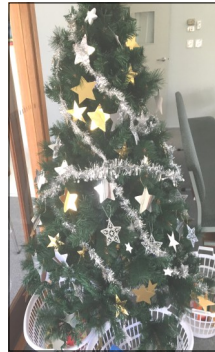


*Everyone is invited to place
a gift under our*

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

Cafe on Cowper going strong

Café on Cowper has enjoyed another successful year in 2017. There is an average of 20 to 24 regular attendees but we are always seeking new ways to invite more people. Word of mouth seems to be the best approach and Bob Tebbet is currently investigating fridge magnets for both publicity and to remind people about coming along each month. Last year we decided to form two teams, taking alternate months to cater. This continues to work well. The menus have been varied and the response from our guests has been very complimentary.

Although the meal is advertised as 'No Cost', most people give a donation. In addition, many of the cooks do not ask for reimbursement so we continue to make a substantial profit. We currently have approximately \$1200 in the bank and we have asked our guests if they have any suggestions as to who we should support with donations this year. We plan to make decisions about who to donate this money to by the end of year.

We are very pleased that Margaret Cornish has joined our group of volunteers this year. Our regular helpers are Jenny Shaw, Elaine Murray, David Marston, Johanna Heyink, Christine Bolton, Colleen McKay, David and Marg Collett, Sandy and Bob Tebbet, and Hilary and Jeff Kite.

GLOUCESTER UNITING CHURCH

Ministers: Every member of the congregation

Phone Secretary Kerry Chisholm 6558 4206



The Messenger

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

17th December, 2017



*Welcome to our church
and the*



**A warm welcome is
extended to every-
one 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.*

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

Gloucester Uniting Church Mission Statement

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

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS



Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 — Penny Charles
 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 — Colin Charles
 John 1:6-8, 19-28 — Elaine Maslen
Duty Elder, Bob Tebbet

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

Sunday, 24th December, Christmas Eve: Carols and readings service at 9.30am.

Monday, 25th December, at 8.30AM: Christmas Day service led by Hilary and Jeff Kite.

Sunday, January 7, 2018: Combined Churches Service in the park at 10am.

There will be no service in the Gloucester Uniting Church that morning, so please support the Combined Churches Service.

Updating our church rosters

The rosters for stewards, counting the offering and bible reading will be updated in the New Year.

If you would like your name added to any of these rosters (or if you would like your name removed) please contact Secretary Kerry Chisholm as soon as possible.

ROSTERS

TODAY: Jenny Shaw and Ray Creek to count offering.

Next week 24th December:

Stewards: Elynne Graham and Norma Wilson.

Bible Readings: Elaine & Bill Murray and Sandy Tebbet.

Power Point: Duty Elder: .

Intercessory Prayer: .



The Church Christmas party was a most successful night, good company, good weather and good eating. This picture shows a group of attendees enjoying a chat and a cuppa over the bench-top laden with goodies. Thanks to our hosts Jillian and Terry Carson and other organizers.



LEFT: The tastefully arranged manger scene in the church is greatly admired for its simplicity and for the simple truth of the Christmas story In addition is the wall hanger with its twinkling lights, And we thank those ladies whose artistic abilities have added to the Christmas theme this year. .



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