



PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT



ISSUE NO. 94 DECEMBER 2023



WE BELONG TO THE DAY

Synod
2023

1 Thessalonians 5:8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

As I write this, I am still getting back to 'normal' after the four-day Synod of Victoria and Tasmania meeting, which ended two days ago. A Synod meeting is an intense time of sharing with others who belong to the wider church, thinking, praying, talking, listening and working together to discern where God is calling us at this time. The theme *We belong to the day*, kept us reminded that we are called to be people of light, not darkness. It also invites us to ask about this 'Day' in biblical terms; the times and communities in which we live, the culture that surrounds us, the hopes and dreams and stories of others in whom we find God active and alive in the world. How do we strive to be people of this 'Day'?

Daily bible studies, led by Rev. Dr. Robyn Whitaker, Associate Professor of New Testament Studies at Pilgrim Theological College grounded us in the activity of listening to ancient stories in new ways. Robyn reminded us that the bible often re-interprets itself, as writers in the Second Testament make use of the deep spiritual wisdom of the Hebrew Scriptures to shed new light on the new Day that had dawned in Christ's life, death and resurrection.

Theological Reflector Brooke Prentis, a descendant of the Wakka Wakka peoples and an Aboriginal Christian leader, called us back to First Nations perspectives on the words we use, the way we meet and reflect together, the way we hear and tell stories. She called us to deep listening to the land, to recognition of the wisdom of First Nations cultures, and to see where God's compassion, justice and courage might lead us to reassess our relationships with the land and each other.

We discussed and passed Proposals particularly important to our Day: a proposal that the Synod aim for net zero emissions by 2040 at the latest, with a fund established to assist, a proposal supporting the decriminalisation of small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use, along with a call for funding for more health-based approaches to people harmed by their drug use, a proposal to encourage UCA bodies in the VicTas Synod to look at the social justice issues relating to where we buy our goods and services. Some of these discussions were difficult at times, but it was once again an example of how well the consensus method of decision making that we use enables all voices to be heard. Some of the

(Continued on page 3)

LECTIONARY Readings Year B

Advent - A season of preparation, beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, in which the church recalls its hope and expectation in the coming of Christ past, present and future.

Date	Day/Season	Col.	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
3 Dec	Advent 1	P	Isaiah 64:1-9	80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
10 Dec	Advent 2	P	Isaiah 40:1-11	85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
17 Dec	Advent 3	P	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	126 or Luke 1:47-55	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
24 Dec	Advent 4	P	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Luke 1:47-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38

The **Christmas** season includes Christmas Eve/Day and the twelve days of Christmas. It recalls the stories of the birth and infancy of Christ. The Church in this time celebrates the wonder of the incarnation. (Any of the Nativity selections may be used either for Christmas Day or Christmas Eve services.)

24/25 Dec	Nativity 1	W	Isaiah 9: 2-7	96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
	Nativity 2	W	Isaiah 62:6-12	97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:1-7 (8-20)
	Nativity 3	W	Isaiah 52:7-10	98	Hebrews 1:1-4,(5-12)	John 1:1-14
31 Dec	Christmas 1	W	Isaiah 61:10 to 62:3	148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40
1 Jan	Naming of Jesus	W	Numbers 6:22-27	8	Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 2:15-21
1 Jan	New Year's Day	W	Ecclesiastes 3:1- 13	8	Revelation 21:1-6a	Matthew 25:31-46

Epiphany

An 'Epiphany' is a revealing, appearing or manifesting of something or someone, and in this season the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all people. The length of this period varies depending on the date of Easter.

6 Jan	Epiphany	W	Isaiah 60:1-6	72:1-7,10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2 1-12
7 Jan	Baptism of Jesus	W	Genesis 1:1-5	29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
14 Jan	Epiphany 2	G	1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20)	139:1-6, 13-18	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
21 Jan	Epiphany 3	G	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	62:5-12	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
28 Jan	Epiphany 4	G	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	111	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28
2 Feb	Presentation of the Lord	G	Malachi 3:1-4	84 or 24:7-10	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
4 Feb	Epiphany 5	G	Isaiah 40:21-31	147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39

Colours: P – Purple

W – White

G – Green

R – Red

B – Black

(from page 1) proposals were altered in significant ways in light of the meeting's listening to a lone voice on a particular issue.

We joyfully elected a new Moderator-elect; Rev Salesi Faupula. Salesi was born in Tonga, but raised in the Northern Territory and Sydney, giving him a wealth of experience and insight. Probably the highlight of Synod for me was Salesi's acceptance of the nomination, where he spontaneously broke into song, and then his Pasifika brothers and sisters in the room (and Brook with her clapsticks) joined in. I think it was a little bit like heaven to be sitting in the middle of music of such beauty and faith.

The Tributes Service, where ministers who have died since the last Synod meeting are named, and for whom candles are lit, and thanks are given for ministers who have reached significant anniversaries since their ordination, was also a highlight. One of the ministers we celebrated, the 108 year-old Rev. William Morgan, had been ordained for 80 years!! We also acknowledged the ministers ordained since the last Synod meeting.

A huge part of the meeting, though, is catching up with old friends, making new ones, and hearing about how the Church is living out it's call to worship and be at mission in the world with God in a variety of ways. It's a tiring four days, especially so because I was asked to be on the Business Committee, the group that oversees the day-to-day running of the meeting. It was a fascinating insight into how hard our Synod leaders and staff work towards a Synod that runs smoothly and listens carefully and well to the voice of its members. In this way, we hoped to discern the call of God to the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania to truly belong to the Day.

December Crosslight will have a report on the Synod meeting. If you'd like to see recordings of any of the sessions they can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@UCA-VicTas/streams>

This includes the opening worship, which may include a gospel telling by someone you know.

Annette Buckley

November 2023



Those who attended the October 29th Partnership service in Gisborne will remember the bowl of water and the salt we dropped in during our prayers of lament. Tea-light candles were lit for prayers of hope which were then floated on the salty water.



Janet and D'Arcy Wood at their recent garden party fundraiser – flowers, music, joy, beauty, generosity and good friendships! (and hard work too no doubt)

Did you know.....?

Since 2020, Australia Post has allowed us to use the name of the First Nations Country related to the address we use when posting mail? It's very simple...you just include it after the recipient's name and before the street address, suburb or town like this:

Annette Buckley
Wurundjeri Country
3 Sutherlands Rd
Riddells Creek 3431

Sometimes it can be a bit difficult to find out the name of the Country where your recipient is, but searching for "[place name] + First Nations Country" on the internet often works. If you can't find out, you can always find out for your own address and add it on the back of your envelope in the same way.

NEWS FROM ROMSEY

During January 2024 Romsey will be having combined services with Lancefield at 10am as follows:

- Lancefield 7th January;
- Romsey 14th January;
- Lancefield 21st January;
- Romsey 28th January.

On 19th November, Romsey were to have a streamed service with Gisborne. Unfortunately, we couldn't connect, everything was on but as much as Jay Brooks tried, we could not connect with Gisborne and Neil was having some problems at Gisborne so was unable to help.

So, we had to compromise. Fortunately, we have a number of PowerPoint services on our computer and we used one from earlier this month, 5th November. We had the hymns and the call to worship and then we used the four readings from 19th November and read the article on the 1st & 3rd pages of the November PiP which was very interesting and informative. We are all good friends and everyone enjoyed the service as presented.

At morning tea on the same day, we celebrated the 90th birthday of John Clement. John and his family have been associated with the Presbyterian/UC Church for many decades ~ John performed various roles including Sunday School teaching. John's Church family were honoured to celebrate his 90th Birthday after the Service.



John celebrating his birthday with his Romsey church family and with his 4 sons at his family farm at Springfield.



METCALFE

Photos from the 34th Annual CFA service at the Metcalfe Hall on 12th November.

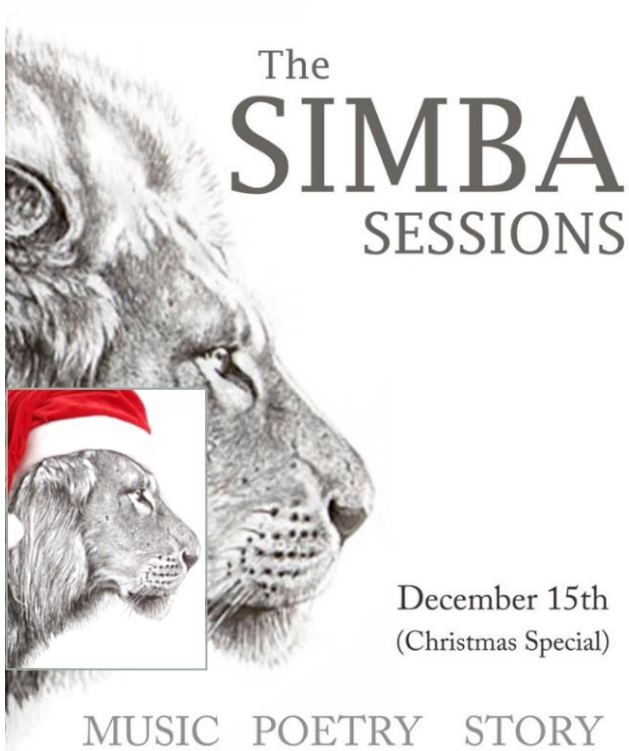


The baptism of Daphne was also celebrated on this day. Daphne is Dot Smith's Great-great-granddaughter.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	<h1>December 2023</h1> <p>for more details for Worship leadership around the Partnership see page 9</p>				1	2
Christmas 1 10am Partnership Service Romsey – Communion (AB & PB)					10am Prayers at Gisborne	CoCo in Kyneton
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Advent 1 9.30am Communion streamed from Tylden (AB)	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community		9.30-1pm White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship Kyneton – HC (AB)	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Advent 2 9.30am Streamed from Gisborne (AB)	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community 3.30pm RM Begg	10am Christmas Muffin Morning Gisborne	9.30-1pm White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 7pm Simba Sessions	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Advent 3 9.30am Streamed from Kyneton (PB) 7.30pm Sutton Grange Carols (AB)	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community	10am Ministers Munch Barfold tbc (AB)	9.30-1pm White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship Kyneton	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Advent 4 9.30am Romsey (AB) no streaming 7.30pm Tylden Carols	Christmas Day 9.30am Gisborne (DW) 9.30am Kyneton (PB) 9.30am Romsey (AB)				10am Prayers at Gisborne	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
2024	New Year's Day Naming of Jesus				10am Prayers at Gisborne	Epiphany CoCo meeting
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Baptism of Jesus 9.30am	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community		9.30-1pm White Goose Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship Kyneton	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Epiphany 2 9.30am Gisborne	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community		9.30-1pm White Goose Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne	*PiP articles due tomorrow please
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Epiphany 3 9.30am Kyneton	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community		9.30-1pm White Goose Riddells Creek	6.30pm Delightful Dinner – tbc	10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship Kyneton tbc (public holiday)	
28	29	30	31	January		
Epiphany 4 9.30am Romsey (AB)	12.30 Souper Lunch 2.30 Faith Community		9.30-1pm White Goose Riddells Creek			



The
SIMBA
SESSIONS

December 15th
(Christmas Special)

MUSIC POETRY STORY

St Andrews Uniting Church
56 Ebden st, Kyneton, 7pm, \$15 entry

The Simba Sessions Christmas Special

"For those outside the church," Paul (Banks) writes, "or those on the cusp of a religious sense of belonging, Christmas can be a tricky time. For many, Christmas can bring up all sorts of issues: loneliness, the deaths of loved ones, alienating stories and lofty religious language, domestic or family violence, complicated family politics, alcoholism, consumerism and materialism, religious exclusion in a pluralistic or atheistic society: the famine or the feast. It's enough for anyone to feel resistant toward the advent season -- we get it: 'It's complicated'".

This month at The Simba Sessions on 15th December, Paul and the Simba community gather to share their experiences as together they "Unpack Christmas".

It is a night of merry-making and fund-raising where artists from all through the year come to offer their thoughts and experiences

around the complexities of Christmas, and offer two originals and a Christmas song/poem in celebration of community amidst diversity. It's a night where all voices are heard and all are welcome.

Know someone be who might be interested? Invite them along to help us 'unpack' Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MUFFIN DAY

O Christmas tree: O Christmas tree: You and friends are invited to join in singing this lovely carol on **Tuesday morning December 12 at Gisborne UC**. And yes, the theme is the Christmas tree. Please don't bring your large tree but do look out those ornaments - brass or glass, crocheted or drawn - with which you decorate your tree. You might also have a favourite poem or song which features the Christmas tree. We'll also extend our theme to include each of us identifying a local tree that we love. It might be in your backyard or along the street or in the local botanic gardens. And if you've mastered your smart phone you might bring along a photo of it.

White Goose Christmas Wrapping
In December at Riddells Creek on the first 3 Wednesdays gift wrapping will be available for a gold coin donation – do drop in! (see pg 8 photo)

December/January Break:
White Goose in Riddells Creek will be closed for two weeks on 27th December and 3rd January, reopening again on 10th January.
Souper Lunches and Faith community in Woodend will also take a break on Christmas Day and New Years Day

HELP!!!

**Volunteers needed
to
mow the grass at the
Woodend Church
and
keep the small garden tidy**

**Contact : Lyn or Woodend
Property Committee**

The reflection on 29th October ended with a call to 'throw away the labels, start to really listen, and begin to tell a new story now'. What was missing was a poem from Alix Brown which is reproduced here.

Christmas Carols are being held in **Kyneton** on Sunday 17th December 7.30pm – at St Paul's Anglican Church in conjunction with the Kyneton Municipal Band and the Rotary Choir. All welcome to come along and join in.
Riddells Creek Carols are 16th Dec 7pm for 7.30 start. Coffee Van will be available, byo picnic tea.

Dropping the adjectives

You call us
 bogus asylum-seekers,
 fraudulent claimants
 promiscuous homosexuals
 pretend families
 rebellious youth
 manipulative children
 strident women.

Better still,
 let's change them.

We could be called
 desperate asylum-seekers,
 genuine claimants
 happy homosexuals
 real families
 challenging youth
 hurting children
 assertive women

How about
 dropping the adjectives?
 Then we would be
 asylum-seekers,
 claimants
 homosexuals
 families
 youth
 children
 women.

after all, one word's as good as another...

Isn't it? Alix Brown

CHRISTMAS QUOTES

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree. (–Roy L. Smith)
 God is in the manger, wealth in poverty, light in darkness, succor in abandonment. No evil can befall us; whatever men may do to us, they cannot but serve the God who is secretly revealed as love and rules the world and our lives. (Unknown)
 Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind. (–Mary Ellen Chase)
 Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone (.–Charles M. Schulz)
 The spirit of Christmas is Christlike love. (–Bonnie L. Oscarson)
 The Christmas spirit – love – changes hearts and lives. (–Pat Boone)
 It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. (–Mother Teresa)
 Christmas is waiting to be born: in you, in me, in all mankind. (–Howard Thurman)
 The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much. (–Henry David Thoreau)



Meg and friends wrapping books at the White Goose on Sunday 26th November

A CHURCH OF MANY COLOURS

It's been obvious for some time that many Uniting congregations are struggling. Some are closing down. But this is not the case everywhere. There is much strength in the so-called "ethnic" congregations. The work of white missionaries in the 19th and 20th centuries bore much fruit. A report on Tonga on TV recently commented that "this is a very religious place". The same goes for Fiji and other countries. But Pacific people have been migrating for generations past and still today. Tongans, for example, are to be found in great numbers in New Zealand and in most large Australian cities. Tonga produces not only gifted rugby players but gifted preachers as well. Last week the Vic/Tas Synod of the UCA elected Rev Salesi Faupula as its next Moderator. The next national President of the UCA is also of Tongan descent. (As it happens, Salesi's grand-father, Rev Sau Faupula, baptised me in 1937!)
 (continued over page)

In the UCA many of our ministerial candidates come from Chinese, Indonesian, Korean, Sri Lankan, Indian, Filipino, Fijian, Samoan and Tongan congregations. For more than 60 years Indigenous ministers have been ordained, and candidates from African backgrounds are beginning to emerge. The UCA of the future will be less and less Anglo. It will look more and more like Australian society itself - very diverse.

D'Arcy Wood

DECEMBER JANUARY WORSHIP ACROSS THE PARTNERSHIP

	Date	Minister at	Leading worship	Streaming/ From	Minister attending
December	Sunday 3rd Communion	Tylden	Annette Buckley	Yes	
	Monday 4th	Woodend		No	
	Friday 8th Communion	Kyneton Fish & Chips	Annette Buckley	No	
	Sunday 10th	Gisborne	Annette Buckley	Yes	
	Monday 11th	Woodend			
	Sunday 17th	Kyneton	Paul Banks	Yes	
	Sunday 17th 7:30 pm	Sutton Grange Carols	Annette Buckley	No	
	Monday 18th	Woodend			
	Tuesday 19th	Barfold (TBC)	Annette Buckley	No	
	Friday 22nd	Kyneton Fish & Chips	NMT	No	
	Sunday 24th	Romsey	Annette Buckley	No	
	Sunday 24th 7.30 pm	Tylden Carols	NMT	No	Annette Buckley
	Monday 25th	Gisborne	Rev. D'Arcy Wood	No	
	Monday 25th	Kyneton	Paul Banks	No	
	Monday 25th	Romsey	Annette Buckley	No	
	Sunday 31st Partnership Service & Communion	Romsey	Annette Buckley & Paul Banks	No	
January 2024	Sunday 7th -no communion	-	NMT	No	Ministry Team quarterly Sunday off
	Monday 8th	Woodend		No	
	Friday 12th	Kyneton Fish & Chips	NMT		Annette & Paul on annual leave
	Sunday 14th	Gisborne	NMT	Gisborne	
	Monday 15th	Woodend		No	
	Sunday 21st	Kyneton	NMT	Kyneton	Annette Buckley
	Monday 22nd	Woodend			
	Friday 26th	Kyneton Fish & Chips	Public holiday. Worship TBC		
	Sunday 28th	Romsey	Annette Buckley	No	

*NMT - Non-Ministry Team



Some photographic highlights from The Simba Sessions in November

ADVENT

Advent provides us with an opportunity to pause and reflect, and we are offering some **Advent gatherings across the Partnership**, starting this coming Monday. They will be:

In person Mondays at 2.30 pm at Woodend Uniting Church
 via Zoom on Monday evenings at 7.30 pm
 In person on Fridays at 11.00 at at Gisborne Uniting Church

Please contact a member of the Ministry Team if you'd like to be involved, including if you'd like to suggest another time for a Zoom gathering. There is an approximately 15 minute video to watch at each of the in-person sessions, and you can have a link to watch that beforehand if you'd like to. If you'd like to join the Zoom gathering, you'll need to ask for the link so that you can watch the video first. We're calling it a 'gathering' rather than a bible study because we will spend some time in quiet reflection and prayer, as well as discussion and learning.

Christmas is really for the children

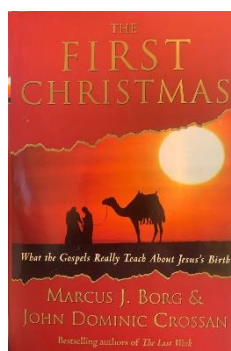
Christmas is really for the children. Especially for children who like animals, stables, stars and babies wrapped in swaddling clothes. Then there are wise men, kings in fine robes, humble shepherd and a hint of rich perfume.

Easter is not really for the children unless accompanied by a cream filled egg. It has whips, blood, nails, a spear and allegations of body snatching. It involves politics, God and the sins of the world. It is not good for people of a nervous disposition. They would do better to think on rabbits, chickens and the first snowdrop of spring.

Or they'd do better to wait for a re-run of Christmas without asking too many questions about what Jesus did when he grew up or whether there's any connection

...an easter poem to ponder as we approach Christmas...

by Steve Turner



Tearfund Useful Gifts: Choose a gift, send a card, fight poverty!

Every item in Tearfund's Gift Catalogue represents a contribution to a long-term poverty-fighting project run by one of Tearfund's Christian partners. Each project is tailored to that community's needs, helping people gain the skills and resources they need to address local problems and come up with sustainable solutions

Poverty-Fighting Gifts To Suit Any Budget! More than just your average charity card, Tearfund's Useful Gifts contribute to long-term sustainable development projects. When you buy a goat or other useful gift - like a chicken or a toilet - your gift is contributing to sustainable, long-term development projects run by Tearfund and our local partners.

You can purchase Tearfund Gifts through their website at

<https://www.usefulgifts.org/>

Gisborne UC is also running their UnitingWorld 'Everything in Common' gift shop in December on 10th and 17th after the service. If you can't get to Gisborne for this stall, these gifts are also available online at

<https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/everythingincommon>

A new book for Christmas?

a great Christmas and Advent companion for those interested in engaging more thoroughly with the world of Jesus' day this Christmas

A POEM TO EMBRACE THE REAL WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the festivities end, the family and friends return home,
and all the decorations removed, we may think it is time to put Christmas away too...at least
until next year.

But that is when the “real work of” Christmas should begin.
The work of taking the hope and joy that Jesus brings and using it to heal the broken, provide
for the needy, bring peace to our communities, and share light in the darkness.

After Christmas is over, the real work of the season begins!

***When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings
and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with the flocks, then the work of
Christmas begins:***

***To find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit, to feed
the hungry, to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music
with the heart.***

***And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way,
in all that we do and in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.***

Contacts Other Groups		
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> <u>MIA MIA</u> <u>BARFOLD</u> <u>METCALFE</u>	<u>Congregation Chair</u> - Dot Smith <u>Elders - North</u> Dot Smith Marge Townrow	<u>Elders- Kyneton</u> Helen Aldridge, Pip Elston, Jenny Elston, Brian Lauder, Andrea Strack
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Church Council</u> Chair – Pip Elston Sec – Helen Aldridge, Helen Carey and elders (as above)	<u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs <u>Congregation Secretary</u> Helen Aldridge
<u>ROMSEY</u>	<u>Church Council/Elders</u> Noel Shaw Jay Brooks Jeni Clampit Jenny Elliott Carol Toy	<u>UCAF</u> Pres/Sec - Jeni Clampit Treasurer - Carol Toy
<u>TYLDEN</u>	<u>Elders</u> Shirley Bowen, Joy Evans Max Hinneberg	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole, Shirley Bowen <u>Op-Shop Contact:</u> Fiona Armour
<u>WOODEND</u>	<u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> – Robyn Zumstein	<u>Poperty Committee</u>
<u>RIDDELLS CREEK</u>	<u>White Goose</u> - Meg Evans	
<u>GISBORNE</u>	<u>Prayer Ministry</u> – D’Arcy Wood <u>Pastoral Care</u> - Bev Gilbertson <u>Social Justice</u> – Nola Anderson <u>Worship & Education</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>Faith & Community</u> – Kerrie Birch – Wendy Hallinan - Helen Hallett
<u>CoCo</u> - (Co-ordinating Council)	<u>Chair</u> - Colin Chapman <u>Secretary</u> - Keith Hallett <u>Treasurer</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>Finance Committee</u> Chair - Paul Gilbertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman

Presbytery of Port Phillip West has a website full of resources and information: <https://ucappw.org.au/>

COCO REPORT

CoCo met on 4th November at Woodend with 12 attendees, and 3 apologies. The main discussion of the morning was focussed on the current organisation of worship, in conjunction with a letter* we had received from Annette. She shared her concern about leading streamed worship which she doesn't feel is life-giving. This is having an impact on her being able to spend time in missional activities and more creative forms of worship.

Each congregation shared their opinions about the way worship is working at the moment and people's reactions to the streamed services.

It has been decided that we will adopt Tylden's suggestion of:

- **First Sunday** - Partnership communion. Ministry Team to lead. The service will be streamed.
- **Second and Third Sundays** - People other than members of the Ministry Team lead worship from congregations on a rostered basis (similar to the current roster). Worship is streamed for congregations who wish to receive it
- **Fourth Sunday** - No streaming. In-person worship led by a member of the Ministry Team (or alternative activities such as Tylden's community breakfast)
- **Fifth Sunday** - Partnership Service, with communion. The following First Sunday will not be a communion Sunday, and will not be streamed.

Members of the Ministry Team will contribute to services, and resource and assist worship leaders where required. This plan may well be changed and refined as it evolves but it will commence in January 2024 with a draft sent to church councils for comment.

The ministry team reported that there have been a lot of pastoral care issues that have occupied a significant amount of Annette's time.

Meg Evans thanked everyone for attending the Partnership service which included recognition of her contribution as a Minister in Association and Release as she finally retires from this position.

The next meeting will be held on 2nd December at Kyneton.

*if you would like a copy of this letter, please contact Annette

Address label

Partnership in Print is a monthly magazine produced by the Uniting Church in Australia – Macedon Ranges Partnership and is available on the last Sunday of each month, except December

Macedon Ranges Partnership is part of the Port Phillip West Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Australia.

<u>MINISTERS:</u> Pastor Annette Buckley Ph 5429 5351 or 0457 608 539 annettebmrp@icloud.com	Mr Paul Banks Ph 0450 436 285 uca.kyneton@gmail.com	<u>OFFICE LOCATION AND POSTAL ADDRESS</u> Wurundjeri Country 3 Sutherland Rd Riddells Creek 3431
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<u>OFFICE PHONE</u> (03) 5428 6920	<u>PARTNERSHIP EMAIL ADDRESS</u> macedon.ranges.partnership@hotmail.com
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PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au

CONGREGATION DETAILS	CHAIRPERSON	SECRETARY	TREASURER	PROPERTY	CoCo REPS
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> - Church Access Rd <u>MIA MIA</u> - Matheson Rd <u>BARFOLD</u> - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd <u>METCALFE</u> - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd	Pip Elston	Helen Aldridge miamiakynetonu c@outlook.com	<u>Finance Committee</u> Helen Carey (Treas) Roy Gibbs Jenny Elston	Church Council Executive	Marge Townrow Dot Smith
<u>KYNETON</u> - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)					Pip Elston, Lyn Ward, Helen Aldridge(alt)
<u>ROMSEY</u> - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)	Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampit	Roger Baker		Noel Shaw, Jeni Clampit, Jay Brooks (alt)
<u>TYLDEN</u> - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)	Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole	Dawn Hinneberg	Max Hinneberg	Bronwyn Hewitt, Dawn Hinneberg
<u>WOODEND</u> - 37 Forest St					
<u>GISBORNE</u> - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett, Paul Gilbertson

There will be no PIP in January. Wishing you and your families a safe and happy Christmas and blessed start to the New Year. We will be back in time for the beginning of February – please send any photos, stories, news and events to me by 21st January. See you in the New Year!

Robyn 😊

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