

# **SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH**

## **WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH**



**NEWS OCTOBER 9, 2022**

**AFTER PENTECOST 18**

### **MINISTERS**

**Rev Loni Vaitohi**

(Indefinite Sick Leave)

**Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc**

**Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister**

**Pastoral Care Convenor, Shirley Marven**

**Church 4805 1120**

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### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 9.30am Joan McRae**

*Readings Jer 29.1, 4-7 Ps 66.1-12 2 Tim 2.8-15 Lk 17.11-19*

*Praying Together Faith Communities: Strath Creek; Nagambie Connect*

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 Rev Alan Lockwood**

### **READINGS**

*Oct 16 Jer 31.27-34 Ps 119.97-104 2 Tim 3.14-4.5 Lk 18.1-8*

*Oct 23 Joel 2.23-32 Ps 65 2 Tim 4.6-8, 16-18 Lk 18.9-14*

*Oct 30 Hab 1.1-4, 2.1-4 Ps 119.137-144 2 Thess 1.1-4, 11-12 Lk 19.1-10*

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

**DOOKIE 9.30am Rev Dr Helen Malcolm**

### **THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday, Oct 11 Friendship Group Children's Sayings** 10.00am

**Crazy Whist** 1.30pm

**Wednesday, Oct 12 UCAF** 1.30

**Thursday, Oct 13 Cuppa and Chat** 10.00am – noon.

### **FAITHS4CLIMATE JUSTICE DAY OF ACTION OCTOBER 13**

Next Thursday, October 13, people of faith across Australia and the Pacific will jointly call for actions to protect creation ahead of global climate talks at COP27 in November. Faith leaders are calling on the Australian Government to stop approving new coal and gas projects and to actively support a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Multi-faith services are taking place on Thursday at prominent places of worship; these include a service at St Paul's Cathedral from 5.10 to 5.30pm Thursday.

To show your support,

### **A LETTER FROM REV KERRIE NEEDHAM**

Dear Shepparton Congregation,

Lorraine has told me of Rev Loni's sick leave and Presbytery Minister Tony Davies talked with me yesterday (

I have been reassured that you have the able ministry of Rev Glenys Gill and Rev Joan Fisher, and that they will walk beside me in ministry when I come to Shepparton.

I will look forward to meeting with the church council so we can make plans for my ministry. I pray that Rev Loni will have times that he feels well enough to talk about his hopes for our ministry, so that I can honour the positive feelings we both had for our team ministry after our meeting earlier this year.

It is hard to know what to say to you now., We don't know each other yet. I want you to know that I am already thinking of you and praying for you, as I pray for Loni and his family.

God bless you,  
Kerrie Needham

## **PASTORAL PRAYERS**

*We remember* Emily, Eve, Clive; Terry and Nola Smith.

All with Covid or isolating – the vast numbers in Victoria and those locally.

*The Presbytery* prays for Faith Communities: Strath Creek; Nagambie Connect.

*The WCC* prays for the lands and peoples of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama.

*The Assembly* invites prayers for

\*The National Conferences of the Uniting Church. We give thanks for the joyful gifts and insights they contribute to the life and faith of our church and pray for their continuing mission and place in the life of the UCA.

\*Our church partners across the Pacific who are empowering women as theologians and working to address the root causes of, and break cycles of, violence through gender equality theology.

The people of **Ukraine** as they defend their land against Russia.

**\*\*Special prayers for Loni and his family.**

And for Rev Kerrie Needham and Don.

## **NEWS FROM THE OP SHOP**

The Op Shop Committee is beginning to plan the Op Shop roster for 2023.

We are looking for more volunteers who would like to assist at the Op Shop. We are open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

We have two shifts each day: morning 10.00 – 1.00 and afternoon 1.00 – 4.00. If you are interested in helping could you please contact me on 0447 289 233 or [valgibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:valgibbs@hotmail.com)? Thank you. Val Gibbs

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

142 Christmas Child boxes were contributed by the end of September.

Warmest thanks to all who packed the boxes and to those who gave money for their postage. *Lois Hardy*

## **ASSEMBLY NEWS**

October 22 marks the fourth anniversary of the National Apology to Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse. The Uniting Church reiterates its own apology to survivors and recommits to the safety of all people. A Liturgy of Acknowledgement and Lament is available for communities to use.

## **National Young Adult Leaders' Conference January 26-29 2023**

Merricks, Mornington Peninsula for emerging leaders aged 18-30 to explore leadership, build skills and reflect on the role of faith in leadership. Places limited to 70. Applications close November 7. Joan has information.

## **PRAYER FOR CREATION OCTOBER 13, 2022**

**Leader:** Creator God, We thank you for the beauty of your Creation, and for giving us the privilege of caring for it. We confess that we have not cared for the earth with the self-sacrificing and nurturing love that you require of us. We mourn the broken relationships in creation. We repent for our part in causing the current environmental crisis that has led to climate change.

**All:** Faithful God, sustainer of all - we pray with hope, because you are already at work through Christ to reconcile all of creation to Yourself and to renew all things.

**Leader:** Loving God, help us to turn our lives around to be people of restoration. Help us build just relationships among human beings and with the rest of creation. Help us to live sustainably, rejecting consumerism and the exploitation of creation.

**All:** God of justice, give us courage and persistence to work for justice for those most affected by environmental degradation and climate change.

**Leader:** God of mercy, hear the cry of the poor who are already suffering and will continue to suffer water and food shortages and who will be displaced by climate change.

**All:** God of all wisdom, give wisdom to the leaders of all the world's nations to work together for a global agreement to tackle climate change. Give them the determination to find a just solution that protects the people who are most vulnerable in our world, and protects creation.

**Leader:** Creator God, give us your Spirit to work together to restore your creation and to hand on a safe environment and climate to our children and theirs. Let our care for creation be our act of worship and obedience to you. Your kingdom come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**All:** Amen.

*Micah Challenge Australia for the 2009 StandUp kit for Churches  
Released by arrcc.org.au Australian Religious Response to Climate  
Change 2022*