

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

WITH DOOKIE UNITING CHURCH



NEWS NOVEMBER 13, 2022

AFTER PENTECOST 23

MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi

Indefinite Sick Leave

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc

Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister

Pastoral Care Convenor Shirley Marven

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Church 4805 1120

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13 No morning service
Induction of Rev Kerrie Needham. 2.00pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 Rev Kerrie Needham

READINGS

Nov 13. Is 65.17- 25 Is 12 2Thess 3. 6-13 Lk 21.5-19

Nov 20. Christ the King or Reign of Christ Jer 23.1-6. Lk 1.68-79. Col 1.11-20
Lk 23.33-43

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 Advent Sunday Rev Glenys Gill
Readings Is 2.1-5. Ps 122. Rom 13. 11-14. Mt 24. 36- 44

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.

I've never been through a flood before ... except to see historic photos in my hometown and go to check the level of water over the low-level bridge. (The big bridge was taken down, and a new one built in my teens.) It was the market garden flood plains which received another layer of alluvial soil as the water moved on to impact the farms and town downstream. Floods were similarly a major talking point in placements I have been since.

This flood is way bigger than a new talking point which can be forgotten about in weeks. We have images in our minds of furniture on footpaths, of racing water beside us as we drove over bridges - if they were open to us. Some people will have more personal memory provokers which will come back at times - smells, mud...the time they go to find a favourite book, or music and realise it is not there anymore.

As we contemplate the impact on the primary producers, the businesses, the homeowners, the residents of this place; may we keep our minds on the vision and mission statements which are pinned on the wall of the foyer or gathering space. I was impressed by these words as I read the profile document. Impressed because they are not just document speak. They are words of the heart, words chosen by a congregation which wants to live God's mission for them. They impressed me enough I want to be here with you, to walk with you on this journey.

This induction day is the starting of times when you might guide me in my ministry, times when I might guide you, and times we walk hand in hand as together we seek God's guidance to be the people who spread the values of God's Kingdom by word and deed to all.

My God bless us to be an identifiable people of worship and gathering which can meet people where they are, and who they are, in gracious, generous and responsible ways.

Kerrie

PREACHING PLAN, NOVEMBER 20 and 27, 2022

	Shepparton	Dookie
Nov 20	Rev Kerrie Needham	Elders/Zoom
Nov 27 Advent Sunday	Rev Glenys Gill	Rev Kerrie Needham HC

THIS WEEK

Tuesday, Nov 15 Friendship Group 10.00.am Crazy Whist 1.30pm

Thursday, Nov 17 Cuppa and Chat 10.00am – noon Former Church

Thursday, November 17 10.00am – 3.00pm

THE CHURCH AS SALT Rev Dr Sally Douglas

A day of gathering, wondering, exploring and praying together. With Sally we will engage with the image of the Church as salt. We will seek to better understand where the church is in this cultural moment and investigate what the church might be called to do and be. Through themes including salty tears, salty wombs, salt that preserves and salt that seasons, we will dive deeply into the Bible, the early church and our own contexts. Bring your questions and let's wrestle with these things together.

Sally's book, *The Church as Salt*, will be for sale at the workshop.

Lunch will be served by Shepparton Catering Group - \$10

Register with Brian Spencer. brianspencer@northeastvicuca.net.au or sign the list on the narthex table Sunday, November 13.

YOU ARE INVITED

to the wedding of Hannah and Kyle at Shepparton Uniting Church on Saturday, November 12 at 12 o'clock. They will be married by Rev Glenys Gill. Members of the congregation are warmly invited to attend the service.

PASTORAL PRAYERS

We remember Emily, Eve, Clive; Nola Smith.

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

The Presbytery prays for Euroa and Terip-Ruffy.

The WCC prays for the lands and peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia.

The Assembly invites prayers for

*Millions struggling with hunger in the horn of Africa.

*Leaders attending COP27. We pray for courage and solidarity to respond swiftly and compassionately to the challenges posed by climate change and for collaborative efforts to support the countries which are most vulnerable.

*Members of the Assembly Standing Committee who are meeting in Melbourne this weekend.

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

Pakistan, following catastrophic flooding. **Sri Lanka**

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

****Special prayers for Kerrie and Don Needham**

****Rochester and Mooropna churches**, including the Uniting Church congregations, who are not able to worship in their church buildings because of the recent flooding.

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. The Presbytery Advent Studies begin November 22 and 23, online, with Rev Beth Bear.

ASSEMBLY NEWS

National Floods Appeal The President, Rev Sharon Hollis, has launched a National Floods Appeal to support communities across Australia impacted by flooding or extreme weather.