

What's on This Week?

Sunday 14th Advent 3

9.30am Worship

Thursday 18th

6.00pm Open Kitchen

Sunday 21st Advent 4

9.30am Worship

For You to Note

DONATIONS TO CHRISTMAS APPEALS - Every Christmas local churches and church members receive letters and emails from many organizations requesting donations to their Christmas appeal. At its November meeting, Church Council decided that Morisset would promote just two appeals in 2025 : The National Council of Churches in Australia CHRISTMAS BOWL, and Uniting World's EVERYTHING IN COMMON gift catalogue. When you arrived at church this morning you would have been given a CHRISTMAS BOWL envelope for your donation. The envelope can be returned via the red offering bag next Sunday 21st December; at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services; or on Sunday 28th December. Or you can send it direct to the address on the envelope.

Unfortunately we only received one print copy of this year's Uniting World's "Everything in Common Gift Catalogue". But if you want to donate one of their gifts to a family member, go to www.everythingincommon.com.au to see what is available, or phone their Sydney office on 1800 998 122

SUPPORT A PLACE TO CALL HOME - Everyone deserves a suitable place to call home. But right now, demand for housing and homelessness support in NSW far outstrips supply, leaving too many people without the stability and safety they need. Call on the NSW Government to commit to lasting change by joining the campaign on homelessnessnsw.org.au

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS - The November meeting focussed on the op shop extensions, which have been planned for several years and for which a DA was obtained some time ago. The blowout in costs has put the original plans beyond our capacity financially, but the op shop is seen as integral to the mission of our church so the meeting was keen to find a way forward. After considerable discussion, Council decided on a three-pronged approach.

- 1) Formulate a new mission plan. This will help establish the potential missional or outreach activities of the op shop and the benefits of the extension.
- 2) Seek funding grants to enable us to proceed with the original plans, or with modified plans.
- 3) Consider alternative low-cost plans that are within our financial capacity, which

will still increase space and potential.

One alternative plan has been put forward with creative use of shipping containers, and Bob has built a scale model of this, as well as the original plans.

PRESBYTERY PRAYER DIARY - Each week, we are asked to pray for a different congregation, and Presbytery has compiled information and a prayer.

NORTH LAKE MACQUARIE



North Lake Macquarie (NLM) consists of two congregations, Boolaroo and Warners Bay, currently served by Rev Dale Yardy. The congregation is reaching out to the community, to offer a connection to spirituality by building a quiet centre, a sanctuary, away from the hustle and bustle of life for spiritual practice and short courses in spiritual wellbeing.

NLM has recently commenced a relationship with the Newcastle Birth Movement which assists families in providing emotional & practical support during and after the birth of their child, incorporating a newborn op shop to buy and swap pre-loved clothing. Check out Facebook and Instagram to see church posts and recent connections with other community groups online. Worship Services are currently held at 9am & 10:30am every Sunday across the two centres.

**14th
December**



PRAYER:

1. For Vision and Clarity: that God grants clear vision and wisdom as we discern how best to serve our community and fulfill our desire to be a Christian witness, offering spiritual programs for today's world.
2. For the Quiet Centre/Sanctuary: for guidance in the development of the quiet centre, that it would be a place of peace, spiritual growth, and healing for all who enter.
3. For the Newcastle Birth Movement Relationship: for a strengthening partnership, that is a source of practical and emotional support for families.

For Community Impact: that NLM will grow a significant and positive impact on the North Lake Macquarie community, becoming a vibrant beacon of hope and God's love to all.

T SHIRTS - The recently produced church T shirts would be a great gift for Christmas for anyone who would like to advertise our church community. At \$24 each they are a bargain! See Cathie Smythe for assistance.

Duties for 21st December - Advent 4

Preacher	Nancy Brawn
Bible Reading	Joan Horgan & Bob Starling
Welcomer	Bob Starling
Offering/Banking	Bob Starling & Winston James
Prayers of the People	Cathie Smythe
Morning Tea	Sue Kesterton & Cathie Smythe

Lectionary Readings for 21st December

Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25

REMINDER - save and leave your used stamps, eyeglasses, and blister packs in the relevant boxes in the foyer for recycling and the good of others please.

OP SHOP BREAK - The Op Shop has now closed for 2025. We are extremely grateful to all the helpers who make it possible to serve the community in this ministry. We pray they all enjoy a Christmas of blessing and a holiday break of refreshment.

CHRISTMAS ADVERTISING - please distribute leaflets as you are able.

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

- Think of those who are bereaved and feeling out of step in this season of joy and festivity, as they face a Christmas without their loved one, whether for the first time or after many years.
- 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. Pray that people will be generous in their giving to the various charitable agencies.

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 1439 14th December 2025

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 area at the back of the worship area.

Minister **Rev Nancy Brawn**
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Service Church 9:30am Sunday
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"