



REACHING OUT January 5, 2020

Weekly News for Wodonga West and Rural Uniting Churches

Christmas 2

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

6:00pm Kergunyah Uniting Church

Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20, Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1:(1-9), 10-18



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into

being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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John 1:(1-9), 10-18

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 etc. (see below)
Tue	28 Jan	10:30am	Community Shop opens for 2020
Sun	16 Feb	10:30am	AGM Emmanuel Congregation

EMMANUEL DATES TO NOTE

Sunday, January 12 Event – Next Sunday all who are part of Emmanuel are encouraged to attend a special time here at church. During morning tea after worship we'll share photos using our wonderful new TV/media system. Bring along a USB stick with a few (10 to 20?) photos to share. Time to chat about future possibilities for Emmanuel will follow, after which we hope you can stay for a bring and share lunch. We look forward to seeing some photos, chatting, and of course sharing in a meal. Don't forget to get busy choosing some snaps to share.

Sunday February 16 AGM-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**.

CHRISTMAS BOWL – THANK YOU

There is still time to make your contribution to the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Envelopes will be available to Sunday January 12, which will be the final Sunday for the collection at Emmanuel.

Christmas Decorations on our Tree

Thank you, all who shared their Christmas decorations on our tree. Please remember to take them home. All still on the tree after worship today will be kept safely in the vestry.

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HANGOVERS

By Bill Pugh

There will be some who wake up on New Year's Morning with a hangover. Feeling terrible, a result of intemperate partying. Many of us have things we regret about our lives.

A new year gives a chance to begin again. It's so easy to say that, so hard to do. We start off well with mental or written list of resolutions. We need help to make our resolutions happen. Sometimes our resolutions are rash.

Peter told Jesus he would always be true to him. But just when Jesus

needed him most, he denied him three times, as Jesus had predicted. And Peter wept bitterly because of his rash promise. The Bible helps us focus our minds and hearts on the straight way forward.

In writing to the Philippians, Paul sets the standard for a new year, in fact a new life. Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what and for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus, Let those of us who are mature, be of the same mind. (Philippians 3:13-5).

Reflection:

This New Year's Day we have a new page, having acknowledged any hangovers from 2019 and pronounced forgiven, to fill it with good deeds of loving kindness in the Master's service. { "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" }

*The Book of Proverbs shows the way ahead.
Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
And he will make straight your paths. [Proverbs 3:5-6]*

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: *Speak with an Elder or Warden*

Emmanuel Prayer Chain: *Give requests to Betty Sagers on 0427 761 044*

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

Baptism of Jesus

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



WORSHIP SERVICES *for* NEXT WEEK

9:00am Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

11:00am Kergunyah Uniting Church

ON DUTY

Sunday Jan 5 (Anglican)

Readings Cheryl Cobcroft
Elders/Wardens Karen Robinson
Ted Stabb
Organist LouAnne Stabb
Prayers LouAnne Stabb
Early Word Carol Harris

Sunday Jan 12 (Uniting)

Harold Cover
Carol Harris
LouAnne Stabb
LouAnne Stabb
Carol Harris
LouAnne Stabb

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

World Council of Churches

Iran, Iraq, Syria

We pray for:

- an end to the violence racking these battlefields of global powers
- political leaders emerging in these countries who will pursue peace, the common good, and human rights of all groups
- the international community to pursue policies that will result in acceptable, just peace for all involved
- greater openness to welcoming those displaced or fleeing from these lands, desperately seeking safety and wellbeing.

