



DU Grape Vine



NOVEMBER 2024

All the Saints - Rev Susan Grace
www.companionsontheway.com

This Sunday many of us will be celebrating the festival of all the saints, the saints known and admired and acknowledged by the church, those known personally to us, and those known only to God. This festival can have a sombre sad feel to it, especially in our world where we have lost, and continue to lose to the pandemic and violence, so many. But our readings this week point to a joy that is deeper than whatever



sadness we feel at the separation we experience from our particular loved ones. For those of us living through this time, as many moments in history before, we are asked to hold the tension of great sorrow and great hope. (RCL All Saints: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a; and John 11:32-44.)

All Saints' Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, the Feast of All Saints, the Feast of All Hallows, the Solemnity of All Saints, and Halloween, is a Christian solemnity celebrated in honour of all the saints of the Church, whether they are known or unknown. The Christian celebration of All Saints' Day stems from a belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between those in heaven (the "Church triumphant"), the living (the "Church militant"), and the "Church penitent" which includes the faithful departed. In Methodist theology, All Saints Day revolves around "giving God solemn thanks for the lives and deaths of his saints", including those who are "famous or obscure". In the Uniting Church we do not have saints but we have plenty of people who we regard as being saints for their service or actions for the church and community.

HOW WE GATHER MATTERS

I attended a workshop this week run by Intergenerate Australia & New Zealand, looking at practical steps in moving towards a culture of all age discipleship led by Tammy Preston from NSW Intergenerate. There were 16 participants from Uniting, Baptist and Salvation Army churches in Geelong, Melbourne, Ballarat and Warrnambool. We were led to consider how our places can be where everyone is seen, heard, healed, grow and belong. The topics included heart check on belonging, community check on functions, cultural movement check on mindsets and language, and leadership style check on understanding differences. A





LOOSE CHANGE

Our October year to date loose change offering is \$604. This money will go to UnitingWorld and be used for disability support work in Sri Lanka.

EMPTY CHRISTMAS TREE

Our annual Empty Christmas Tree appeal

starts now and will run until 1 December when we hope that we have a filled Christmas Tree of gifts and food items.

The gifts are to be new items suitable for any age group and will be given to Uniting Barwon for distribution to those in need. Food items will go to the Drysdale Food Bank. We would particularly welcome Christmas type items so that a special meal is able to be created by those struggling at this time of year; our normal food donations still continue.



This months' services

- 3 Nov — 10.30 am Rev Karen
HC & Loose change
- 10 Nov — 10.30 am Jenni's Team
- 17 Nov — 10.30 am Rev Karen
- 24 Nov — 10.30 am Rev Karen

BANKING DETAILS

BSB: 083-623
ACC: 035333892
REF: Surname Purpose



Happy birthday!

- NOVEMBER**
Nathanael Nyatsanga
Tinashe Nyatsanga
Marg Cheale
Irene Stevenson
Claire Sierakowski

Happy birthday!

	MORNING TEA	WELCOME	VESTRY	READING	PRAYERS	COUNTING	FLOWERS	COMMUNION
NOV 3	Joyce & Dianne	Wilma	John	Emma	Marie	Margo	Wayne	Lynda & Jenni
10	Melva & Brenda	Brenda	Rhonda	Jenni's Team	-	Ian	-	-
17	Sue D & Pat	Carol	Claire	Margaret	Carol	Lynda	Lynda	-
24	Margo & Marie	Denise	Lynda	Maggie	Claire	Colleen	-	-

Web site: <http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

Facebook: [Drysdale Uniting Church](#)

Our Vision—Reaching out with God's love and care