

What's on at St Margaret's

JULY Diary Dates

SUNDAY	16th	9.25am	Candle lit- quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service
MONDAY	17th		
TUESDAY	18th	9.30am	Dad's Army
		7.30pm	Bowls
WEDNESDAY	19th	9.15am	Bible Study
THURSDAY	20th	9.45am–10.45am	Music Together
		10.30am-12 Noon	Church Office open
		7.30pm	Band Practice
SUNDAY	23rd	9.25am	Candle lit- quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service

INFORMATION

The Preacher and Liturgist for Sunday 23rd July will be Ron & Dorothy Gordon

CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

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

JULY 23RD

Reader: Karen White

Ushers: Faye & Alan

Tea Station: Pat & Clive

Sound Desk: Rex Phillips

Power Point: Alan Norris

Chapel Cleaning Michael Down

SAMMY STAMP - Save your stamps for Sammy!

The used stamps you put in the box on the table in the foyer are taken into the Synod Office. Every Thursday in the Synod office a group of volunteers meet to sort and sell stamp. The money raised provides grants for special needs projects in Victoria, Australia and overseas that are worthy of assistance but not covered by other Uniting Church funding. Save your stamps to help. Please leave the stamps attached to paper. To trim the stamps cut around the stamp leaving a 3mm (1/8 inch) margin

FOOD FOR WESLEY & HELPING HAND. Please continue to remember those in our community who, because of personal circumstance, have to seek support. The food items we collect for them to give to those in need are greatly appreciated.

BOOK CHAT Tuesday 22nd August

Pick up a copy of "Living a Countersign" by Ian M. Fraser to read and join with us for Book Chat at 10:00a.m on August 22nd to enjoy talk together with a cup of tea or coffee (and something nice to eat). This short book tells the story of Iona and the growth of Basic Christian Communities throughout the world. You are very welcome to borrow a book to read even if unable to come to the "Chat" on the 22nd. Please return the book at the Chat or before the 22nd August. Marilyn O'Shea 9735 2393

FAMILY GATHERING Sunday 30th July.

Our next Family Gathering will begin in the Chapel at 5:30p.m. on Sunday 30th July when Geoff and Denise Greenhalgh will be our special guests and share something of their recent trip to USA. A great evening is assured. Please bring along some savoury and sweet finger food to share. Hope you will be able to join with us. Robert O'Shea 9735 2393



KEEPING IN TOUCH

During a recent broadcast of Radio Australia's Macca program, "All ways on Sunday" - a listener rang in from Vanuatu. He was an Australian citizen who had worked in Vanuatu for years. Each Sunday he kept touch with home by listening to the program. There was a prospect that the Radio Australia service would soon conclude and he would keenly miss the program and Macca's friendly voice.

Some years ago, my wife and I were commissioned to go to Nauru to assist the Congregational Church. Their pastor had died and the Church was in the hands of a lovely retired pastor who needed support. Apart from letters, and the occasional newspaper sent from home, we felt cut off from the daily news and contacts. The one program we could receive was on Radio Australia and we tuned in 15 minutes every day.

How important are ways of keeping in touch, a visit, a phone call, a letter? A greeting on your birthday. These days, a text message or email.

Keeping in touch with the Lord is important. Prayer, meditation worship, reading our Bibles. Sometimes he seems so far away. Is he listening to us, will he answer? How close is his listening ear? Isaiah's vision has a wonderfully reassuring answer, for the faithful people of God and their prayers.

They will be a people, Blessed by the Lord...Before they call I will answer, while they are still speaking I will hear (Isaiah 65:16, 24)

Bill Pugh

SUPPORT FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS

It has been four long years since Kevin Rudd announced people seeking safety in Australia by boat would never be able to rebuild their lives here.

As October fast approaches, it appears that the government's plan is to simply bulldoze the detention centres and abandon those it has detained in abusive conditions for four years, in unsafe conditions in PNG and Nauru. Only a few may get sent to the US.

There is to be a Candle-light Vigil this Wednesday, July 20th, 6pm at the State Library as part of a nation-wide show of support **for those trapped on Manus and Nauru**. We want the Detention Centres to be evacuated now and the hurting, damaged people brought to safety, and given the opportunity to live "normal" lives without fear and isolation.

The 4.44pm train from Mooroolbark to Melbourne Central is the one to catch. (More details, Franklyn)

New Address

As of July 14 Ina Koetsier and Doug. Williams now live at:

4/71 Greenhill Road, Bayswater North, 3153

Tel: 9720 3295, Doug: 0401 177 775, Ina: 0403 133 710

You might want to alter your church directory.

Drop in any time.

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