

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH



NEWS JULY 31, 2022

AFTER PENTECOST 8

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

SUNDAY, JULY 31 9.30 Service Tanya Walker

Readings Hosea 11.1-11 Ps 107.1-9, 43 Col 3.1-11 Luke 12.13-21

Praying Together All Lay Preachers, Accredited and Recognised, in this presbytery

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 9.30am Rev Glenys Gill HC

READINGS

Aug 7 Is 1.1, 10-20 Ps 50.1-8, 22-23. Heb 11. 1-3,8-16. Lk 12.32-40

Aug 14 Is 5.1-7 Ps 80.1-2, 8-19 Heb 11.29-12.2. Lk 12.1-5

Aug 21 Jer.1.4-10 Ps 71.1-6. Heb 13.1-8, 15-16 Lk 13.10-17

Aug 28 Jer 2.4-13 Ps 81.1, 10-16. Philem 1.1-21 Lk 14.1, 7-14

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

SHEPPARTON WORSHIP 9.30AM

Worship online www.youtube.com/user/SheppartonUniting

DOOKIE 9.30am combined with Shepparton

REV LONI VAITOHI – LEAVE

Church Council has approved two weeks of leave for Rev Loni Vaitohi, commencing next Tuesday, July 26 until Wednesday, August 10, inclusive. Contact Rev Glenys Gill, 0417 723 634 or Shirley Marven, 0438 242 150 for any pastoral matters.

THIS WEEK

Monday, Aug 1 Winter Night Shelter

Tuesday, Aug 2 Friendship Group 10.00am. *Stamps*

Crazy Whist 1.30pm

Thursday, Aug 4 Cuppa and Chat 10.00am – noon

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Eve, Gwen, Clive Down and Lois Hardy. All with COVID, or isolating – the vast numbers in Victoria and those in this district.

The Presbytery prays for all Accredited and Recognised Lay Preachers in this presbytery.

The WCC prays for the lands and peoples of the Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe.

The Assembly invites prayers for

*Courage, creativity and faithfulness to be innovative in the ways we serve and proclaim the hope and love of Christ.

*Korean members of the Uniting Church. We give thanks for the gifts they bring to the life of the Uniting Church and pray for their ongoing ministry and mission within the life of their congregations and the broader Uniting Church. *Our environment. We give thanks for the wonderful gifts of God's creation, we lament the destruction and devastation we have caused, and we pray for actions and plans that aim to restore and repair the damage done.

DIGEST OF THE MEETING OF PRESBYTERY, JULY

23 Please see the separate sheet.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT, JULY 2022

Church Council met on Tuesday, 19th July, the meeting time having been changed several times due to illness and other commitments by a number of the members. A number of members joined via Zoom.

Rev Loni Vaitohi welcomed everyone and shared the Acknowledgement of Country and Lea Watts led a time of devotion, reflecting on 'Isolation and Solitude' particularly noting Jesus' practice of seeking solitude for prayer.

The Church Council approved 2 weeks leave for Loni, commencing on Tuesday 26th of July.

Decisions made include:

*That a payment be made to Dookie UCA as reimbursement for money incorrectly deducted by Central Stipends from Dookie's accounts for the minister's Stipend.

*to set up a Task Group to review the booking processes for spaces within the Church complex.

*to set up a Manse Task Group to find a suitable manse for Rev Kerrie Needham

*to set up a Task group to review the funeral and associated charges for Shepparton Uniting Church

*to accept the offer of Greater Shepparton City Council for Heritage Plaques to be placed at both the Wesley and Fryers Street Church sites and to approve the final draft of the wording for the plaques.

*to approve *Form 3A – Application for Property Sales Proceeds* to apply for reimbursement of the costs involved in preparing the Maude St site for the Lease with Uniting and the sale of the two churches. This form has been forwarded to the Presbytery Property and Finance Committee for their input before being sent to Synod Property Services.

The next meeting of Church Council will be on the 14th of September.

NEWS FROM THE ASSEMBLY

At the meeting of Assembly Standing Committee July 15-17, *The President* reported on her work, including giving spiritual leadership and encouragement, and celebrating the Uniting Church's 45th Anniversary, supporting a multi-faith statement in support of the Uluru Statement, *presenting the Albert Street Lecture, reflecting on key issues – Act2, consensus decision-making and the Preamble and the Constitution. *presiding at the 16th Assembly reconvened meeting, and noting the observations of three Catholic online observers.

The General Secretary reported on the operations of the Assembly and its agencies, including the extension of the Assembly Strategic Plan. She noted staff changes including the resignation of the Associate General Secretary, Rob Floyd, from October 2022.

Frontier Services reported on its work and that of Bush Chaplains across the country. Volunteer groups have provided assistance in Parkes/Trundle and Condobolin, as well as in Oodnadatta, Cockburn, William Creek and Hawker. Frontier Services has a goal of funding 30 Bush Chaplains.

UnitingWorld is reconnecting with partners after Covid, meeting new leaders and encouraging these partners. They are working to make a difference in areas of need, through UnitingWorld programmes.