

What's on This Week?

Sunday 8th

9.30am

Tuesday 10th

2.00pm

Wednesday 11th

10.00am - 11.30am

Sunday 15th

9.30am

Pentecost 23

Worship

Bible Fellowship

Covid Friendship Group

Pentecost 24

Worship

Connect in Prayer

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

On Remembrance Day (November 11), we remember those lost in war and pray for peace in the world and an end to warfare and hostility between nations.

Pray for all those trapped in a cycle of poverty and debt, and for the organisations that are trying to help them break out of that cycle. Pray especially for the work of Redeemer Ministries doing this in the brick kilns of Pakistan.

November 8-15 is NOIDOC Week (postponed from July). Give thanks to God for Indigenous Australians who make positive contributions to our country and society

Following one of the most bruising and divisive election campaigns, pray that Americans will find a new sense of unity and optimism.

For You to Note

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Meets at 2 pm this Tuesday, for the start of a new study "Full of Promise: An overview of the Old Testament". The booklet costs \$10, and asks "If you've always wondered what the OT is really about, if you feel like the OT is a confusing mix of laws and history, if you've ever been confused about how the OT relates to Jesus ... then you need to read this book!" See Barbara or any member of the group if you are interested.

COVID FRIENDSHIP GROUP - this Wednesday 10.00-11.30. Leader will be Val Sloey, and we can guarantee an enjoyable and interesting morning. All welcome, but if you want more information, see Val, Margaret, or Hazel.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP NOTES

The Ladies Fellowship had their meeting in the very Covid-safe Pendlebury Park at Bonnells Bay! Noted that boxes have been sent for Operation Christmas Child, along with a donation of \$380. Plans are afoot for the Ladies Fellowship Christmas meeting on 1st December, which is more difficult this year due to Covid restrictions, but we are confident a suitable venue will be found. The congregational Christmas dinner will be decided by the Church Council as to whether it is possible at this time.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The next meeting of the Pastoral Care Team will be held at the church in the Grevillea Room on Saturday, 21st November, 2020 at 9.30am. If you are interested in joining the team, you will be made very welcome.

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.

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 15th November

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

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 1225 8th November 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 **Rev Stephen Downie**
Service 9:30am Sunday
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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"