

## What's on This Week?

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| <b>Sunday 20th</b><br>9.30am            | <b>Advent 4</b><br>Worship                    |
| <b>Thursday 24th</b><br>5.30pm - 6.00pm | <b>Christmas Eve</b><br>Christmas Eve Service |
| <b>Friday 25th</b><br>8.30am            | <b>Christmas Day</b><br>Christmas Day Service |
| <b>Sunday 27th</b><br>9.30am            | <b>Christmas 1</b><br>Worship                 |

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### Connect in Prayer

Pray for Mental Health Chaplains, particularly at this time of COVID and the advent of Christmas when people's mental health is increasingly vulnerable. Pray also for the lonely, the bereaved and the despairing.

Pray for the Samaritan's Purse ministry, Operation Christmas Child, that each child who receives a box will be blessed with their gifts as well as receiving the good news of Jesus' salvation offered to all.

When many are taking holidays at this time of the year, we pray for safety on the roads and in homes as people travel and relate to others in a COVID-safe manner.

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### For You to Note

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Christmas Eve - 5.30 - 6.00** - A short service bringing us the Christmas story, suitable for children, families, and all ages.

**Christmas Day - 8.30** - (Note the time is earlier than our regular Sunday morning worship) No morning tea, and retiring offering for the Christmas Bowl

#### GROUPS IN RECESS

Most of our groups are in recess over January.

**Ladies Fellowship** - next meeting Tuesday 2 February, will be the AGM and planning the year ahead

**Bible Fellowship Group** - Tuesday 9 February, will continue with the study booklet "Promises, Promises" (an overview of the Old Testament) but newcomers will easily fit in and be able to participate.

**Pastoral Care Team** - Meets Saturday 30 January at 9.30 am

**Op Shop** - Resumes Tuesday 12 January

**Covid Friendship Group** - in recess over Jan, and will consider whether to continue with this group. Has it run its course, or should it continue with a new name?

#### CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

**Mission Plan:** Our Presbytery Officer Rev Jerry Duncan will be our visiting preacher on Sunday 14 February and will assist us to develop our Mission Plan in two sessions, firstly following the service that day, and secondly on Saturday 20 February from 9.30-12.00. The purpose of a Mission Plan is twofold: firstly it helps the congregation and leaders know where we are going and the sort of mission we want to engage in, and secondly it is a pre-requisite for beginning the process of finding a new minister.

**Cork Tiles:** The new carpet in the foyer has raised awareness of the need to have the hall floor re-furbished, and Winston James has been delegated to arrange this over the January break when hall use is at a minimum. Next Meeting: Thursday 28 January at 10.30 am.

#### ROSTER:

**Christmas Eve:** Preacher- Owen and Cathie Smythe and a worship team

**Christmas Day:** Preacher- Rev Joan Horgan

**27 Dec:** Preacher- Owen Smythe; Readers- Phill and Anne; Welcome- Val; Table-Joe; Banking- Joe and Elaine; Morning Tea- Barbara and Bronwyn

**3 Jan:** Preacher- Rev Bruce Edgell; Readers- Philip and Sue; Welcome- Ron; Table- Joan H; Banking- Philip and Derek; Morning tea- Pauline and Leanne

**10 Jan:** Preacher- Rev Ron Loom; Readers- Sylvia and Derek; Welcome- Barbara; Table- Leanne; Banking- Jan and Margaret; Morning tea- Cathie and Owen

**17 Jan:** Preacher- Helen Edgell; Readers- Val and Joe; Welcome- Lesley; Table-Peter; Banking- Winston and Hazel; Morning tea- Sue and Helen

**24 Jan:** Preacher- Rev Joan Horgan; Readers- Barbara & Gordon; Welcome-Winston; Table- Betty; Banking- Bob & Morven; Morning tea- Margaret and Sylvia

**31 Jan:** Preacher- Cathie Smythe and ladies; Readers- Joan & Phyllis; Welcome-Jenny; Table- Parriss; Banking- Bruce & Carol; Morning tea- Barbara and Bronwyn

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER** - What an enjoyable and relaxing evening it was. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the dinner, especially at such short notice. It was heartening to see so many people helping in so many ways, truly a communal effort by everyone.

**COVID FRIENDSHIP GROUP** - Thank you to Margaret Arbon for organising a special Christmas party for the last meeting of the year. There were 21 in attendance, and the morning was greatly enjoyed by everyone.

#### FROM THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM:

Joy Farr, Barbara Dufty, Hazel Rolfe, Pauline Wildiing, Leanne Koenen, Bronwyn Sheldon, Helen and Bruce Edgell, Betty Small (Coordinator) Phone: 49733181 You are reminded that in case of an emergency over the holidays, you are invited to

## Lectionary Readings for 27th December

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

contact a member of our team; OR

Rev. Joan Horgan: prayer support for all needs both congregation and beyond  
Phone 49736135

Peter Robinson - Church Administrator - Phone: Church Number 49735554

*"The worst feeling isn't being **"lonely"***

*"It's being **"forgotten"***

*(Aussie Vets)*

YOU WILL NOT BE "FORGOTTEN" THIS CHRISTMAS

BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND 2021

**ILLNESS** - Please keep Rev Peter Botha, Minister of our neighbouring congregation Toronto, in your prayers. Last Sunday it was announced he had suddenly been diagnosed with mantle cell lymphoma and would be off until the end of January. Pray for his family and also the congregation as they work through the coming weeks.

**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.

**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 credit 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 1228 20th December 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 **Barbara Dufty**  
Service 9:30am Sunday  
Church Ph: 0249 735554  
PO Box 533, Morisset, NSW 2264  
www.morissetunitingchurch.org.au  
Facebook: 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"**