

What's on This Week?

Sunday 25th Pentecost 21

9.30am Worship

Sunday 1st All Saints' Day

9.30am Worship

Connect in Prayer

Pray for our political leaders that they may govern with wisdom and integrity for the good of all.

Thank God for improvements in the incidences of COVID-19 cases in Australia. Continue to pray for job seekers and those whose businesses have suffered as they slowly return to normality.

Pray for those who are leading worship and the leadership of our congregation, that God will lead and guide us in our planning for the next stage of this church's life and mission here in Morisset.

Pray for students for good recall and clear thinking as they sit HSC exams.

Pray for the work of churches and Christians as they proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed in a world that is hurting on many fronts.

Pray for people feeling depressed or despairing with the loss of work and the isolation of social distancing.

Pray for the people of the United States that they will come together after the election and support whoever wins.

For You to Note

CHURCH PHONES

Since Rob Hanks left, the phone has a recorded message directing callers to different people depending on what they were ringing about. We have had difficulties with this system as it was not functioning properly. We are now upgrading it trying to work with Telstra but if that doesn't work we will move to a localised approach. Meanwhile any recorded messages should be accepted and responded to by our new volunteer administrative officer, Peter Robinson. We will tell you more about his role in our next issue.

MORNING TEA

There are still a few bugs in the system trying to keep within the restraints of our COVID safety plan. So we are making a slight variation to our seating

arrangements at morning tea. The hall will be set up with pairs of chairs and no tables. Sit on one chair and use the other as a table. So people still need to be 1.5m apart but it will remove some of the dead space caused by the tables.

ROAD RESURFACING

This is the next stage of our upgrades to the church site facilitated by a grant from the State Government and a better financial position caused by not having to pay for a minister. Through the Better Communities grants the State Government has allocated us over \$20,000 to repair the road to the Meals on Wheels building past the Op Shop. This includes a dish drain to try to rectify water flow problems across the carpark.

COVID FRIENDSHIP GROUP - THIS WEDNESDAY 10 - 11.30 AM

It will be another enjoyable and interesting morning, so do ask a friend or anyone else you know who might like to come along. This one will have a gardening theme, and there will also be a book swap, cup of tea, quiz, chair zumba. See Margaret Arbon for more info.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP GROUP - Meets this Tuesday at 2 pm for the final session in the Book of Job.

The group decided to follow this with a different type of study. Instead of concentrating on one book of the Bible, they will be looking at "Full of Promise: The big picture of the O.T.". This overview of the Old Testament will help us to understand the message of the whole Bible. The studies show us not only the big picture of the Old Testament, but how the pieces fit together, and how they point to the one who was to come.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP - Our next meeting at 10 am on Tuesday 3rd November will be held at Pendlebury Park, Bonnells Bay. (Directions: Go to the end of Station Street, follow the road around to come to an extensive park on the left-hand side.) Bring a folding chair if possible, morning tea provided. For transport, phone Val 4980 1584.

TREE CHANGES

Most of you would have noticed a tree missing next to the Op Shop. It was removed on Friday as a start towards extensions to the Op Shop. The tree was chipped and is ready for us to use when we create our new native gardens.

HOW DOES THE UNITING CHURCH APPOINT ITS MINISTERS?

This is the headline of an article in the current Spring edition of Insights. Copies are available in the foyer. The article referred to is on p 30. This is significant for us as we seek a new minister.

SAFE CHURCH

Courses available on line. All Church Councillors and group leaders should do the course and a refresher every 3 years. This is an initiative put in place following the recent Royal Commission on Child Safety.

Lectionary Readings for 1st November

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

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.

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 1224 25th October 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 **Cathie Smythe**
Service 9:30am Sunday
Church Ph: 0249 735554
PO Box 533, Morisset, NSW 2264
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"