



Newsletter

Ocean Grove,
Uniting Church in Australia

Sunday November 7th 2021

The Reverend Robert (Bob) Thomas
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Vestry hours Thursday 12noon—2.00pm

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MANDATORY RECORDING OF WORKER VACCINATION STATUS.

Under current Victorian Covid-19 Health directions, on and from Friday October the 15th, the church must collect, record and hold vaccination information for all gardeners, members of the Property Committee, musicians and this includes organists, people who do the Bible Reading and Prayers for the People, servers of morning tea, and all volunteers for Loaves and Fishes Pantry and The Dove Op Shop.

The Church must not permit a person who is unvaccinated to work for us. To protect the privacy of all individuals the information gathered will be stored securely and only Dianne Sapwell and Pat Reid will access to such.

You must supply to either Pat or Dianne a full vaccination certificate that is recorded on your mobile phone or a printed copy. This certificate must contain your vaccination certificate number, name of vaccine and vaccination dates. If you are unvaccinated and exempted you must supply your Medical Certificate stating such.

It is important that this information is obtained as soon as possible. You may email your certificate to the Church email address or have your details cited by either Pat or Dianne on a Sunday morning before Church.

Two individual reflections on the life of Meriel Derrick

Lyn Mulligan, a close friend of both Neil and Meriel Derrick, remarks on the enduring love of Meriel and Neil for each other through thick and thin during sixty years of marriage. Lyn says that they are an inspiration. She quotes Meriel as saying that they 'walked together in Christ's footsteps'. This came from a simple and profound faith.

Meriel was a great support to Neil during his career. They ran a dairy farm together when they were first married, caring for and milking 130 cows and she supported him as he later trained as a teacher and her work as a Counselor and House Mother at Girton, Bendigo and All Saints College, Bathurst complemented Neil's teaching. She reached out with empathy and love and a concern for others in every situation she found herself in. She found solace in things like playing the organ in church and in later years in meditation sessions and mindfulness drawing. These activities helped greatly in times when she suffered deep depression.

Lyn concludes that 'I always came away from my time spent with Meriel with a warmth in my heart. She enriched the lives of all she knew. She saw the Divine Spirit or the Spirit of God's love in all creation: in human beings, in flora and in fauna'.

Carol Naylor writes:

As I see it, one of the paradoxes (and we all embody them) of Meriel Derrick's long and love-filled life, is that although she often found herself in very dark places where self-love eluded her – she nevertheless found it in her heart to love others abundantly. Who can forget being greeted at Church and elsewhere with one of Meriel's famous hugs? Her interest in and care of others knew no bounds and I was touched by the openness with which she showed and shared her affection.

Meriel will be sorely missed in our Church family and our love goes out to Neil and family and all whom she touched in so many ways. She will continue to be a shining light to us all in whatever circumstances we find ourselves, to remember to show appreciation, love and affection without reservation.

WEEKLY LECTIONARY READINGS AND ROSTERS

November 7th Pentecost 24
Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17, Psalm 127
Hebrews 9: 24-28, Mark 13:1-8
Please see back page for roster

November 14th Pentecost 25
1 Samuel 1: 4-20, 1 Samuel 2: 1-10,
Hebrews 10: 11-14, (15-18), 19-25, Mark 13: 1-8
Please see back page for roster

November 21st Christ the King
2 Samuel 23: 1-7, Psalm 132: 1-12, (13-18)
Revelations 1: 4b-8, John 18: 33-37
Please see back page for roster

November 28th Advent 1
Jeremiah 44: 14-16, Psalm 25: 1-10
1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13, Luke 21: 25-36
Please see back page for roster

KEY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

**“so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.
Hebrews 9: 28**

Changes of Contact details

Neil Derrick now resides at
26 Victoria Circuit
Ryman Retirement Village
Ocean Grove Vic. 3226

Gwen Carbines now resides at
27 Westleigh Court
Ocean Grove Vic. 3226
Phone 0418 393 369

Joan Billington's phone number is 4238 3539

Please make sure that you write these changes in your directory.

ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

November 7th

Communion Steward: Marjorie Barry

Bible Reader: Rod Greer

Prayers for the People: Ralph Scott

Morning Tea: Rod & Judy Greer

November 14th

Bible Reader: Dianne Sapwell

Prayers for the People: The Reverend Bob Thomas

Morning Tea: Pat & David Reid

November 21st

Bible Reader: Neil Derrick

Prayers for the People: Judy Greer

Morning Tea: Joan Calcutt & Megan Smith

November 28th

Bible Reader: Megan Smith

Prayers for the People: The Reverend Bob Thomas

Morning Tea: Pat & David Reid

If you are on morning tea please remember to bring milk, and if you are not able to do your rostered shift endeavour to swap with someone before contacting Dianne. Thank you.

Last Sunday Bob lead us in worship. We would have been having Jean Murray with us as it was the 5th Sunday and Bob should have had the day off. Jean is not very well as you can see by the message below.

Dear Dianne,

Thank you for your message. I am sorry my preaching days at Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove now appear to be over. I have really appreciated my time in those Congregations and the warm welcome and fellowship offered to me by the members.

Special love and blessings to everyone

Peace be with you

Jean Murray.

Jean can be contacted on 5243 4103 and her address is 13 Turquoise Place Grovedale Victoria 3216 or email jeanmurray45@bigpond.com