

What's on This Week?

Sunday 27th Pentecost 17

9.30am Worship

Sunday 4th Pentecost 18

9.30am Worship

Connect in Prayer

School Holidays begin this weekend-pray for safe travelling and a time of renewal and reconnection for families.

Pray for our country's leaders during COVID-19, that God will grant them strength and wisdom

Pray for South Lakes Christian Education Association that its board members will make wise decisions in their governance and exercise good stewardship of donated funds.

For You to Note

LADIES FELLOWSHIP NOTES

Ladies Fellowship are not holding regular meetings due to Covid-19. However they did meet informally for lunch at Chapmans, and they also plan a picnic outing on Tuesday 3 November at Sunshine Yacht Club Park, to which all members of the congregation will be invited. It looks as if a Christmas dinner will be out of the question this year. However the Christmas Box project for Operation Christmas Child is still going ahead, so people can choose to pack a box in the usual way or make a donation if they wish.

COVID FRIENDSHIP GROUP - This is a new group, so come along on Wednesday 14th October and invite a friend. The purpose of the group is to share friendship and interests after months of isolation. Some activities might include plant sharing, knitting squares, chair zumba, lively conversation topics, trivia. Includes a cuppa, Covid-safe. Meets 10-11.30 am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. For more info Barbara 0439 002 392 or 4973 6098.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

Church Council has welcomed newly elected members Bruce Edgell, Cathie Smythe, and Betty Small. Morning tea was approved to continue on our Covid safe plan but social distancing rules must be strictly adhered to. The road to the op shop is to be repaired soon, and this may require the closure of the op

shop and church bookings during that time. Reports indicated that although some activities have not re-started, worship services and pastoral care are continuing to provide nurture and support, and the maintenance team are using the opportunity for necessary maintenance tasks, eg the ceiling of the portico (the drop-off point at the front entrance).

NEW BANNER

Those who were at Church last Sunday were told about the significance of our new banner which was displayed on the wall behind the lectern. For those not present the following explanation might be useful.

1. The green backing reminds us we are the Church in the Trees.
2. The dove is copied from the carving on the pulpit.
3. The present mission statement "Growing in the Spirit".
4. The side panels are an artistic representation of Banksias and other wildflowers. This is looking ahead to the vision to beautify and landscape the church grounds.
5. The rather fluffy red fringing brings the joy and the abundance of God's Spirit working within us.

GARDENS AND LANDSCAPING AT THE CHURCH

We are planning to fill gaps in the gardens and grounds around the church buildings. We have budgeted a small amount to buy plants and we hope to plant only native plants. After the service this morning (27th) those interested are invited to meet in the foyer where we will discuss concepts and future plantings. Come and give us your ideas.

MASK UP

We suggest the wearing of masks at church until told otherwise.

Don't forget, stay safe. Practice social distancing and wash hands with soap and water or sanitizer regularly.

We are a COVID Safe organisation with a COVID Safe plan.

WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD

A small group within the Morisset Uniting Church congregation have benefited from using the publication With Love to the World for daily readings and commentary on the Scripture set for each week during the church year and find it helpful to keep disciplined about our daily devotions.

The publication is produced four times in the year and current subscriptions, (which have just increased) are \$24 per year from November. At present there is one spare copy available. Gordon Robertson is the Coordinator. The publishers of With Love to the World have now released an App for With Love to the World available from "your App Store or Play Store" Dr. Deidre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church in Australia, "commends this resource to local churches and individual members of the Uniting Church."

Duties for 4th October - Pentecost 18

Bible Reading	Barbara & Phil H.
Welcomer	Shirley Strachan
Collect/Banking	Brucs & Carol
Communion Servers	Cathie & Owen Smythe

Lectionary Readings for 4th October

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalm 19

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

CHURCH IN THE TREES ... BUT WHICH TREES?

We pride ourselves at being The Church in the Trees and we are known by that name both in the local community and in the wider Uniting Church. The Church sits on a parcel of land that has many original local plants. In fact the Lake Macquarie City Council has zoned us as Environmental land partly because of the endangered *Tetratheca Juncea* plant, found only on the Central Coast between the Hawkesbury and Hunter rivers, and because of several native animals and birds living here.

Several people have thought that it would be a good idea to enhance the beauty of the site by planting more local endemic plants that are not here now. Plants that are attractive to the human eye and food for local birds are high on our priority, eg Wattles, Grevilleas, Gynea Lilly.

Bob Starling is interested in hearing from anyone who is interested in planning an overall layout for the surrounds of the church, working with what has already been done and what improvements we could make. We have made a small allocation in the budget to get the project up and running.

DIRECT GIVING - Your offering can be set up to go directly from your bank account into the Church accounts and thus avoid the need to use the envelope system on a Sunday. A direct debit can be set up using the Church's Westpac working account BSB 032-524 Account number 12-1985 or by filling in a form to go to Uniting Financial Services. This form is available from Parriss McDougall.

Submissions to the Newsletter

Articles for the Weekly Newsletter should be submitted in writing by Wednesday.

Email: morissetnews@hunter.uca.org.au



MORISSET UNITING CHURCH

"THE CHURCH IN THE TREES"



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER **ISSUE 1222 27th September 2020**

Welcome to the "Church in the Trees" this morning. If you are a visitor, help us to get acquainted with you by signing the Visitors' Book & staying for a time of fellowship at Morning Tea after Worship. Please also collect our Information Brochure.

Children are especially welcome as we share stories and have an activity table at the front.

Preacher **Owen Smythe**
Service 9:30am Sunday
Church Ph: 0249 735554
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www.morissetunitingchurch.org.au
Facebook: [churchinthetreesmorissetuniting](https://www.facebook.com/churchinthetreesmorissetuniting)

Op Shop Ph: 0249 735967

Prayer Circle Prayer support for all needs for both congregation and beyond. Contact Rev Joan Horgan 49736135

"Growing in the Spirit, reaching out in love"