

What's on at St Margaret's

OCTOBER Diary Dates

SUNDAY	1st	9.25am	Candle lit- quiet time
		9.30am	Sunday Service
MONDAY	2nd	1.30pm	UCAF
TUESDAY	3rd	7.30pm	Bowls
WEDNESDAY	4th		
THURSDAY	5th	10.30am- 12 noon	Church Office Open
		7.30pm	Band Practice
SUNDAY	8th	10.30am	Sunday Service
		12.30pm	Cluster BBQ lunch

INFORMATION:

CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

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

CHANGE OF CHURCH TIMES.- 2 DAYS TO REMEMBER.

Sunday 8th OCTOBER The cluster of churches are having a BBQ lunch at St. Margaret's commencing at 12.30pm. On that day we will commence our service at 10.30am – **ONE HOUR LATER.** We will also do this on OCTOBER 22nd when we will be celebrating our Frontier Services Sunday with a special visitor Rev. Rowena Harris, the East Gippsland High County Padre visiting.

8th OCTOBER

<u>Reader:</u>	Katharine Davies	<u>Ushers:</u>	Graeme & Merle
<u>Tea Station:</u>		<u>Sound Desk</u>	Dal Drieberg
<u>Power Point:</u>	Franklyn Parrent	<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

THANKS AGAIN - To all who added their names to the list to help cater for lunch next Sunday 8th for the Cluster BBQ. Two more offers to make a normal sized salad would be appreciated. Also are there any volunteers to help as BBQ cooks? I am hoping this will be a shared task with folk from other churches but we will need to start the cooking. Please let Marj know if you can help.

CHRISTMAS CARDS Today the UNITING Christmas Card samples are available. Order lists are with each of the 5 new cards and there is also a mixed pack. 10 Cards for \$9.00. Payment is made on delivery. Orders may be made until 15th October. All profits to UNITING projects. thanks . Mari 9726 7286

PLANNED GIVING You can make your offering by direct debit to our church account with UCA Funds. I have forms available if you are interested. You can also use direct transfer to the church account using the following information - *BSB 704907. Account Number 109789008 Account Name Mooroolbark St Margarets Uniting Church.* Happy to chat if you would like more information. Robert O'Shea -Planned Giving Elder

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT Ken Davies led our devotions making use of some of the poems Jennie Gordon had written arising from experiences at the Darwin Conference and time with Arnie's indigenous family. Ken then read verses from Hebrews and concluded with prayer. The leadership of the Chin Fellowship had changed in July and they had asked to meet with us. Marj welcomed their President Sang Vun Lian and their leaders to our meeting. They expressed their desire to continue worshipping here and we thanked them for taking responsibility for church and hall cleaning and their willingness to work in co-operation with us. They offered to be involved with Dads Army, to increase their financial contribution and to assist in other ways. We also discussed security and the need for ensuring child safety. We then enjoyed supper and fellowship together. In the remaining time Council continued discussions on Code of Conduct, child safety and adopted the required "Statement of Commitment", considered the 30 items of correspondence received, accepted the Ministers Report, discussed the Financial Report and approved a quote to clean all guttering, downpipes etc. It was a late finish but a very fruitful meeting. Robert O'Shea Church Council Secretary.

LATEST FROM MANUS ISLAND –

Provided by Franklyn

Last Saturday evening I received this email from my friend **M** who with others, has been in detention for four years.

Hello dear Franklyn. Thank you for your message. Fortunately the first group about 25 people left Manus Island detention center to America today (Sept 23rd) and approximately they will be landed on the earth of America in first October. As we know the detention will be closed at end of the next month I hope and pray for all refugees to leave here as soon as possible before it gets late more. Thank you again for following the news about us and god bless you.

I also heard this week of an asylum-seeker on Manus whose wife was brought to Australia to give birth. Because her continuing medical and mental condition, she has not returned to Manus. The man longs to be with his wife and baby daughter who he has only seen via Skype. Now our Australian Government is asking him to choose between his family and freedom. If accepted, he could choose to go to America, but his family would not be allowed to follow. OR, his wife and daughter could go back to the “Hell Hole” on Manus and take their chances of ever getting free!

Rally for Asylum Seekers – Bring Them Here!

Sponsored by Refugee Action Collective and others

When: 2-4pm Sunday 8th October

Where: Outside State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston St, Melbourne

Many thanks to the wonderful response to my plea for jam jars. They are filled and now I'm anxious to start again on 250gm size **ONLY**. Once again, I'll accept them from friend, foe, neighbours or family! Thank you all.
Merle

FRONTIER SERVICES BOXES. Thankyou to the 20 families who took money boxes last week. The idea is to add some coins each week as you are able, then to return the box on 12th November. (St.Margaret's day celebration) For those who were not at church last week boxes are available in the foyer today.

FETE - SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

CHRISTMAS HAMPER Lollies, chocolates, nuts, drinks of every type, hams, cakes, puddings, tinned or bottled fruit & vegetables, serviettes, mince pies, biscuits (tinned or packets), cordial, novelties and any other items you can think of that would enhance the hampers. Please help throughout September/October *Carolyn Dunkley 9726 7231*

FETE HAMPER – help desperately needed, either as cash or items suitable for Christmas hampers. Unfortunately we have all been forgetting this project!! the big white box is in the foyer ready for your gifts. See Carolyn or Marj if you wish to contribute cash.

FAMILY GATHERING Many thanks to Arnie and Jennie for sharing with us some of their experiences at the Conference and visiting Yolngu folk and homelands. It helps our understanding of the challenges and difficulties indigenous people face. A great evening enjoyed by all attending. Mark October 22nd in your diary when Rev Dr Barry Brown will be our special guest speaking on Martin Luther. Hope to see you then. Robert O'Shea 9735 2393

BOOK CHAT - Tuesday 17th October at 10:00a.m.

"Towards a Theology of Peace" covers a topic of particular relevance for our present troubled times. Please feel free to borrow a book to read even if you won't be able to join with us for the chat. Please return your copy on or before 17th October. Marilyn O'Shea 97352393

CROYDON PARISH PLAYERS . NEW PRODUCTION. JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT. Friday 6th October until Saturday 14th October. Book tickets online at www.Croydonparishplayers.com . Further details on the Church notice board.

THANKS On Wednesday evening the Chin Church Leadership Team joined with Church Council for a time of sharing. We are very thankful for the generous decision of the Chin Church to increase their giving for the use of the church buildings from \$600 to \$800 per month. In addition we greatly appreciate the work they do in cleaning both halls and the church every week. They expressed their appreciation for being able to use the buildings each week as their worship centre.