

# Church Council annual report

(Continued from page 3)

We have applied for a grant to operate a 120 Countdown Program in conjunction with BWNG.

This program developed by Uniting Resources provides a fully serviced vehicle to allow volunteers to help suitable applicants to obtain the required 120 hours of driving experience so that they can go for their driver's licence. Have a look at <https://www.uniting.org/services/youth-services/learner-driver-mentoring.html> for more information about the program.

We will be advised in February 2020 whether our application has been successful.

We were privileged to have the Moderator visit and I'm sure all the people that attended the lunch

found him an interesting person. Rev Hansford has agreed to return next year to lead a service.

The Rev Bill Crews visit was also an outstanding success and since his visit he has indicated that he totally enjoyed the time at Gloucester and the Church Council has agreed to be included in his distribution list of various projects.

On behalf of all the Elders I would like to thank members of the Congregation for the support and trust that they have given the Church Council over the last twelve months and we all look forward to the coming Christmas time when we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**John Williamson**

On behalf of the Church Council

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**



Ben Uniting/Act for Peace

**Finding strength in love after fleeing Syria**

How do we share God's unconditional love with those who have suffered unimaginable violence? Through your gifts, you can help support Syrian refugees as they rebuild their lives. Please give to the Christmas Bowl today.



Christmas Bowl

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

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

**Offering update:**  
Total of last week's offering  
**\$000.00**



## 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, 22nd 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

**Today, 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 7:10-16 — Christine Bolton

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-10

Romans 1:1-7 — Colin Charles

Matthew 1:18-25 — Penny Charles

*Duty Elder: Allan Cornish*

**TODAY, 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.

**This will be the final Messenger until the end of January**

## ROSTERS

**TODAY: Count the offering:** Elynne Graham and Colleen McKay

**NEXT WEEK Sunday 29th December:**

**Stewards:** Elynne Graham and Colleen McKay

**Bible Readings:** Elaine Maslen, Bob Tebbet, Sandy Tebbet.

**Power Point:** John Williamson. **Duty Elder:** Bob Tebbet,

**Intercessory prayer:** Colin Charles.

## Church Council Annual Report

The Church Council has continued to meet monthly, working on behalf of the Congregation. This year has seen some property matters resolved, namely the re-configuration of the toilets which have provided a disable wet room facility.

However, there has been a challenge with renting the Manse to BWNG. It was the intention of the Church Council to continue renting the Manse to BWNG with a change of use to allow them to provide accommodation for individuals with disabilities. When the paperwork was submitted to Synod's Property Services department, the arrangement was deemed to be of a commercial nature and the Church Council was informed that the previous residential lease arrangement was inappropriate. The end result of months of negotiations has meant that both the Church Council and BWNG decided not to pursue the rental of the Manse. The Manse will now be rented out via a local real estate agent.

Some exciting opportunities have arisen this year. As reported last year the Church Council had been able to gain a grant for BWNG to purchase a mobile cool room for their Blueprint Kitchen. We have now organised for signage to be on the cool room acknowledging the Uniting Church.

During May we had a visit from Tracey Burton, the Executive Director of Uniting Resources who was very supportive of the relationship between our church and BWNG. It was through Uniting Resources that we obtained the grant for the mobile cool room. Tracey encouraged the Church Council to continue to support our local community and suggested other opportunities. Tracey also agreed to come back to Gloucester in 2020 to preach in a worship service.

**Continued on the back page**



### 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

### 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