

## Report on Presbytery AGM

The following is a brief report by Mr Jeff Kite on the Presbytery AGM held on November 17.

Rev Mark Faulkner provided an excellent report on the new 'Saltbush' Project the Synod has launched for 'Uniting the Scattered Community'.

Its aim is "that all Christian communities, irrespective of size or location are equally a part of the wider body of the Church and can vitally live out their faith within the place and time in which they find themselves".

More information can be found at the website [ume.nswact.org.au/our-work/rural/saltbush-welcome](http://ume.nswact.org.au/our-work/rural/saltbush-welcome).

After a two year trial, it has been decided that having a combined Standing Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) does not meet the needs of congregations. A new PRC was established and six new members were appointed to the Committee.

Elections were held for positions on Presbytery Standing Committee:

Chairperson is Rev John Thornton, Deputy Chairperson Stephen Nicholson, Secretary Penny Archer, Treasurer Marie Battle, Assistant Secretary

Madelaine Parish, Property Officer John Williamson and Social Justice Contact Person Jeff Kite.

Two members of the Port Macquarie congregation submitted the following 'private' proposal:

"That the Mid North Coast Presbytery notify the President of Assembly that their decision to hold two equal and distinct statements of belief on marriage was a matter vital to the life of the church and there was inadequate consultation prior to the decision. Consequently they wish the proposal passed to be rescinded."

Three people spoke for the motion and three against the motion. It was decided that the proposal would require a two thirds majority to be carried and that the vote be by secret ballot. Only members of Presbytery could vote.

The result was: 75% against the motion, 25% for the motion. The motion was therefore lost.

At this stage in NSW, the number of Presbyteries that support the rescinding of the Assembly decision is one Presbytery out of 14. (Note: I mistakenly said that it was one out of 9 Presbyteries).



## The *Messenger*

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

Sunday, 9th December, 2018



***A warm welcome is extended to everyone worshipping at our 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.*

## Cafe on Cowper

**COME AND JOIN US FOR LUNCH**

*Next lunch at the Uniting Church Hall is set down for*

**Wednesday, 12th December**

12 midday to 1.30pm

For further information call

**Jeff and Hilary 6558 7436  
David and Marg 6558 4414**

Hosted by Gloucester Uniting Church — *There is no charge*

### **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



Malachi 3:1-4 — Christine Bolton

Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11 — Marg Collett

Luke 3:1-6 — Sue Thomas

*Duty Elder, David Collett*

**TODAY, Sunday, 9th December:** 9.30am service led by members of the Adult Fellowship; 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight.

**Monday, 10th December:** Church Council.

**Wednesday, 12th December:** Cafe on Cowper.

**Sunday, 16th December:** 9.30am service led Ty Soupdis.

**Sunday, 16th December:** Church Christmas Party from midday in the Park at the Pioneer Memorial Gardens.

**Wednesday, 19th December:** Mission Sewing.

### Christmas Hamper

**Donations of food or gift items are sought up until Christmas.**

**There is a basket in the foyer for this purpose**

## ROSTERS

**Today:** Coll Reynolds and Alan Vale to count the offering.

**Next week Sunday 16th December:**

**Stewards:**

**Bible Readings:** Bill and Elaine Murray and Daph Croker.

**Power Point:** Peter Hazell.

**Duty Elder:** Sue Thomas.

**Intercessory Prayer:** Colin.

### Bible readers needed!

If you are willing to add your name to the bible reading roster, please let Kerry Chisholm know as soon as possible.

### Elders elected

Congratulations to Allan Cornish, Jeff Kite, Collier Reynolds, Jenny Shaw, Bob Tebbet and Sue Thomas on their election as Elders to the Church Council on Sunday.

The commissioning service for these elders will take place early next year on a date to be advised.

*Shirley Hazell, Congregation Secretary*

## Christmas Party

will be held after church at midday on

### Sunday, 16th December

in Gloucester Park at the beautiful

### Pioneer Memorial Gardens

This will be a picnic lunch please bring along food to share, your own drinks, chair, plate & utensils and come dressed in something depicting Christmas to help put you in the party mood.

*Please advise of your attendance and what you can bring along on the forms in the foyer*

Further enquiries to Shirley on 6558 1899 or email [hazell@tpg.com.au](mailto:hazell@tpg.com.au)

## Carols by Candlelight

6.30pm

**This evening — Sunday, 9th December**

Lorna Breust's funeral service will be on Tuesday, 11th in the Wauchope Uniting Church.

### Adult Fellowship Officers:

President: Heather Beesley  
Secretary: Claire Reynolds  
Treasurer: Margaret Cornish



### Y.O.Y. Office Bearers:

President: Elaine Murray  
Secretary: Elaine Maslen.  
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  
David Collett

### CONGREGATION

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