



Bathurst Uniting Church

Sharing God's love by connecting people to God;
people to people; and people to community.

Newsletter Sunday 29 November 2020

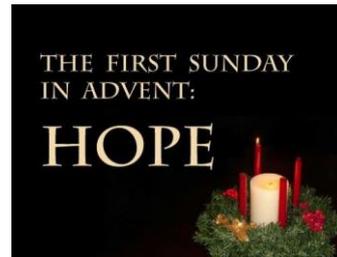
Physical Distance - Social Connection - Community Care

'Sunday @ 6'

At 6pm – contemporary, informal, all ages worship in the Activities Hall with Covid Safe conditions.

Sunday Morning Worship at 9.30am

First Sunday of Advent



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING/AGM

A Congregational Meeting will be held today following the Morning Service.

Business will include accepting of the 2020/2021 Budget and the size of Church Council.

If you would like to please bring your lunch and join with others for lunch in Machattie Park following the Meeting.

Staying Connected

For pastoral support, please contact your Pastoral Partner, or one of the Elders, or email BUConnect@gmail.com and we'll put you in touch with someone.

If you have items for the Newsletter please send them to Ruth or to BUConnect@gmail.com by 9pm Wednesday.

December Mowing Roster

5th Alan Paul

19th Brian Cowan

THIS WEEK'S READINGS:

[Isaiah 64:1-9](#)

[Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19](#)

[1 Corinthians 1:3-9](#)

[Mark 13:24-37](#)

And so the Christian year starts again, and as usual, we begin with the end – the vision of God's reign consummated in Christ. To be fair, though, Mark's Gospel does not give us a vision of some future second coming of Christ so much as it gives us a vision of the events that the early church had to navigate as they witnessed the might of Rome crush their nation. But, whether we speak of a vision of God's reign in the midst of the turmoil of the past, or a vision of God's reign coming in the midst of the turmoil of the future, the essential message remains the same – God is always coming to us, and the world's turmoil does not stop us from knowing and experience God's reign right here and now. It is the hope we have that God is at work in our world that gives the security, the grace and the strength to live faithfully as followers of Christ and to make our contributions to the world's transformation – and it is this hope that Advent Sunday offers us.

John van de Laar www.sacredise.com

PRESBYTERY REPORT

Presbytery was held last Saturday in Dubbo under strict COVID restrictions.

Our Chairperson is Denise Wood, the Secretary is Lynn Waller, the Treasurer is Shirley Colless, and the Finance Officer is Wendy White.

Instead of our normal worship service we had a number of reflections presented during the day. The usual reports were received.

A new Minister, Deacon Mel Graham, will commence in Dubbo on the 1st January. The new Chaplain for Kinross Wolaroi, Rev Dr Rosalie Clark, was welcomed to her first Presbytery meeting. Rosalie came from the Northern Territory, commencing in July, so it must have been quite a challenge for her to experience Orange's winter.

A large part of the day was spent in our table groups discussing the roles of the various Committees of Presbytery. Elections for those Committees will be held at the February Presbytery meeting, and the necessary processes and steps in that regard were explained.

The Bathurst Profile has been sent to the Placements Committee in Sydney, and will hopefully be discussed at their December meeting.

Synod will be held next year as a virtual event, and will extend from March through to August over several sessions. The quota of delegates for the Macquarie Darling Presbytery is 12, of which 50% should be under the age of 50, and 25% of those under the age of 25.

As mentioned, the next Presbytery meeting will be held in February, with the date yet to be announced.

Betty Cowan

LET US PRAY TOGETHER

- For Kylie Moore- Gilbert as she returns home to Australia and slowly recovers from her ordeal in prison. We thank you for this answer to our prayers.
- For all those around the world who face a different Advent and Christmas this year as they live with many restrictions on their normal activities.

CHANGES TO HOW YOU CAN DEPOSIT MONEY

The Finance Committee have been addressing the changes needed for the cessation of the Westpac Agency agreement with UFS and have arranged for the following:

If any congregation members wish to deposit cash and/or cheques for offerings, donations and miscellaneous items they can attend any branch of the Reliance or Unity Bank and deposit the funds to Account no:
100140356 Account Name: Council of Elders
These deposits will remain anonymous

All electronic transactions such as EFT, Direct Debits etc will remain the same, and there is no action needed to be taken with any electronic transactions that are now in place.

Internet transfers can still be made to
BSB: 634634

Account No: 100027964

Account Name: Bathurst City – Giving Direct

Deb (Treasurer)

