

What's on This Week?

Sunday 18th

9.30am

Advent 4

Worship

Congregational Meeting

Wednesday 21st

9.00am - 2.30pm

“The Branch” Op Shop is open

Sunday 25th

8.30am

Christmas Day

Christmas Day Worship

For You to Note

CHRISTMAS BOWL 2022 - The easiest way to take part in the 2022 Christmas Bowl Appeal is to put your cash donation, or a cheque made out to “Act for Peace” into the envelope you were handed as you came into church today or last Sunday. If you prefer you can donate using your credit card by simply filling in your details on the inside of the fold-over flap of the envelope. Donations over \$2 are tax-deductible, so make sure you fill in your name etc. in the space provided on the envelope. Then place it in the offering bag today, on Christmas Day or on Sunday 1st January. You can make your donation online by direct bank deposit. Details of how to do this are on a large print A4 sheet on the notice board in the foyer.

NEWSLETTER - This will be the final newsletter for 2022, as there is no newsletter next Sunday being Christmas Day, and then it goes into recess for January. Therefore please take note of the dates for January, and keep this newsletter handy for reference. A huge thank you to John Ward for the work he puts into producing this every week. He does the newsletter even when on holidays, overseas, whatever, and we are enormously grateful. Barbara Dufty.

AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ LUNCH - An Australiana lunch to kick off the year's activities. Any profits will go to Frontier Services.

DATES FOR JANUARY:

Covenant Service - Sunday 1 January

Bible Fellowship Group - Tuesday 10th and 24th January

Op Centre reopens - Tuesday 17th January

Church Council - Thursday 19th January

Australia Day Barbecue lunch after church - Sunday 22nd January

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Christmas Day: 8.30 am (no morning tea)

Note that we will not be holding a Christmas Eve service this year, but Lake Mac will be holding a service at 6 pm to which everyone is welcome.

PREACHERS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY:

18 December - Pat Coster

25 December CHRISTMAS DAY - Bruce Edgell

1 January COVENANT SERVICE - Joan Horgan

8 January - Bruce Edgell

15 January - Ron Loom

22 January - Barbara Dufty

29 January Pat Coster

CHURCH COUNCIL - No meeting in December. The next meeting will be held at 3.30 pm on Thursday 19 January, a week earlier than usual because of the Australia Day holiday on 26th.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP - The Friendship Group will not meet in January. Next meeting 10 am on Tuesday 7th February.

POLICE COMMUNITY PRECINCT MEETING - WARNING ABOUT SCAMS

Lake Macquarie Police are concerned earlier warnings may have been forgotten. Each of the following HAS resulted in criminal activity, in OUR AREA, which could have been prevented:-

- Make sure that you keep your home secure at all times. This includes locking all doors, whether you are at home or away – even if this is only in your yard.

- Ensure that you do not leave keys, including car keys, near the front door.

- Do not leave wallets, keys, etc lying around. Criminals are experts at breaking into homes, even while people are asleep, to steal such items. Car keys and credit/debit cards are special targets. Stolen credit/debit cards can be used, in multiple stores, to pay-wave items up to \$200.00, each time, often before card providers realise that something is amiss and refuse more payments. The card owner is usually held liable for these debts.

For the same reason, never leave credit/debit cards or keys in an unattended car.

- Check your number plates, when returning to your car. These are stolen to place on vehicles before committing a crime, such as driving away before paying for fuel at a service station.

To contact Police -

000 - For serious emergency – crime in progress

131 444 - For non-emergency police assistance line

1800 333 000 - Crime Stoppers - To report real or suspected criminal activity (reports can be made anonymously)

MODERATOR'S FLOOD APPEAL TO HELP DEVASTATED COMMUNITIES –

The Uniting Church NSW/ACT has launched another appeal to help those communities devastated by record-breaking floods. The Moderator of the Uniting Church NSW/ACT, Rev. Simon Hansford, said the appeal was a response to communities in NSW which had been heavily hit by extremely high rainfall.

More information can be found at:

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/giving/moderators-appeal/>

Duties for 25th December - Christmas Day

Preacher *Bruce Edgell*
Bible Reading *Barbara Dufty & Parriss Mc Dougall*
Welcomers *Joan Harley & Helen Edgell*
Offering/Banking *Phil Kesterton & Derek Cumberworth*

Lectionary Readings for 25th December

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

DIRECT GIVING - Your offering can be set up to go directly from your bank account into the Church accounts and thus avoid the need to use the envelope system on a Sunday. A direct credit can be set up using the Church's Westpac working account BSB 032-524 Account number 12-1985 or by filling in a form to go to Uniting Financial Services. This form is available from Parriss McDougall.

Connect in Prayer

-We pray for people who find Christmas a time of loneliness and isolation, without family to share in the celebration.
- At this time of spending and gift-giving, we remember those who find it a time of hardship and financial stress, and we pray that people will be generous in their giving to the various charitable agencies.
- Pray for Mental Health Chaplains during the advent of Christmas when people's mental health is increasingly vulnerable. Pray also for the lonely, the bereaved and the despairing.

Submissions to the Newsletter

Articles for the Weekly Newsletter should be submitted in writing by Wednesday.
Email: morissetnews@hunter.uca.org.au



MORISSET UNITING CHURCH

"THE CHURCH IN THE TREES"



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER **ISSUE 1299 18th December 2022**

Welcome to the "Church in the Trees" this morning. If you are a visitor, help us to get acquainted with you by signing the Visitors' Book & staying for a time of fellowship at Morning Tea after Worship. Please also collect our Information Brochure.

Children are especially welcome as we share stories and have an activity table at the front.

Preacher **Pat Coster**
Service 9:30am Sunday
Church Ph: 0249 735554
PO Box 533, Morisset, NSW 2264
www.morissetunitingchurch.org.au
Facebook: [churchinthetreesmorissetuniting](https://www.facebook.com/churchinthetreesmorissetuniting)

Op Shop Ph: 0249 735967

Prayer Circle Prayer support for all needs for both congregation and beyond. Contact: Helen Edgell
Ph: 49705359 or Mb: 0400 460770

"Growing in the Spirit, reaching out in love"