



REACHING OUT January 12, 2020

Weekly News for Wodonga West and Rural Uniting Churches

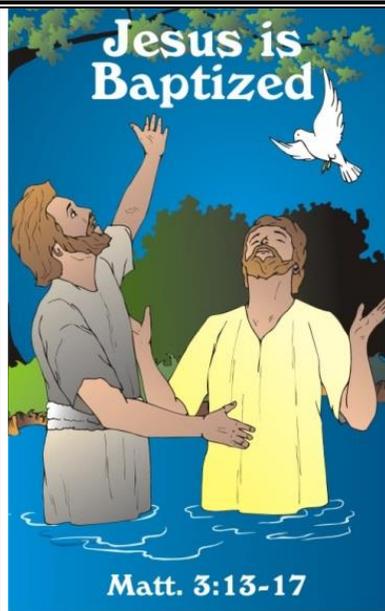
Baptism of Jesus

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

11:00am Kergunyah Uniting Church

Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17



Matt. 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented.

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened

to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Matthew 3:13-17

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Christmas Bowl Appeal: Last day for collection of Christmas Bowl envelopes. Many thanks for your support for this important appeal to help families in many parts of the world needing our help.

Emmanuel please note: On days declared **Code Red** fire danger, Church Council has resolved that Sunday services at Emmanuel will be not be held and all other church activities are to be cancelled.

COMING EVENTS

Sun	12 Jan	10:30am – 1:30 pm	Congregation lunch and get together
Tue	28 Jan	10:30am	Community Shop opens for 2020
Sun	16 Feb	10:30am	AGM Emmanuel Congregation

INSTALLATION OF NEW BISHOP

Please note the date of the Congregation Annual General Meeting has now been set for Sunday February 16 so as to allow parishioners the opportunity of attending the installation of The Venerable Clarence Edgar Bester as the 11th Bishop of Wangaratta on **Sunday, February 23** at 3pm at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Wangaratta. Clarence commenced ordained ministry in South Africa in the Diocese of Cape Town and was Archdeacon to the Ordinary and Rector of St Andrew's Strand for 12 years, before coming to the parish of Shepparton in Wangaratta in 2015. He has international experience in the Diocese of Europe in Strasbourg, Cologne, and Bonn.



SUPPORT FOR WILLIAM

The Church Council has agreed to the appeal to support William Bizimana to obtain visas for his partner Anita and baby daughter Eliza, whom he has not yet met to come to Australia. If you would like to help, please **put an envelope in the offering**, or speak to LouAnne or David **for direct deposit details**.

BUSHFIRE RELIEF – BPNH FROM AMANDA

'We are currently in the midst of assisting the fire relief community with meals! I wish to advise the church community that we have been donated a cool room to assist with the huge amount of vegetable donations that we have been given. It will be here for approximately a week. We also have four little glass ovens that are left on the table closest to the kitchen in room 1 that are being left out as they hot when they are finished with and we are unable to put them away. These are also being used every day.

If anyone from the church would like to either donate and fresh vegetables, meat in packets or pantry items, or volunteer to assist us, please contact me in the office as we have a roster system going,' Amanda, BPNH Co-ordinator.

Peace

By Ian Menzies



When Jesus said, 'Peace be with you' I don't think he was meaning just a literal absence of war, although that would be good, obviously. Other dictionary definitions may be more apt. 'A calm and quiet state, free from disturbances or noise,' perhaps? But that would eliminate any excitement or celebration, so perhaps that wasn't the full intention either. 'Freedom from conflict or disagreement among people or groups of people?' 'The absence of violence or other disturbance within a state?' Just what is this peace that is being blessed upon us? The closest dictionary definition

that fits best, I think, is 'A state of mental calm and serenity, with no anxiety'. Lucas Damoff notes that 'the Hebrew Scriptures are full of an aching desire for peace being answered by God's unrelenting promise to bring them into the Sabbath rest they so desperately crave. In the Jewish understanding, this notion of peace (in Hebrew: *shalôm*) has the nuance of wholeness, completion and rest. It is not merely the absence of conflict, or the cessation of hostilities. It is a life that is full of goodness and completely free from anxiety.' That sounds pretty good to me. May the Peace of the Lord be with you

Reflection:

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

MINISTERS OF THE WORD & OTHER CONTACTS

UCA:	Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies 02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069 stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au [weekly RDO: Friday]
Emmanuel Pastoral Care:	<i>Speak with an Elder or Warden</i>
Emmanuel Prayer Chain:	<i>Give requests to Betty Siggers on 0427 761 044</i>
Address:	PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Office Phone:	Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460
Office Open:	Not staffed at present
Reaching Out:	Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com or LouAnne Stabb 02 6059 2244 stabb@inet.net.au by Wednesday .
Website:	http://www.emmanuel.unitingchurch.org.au/index/htm

BIBLE READINGS *for* NEXT SUNDAY

Epiphany 2

Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42



WORSHIP SERVICES *for* NEXT WEEK

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

6:00pm Kergunyah Uniting Church

ON DUTY

	Sunday Jan 12 (Uniting)	Sunday Jan 19 (Anglican)
Readings	Harold Cover	Karen Robinson
Elders/Wardens	Carol Harris LouAnne Stabb	Karen Robinson Ted Stabb
Organist	LouAnne Stabb	TBA
Prayers	Carol Harris	Karen Robinson
Early Word	LouAnne Stabb	NA

LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR

Rev. Denise Liersch, Moderator, UCA Victoria/Tasmania Synod, has written a letter to all congregations concerning the bushfire devastation in Australia. A copy is on the notice board for you to read. A quote from the letter:
Together we are bringing our prayers and support for those who have died; for those who have lost loved ones, their homes and livelihoods, animals and pets; for those who don't know if loved ones are safe or not; for those who don't know if they have homes to go back to or what the future holds for them.
She encourages people to donate funds for bushfire relief through *Uniting*, accessed via <https://www.vt.uniting.org/uniting-vic-tas-2020-bushfire-appeal/>.