

WHAT'S ON AT ST MARGARET'S

DECEMBER Diary Dates

SUNDAY	16 ^h	9.25am 9.30am 2.30pm	Quiet time – candle lit Sunday Service Music at St Margarets
TUESDAY	18 th	9.30am	Dad's Army
WEDNESDAY	19 th		
THURSDAY	20 th	9.45am–10.45am 8.00pm	Music Together Christmas Choir practice
SUNDAY	23 rd	9.25am 9.30am	Quiet Time – candle lit Sunday Service
TUESDAY	25 th	9.30am	Christmas Day Service

MINISTRY DECEMBER AND JANUARY

December 23rd - Rev. Dr. Barry Brown.

Christmas Day – A service of Lessons and Carols. – Lay Leadership

December 30th- Lay preacher, Lyn Bromage.

Please note - that for this year we will be unable to participate in a Messy Church activity for families or a Christmas eve Service

A Christmas Eve service will be available at Croydon North UC.

JANUARY 2019

All January services will be led by Supply Minister Rev. Ric Holland.

CONTACTS - CHURCH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE:

Chairperson: Marj Hookey 9726 7286

Secretary: Robert O' Shea 9735 2393

St.Margaret's website maintained by Franklyn -

<http://wordpress.stmargaretsuca.org>

23rd DECEMBER 2018

<u>Reader</u>	Marj Hookey	<u>Ushers:</u>	Nancy & Carolyn
<u>Tea Station</u>	Pat & Clive	<u>Sound Desk</u>	Stephen White
<u>Power Point</u>	Michael Down	<u>Chapel Cleaning</u>	Marj Hookey

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

Take ... Donate ... Give

Take as many RYDA Christmas Gift Certificates as you wish. Donate to give them value (a marked envelope in the offering will work). Give them as a stocking filler or special gift. Or, ask for a Christmas Gift Certificate for yourself, then the giver adds the value. Pick up certificates when you see them at church, print them for yourself from:

<http://www.blackdouglas.com.au/ryda/chrgift.htm> or ring Doug 0401 177 775.

FOOD FOR WESLEY. 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

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

TERRA CYCLE - RECYCLING PROGRAM –

toothpaste tubes boxes, brushes etc plus any make up containers please place in – THE GREY BIN -
Please continue to save these items.



'Tis the season to feel guilty?

Many of us can feel a twinge of guilt at some time or other over the Christmas period. Certain pressures and demands surrounding the festive season, can find a way of making you feel bad. Not getting more leave from work to spend time with loved ones over the holiday, for example, or not finding time to find the best possible present for your significant other. Even failing to get your office Kris Kringle the right gift can become a guilt trigger. If you have children, Santa adds another element to the mix. Santa says if you get lots of presents, you must have been good; if you don't get many, or any, you must have been bad. Which perpetuates the false idea that those with lots deserve lots and those with less deserve less; that at the end of the day, we only have ourselves to blame for our fortune or lack thereof. But this is counter to the teachings of Jesus.

We learn from the Bible story of the poor widow, who gives all she has (two coins) at the temple, that a generous intention and charitable heart is what matters most – not what you possess to give. The quantity or price of the gift is secondary to the sentiment behind it.

If you are able to give over the Christmas period, cherish your fortune at having the opportunity to enrich someone else's life with a moment of happiness. If you can't afford to give many or any presents, give the gift of acceptance by unburdening those in the same boat of the guilt and pressure a 'commercialised Christmas' can bring.

Megan Wells

December Christmas Break- up of UCAF

Jean Lardner played for the meeting where carols were selected by Ken Davies. Words and music were made available to all. Besides members sang a great Christmas Hymn of Wesley in devotions. These latter were led by Dorothy Gordon and included an enjoyable play led by Dorothy and her assistant actors, Jean Curnow and Lois Lancashire. Jean Ken and Katharine played a couple of jazzy carols and were well received. A Christmassy afternoon finished a happy day. *Katharine Davies*

RYDA News

1. Principal Suzan gave birth to a 6kg baby boy named Daniel on November 28th. The baby was delivered by Caesarean section. Suzan is at home and recovering well.
2. Last Saturday Geoffrey's son Solomon married Brenda, the mother of their child. Geoffrey and Irene had a big weekend of celebration.

Your faithful ongoing support for Helping Hand is very appreciated and thank you.

With Christmas just around the corner, you might like to add Christmas food orientated items over the next few weeks.

Many thanks. Merle

As I will be away for two weeks in February is there anyone who would like to assist with the printing of the order of service & newsletter on a Thursday morning for these two weeks (or more if you like it). Bev.