the Day Shelter, at the Salvation Army, with half-day shifts Monday to Friday. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, the Registration link is <https://forms.gle/XGL9XhFW8h7QzdDr6> Please register soon! See Joan

NEWS FROM THE UNITING CHURCH ASSEMBLY

An Invitation to Live the Covenant Locally

This week, as we mark National Reconciliation Week, the Uniting Church Assembly and the Walking Together as First and Second Peoples Circle launch a new initiative *Living the Covenant Locally*. It is an invitation to Second Peoples of our Church to engage in learning, theological study and action to deepen our relationship with First Peoples, to grow our understanding of the injustices they face and to live out our commitment to work for a more just Church and nation. The theme for this week is *Be Brave. Make Change*.

Advocate for the Walking Together as First and Second Peoples Circle Alison Overeem urges people across the church to help grow a 'grassroots movement' committed to relationship and to living the Covenant locally.

'It's not just about a yarn or a conversation. It's about action, a realistic call to be and walk together', she said.

We have a marvellous opportunity here! Did you know that our population is about ten per cent First Peoples? We have one Indigenous member of this church. Some other churches have more; the Indigenous Church in Mooroopna is currently worshipping together again.

Shepparton Region Reconciliation Group would welcome new members. See Joan – the only UCA member. And don't miss the SRRG articles in *The Shepparton News*.