

What's on at St Margaret's

MARCH / APRIL Diary Dates

SUNDAY	26th	9.25am	Candle lit – Quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service
		5.30pm	Family Gathering
MONDAY	27th	5.00pm	Property & Finance Meeting
TUESDAY	28th	9.30am	Dad's Army
		7.30pm	Bowls
WEDNESDAY	29th	9.15am	Bible Study
THURSDAY	30th	9.45am-10.45am	Music Together
		10.30am-12 Noon	Church Office open
		7.30pm	Band Practice
SUNDAY	2nd	9.25am	Candle lit – Quiet time
		9.30am	Church Service

ARNIE WIERENGA. INFORMATION Please note that Arnie may be contacted in the following ways:- MOBILE: 0419 553 434 EMAIL: arnie1965@gmail.com
 MAIL - P.O. BOX 306 MOOROOLBARK, 3138 Arnie will take his day off on FRIDAY each week . Unless there is an emergency please respect his opportunity to relax on this day free from phone calls.

OTHER CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

Chairperson: Marj Hookey 9726 7286 Secretary: Robert O' Shea 9735 2393

UCAF The next meeting of the UCAF will be on Monday April 3rd at 1.30pm in the Chapel. Theme is Lent with the Rev. Arnie Wierenga. ALL WELCOME. Please check the notice board in the hall for interesting information and news on the UCAF

APRIL 2ND

<u>Reader:</u>	Katharine Davies	<u>Ushers:</u>	Betty & Mollie
<u>Tea Station:</u>	Faye & Alan	<u>Sound Desk:</u>	Rex Phillips
<u>Power Point:</u>	Alan Norris	<u>Chapel Cleaning:</u>	Michael Down

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Marj. had pleasure in welcoming Noel DeVoogd and Ngun Lian to their first Church Council meeting.

Arnie led our Devotions with a reading of Psalm 23 and we shared Holy Communion together.

There were no surprises with the election of office bearers with Marj Hookey elected as Chairperson, Robert O'Shea as Secretary and Ann Gaudion as Treasurer.

The treasurer reported that, at present, we have a small surplus but the necessary painting and replacement of the high windows in the church is going to be a major cost. Graeme Munday has obtained a quote to replace the windows with powder coated aluminum ones for \$28,000 to \$30,000. In addition painting is quoted at \$22,000. Because of the nature of the work we have to seek approval from the Synod through the Presbytery to carry out this major work. This will all take time.

Plans are in hand for the Services over Easter including the meal together on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, a time of reflection on Saturday, the dawn service at Lilydale Lake on Easter Sunday at 6:15a.m. and worship here at the usual time of 9:30a.m. Reports from the various groups indicate that all is running smoothly, with UCAF, Bible Study, and Music Together. The Social Justice Group have all in readiness for Celebrate Mooroolbark. Hope you called in to see them yesterday. Kids Hope is well underway and Arnie will soon be joining the program to spend time with a Year 3 boy. Please ask any member if you would like more information on the matters discussed. Robert O'Shea Secretary

BOOK CHAT

Pick up a copy of "Being Christian" by Rowan Williams the former Archbishop of Canterbury and join with us for tea, coffee, cake and chat at 10:00a.m. on Tuesday 2nd April. Please feel free to borrow a copy to read even if you can't make it on April 2nd. Please ensure all books are returned on or before Tuesday 2nd April. Marilyn O'Shea 9735 2393

FAMILY GATHERING TONIGHT

All are invited to our Family Gathering in the Chapel at 5:30p.m. this evening, Sunday 29th March. Our special guest will share personal experiences of life and the story of Clyde North. Bring along some savoury and sweet finger food to share and enjoy fellowship together with friends. Robert O'Shea 9735 2393



ENTRUSTED

In the parable of the talents, the master leaves his three servants in charge of his estate while he goes away. There is a challenge. The first servant received five talents, the second servant received two talents, and the third servant received one talent.

To the first he gives great responsibility. He is equal to the task and doubles the return.

To the second he gives two special jobs and he too doubles the output. Both are highly praised by the returning master, and rewarded accordingly.

But the third servant wastes his one opportunity and produces nothing in return.

Who are we like – the brilliant one who produces a record return and maybe burns out, or the one talented man who leaves it to others and does nothing? Or perhaps the second servant who always does his very best?

There is surely a message here for us in the Church. Most of us are like a two-talent servant. Not expert, or really gifted, but ready to do our very best, and fill in the gaps when needed. How important is the contribution of Mr and Mrs Average and all God's family to keep the Church on the move. And you are needed. Entrusted! God has not called me to be successful, he has called me to be faithful." [Mother Teresa] Read Paul's encouragement to young Timothy, 2 Tim 1:3-7.

Bill Pugh

PROPERTY & FINANCE Please note. The next Property and Finance Committee meeting will be held on Monday 27th March at 5pm.

The Church Office is open on Thursday mornings 10.30am – 12 Noon telephone number 9723 7323
 Notices can be emailed to stmargarets@netspace.net.au by 10.30a.m. each Thursday

THE LENTEN OFFERING will support the following projects:-

- **Dignity for girls:** To provide sanitary supplies to girls growing up in developing countries and to provide sewing machines and overlockers, fabric and other materials needed to produce the sanitary hygiene kits.
- **Ministry Training, National:** To provide ministry candidates with additional training about the formation of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) and recent developments in biblical and theological studies as they prepare to become a Minister of the Word or Deacon in the UAICC.
- **Live church streaming, Victoria:** To help Hamilton Uniting Church purchase the necessary equipment to live stream their weekly church services to ageing congregations members in local hospitals, aged care facilities and homes.
- **Growing Together, Tasmania:** To help cover the costs of employing a part time gardener for a community garden in Tasmania where people grow friendships, develop community connections and improve their nutrition by learning horticulture and planting skills.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR LENTEN OFFERING BY
SUNDAY – EASTER DAY**

Laptop for RYDA

1. Remarkably, donations for this mini-project have now risen to \$3,133.65. Thank you so much to everyone for prayers and gifts. Whether you have given a small or large amount we know you have stretched yourself to give at all.

As soon as possible next week the total in hand will be transferred. The replacement laptop is now a certainty and the excess will allow further work to be done on the new dormitory.

2. I spoke to Geoffrey this week and found him at work, but quite unwell. He sounded exhausted. The phone line was not clear, but I think it is another bout of malaria. A word of prayer will help.