

What's on at St Margaret's

MAY Diary Dates

SUNDAY	14th	9.25am	Candle lit – Quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service
MONDAY	15th		
TUESDAY	16th	10.00am	Book Chat
		7.30pm	Bowls
WEDNESDAY	17th	9.15am	Bible Study
THURSDAY	18th	9.45am-10.45am	Music Together
		10.30am-12 Noon	Church Office open
		7.30pm	Band Practice
SUNDAY	21st	9.25am	Candle lit – Quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service

ARNIE WIERENGA. INFORMATION Please note that Arnie will be on leave for next Sunday 21st May and for quite a few weeks to follow.

The preacher for this week will be James Tang.

CONTACTS WHILE ARNIE IS AWAY - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

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

MAY 21st

<u>Reader:</u>	Rex Phillips	<u>Ushers:</u>	Faye & Alan
<u>Tea Station:</u>	Leanne & Pam	<u>Sound Desk:</u>	Dal Drieberg
<u>Power Point:</u>	Michael Down	<u>Chapel Cleaning</u>	Graeme & Merle

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

MUSIC AT ST. MARGARET'S ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON 4TH JUNE - WHEN WE WILL WELCOME ONCE MORE A WONDERFUL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN PRODUCTION SUNG BY THE SINGULARITY SINGERS. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO RYDA. Watch for further details but mark this date in your diary/ calendar now.

Justice Convention

The Convention of the Justice and International Mission Unit will be held on Saturday May 27th. The theme is *Building Bridges not Walls*. The RSVP date is next Friday. More details are on the Social Justice board

BOOK SALE. There will be a sale of books held at St. Margaret's on Saturday morning ,3rd June. Also available will be a Devonshire Tea with freshly made scones and homemade jam. Watch for more information

FAMILY GATHERING ." Mark May 28th in your diary when Lian, (Pastor Lian) will share with us something of his life story at our next Family Gathering. A great evening and good fellowship is assured Robert O'Shea 9735 2393

BOOK CHAT - Tuesday 13th June

Pick up a copy of "Meeting Jesus Again For the First Time" by Marcus Borg to read and join with us at 10:00a.m. on Tuesday 13th June to "chat" and enjoy tea, coffee and cake together. You are welcome to borrow a copy to read even if not coming on the 13th June but please ensure your copy is returned on or before 13th June. Marilyn O'Shea 9739 2393

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Church Council held a special meeting after worship last Sunday to approve the quotes for work on the manse and to approve the transfer of funds from the UCA account to the bank account so deposits to contractors could be made and the work started immediately. The manse will be refurbished - replacement of floor coverings (carpet and vinyl); internal painting; new blinds and curtains as well as some minor electrical work is required to prepare it for letting as soon as possible. Work is already underway. Council also approved the revised quote to replace the high church windows. Robert O'Shea

A REFLECTION ON MOTHER'S DAY

We in Australia, as well as in many other countries, celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May each year. It is a day to specially honour the mothers of families as well as the influence of mothers in society.

You need to go back to around 1908 in the USA to find the origins of Mother's Day. Ann Jarvis, who previously cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American civil war, started the motions to have a public holiday for mothers. The first Mother's Day in the US was later declared by President Woodrow Wilson in 1914.

Of course, like Christmas and Easter, the commercial interests of Mother's Day have become very active. Stores flog cards, gifts (buy mum a motor car?) candy and carnations.

In UK the fourth Sunday in Lent is recognized as Mother's Day.

In Australia, the wearing of a chrysanthemum is deemed appropriate for two reasons – the flower is naturally in season during May and the flower's name ends in "mum".

Let us all treat women with the respect we would want to be shown to our own mum. **Geoff Serpell**

COMBINED CLUSTER SERVICE.

This year our combined Cluster service will be held at St. Margaret's on Sunday June 25th to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the establishment of the Uniting Church in Australia. I will be organising the catering for the lunch to follow. The menu will be soup, sandwiches and slices for the lunch to follow the service. Last time this was done I was delighted to receive offers to make the soup and we were able to serve it hot using slow cookers. (The host congregation prepares the soup.) Offers to help again this year would be really appreciated. Contact Marj Hookey if you can help. 9726 7286.

ACT FOR PEACE. AFRICAN FAMINE APPEAL.

More than one million people are in danger of starving to death in horn of African countries such as the Southern Sudan and Somalia. It is six years since a famine was declared anywhere in the world. Not only is there no food for the people but constant war has made it impossible for people to safely plant crops. Women are digging deep holes in the earth in a desperate bid to find water. People are living on grass and leaves – we must help.

ACT FOR PEACE TELLS US THAT A DONATION OF \$105 WILL SAVE A CHILD BY PROVIDING THE SPECIAL HIGH PROTEIN FOOD 'FAMIX' FOR THREE MONTHS.

The appeal at St. Margaret's will run until the end of May. If we who in comparison are rich in food resources have enough to be able to occasionally eat out or go on holidays our consciences must help us support this appeal.

THE LINK - is normally due out on the first Sunday in June however Arnie will be on holidays for three weeks until the 22nd June. This means that unless someone who has the skills and feels they could offer to do the layout for the Link offers, the publication date will need to be delayed until the 1st July.

Thank you letter from Prison Fellowship from the Director Rick Hunt

Dear St Margaret's Uniting Church Mooroolbark,
'Biscuits, Biscuits everywhere and not one to eat!

'This could have been the cry from the Staff at Prison Fellowship office recently' said Rick Hunt, the State Manager of Victoria.

They were almost swamped with 70.000 biscuits generously provided by so many people around Victoria including over 20 containers sent by the 'bakers' of our congregation... both men and women. They looked so delicious!

Over 7.000 inmates received a pack of 10 biscuits and an Easter message.

Judging from last year's feedback from them, the gift is something that touches their hearts, and for many it brings back memories of their mother's and grandmother's baking.

Again from Rick...' thank you for your part in this annual act of love, for passing on in a tangible manner, a token of the sacrificial love of Jesus.'
Bless you everyone, Julie Robinson

The President of the UCA, Stuart McMillan is inviting us to pray for 40 days to prepare for our 40th Anniversary as the Uniting Church. You can register for daily prayers to your email by going to: <https://tinyurl.com/lw23qrg>

Rev. Arnie Wierenga

There are some copies available as you leave the church on the table