



Crookwell Uniting Church

“To Know Christ and Make Christ Known”



*Witnessing to God's love for the world
From the main street to the paddock.*

December 2022

Now In Flesh Appearing

The season of Advent is founded in the theme of hope. Advent hope stands with one foot in memory and one in promise. We look backwards to celebrate what God has done – that God became flesh in Jesus Christ. We look forward to the promise of God's reconciliation of all things in the final coming of Christ. And therefore, we celebrate the present moment as that place where Christ continues to come to us in mystery and renew our hope.

Last night at Supper Church, we began to explore the Advent devotions that we are sharing in as a congregation this season. One of the questions the

devotion asks is ‘What is the connection between vulnerability and hope?’

We reflected together that for hope to be *hope*, it means we are dependent on someone else fulfilling their promise. This comes with a vulnerability – the need to trust that the one who has made the promise will do what they have said. Such vulnerability is scary. We would much rather be in control of our future. But certainty is not hope – hope must always contain some risk.

To that end, it is fitting that we have our AGM coming up **after worship on Sunday December 4**. At the AGM we will share with you some updates on the

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current childcare project and other major pieces of work in the life of our congregation. Each of these ministries contains a degree of risk – a degree of hope – that God truly is alive and working in our community. These projects also contain grief – grief for the safety and security of the past which we are risking as we seek to continue to be faithful to God’s promises for today.

So, it is fitting that in Advent we are reminded that our hope for the future comes from our memory of the past. As we remember how God became flesh and dwelt among us, we begin to hope that Christ is indeed Lord of creation. As we remember the risks our congregation has taken in the past – to purchase the shops and to construct Clifton Village – we begin to hope that God indeed journeys with us in our present decisions.

So, this Advent season, may the hope of Christ enfold us all, as once again we remember the story of the coming of Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come.

And a reminder that if you would like to participate in the Advent devotions, hard copies of the materials are available for pick up from Church.

Yours in Christ

- Daniel

Christmas Bowl

In 1949, as refugees were starving in war ravaged Europe, Reverend Frank Byatt sought to unify Australian Christians of all traditions to work together to put the word of Gospel into action.

Byatt encouraged people to put an empty bowl on their Christmas dinner table, to place a gift in it which could be shared ‘with hungry children in other lands’.

Since that first Christmas Bowl in 1949, the tradition has been shared by hundreds of thousands of Australians, and has helped millions of hungry people around the world.

This year, the Christmas Bowl appeal has created a unique donation page for each Church which has previously participated to the cause. Our web page is

[Mycb.link/45883](https://mycb.link/45883)

If you are able to access the web page, but still wish to donate to the cause, you can call the Christmas Bowl team on

1800 025 101

Thank you for your kind generosity.



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Advent Series

A reminder that as part of the Advent Series, the readings from November 27 will differ from the traditional lectionary.

Booklets are available in the foyer, while some of you will have already received these via email.

Thanks to Illustrated Ministry for providing these valuable resources.

Congregational AGM

Our Annual General Meeting will be held after worship on December 4. All are welcome to attend.

Annual reports are available from the Church or by contacting matthew.geddes@crookwelluniting.org

We hope to see you there.



*Crookwell AGM
Sunday, December 4, 2022*

Worship & Readings

Sunday 4 December

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38

Sunday 11 December

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Luke 2:8-20

Sunday 18 December

9:30am Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Luke 1:39-46

Saturday 24 December

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

7:00 pm Jerrara

Readings: Luke 2:1-7, 15-20

Sunday 25 December

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

9:00 Crookwell and
crookwelluniting.org

Readings: Luke 2:1-7, 15-20

Please note there will be no service at Crookwell on January 1st. You are welcome to attend Goulburn Uniting at 9:30am for Holy Communion.

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Christmas Memorial Services

This year we will be holding two Memorial Services in December to acknowledge the tough times we have to endure over the last two years, as well as to remember those we have lost during this time.

The first service will be held at Goulburn Uniting Church on Goldsmith Street on

Sunday, December 11th at 2:30pm

A second service will be held at Crookwell Uniting Church on

Thursday, December 15th at 7:00pm

Binda Christmas Carols

The Binda Christmas Carols return again in 2022. They will be held on Saturday, December 10th between 5:30pm and 8:30pm at Binda Parish.

For more information, please contact Rev. Sally Cullen at bindacarols@yahoo.com



Christmas Hamper Appeal

A reminder that St Bartholomew's Anglican Church has begun a Christmas hamper appeal for local families in need. They are looking for donations of non-perishable foods that they can make into hampers of varying sizes for different families.

If you would like to help St Bartholomew's with their appeal, feel free to drop off goods in the foyer of the church on Denison Street. Be sure to know your donations will be assisting local people who may have done it a bit tough this year due to factors such as COVID lockdowns, and the relentless rain.

Also, if you know of someone who may benefit from this appeal, please let Janelle Smart at St Bart's know. You can leave a message for Janelle on 4832 1057.

Thank you for your kindness.



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