

### General Notices.

-The Christmas stall raised \$700. Thank you to everyone who donated and bought goods.

- Many of our activities are in recess until second week in January.

The builders will resume 6 January.

Indoor Bowls will resume Saturday 11 January 1pm

Playgroup will resume Tuesday 29 January 9-11am

Fellowship morning Tea will resume Thursday 13 February 10am

-The Herald will be going on holidays until the end of January (26<sup>th</sup>). Thank you to all who have been part of the body of Christ, using your gifts this year.

### World Day of Prayer 2020 - host country Zimbabwe

The World Day of Prayer gathering for 2020 will be held at The Salvation Army Maroochydore (cnr Maroochydore Rd & Broadmeadows Rd) on Friday 6th March 2020.

So that we can make the day meaningful and inclusive, I would like to invite you and/or your representatives to a planning meeting on Friday 31st January 2020, at 10am, at the above address. *Susanne Cox (Major) Salvation Army Maroochydore.*

### Moderator's December Prayer

*- Please join us in praying together each Monday at midday:*

O Lord, you were born into this world, with all its challenges, struggles and ambiguities; may your presence give us strength to live lives of compassion and hope *Rev David Baker, Moderator.*

### -National Council of Churches in Australia Christmas Bowl Appeal 2019

The theme for this year is "Love your Neighbour". There are envelopes available if you want further information or wish to pray for their needs. Consider the **Act for Peace** web site.

### Birthdays this month: James (31<sup>st</sup>)

January birthdays: Carmel Stirling (8<sup>th</sup>), Russ (8<sup>th</sup>), Elvis (8<sup>th</sup>), Jane Ryan (16<sup>th</sup>), Shirley Cope (26<sup>th</sup>)

Please send any notices for next week's 'Herald' to janstrudwickart@gmail.com by Wednesday afternoon



# The Maroochydore Herald

## Maroochydore Uniting Church

The Uniting Church in Australia



The Uniting Church in Australia  
QUEENSLAND SYNOD

### 22nd December 2019

## Advent 4 – Love

Love came down at Christmas

Uniting in Christ  
acting with love  
living with hope  
witnessing in faith  
working for justice



*We seek to be a prayerful and listening church*  
*Please note the location of the Hearing Loop in the church*

*Good morning, welcome to worship at Maroochydore Uniting Church*  
*After worship please join us to share morning tea in the Hall*

### Please Contact us

6 Millwell Rd (POX 357)

**Maroochydore Qld. 4558**

Church Office: 5443 2441

*Find us on Google search:*

Maroochydore Uniting Church

### Worship Services

English Language Sundays, 8.30am

Korean Language Sundays, 11am

**Minister: Rev James Stevenson**

M: 0427 106 531

Minister's Office: 5443 2441

E: jamesbstevenson10@gmail.com

**Korean Leader: Ps. Gil Park**

M: 0413 836 557



Thank you for the ongoing support for the Ministry, & Ministry of our Church. A reminder that direct deposit offering is available. Our Church Banking Details: **UCA Maroochydore Uniting Church**  
**- St George Bank. BSB 334 040: Account No. 553864 511**

### Uniting Church Links - For Information from the Wider Church

**Qld Synod Information** - <https://ucaqld.com.au/>

For links an information to Synod Resources and Activities.

**National Assembly News** - <https://assembly.uca.org>

## Bible Readings

<b>December 22</b>	<b>Advent 4</b>	<b>Love</b>	<b>- Carols Service</b>
Isaiah 7:10-16			the Lord will give his own sign
Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19			Lord, let your face shine ...
Romans 1:1-7			Paul's Gospel of the Incarnation
Matthew 1:18-25			Joseph, and listening to Angels

### **The Season of Advent Continues - Sunday December 22 LOVE**

There are four Sundays in this preparation for the birth of Jesus the Church calls Incarnation. We begin with Hope, and being lead on by the themes of Peace, Joy, Love we arrive at Jesus birth. That God's home has been revealed to us is our reason for JOY. Today this joy spills over into LOVE as our souls sing forth with the Carols of Christmas.

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**December 24** Christmas Eve Prayer and Carol Service at 7pm

**December 25** Christmas Day 7am, 8.30am.

### Gospel Readings over the next Weeks

**December 29** 8:30 am Matt. 2.13-23 Christmas 1 threatened & stolen generations

**Korean Worship Service 11am** (followed by lunch in the Hall)

**December 31** New Year's Eve Service with Korean Congregation from 11pm

**January 5** **8:30 am Holy Communion** John 1.1-18 Christmas 2  
**Korean Worship Service 11am** (followed by lunch in the Hall)

**January 6** Matt.2.1-12 the Epiphany of the Lord. visitors from the East

**January 12** **8:30 am Worship** Matt. 3.13-17 Baptism of Jesus-I love my Son,  
says God **Korean Worship Service 11am** (followed by lunch in the Hall)

**January 19** **8:30 am Worship** John 1.29-42 Epiphany 2 Jesus revealed as  
Lamb of God **Korean Worship Service 11am** (followed by lunch in the Hall)

**January 26** **Australia Day** Matt. 4.12-23 Epiphany 3  
**Korean Worship Service 11am** (followed by lunch in the Hall)

Australia Day falls on a regular Sunday of our worship. Where in other years we gave gathered for a breakfast at Picnic Point, this year one possibility is an Aussie Breakfast at the Church and then move into the church for worship. If you would like to suggest alternatives please keep the discussion alive between now and then when we can confirm things nearer to the day.

## **for contemplation - Christmas tells us God is Human**

The mystery remains that babies exist at all. Sure, we can describe the physical and biological process. But life, how does one live at all? This life is so fragile, yet so tenacious. This life, like love itself, is as strong as death, with passions as fierce as the grave and many waters cannot quench it (*Song of Songs 8.6*). The greater mystery is that God is human. No wonder our carolling brings our hearts and souls to Jesus day by day. Like us he grew; he feels for all our sadness and shares in all our gladness,- that with comfort and assurance, the hopes and fears of all our years are met in him tonight. For a while we feel okay and at peace with ourselves. You know when we say, even with a sigh of relief, "I feel human again."

When love entered our world anew, love entered naked and vulnerable. The Son of God drawing as his first, the very breath of God; formed from the dust of eternity was formed in very human likeness. More than anything this year, the humanity of God is calling us to pay deeper attention to this miracle that God is truly human. Just as God was in Mary, growing and loving from deep within, God is in us also already loving from the inside out. It takes courage to feel the Spirit of Jesus leap within, but let it be for a leap of joy. In the face of "man's inhumanity to man" Christmas is calling us to our own true humanity as well. Love and peace, grace and deep thanks to you all, James & Kris.

### Regular Happenings Each Week

- Mondays:** Morning prayer in the Minister's office 8.30 am.  
Pastoral visits to Lifeline/Uniting Care Community
- Thursdays:** Fellowship of Fixing (*Church Working Bee from 7.30am*)
- Fridays:** NA Group meeting: 4-5.30pm in Library Chapel.
- Saturdays:** Indoor Bowls from 1pm in Church Hall, resumes 11<sup>th</sup> January
- Sundays:** AA Group meeting: 5-6.30pm.

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### Our Prayers for the ourselves and for others

- for Barb & Nev, Jeff, Kevin, Fay, Faye, Beth, Shirley, Philip; and our own families.
- we give thanks for good results and healing graces, for Russ, Jan, Ian Moore, Shirley & Jan.
- for the intensity of the heat across our country and the risks that it poses
- for all affected by the volcano eruption in New Zealand
- for wisdom, as God leads us into our future and a new year round the corner
- we give thanks for the turning of the earth ceremony & pray for WMQ & BBN
- we give thanks for the ways we can serve one another and not to cease praying.
- we pray for all who have contributed to our life over this year and for a safe return into 2020.