



# Newsletter

Ocean Grove,  
Uniting Church in Australia  
Sunday December 19th 2021

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

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## THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR THE LIFE OF MERIEL DERRICK

OCEAN GROVE UNITING CHURCH  
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER THE 29TH  
10.30AM

Bob has kindly agreed for  
The Reverend Ivan Roberts (Retired)  
to conduct the service.  
Ivan is Meriel's brother  
Light refreshments will be served in the hall  
following the service.

## FOR TODAY ONLY

We are taking up a **Retiring Offering** for the Tamil Family who recently lost their daughter who was stillborn.

Church Council has decided that on behalf of everyone we will place a cheque for \$200 in the Bowl.

Please give as you are able and the money and a card will be passed onto Cathie Bond, who will ensure that Nathan and his family receive your kind donations.

Thanking you in anticipation of your generosity.

## **CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL**

### **Sharing God's love this Christmas**

It's been 10 years since the civil war broke out in Syria with thousands of families still living in neighbouring countries like Jordan.

The challenges refugees face no longer make front page news, and now Covid-19 has made life even harder.

Through the Christmas Bowl, you are helping our local partner provide support for families, including food rations and hygiene kits, along with psychosocial care.

Also thousands of refugees are arriving in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, after fleeing conflict in their home countries. Our local partner provides care for women and girls who have survived gender-based violence and those who need specialised medical care.

Through the Christmas Bowl, you are helping support people to overcome the challenges and trauma they've faced and live life in safety and dignity.

There are appeal envelopes available on the table in the Foyer and the Offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be directed to the Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal.

### **MUSIC AT THE BASILICA INC. FREE LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS FOR ADVENT.**

12.30—1.00PM each Monday  
At the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels.  
136 Yarra Street Geelong.  
20th December Frank De Rosso

Please note that all who enter the Basilica are required to be double vaccinated, check in using the QR code or sign in form, wear a mask, maintain physical distancing and follow any other safety directions required for Covid—19

## WEEKLY LECTIONARY READINGS AND ROSTERS

December 19th Advent 4

Micah 5: 2-5a, Luke 1: 45b-55, Psalm 80:1-7

Hebrews 10: 5-10, Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)

**Please see back page for roster.**

December 26th Christmas 1

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26, Psalm 148

Colossians 3: 12-17, Luke 2: 41-52

**Please see back page for roster.**

### KEY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

**"Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished"**

**Luke 1: 45**

## RESIGNATION

At the last meeting of the Church Council  
the resignation of Ben McKinley was received.

It was with regret that Ben's resignation (effective immediately) as  
Chairperson was accepted.

The Church Council would like to  
congratulate Ben and Jess on the news that they are expecting  
their second child in April.

## ZOOM LOGIN DETAILS

The link is

[https://zoom.us/j/2978521634?](https://zoom.us/j/2978521634?pwd=K01NDZnTUxiYzYwRFIVL0tsQW5oZz09)

[pwd=K01NDZnTUxiYzYwRFIVL0tsQW5oZz09](https://zoom.us/j/2978521634?pwd=K01NDZnTUxiYzYwRFIVL0tsQW5oZz09)

Or if using your Zoom app, enter the following:

Meeting ID: 297 852 1634

Passcode 988040

## **ROSTER FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER**

### **December 19th**

Bible Reader: Wilma Andrews  
Prayers for the People: Pat Reid  
Morning Tea: Dianne Sapwell & Wilma Andrews  
Bell Ringer: Neil Derrick

### **December 26th**

Bible Reader: Neil Derrick  
Prayers for the People: The Reverend Bob Thomas  
Morning Tea: Pat & David Reid  
Bell Ringer: Diane Jones

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.

## **LIKE SOMETHING PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER?**

Then please have it to the office by 8.30am Thursday mornings.

There is a folder on the shelf under the clock in the foyer that you can leave a notice or if able email your notice via the address on the front of this newsletter.

**JIM Christmas Resources and Gifts Peace for Palestine**  
With Christmas just around the corner, why not purchase products from Palestine. The Palestinian Fair Trade Australia have a new selection of gift boxes and hampers available and the Palestine Centre for Peace likewise have an excellent range of products sourced from Palestine. Or, chose to give Christmas gift that gives back and Give a meaningful gift to friends and family. You can also contribute to addressing global poverty and supporting development through the National Council of Churches Act for Peace and visit Act for Peace - NCCA for appeals and resources this Christmas