



Keeping connected — between members of Gloucester Uniting Church on a weekly basis

Covid-19 pandemic *Messenger*

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

Church not re-opening at this stage

Our Gloucester Uniting Church will not be re-opening for services for at least two weeks following advice from Synod and the subsequent Church Council meeting on Monday night. Church Council met to discuss the timing to reopen the church premises and to recommence worship services, and the decision that was required to be made needed to be a balance between the health and welfare of all and the spiritual needs of the congregation, Church Council Chairman John Williamson said. The Church Council had obtained much written advice and guidance from both the NSW Synod and the NSW Department of Health, all of which was suggesting a cautious approach, he

explained. Consequently, the Elders decided that the Church premises should not reopen at this time and while this decision will no doubt disappoint many of you the reasons for the Elders approach are:

- Based upon the best available advice from Synod
- The ages of the congregation are in the high-risk category
- The potential of a "second-wave" of the virus due to the increase tourists last weekend
- A significant number of members felt reluctant, for various reasons to come back to combined worship at the present.

Mr Williamson's full letter to all church members is attached to this issue of the Messenger. In addition there are also two pastoral letters.

Sunday's reflections, prepared by Rev Lindsay Sheppard, will be sent as a separate email

Church morning tea on Zoom continues

Topic: Gloucester Church Morning Tea
Time: June 14, 2020 10:30 AM

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/93949445759>

Meeting ID: 939 4944 5759

Dial by telephone Ph : 8015 6011

There's more news about what's happening in the Presbytery on their website, <https://midnorthcoast.uca.org.au/latest-news/>

CHURCH ELDERS

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



Lectionary readings for Pentecost 2, June 14:
Genesis 18:1-15; Psalms 116:1-2. 12-19; Romans 5:1-8. Mt 9:35-10.8 (9-23).

CONGREGATION

- Congregational Chairperson: Sam de Witte
 - Congregational Secretary: Shirley Hazell
 - Hall Bookings: Helen Parsons 6558 1546
- Adult Fellowship: President: Jill Carson, Secretary: Sandy Tebbet, Treasurer: Margaret Cornish

Our greatest weakness may be our failure to rely on God's strength

GLOUCESTER UNITING CHURCH
Ministers: Every member of the congregation
Phone Secretary Kerry Chisholm 6558 4206

The congregational meeting for presentation of the proposed budget for 2020/2021, normally held in June, will be scheduled as soon as possible after Covid-19 restrictions allow.