

## Diary Dates

### December

2nd Christmas Carols in Dayboro from 4pm - at the church

3rd Sunday Space Presentation and Party

9th Swaggies Christmas from 5pm - opposite IGA

12th Blokes Breakfast from 7.30am

15th Christmas on the Deck - from 5pm

24th Christmas Eve worship - from 6.30pm

25th Short Christmas Day service from 9.00am

### January 2024

14th Church Council Meeting



## December Birthdays

2nd Robert Taylor

3rd Dani Archin

5th Desley Broad, Jonah Bohan

10th Peter Meyers

16th Poppy Vosper

18th Mike Huggett

23rd Carolyn Nugent

31st Roz Staveley

## Can you Help?

We are in need of more people to help out with the Sunday morning worship service.

We need people for Lectionary readings, Intercession, morning teas, greeting people and cleaning the church building.

If you can help out one Sunday a month it will ease the load and enhance our time together.

## To give electronically:

### Bendigo Bank

Reference: OFFERING

BSB: 633 000

Account: 183102011

# Uniting Church in Australia

## Dayboro Congregation



### Bulletin December 2023

# Christmas in Dayboro 2023

*The people of Uniting Church Dayboro are warm, inclusive and welcoming who LOVE Jesus, LOVE each other and LOVE our Dayboro community giving HOPE for the future.*

*Our worship, our communion table and fellowship is open to all. We simply offer you a place where you will be accepted and loved, and where you can learn about the grace of God.*

## Pastor's Ponderings

I love the stories that the writers of the gospels put together about Messiah Jesus' birth. The Messiah that we greet in Matthew has no halo over his head. The writer shows that he comes from a dubious pedigree, his parents were an unwed teenage girl and an arguably reluctant father, and the pair of them are seeking shelter wherever it can be found. Our romantic notions of a cosy stable will have to wait a thousand years for St Francis to jazz up and launch us on our quest for cattle lowing, shepherds kneeling and magi bowing. I wonder if we are really prepared to welcome Messiah Jesus among us this Christmas season.

Here's a story to remind us of where Messiah is born. Once there was a monastery with a thriving spiritual community and a long history of commerce. As time wore on, fewer villagers visited for help. The sale of their wines began to dwindle. The abbot despaired for his community. "What should they do?" he wondered. They prayed daily for guidance, but the brothers only became more dispirited. The monastery itself reflected their mood, becoming shabby and untidy. One day the Abbot, hearing that a wise Jewish rabbi was visiting, swallowed his pride and went to visit the rabbi to ask his advice. The abbot and the rabbi talked for a long time. They spoke of their respective religions, and the fickleness of humanity. The abbot explained his problem to the rabbi and asked for advice, but the Jewish sage only shook his head and smiled.

As the abbot sadly departed, the rabbi suddenly rose and shouted after him, "Ah, but take heart my friend for the Messiah lives amongst you!" All the way home the abbot pondered the rabbi's words. What could he mean? Did the Messiah live in the abbey? The abbot knew all the brothers very well. Could one of them really be the Messiah? Was it possible? Upon reaching the monastery the abbot confided the rabbi's words to another brother, who told another brother, who was overheard telling another brother. Soon the whole abbey had heard the news. "The Messiah lives amongst us!" "Who do you suppose he could be?"

As each brother speculated on who the Messiah could be, his view of his brothers began to change. Brother Louis no longer appeared simple, but rather innocent. Brother Jacques was no longer uncompromising, but instead, striving for spiritual perfection. The brothers began to treat each other with greater respect and courtesy; after all, one never knew when he might be speaking to the Messiah. And, as each brother discovered that his own words were taken seriously, the thought that he might become the Messiah would cross his humble mind. He would square his shoulders and attend to his work with greater care and start acting like a Messiah.

Soon the neighbouring villages noticed the change that had come over the monastery. The brothers seemed so happy. Villagers flocked to the monastery and were energized by the spirit of the Brothers. And so the spirit grew and the monastery flourished. As each new brother was

## Lectionary and Rosters - September 2023

Date	3 December 2023	10 December 2023	17 December 2023	24 December 2023	25 December 2023	31 December 2023
Season	Advent 1 - Purple	Advent 2 - Purple	Advent 3 - Purple	Advent 4 - Purple	Nativity 1, 2 or 3 - White	Christmas 1 - White
First Reading	Isaiah 64: 1-9	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16	Is 9:2-7 Is 62:6-12 Is 52:7-10	Isaiah 61: 10 - 62: 3
Psalm	Psalm 80: 1 - 7, 17 - 19	Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13	Psalm 126: or Luke 1: 46b - 55	Luke 1: 46b - 55 or Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26	Ps :96 Ps :97 Ps 98:	Psalm 148:
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9	2 Peter 3: 8-15a	1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24	Romans 16: 25 - 27	Ti 2:11-14 Ti 3:4-7 Heb1:1-4,(5-12)	Galatians 4: 4 - 7
Gospel	Mark 13: 24 - 37	Mark 1: 1-8	John 1: 6-8, 19-28	Luke 1: 26 - 38	Lk 2:1-14,(15-20) Lk 2:(1-7), 8-20 Jn 1:14	Luke 2: 22 - 40
					Christmas Day	
Reader	Vicki	Christine	Sue			John
Message	Danny	Danny	Danny	Danny	Shirley	Danny
Young at Heart	Joy	Danny	Danny			Joy
Prayers	Paul	Robyn	Shirley			Margaret Anne
Singer	Maria & Tim	Elizabeth	Lorraine & Bill	Danny and Choir		Carolyn
Keyboard	Coral	Judy	Judy	Coral	Video	Judy
Sunday Space	Carolyn & Robyn	Holidays	Communion	Holidays	Holidays	Holidays
Cleaning & COVID Duties	Robyn, Andris & Marion	Elizabeth, Mark & David	Sue, Mark & Maria	All please		John, David & Carolyn
Welcome & Offering	Andris & Marion	David & Mark	Mark & Maria	Carolyn & Christine	Mark & maria	David & Christine
Notes				6.30pm food, 7pm Carols	Carols and Lessons	

## Uniting Church Dayboro - Who are we?

We are a group of ordinary and diverse people trying to follow the teachings and example of Jesus. You will find a wide variety of views and opinions here, but we are truly one family.

As a community of faith, we love to share what we have through worship, our fellowship and acts of loving kindness. In this family of faith, God matters and all people matter. Therefore, we are intentionally inclusive. This is a place where all people can know that they are accepted just as they are. We are open to all. This isn't the type of church that will tell you how you should live as a "good Christian", we won't tell you how a "good Christian" should think, but we will tell you that you should think. We simply want to offer you love, acceptance and hope all in the person of Jesus Christ.

## Women of Worth

WOW will be on a break till Jan

## Christmas Eve Choir

Calling all people who love singing in the choir

**Practice dates** - Sunday after church 11am - 12 midday - 3rd Dec and 17th

Also Coral and Carolyn will make themselves available Wednesday Evenings - 29th Nov and 13th Dec for those unable to come Sundays

See Carolyn if interested

## Sunday Space

Sunday Space Christmas Break-up - **Sunday 3rd Dec**

Sunday Space - Resumes Sunday 28 January 2024

Have a great break all. Thanks to my amazing leaders and helpers - Fiona, Joy, Paul, Maria and Robyn - hopefully you will all return in 2024.

Always looking for more leaders and helpers.

I will be meeting with current leaders in early January (date to be finalised).

If you are interested in being involved in this vital part of the church life, please see Carolyn for more information.

## Recent COVID/Viral outbreaks

Queensland has experienced a rise in COVID and viral illnesses in recent weeks. Dayboro experienced that after Trivia night.

We do not have any directives from QLD Health but they are encouraging people to wear masks at large events.

Please feel free to wear a mask if you want to, and also please stay home if unwell - we will understand. **We need to protect vulnerable people.**

welcomed, the question arose, "Could he be the Messiah?"

Apparently the monastery still prospers today and it is often whispered both within its walls and in the surrounding towns that the Messiah lives amongst them. As you celebrate Christmas this year, remember that the Messiah lives among you. Don't miss a moment of this year's Christmas season. The Messiah arrives in you and right next to you!

Enjoy

**Danny**

## Chairperson's Report

The recent Presbytery Health and Vitality Consultation with Uniting Church Dayboro meant that a few of us had to move into overdrive to complete surveys and reports, but it was all worth it. We have a renewed strengthening of our relationship with Presbytery. If someone could offer their services to attend four Presbytery meetings a year that would be great. The Consultation Report has been circulated to everyone but if you missed it, please let me know.

My favourite part of the Report: There are not many congregations where the word "intentional" is as readily used to describe the character of their work as it is here at Dayboro Uniting. It is clear that the congregation puts energy into being actively thoughtful about why they do what they do and seeks to adjust accordingly. The congregation is more anticipatory than reactionary, with reference to the cadence of its life, and this clearly leads the congregation to be a meaningful witness to the love and mission of God.

We achieved top rating with our Spiritual and Community Health, Financial and Capital Resource Management, and Governance and close to top rating with our Mission and Vision. We are currently working hard on the latter and exploring ways we can be more intentional through all of our activities to invite members of our local community to become active participants in our life and witness.

I had a feeling we were a great congregation. It is good to have the evidence in writing! Thanks everyone.

**Paul Inglis**

**Deadline:** for the January 2024 Bulletin is 21 December 2023 or earlier if possible.

Email Warren Rose warrenrose16[at]gmail[dot]com

## **Christmas Carols in Dayboro** - Combined Churches

**Saturday 2nd December** - starting at - 4pm

Where - Uniting Church Dayboro Yard

Please stay for a complimentary sausage sizzle after the Carols

BYO drinks and chairs and bring your neighbours and friends

## **Swaggies Christmas**

**Saturday 9th December** from 5pm

Opposite IGA - Cnr Williams & Heathwood Streets

Entertainment, food, face painting, jumping Castle, Christmas Message.

**Santa will arrive** at 7pm

## **Blokes Breakfast**

**Tuesday 12th December - 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM** in **The Church Hall**

Our monthly Blokes Breakfasts are about building deep & lasting friendships.

This month Mike will be delivering part 2 of his fascinating life.

As an added bit of fun, wear your best "festive" shirt or hat.

For catering purposes, please let Mark know that you are coming.

**Cost \$10**

Please invite a friend, neighbour, or family member.

## **Christmas on the Deck**

**Friday 15th December** - starting at 5pm

At **31 Roderick Street Dayboro**

BYO drinks and a plate to share (savory or sweets)

Tea and coffee supplied

Please phone Maria to RSVP or for more information 0438 897 279

Heaps of fellowship and fun. Bring your best voices and instruments to play for us.

Coral will be the band leader

## **Worship - Christmas Eve**

**Sunday 24 December** from **6.30pm**

No morning worship service BUT we will be having our Christmas Eve carol service

Starting with nibbles in the hall to be followed by the carol service

After the service we will have tea, coffee and dessert

Please join us

## **Christmas Day**

**Monday 25th December** from **9.00am**



Join us and our visitors for a special (but short) Christmas morning service at 9am, celebrating Jesus, the Light of the World.

A special feature will be "The Visited Planet" .

There will be a small gift for everyone to mark this important day.

## **Preparing for an exciting 2024**

### **Dayboro Day awareness and preparation**

In preparation for Dayboro Day please save the date for Sunday 26th May 2024.

On a practical level can you do the following:

Start collecting glass jars with good quality lids up to 500gms for pickles, jams, spreads, jellies, lemon butter etc.

Collect large to medium Moccona / Vittoria jars with lids.

If you are a gardener consider growing Rosellas to contribute to the jam making.

Please contact Marion Karklins if you have any questions

M: 0410 802 773 or E: marion.karklins@gmail.com.