

# Kirwan Uniting Church

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**We aspire to be a people of God led by the Holy Spirit, to practice and spread the love of Jesus Christ in the world**

## Keeping in Touch

**26 November 2023**

### WELCOME!



We welcome all visitors with us today and pray your time with us will be a blessed one.  
Stay for morning tea after the service!



### This Sunday

**9:00 am Service**

**Preacher: David Beck**

**Reader: Helen Beck**

### Bible Readings

- Ez 34:11-16, 20-24
- Ps 100
- Eph 1:15-23
- Mt 25:31-46

### REFLECTION on Matthew 25: 31-46

*The most salient and consistent characteristic of believers that emerges from the Judeo-Christian and most other major religious traditions is care for orphans and widows—the helpless, the vulnerable, the marginalized of society.*

*Love of the other serves as a litmus test of the true measure of our love of God. This concern and action are not merely options for when we have spare time or some extra change. They are absolute imperatives.*

*In fact, the only judgment scene in all the Gospels clearly conveys the message that inclusion in the kingdom is based on fidelity to works of mercy.*

*– Jerry Kearney (Upper Room)*

### A POEM

*Loving as He loves,  
Helping as He helps,  
Giving as He gives,  
Serving as He serves,  
Rescuing as He rescues,  
Being with Him twenty-four hours,  
Touching Him in his distressing disguise.*

*– Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

**David Beck**



## Roster for 03 December 1st Sunday of Advent

<b>PREACHER:</b>	John Short
<b>READER:</b>	TBA
<b>GREETER:</b>	Eleanor De Munari Wendy De Munari
<b>OFFERING:</b>	Kathy Reid Shirley Nuss
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	David B.T.
<b>MORNING TEA:</b>	Robin Harris Susan Burton
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	Narelle Harrison

## STARS for CHRISTMAS

Over the last few years each family or church member has brought along a star to hang along the front of our church at Christmas time. It is nice to remember all the church members past and present who have brought the different stars along.

If you are new to the church you might like to add your star to the display.

There will be a box at the front of the church to collect them.

Annette



## This Week

<b>MONDAY</b>	House of Jonah
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Fellowship
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Bible Study:

## Messages, Reminders & Announcements

### DECEMBER AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Council felt that there was a falling interest in a Saturday night carol service so we will not have one this year. However there are other opportunities to celebrate. We will hold a Christmas morning tea after the service on 10th December, as that is the date of the Sunday School service. We will need lots of plates of food and goodies and may extend morning tea up to lunchtime. The evening service will be run by Peter later on that Sunday 10th and will start off with a barbecue etc. Further details of these will be sent nearer the time.

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday when we will have a morning service at the normal time. We will meet for the Christmas Day service at 8am as we usually do on Christmas morning.

David K

### PASTORAL CARE:

At present there is no Pastoral Care Team at Kirwan. Sheila And Helen compile a Prayer List which is sent out to us each week but here is no actual team which meets each week. At the recent Elders meeting, we discussed how we might care for all members of our congregation more effectively while we are without a full-time minister. We came up with the plan to follow something similar to what we did while the church was unable to hold Services during the Covid lockdown. The plan would involve the following:

- NO weekly meeting
- Volunteer 'Carers' would take on a number of congregation members with whom they would be kept in contact if it is noticed they have been absent from Services.
- This would ensure that no one 'falls through the cracks' while we are without a ministry agent.
- Contact with absent or ill members of your group would only need to be a phone call. Anything extra would be up to the individual caregiver.

We realise that there are many in our midst who already do this vital work of keeping in contact with folk who are shut-in for whatever reason. Please, if you think you would be able to continue or to take up this task for the first time add your name to our list. If we can get a good number of volunteers it should not be too onerous.

We would have one get-together meeting to ensure no one is missed out and then the Pastoral Care of all our members, caregivers included, would be covered.

As it is written in John 13: 34-35

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another."*

### COMMUNION STEWARDS

Jenny and Maria have asked if they may take a rest from preparing communion each month. They have done wonderful service for which we give our grateful thanks. So we are looking for someone or a couple to take over from them in the new year. If you would like to volunteer for this role please tell me or one of the elders and we shall be extremely grateful.

David K