

Ballarat Central Uniting Church
Advent and Christmas Seasons Celebration 2020
Let us Celebrate!

“The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” (Mark 1:1)

Activities

- **Advent Open Church for Prayer, Reflection and Conversation**
Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beginning 26th November 2020.
- **Intergenerational Outdoor Advent Gathering including “Star and Angel Celebration”**
Sunday 13th December 2020 at the North Gardens Pavillion, near the Old Caretakers Cottage 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Advent Wreath for socially isolated times**
Doing advent together, apart.
- **Special Children KUCA packages**
Resources prepared by Marg Littlehales for young families.
- **Advent Studies on Thursdays at 2 – 3:30 p.m.**
VicTas Synod Major Strategic Review Booklet – *“Engaging the Areas of Focus: Informing a whole of Church conversation.”*
 1. The identity of Jesus Christ and Christianity in a post-Christendom world;
 2. Multicultural and multi-faith Australia and its relationship to its First Peoples;
 3. Peace-making, power and powerlessness, being with and for the poor; and
 4. Inter-faith and intercultural engagement, encounter and learning.
- **Christmas Giving Tree**
Church members and friends are encouraged to donate to our Christmas Giving Tree to support those who are in need and are disadvantaged. Envelopes are available in the church (hanging on the tree) and from Rod or Laleti. Donations can be ‘posted’ in the box near the tree or given to Rod or Laleti. The Christmas Giving Tree will also be available during our outdoor gathering in the Garden on the 13th December.
- **Christmas Bowl Appeal**
We will continue to support the Christmas Bowl Appeal and you will find envelopes in church or from Rod and Laleti. Our offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services will be part of our donations to this appeal.
- **Worship Service every Sunday which is also livestream on Youtube.**

Programs

Thursday 26th November - Open Church for Prayer, Reflection and Conversation

- *Open Church 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.*
- *Advent Studies 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

Sunday 29th November 2020 - Advent 1 – “HOPE”

Thursday 3rd December - Open Church for Prayer, Reflection and Conversation

- *Open Church 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.*
- *Advent Studies 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

Sunday 6th December 2020 – Advent 2 – “PEACE”

Thursday 10th December - Open Church for Prayer, Reflection and Conversation

- *Open Church 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.*
- *Advent Studies 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

Sunday 13th December 2020 – Advent 3 – “JOY”

- *Intergenerational Outdoor “Star and Angel Celebration” at the Garden north end rotunda near restored caretaker’s cottage - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Thursday 17th December - Open Church for Prayer, Reflection and Conversation

- *Open Church 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.*
- *Advent Studies 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

Sunday 20th December 2020 – Advent 4 – “LOVE”

- *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*

Thursday 24th December 2020

- *Family Christmas Eve Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

Thursday 24th December 2020

- *Christmas Eve Reflective Candlelight Communion at 11 p.m.*

Friday 25th December 2020

- *Christmas Day Worship at 9 a.m.*

Sunday 27th December 2020

- *Christmas 1 – End of Year Covenant Service*

Sunday 3rd January 2021

- *Christmas 2 – New Year Holy Communion*

Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions from 11:59 p.m. 22nd November 2020

Indoor religious gatherings and ceremonies: Allowed for groups of 20, total venue cap of 100, density quotient of 1 per 4m².

Outdoor religious gatherings and ceremonies: Allowed for groups of 50, total venue cap of 500, density quotient of 1 per 4m².

We expect to receive additional advice from Synod about how congregations can apply the basic guidelines above to worship services. We will provide further information in our weekly ‘connect’ e-mails from the Church office and in the announcements made during Sunday worship.