

Church Council annual report

The Church Council has continued to meet on a monthly basis during the year and welcomed two new Elders, Jeff Kite and Jillian Carson and I would like to thank the retiring elders, Sandy Tebbet and Helen Parsons for their years of service. The diverse experience and different backgrounds of all the elders enables the Council to work across all its responsibilities in the most effective manner on behalf of the Congregation. The highlight of the year was no doubt the finalisation of the Community Grants Program which saw the Congregation donating \$20,000 to three local groups.

The Church also approved the launch of a website,

www.gloucesterunitingchurch.org

which provides up to date information about our church. This site is well maintained by our wonderful Publicity Officer Peter Hazell. Peter also continues to produce The Messenger on a weekly basis.

A moisture issue in the Manse's shower, due to the waterproofing failing, has resulted in the need to renovate part of the bathroom of the Manse. This has meant that at the present time the Manse has no tenant until the repairs have been completed. Cost of repairs will come from the Maintenance Reserve Fund. We would like to thank the Adult

Fellowship Group for the purchase and the installation of an air-conditioner for the kitchen. I'm sure all the kitchen workers will greatly appreciate it during summer.

We have been fortunate to have a well organised Worship Committee that has enabled the Congregation to hear from such a variety speakers and groups. Deep appreciation should be given by all for the wonderful work that this group does, ably led by Hilary. The Church Council would like to recommend that The Worship Committee formally becomes a sub-committee of the Church Council and that the appointment of the Convenor of this committee be the responsibility of the Church Council.

The Church Council funded two members of the Congregation to attend the Lay Presiders Course, which has seen Hilary Kite being accredited. This has enabled greater flexibility in organising Communion Services.

The Church Council also paid for three congregational members to complete a Food Handling Course. It has been a privilege to work with all the elders who have such a wonderful Christian spirit and commitment to this Church and God.

John Williamson
Chairman



The Messenger

Then I heard the Lord say, "Whom shall I send? Who will be my messenger?" I answered, "I will go, send me!"

10th December, 2017



A warm welcome is extended to everyone worshipping at Gloucester Uniting Church today.

If this is your first experience of worship at the Uniting Church in Gloucester we ask that you allow us time to greet you over a cup of tea or coffee after worship.

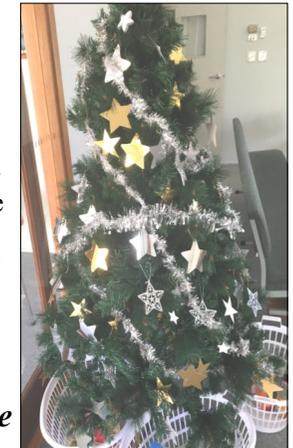
Everyone is invited to place a gift under our

CHRISTMAS TREE

Gifts may be non-perishable food items or other gifts (but must be new)

These gifts will be distributed to those in need in the Gloucester community through the Bucketts Way Neighbourhood Centre

This is an excellent way to make happy someone less fortunate this Christmas



GLOUCESTER UNITING CHURCH

Ministers: Every member of the congregation

Phone Secretary Kerry Chisholm 6558 4206

Gloucester Uniting Church Mission Statement

Bringing the gospel and love of Jesus to our community through word and action

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS



Isaiah 40:1-11 — Christine Bolton
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15a — Keith Caldwell
 Mark 1:1-8 — Daph Croker.
Duty Elder, Jill Carson

TODAY: Sunday, 10th December: 9.30am service led by Rev Judy Caldwell.

Sunday, 10th December: Carols in the Park from 6pm.

Monday, 11th December: Church Council

Wednesday, 13th December: Café on Cowper 12 noon

Friday, 15th December: Wards River Coffee Morning this Friday, 10am, at Wards River Hall. Bible Study at Jenny Shaw's 7.30pm

Sunday, 17th December: 9.30am service led by Rev Lindsay Sheppard.

Gloucester

Carols in The Park

This Evening,
 Sunday, 10th
 December
 6pm

ROSTERS

TODAY: Coll Reynolds and Alan Vale to count offering.

Next week 17th December:

Stewards: Alan and Ann Vale

Bible Readings: Penny & Colin Charles and Elaine Maslen.

Power Point: Colin Charles. **Duty Elder:** Bob Tebbet.

Intercessory Prayer: Penny Charles.

Christmas Bowl appeal

Christmas Bowl appeal envelopes are now here. Tax deductible receipts are available if needed.

We believe that when people all over the world work together, big changes really are possible.

We're passionate about building a better world.

And that's why we've made it our mission to act in partnership with other passionate people, like you, across the globe to achieve safety, justice and dignity in communities threatened by conflict and natural disaster.

We don't think there is any task more important. Thank you for joining us.

2nd Sunday of Advent:

*Christmas is coming'
 the church is glad to sing
 and let the Advent candles
 brightly burn in a ring.*



OFFERING UPDATE: Total of last week's offering \$743,10

A sense of humour:

Cheerfulness is the principal ingredient in the composition of health!

Laughter is a tranquiliser with no side affects.

Adult Fellowship Officers:

President: Heather Beesley

Secretary: Sandy Tebbet

Treasurer: Anne Williamson



Y.O.Y. Office Bearers:

President: Elaine Murray

Secretary: Christine Bolton

Treasurer: Colleen McKay.

CHURCH ELDERS



- **Chairperson:** John Williamson
- **Secretary:** Kerry Chisholm
- **Treasurer:** Jenny Shaw
- **Elders:** Sue Thomas
 Colin Charles
 Collister Reynolds
 Bob Tebbet
 Jeff Kite
 Jillian Carson
 Megan de Witte
 Elynne Graham
 David Collett

CONGREGATION

- Congregational Chairperson: Sam de Witte
- Congregational Secretary: Shirley Hazell
- Hall Bookings: Helen Parsons