

### Thanks for the \$2000 donation

David and Robyn Claydon of the St Andrews School in Hyderabad, India, pass on to all our friends our thanks for the generous gift to St Andrew's School and let them know that their \$2000 is being sent to Evangeline to purchase the equipment needed for the new Science Lab. They had a room in the new building completed just 6 months ago which was to be the science lab but they had no money to set it up for experiments. So Evangeline is so thrilled to know that your gift will make this possible. Thank you so much and with our prayers.

2020 Offering envelopes are now available for pickup in the foyer!

### Offering update:

Total of last week's offering **\$963.50**

## Appeal donations

### Our Church has donated \$1000 towards the Moderator's Bushfire Appeal

If individuals would like to donate to this appeal, with all funds directly assisting our families and friends affected by the fire, please visit the website:

[tinyurl.com/bushfireModAppeal](http://tinyurl.com/bushfireModAppeal)

**The Church Council Elders have donated a further \$1000 to the Frontier Services Drought Appeal**

Third Sunday of Advent



## Finding joy in resilience

Is it possible to be joyful when the natural disasters that batter your island home become more destructive with every year? Your gifts help the people of Tonga to prepare for, and stay safe through, worsening disasters. Please give to the Christmas Bowl today.



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188



# 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, 15th December, 2019



**A warm greeting 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



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Sunday, 22nd December:** 9.30am service led by Colin Charles.

**Wednesday, December 25:** Christmas Day Service, at 8.30am led by Rev John Hoskin.

**Sunday, 29th December:** 9.30am service led by Claire and Coll Reynolds.



## Gloucester Uniting Church Mission Statement

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

## TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS



Isaiah 35:1-10 — Shirley Hazell

Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55

James 5:7-10 — Bruce Chisholm

Matthew 11:2-11 — Johanna Heyink

*Duty Elder: Jeff Kite*

**TODAY, Sunday, 15th December:** 9.30am service led by Ty Soupidis.

**Sunday, 22nd December:** 9.30am service led by Colin Charles.

**Wednesday, December 25:** Christmas Day Service, at **8.30am** led by Rev John Hoskin.

**Sunday, 29th December:** 9.30am service led by Claire and Coll Reynolds.

**Sunday, January 5:** Combined Churches Service, 10am in the Park. There will be no service in our Church this morning, so please support the Combined Service.

## ROSTERS

**TODAY: Count the offering:** Jenny Shaw and Ray Creek

**NEXT WEEK Sunday 22nd December:**

**Stewards:** Elynne Graham and Colleen McKay

**Bible Readings:** Christine Bolton, Colin Charles and Penny Charles.

**Power Point:** Peter Hazell. **Duty Elder:** Allan Cornish.

**Intercessory prayer:** Colin Charles.

## Pastoral Care annual report

Our group of pastoral carers has not met as regularly as we would have hoped this year, due to a number of circumstances, but personal pastoral care has continued.

Unfortunately several couples have left our congregation following the vote on allowing same sex couples use of our hall or church. This has been a painful time, both for those who feel they had to leave, and those who chose to stay. In most cases friendships continue and a home has been found in other congregations.

As our members age there are illnesses and hospital visits. Please let me or your pastoral carer know about this, so I can arrange for visits from hospital chaplains when any are in hospital in other places. Also names can be added to the prayer chain if desired. Sadly some have lost parents or family members this year. Just this month there has been the passing of Marcia, wife of one of our visiting preachers, Rev. Lindsay Sheppard. Our thoughts, prayers, and friendship are with you. May God's presence bring healing and peace.

Thanks to Kerry, we have slips produced for Easter and Christmas which pastoral carers give to the members of their group, and are also distributed to the motels, caravan park and the Visitor Information Centre. But nothing beats a personal invitation.

Please approach your carer, myself, or any of the Elders if there is something you need or wish to discuss. Confidentiality is an important principle in Pastoral Care.

Lastly, a big thank you to all pastoral carers, both on the team, and in the congregation for your continuing participation in this important part of the church's mission.

**Sue Thomas, Pastoral Care Elder.**

*"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35*

### Adult Fellowship Officers:

President: Jill Carson

Secretary: Sandy Tebbet

Treasurer: Margaret Cornish



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

President: Julie Marchant

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  
Allan Cornish  
Megan de Witte  
David Collett

### CONGREGATION

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