

What's on at St Margaret's

SEPTEMBER Diary Dates

SUNDAY	23 rd	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service
TUESDAY	25 th	7.30pm	Bowls
		9.30am	Dad's Army
WEDNESDAY	26 th	7.30pm	Church Council
SUNDAY	30 th	9.25am	Quiet time – candle lit
		9.30am	Sunday Service
		5.30pm	Family Gathering

INFORMATION: Sunday 30th September ARNIE WIERENGA will be on leave – Preacher will be Paul Miles

INFORMATION

CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

Chairperson: Marj Hookey 9726 7286

Secretary: Robert O' Shea 9735 2393

30th SEPTEMBER 2018

<u>Reader</u>	Pat Hamilton	<u>Ushers:</u>	Jan & Judy
<u>Tea Station</u>	Nancy & Ann	<u>Sound Desk</u>	Steven White
<u>Power Point:</u>	Alan Norris	<u>Chapel Cleaning</u>	Katharine & Ken

FAMILY GATHERING Sunday 30th September.

All are welcome so come along to the first Family Gathering after the winter break at 5:30p.m. in the Chapel on Sunday 30th September. Our special guest is Doug Williams who will tell us about Eucalypts and Little Trips - photos and stories from Ina and Doug's recent travels through Netherlands and Spain. Please bring along a plate of savoury and sweet finger food to share NB We are gathering on the 5th Sunday -30th September. Robert O'Shea 9735 2393 .

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

Support for Asylum Seekers

The Federal Government is withdrawing financial support for people who are seeking asylum. You may be able to help them. Pick up a leaflet called Dignity not Destitution today.

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 stamps. 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

Letter Writing

If you look in the pockets on the Social Justice board you can find guidelines for letters you can write on these topics:-

-Encouraging ethical corporate behaviour – protecting whistleblowers.

- Community control – Curbing the role alcohol businesses play in fuelling family violence.

Your letter may help to make a difference.

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

There will be a box in the foyer for collection.



WELCOME STRANGER

On a boiling hot morning, I arrived to preach at a local church, while the minister was away. I slowly drove up the street and came upon a lovely old church. I was very early. The welcoming doors were open. I was greeted by a smiling elder with an ice-cold glass of water, assured of another one in the pulpit.

Everything was ready. The readings copied in large print. Worship leaders all prepared. All I had to do was to preach.

Morning tea was served in the church, and we all gathered in the round, so we could chat. I was new, so was a friendly man. We talked and I found out he was new to the district. As he left he turned to me and said, "Thank you, this is a friendly lot, I will be back."

I was moved by the experience of being there, in that welcoming church, on that hot Sunday. And they had a special welcome for two strangers.

I left feeling it was good to have had the privilege of being there. At home I thought, how would it have been if a third visitor had come that day, and we all felt strangely warmed by his presence. Would we be ready? (He is always present, isn't He?)

Welcoming strangers and doing our practical share in presenting the Good News each Sunday, including caring for the House of God, is part of the mission into which we are called.

Brother, sister, let me serve you

Let me be as Christ to you;

Pray that I may have the grace to

Let you be my servant too.

Bill Pugh

Attention Gentlemen: Men's Ties.

I am collecting vintage men's ties for making greeting cards that appeal to men for the Gift table at the WellSpring Centre in Ashburton.

If you would be happy to choose five ties or more from your collection, and bring them to me at church, I would be most grateful.

In return, I will make you a card with your tie's pattern for you personally. Thanking you in anticipation, Julie Robinson, Ph. 9727 3636.

UCAF

The October meeting of the Uniting Church Adult Fellowship is early, being, as usual, on the first Monday of the month which is Oct 1st. Its title is "International day of the Older Person". It is in the small church at 1.30. A contribution to afternoon tea and something for the trading table are invited.

BOOK CHAT

Pick up a copy of "Beyond Belief" by Hugh Mackay and join with us for coffee, tea, cake and chat at 10:00a.m. on Tuesday 2nd October.

Please feel free to borrow a copy to read even if you are unable to join with us for the chat on Tuesday. Please return all copies by Sunday 30th September or at the chat on Tuesday 2nd. Marilyn O'Shea 9735 2393

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned Giving envelopes for the coming 12 months are now available.

Please pick up your set today. This set of envelopes begins the first Sunday in October.

Thankyou letters with the total given over the year are also available for those giving through direct debit or direct deposit to church accounts.

Robert O'Shea Planned Giving Elder

FOOD FOR WESLEY & HELPING HAND. Please continue to remember those in our community who, because of personal circumstance, must seek support. The food items we collect for them to give to those in need are greatly appreciated. Please no plastic bags