



Happy 80th birthday to May Thomas on the 14th!!

**Congratulations** to Rev. Robin on the 14th for her 30th anniversary since ordination.

Hope.  
Peace.  
Joy.



**Lectionary Readings next week** Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a, Psalm 80:1-7, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45.

**Caloundra Uniting Church**

9.30am Worship.

**Messy Church** 4th Saturday of the month Feb– November.

**Christmas services:** Christmas Eve 7 p.m. Christmas Day 8 a.m.

56c Queens St, Caloundra. | 5491 5353

caloundrauniting@bigpond.com

Website: caloundraunitingchurch.org.au

Facebook: Caloundra Uniting Church.

For Pastoral care contact Rev. Gwen Fisher

0418 789 870.

**Prayer requests:**

Wednesday Prayer group contact May G. 5491 3764.

Email prayer chain contact Brenda S. 0408 467 072.

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9-1 p.m.

For those who wish to make an offering by direct debit:

Name: UCA - Caloundra Congregation

BSB: 334 040 Account Number: 5538 665 68



# Caloundra Uniting

Weekly Notices 12th December 2021

Each Sunday in this Advent season we have been lighting the candles of our Advent wreath.

The Advent wreath has its roots in the pre-Christian practices of northern Europe. People sought the return of the sun in the dark time of the year (at the winter solstice) by lighting candles and fires. As early as the middle Ages, Christians used fire and light to represent Christ's coming into the world. Using this same symbolism, the Advent wreath developed a few centuries ago in Germany as a sign of the waiting and hopeful expectation of the return in glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath, a circle of evergreens were a sign of everlasting faithfulness of God to God's people, and the lighted candles were a reminder of the light of Christ brought into the world.

The **first candle** symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival. The purple colour symbolizes royalty and repentance.

The **second candle** represents **peace** and is also purple to symbolism preparation for the coming king.

Today is the third Sunday in Advent and we will light the **third candle** which symbolizes **joy**. This candle is coloured pink to represent joyfulness and rejoicing. The **fourth candle** represents **love** and is also purple to represent the culmination of love through the

Messiah. The **fifth candle** is **white** which represents **light and purity** and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day. *"In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* ([John 1:4-5](#)).

Rev. Gwen

**WHERE FAITH MEETS LIFE**

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## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, the Gubbi Gubbi people, and pay our respects to Elders, past, present and future.

## **This Week's Activities**

**Monday 7 p.m.** Bible study at the Hindmarsh home:  
"The Advent Conspiracy". All welcome.

**Wednesday: Prayer Group** 9.30 a.m. in the church.  
May G . 5491 3764.

**OWLS** will resume on **Saturday 8th January** at the Power Boat club for morning tea at 10 a.m.

OWLS is for all single ladies in the congregation.  
Any queries Phone Lorraine 5493 7470

## **EVERYTHING IN COMMON GIFT CARDS - Cards selling fast!**

Have you thought of investing in a significant large scale project to share among your families? Buy a Pig or a Goat for \$50, Train a Woman Leader for \$75, provide Disability Support for \$100 or a Toilet for \$250.

Make a difference in the lives of others this Christmas!



The Christmas Bowl is one of the longest standing Christmas appeals in Australia. It was established in 1949 by **Rev Frank Byatt** to raise money for refugees post WW2. On Christmas Day that year, Frank put a Bowl of Remembrance on the dinner table and asked his family to place a gift inside to help those less fortunate than themselves.

**We still do this today! Collect your envelope in readiness!**



*You are invited to bring non-perishable goods for the yearly Christmas hampers for families in need on the Coast.*

**With Love to the World subscriptions** are due now.

*\$24 for 4 copies throughout the year. A thoughtful way of readings and comments in line with weekly lectionary readings.*

Please leave in the office, named in an envelope, or in the offering plate, and let the office know if you do not wish to continue receiving copies.

Thank you.

If you are interested in receiving the monthly prayer list for the **Bible Society** who do amazing work in many countries around the world, contact: **gthomson@biblesociety.org.au and**

Holidays have begun. Groups in the church will resume in 2022, details to be advised. Some hall hire groups will resume from the 11th January.

*There are spaces on the rosters which are needed to keep the church functioning smoothly. If you can help especially on sound let the office know. Thank you!*



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.**

Can you make tasty tea and toast?

Can you lend a listening ear to those in need?

Can you spare a Friday morning every month or so?

If so – this is for you!

Orange Sky Breakfasts next year! Fridays 9 – 11am Interested?

Contact Judy 0458 997876