



Sunday
Dec 23rd
2018

The Uniting Church in Australia

Chermside Kedron Community Church

*'Transforming our world through the power of God,
experiencing and sharing God's love for all people'*



**The Ministry
Team**



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OFFICE HOURS
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**A
Very
Warm
Welcome
to
everyone
today**

Advent 4

Promise, Preparation – and Love

Sometimes we get it all wrong! When our preparation for Christmas is reduced to relatively trivial and superficial arrangements, and the promise of God is on by-pass, we surely have missed the point of what Christmas is all about. To be sure, there are events to organize and practical arrangements to be made, but that is not the central focus of this season.

But consider Mary's Song, the Magnificat, recorded in Luke 1. Her sense of wonder is obvious and overflowing, but it is clearly related strongly to problems and injustices of every age. The reason for her rejoicing was not in what she herself might do, but in that which might be done by him who was to be born of her. The earliest Church saw the Magnificat as the kind of salvation God wrought through Jesus. Then as now, joy comes with engagement, and God's love is thereby expressed.

Christmas Day

The Light of the World

Christmas carols can sometimes create an impression of Bethlehem enveloped in a wonderful haze of unreal glory. But as John puts it, "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth". If you have ever been to places like Bethlehem, you might understand the thought that God did not choose that town because it was special, but rather because it is in God's nature to bless the ordinary.



When life gets tough, and an avalanche of adversity threatens to swallow us, and violence looms before us, the feet of "the messenger upon the mountains" are beautiful. As Frank Byatt said in 1959, "every political crisis and every unpredictable extravagance of nature in flood and earthquake produce new emergencies and human suffering, and we shall need this continuing support throughout the year". We have often seen how a great need can lead to a wonderful response. Let us thank God for the Christmas Bowl.

The key to it all on Christmas Day is to let our spirits echo the song of the angels, of "glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours", to reflect the Light of the world, and so become messengers of hope, peace, joy and love in the world.

Clive W Ayre



Weekly Service Times

**Sunday • 9 am
In the auditorium**

**BIBLE READINGS
Today**

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:47-55
Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Next Week

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

**Chatters Coffee Shop
Ph. 3350 4345**

Open Monday to Friday
9am—3.00pm

**Grapples Thrift Shop
Ph. 3350 3183**

Open Monday to Thursday 9am-2.30pm
Friday 8am-2.30pm
Saturday 9am-12.30pm

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We warmly welcome everyone today, especially any who may be visiting with us. We hope that you may be able to stay for our "Pop-Up" morning tea following our Service this morning. One of our welcomers or stewards would be happy to provide any other information you may like to know.

Brochures outlining all our activities and groups are available in the foyer.



4th WEEK OF ADVENT

Candle of Love

Today we light the candle of Love and Christmas Day we will light the Christ Candle.

The Christ Candle is a symbolic way of recognising that even though we cannot see God, we believe in faith that God's presence is with us always.

This weekend we give thanks for Emmanuel: Christ is with us.

TONIGHT

Service of Solace Sunday 23rd December 7pm *followed by supper*



For those who are
sad at
Christmas

Come and light a
candle for those you
love and miss.



*Thank
you*

For the support in buying calendars and cards.

\$100

was donated to Christmas Bowl from the sales.

Diana

Hi Everyone,

A big **THANKYOU** for all your assistance in pulling together the Carols night on Sunday.



Thanks for your flexibility in making last minute changes and for sharing your gifts generously. Despite the rain I think people had a good night.



There were a number of people from our extended families who came along to join in the celebration.





It is always a wonderful experience to be able to see peoples faces when I hand them your food parcels throughout the year and its been especially nice handing out the Christmas hampers. I thank you all for your help and support from all of the people who receive your gifts of *love*.

Shirley



THE HOLLY WREATH



Rejoice fellow pilgrims, another year's passed

Full of life, and of love, even death.

For that's how Life goes, and it's typified in

The circle of Life - in a wreath.

We've taken the good and we've lived through the bad,

With strength from our God Who has given

His own beloved Son to die

A cruel death, for our entry to Heaven.

Holly has thorns, and a wreath is a crown,

And our Lord wore it prior to His death.

Easter foretold at Christmas -

One sees it in the holly wreath.

Penned by Mavis Gillespie, just this week

Happy Christmas

*To you all from your
"Crazy Ministers"*



See you in
the

New Year



December & January 2019
(usual 9am services)
But sorry NO 11am services



TODAY

Service of Solace 7pm

Followed by supper

Dec 24th

Christmas Eve

Service 7pm

Dec 25th

Christmas Day

two services

7am & 8.30am

Office closed till Monday

14th January



Happy Christmas

**Sunday School
Children &
Youth**

See you in the New Year

Dates for next year **2019**

Office re-opens - Monday 14th
January

First Newsheet - will be Sunday
20th January

Chatters Opens—Monday 21st
January

Grapples Opens—Monday 21st
January

Sunday School restarts -
4th February

Commissioning Service -
10th February

"Understanding
Children's Spirituality
" workshop -10th February arvo

Church Council and Elder's
Retreat
Friday 22nd and 23rd February.



Les Misérables

7:30pm

Conservatorium Theatre, Southbank
Thursday, 15 August, 2019 Tickets \$17
 See Sue Hall Money due by 24 Feb 2019

TO ALL LEADERS OF GROUPS & MINISTRIES

It's time to think about annual reports before we forget what we did in 2018.

Please send in the questionnaire that's on its way to you as soon as possible plus photos if you have any.

Shirley, Congregational Secretary

Christmas Day
Merry Christmas!
 Today, we invite you to share the joy of your Christmas with a brother or sister in urgent need around the world. Please give a gift today to provide food, shelter and support.
 Thank you for sharing God's love through the Christmas Bowl.
 CALL: 1800 025 101
 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl
 The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 639 970 188

VIDEO OF WEEKLY 9 am SERVICES

Please note that 9am services of worship are normally filmed for distribution to members of our congregation who are unable to attend in person. DVDs are available on request for this purpose.

YOU CAN GIVE YOUR OFFERING BY DIRECT BANK TRANSFER Use these BANKING DETAILS

UCA - Chermshire Kedron Community Church
 BANK: ANZ BSB: 014 010 A/C No: 286290487 Any questions, please contact :
 Treasurer Kendall Yates Ph: 3359 0975 or
 Assistant Treasurer Jenny Snelling Ph: 0414 806 626

30th December ROSTER

If you are unable to do your rostered day. Please arrange a swap and ring/email the office so rosters can be updated.

9am Service	
Bible Readers Rick Herd & Oliula Petersen	NO 11am Services in December or in January
Prayers Howard Thomas	
Children's story -	
Musicians Margaret Munro & Geoff Jensen	
Child Safe Duty Officer N/A	
Singer Pauline Thomas	
Sound desk Russell Bergman	
Power Point Srian Abeysuriya	
Video Operator	
Elders Jean Lowrie & Bev Worthington	Flower roster Janet Brandon
Baptism -	
Comm Prep -	<u>Morning Tea</u>
Announcements Pauline Thomas	Pop—Up
Welcomer Jean Bulley & Jan Barnard	
Stewards Heather Neill	

DAILY READINGS & PRAYERS

Readings from: *With Love to the World, a daily Bible reading guide based on the Revised Common Lectionary.*

We hope they will become part of your rhythm of your devotion to God. Passages to be read in Uniting Churches on the coming Sunday are marked with an asterisk*

December 24th

Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Jesus, Prince of Peace, this Christmas time, help me to know your peace amidst the noise of the world.

December 25th

Reading: Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

December 26th

Reading: Luke 2:41-52*

Loving god, help me to remember that above and beyond all else, I am first and foremost your beloved child.

December 27th

Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Lord God, help me to hear words in the scriptures that don't appeal to me as readily as I hear those that I find easy to love.

December 28th

Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26*

Loving God, Hannah's faithfulness both inspires and frightens me. Help me to trust in your goodness when what you ask of me seems too hard to take.

December 29th

Reading: Colossians 2:12-17*

O Lord, today may I be one of those people, clothed in love and ruled by peace.

December 30th

Reading: Psalm 148*

In your prayers remember the lands and people of the Middle East, Egypt, Israel and Palestine, Jordan and Lebanon.

For Stafford churches Together Cycle of prayer, please pray for the clergy and people of Queens of Apostles.