

## The Uniting Church in Australia Warwick, Killarney & Freestone Uniting Parish

Sunday 8<sup>™</sup> December 2024



Welcome to worship on the second Sunday in Advent.

May God bless you today as you join either online or in the pew.

Please stay for a chat and a cuppa after the Service.



Sharing the Christmas Story at Warwick mainly music

### **REJOICE AND ACT**

This Advent, what gives you reason to rejoice?

How does this rejoicing make you want to act?

How can you ACT with a sense of purpose.
ACT to serve others.
ACT to make a difference.
ACT to share the good news.
ACT to share God's love.

Rejoice and give thanks.

Do not fear for God is with us, God is our strength and might!

### **Worship Services**

Advent 3
Sunday 15th December

- 8:30am Killarney
- 9:30am Warwick

Welcome
to members of the
Warwick Choral Society
and Cathi Brown
for a special Carol Service

Advent 4
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

- 8:30am Killarney
- 9:30am Warwick.



Rejoice and ACT

### Readings

Sunday 15th December

Zep 3 : 14-20

Isaiah 12: 3 - 6

Philippians: 4: 4 – 7 Luke 3: 7 - 18

### **Sunday 22nd December**

Micah 5: 2-5a

Luke 1: 46b-55

or Ps 80:1-7

Heb10: 5-10

Luke1: 39-45 (46-55)

Rejoice in the Lord

**Proclaim the Good News** 

### Carols in Killarney Christmas 2024

You are warmly invited to join in our evening of Carols

& Christmas Cheer.

When: 7pm Sunday

22nd December

Where: Killarney Anglican Acacia Street (opposite the School) Refreshments to follow <sup>(3)</sup>





Twilight Pop-Up Christmas Gift Markets One Night Only December 19<sup>th</sup>, 5 – 7pm

Held in Conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> annual St. Mark's Community Christmas Tree Festival.

Cnr Grafton and Albion Streets

Solve those last-minute Christmas Gift ideas, for the hard to buy for or just in case, with hand-made fabulous Christmas Gifts and Crafts.

Contact Parish Office 4661 7223



#### Reflection for Advent 3...Rejoice!

Rejoice, the word is simple, direct and powerful. Joy is something we seek and yearn for among disappointments and difficulties of our world. But God is near, rejoicing over us, inviting us all into a renewed relationship with him and others. That's the real message of Christmas, a message so easily missed amid the trappings of our modern celebrations.

This week's readings all focus on the promise of change. Paul, Isaiah and Zephaniah all point us toward the One who brings change....the One who loves us and calls us to Him. The passage from Philippians and the message from Zephaniah both tell us to rejoice with our whole heart, while Isaiah calls us into praise and joy for the salvation to come. Now that sounds just like a Christmas message!

But then we come to the harsh words of John the Baptist...and we are forced to consider what brings true joy, not just for the transient season of Christmas, but for eternity. And we are then prompted to echo the words of John's crowd, "What then should we do?" He cuts us deeply with his call to repentance. *Repent*, he cries, *you're going the wrong way*. Repent - have a complete change of mind and focus!

As John cries, *Repent!* and points us to the Carpenter's son, he reminds us *Jesus is coming, not so we can feel different; but so, we can be different!* It is a confronting call because it asks us to rejoice in our own need of transformation and to be willing to turn our lives around. What then should we do? John says: *Live the message!* The message of Christmas is that, when we put our hope and faith in Christ, nothing, not even death, can separate us from his watchful care and love. So, Rejoice with heart and voice! Jean

# Southern Downs Women's Support Centre

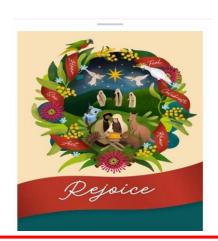
### Southern Downs Women's Support Centre

extend their thanks for all the donations which have been given over the past weeks.

Closed from 24th December to 7th January 2025.

### Christmas Worship service times

Freestone – 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – 7:00pm Warwick – 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – 7:00am Killarney – 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – 8:30am



#### **Care Corner**

### • Rejoice and Act

- The third week of Advent is a time of joy, a time of being thankful for all that has been given—the promise of the Savior who has come, who is present, and who promises a return.
- Pray for Rev Ansie during this time when there is much to do - Advent and Christmas services, involvement in the Affordable Housing Project, Parish concerns and overseeing the Southern Downs Women's Support Centre.
- Act with compassion and care towards all, wherever and however we cross paths no expense in a smile and hello which may make a difference.
- Looking for joy on this Advent Sunday doesn't mean ignore all that is wrong in the world. But it does mean paying attention to what is right, what is of God, what is the sign that God is still at work in the world, in our community, in our congregation.
- Share what you hear and see as you proclaim the joy of the presence of God. Bless one another.

### What's happening this week?

16th - 22nd December

Hospitality: Group – Group 3 Flowers this week: Alison Baistow

### Monday 16th December

Ansie's non-contact day 10:45 am Akooramak

### Wednesday 18th December

• 18<sup>th</sup> – craft in Killarney.

### Friday 20th December

9:30 - 11:30 am - Courtyard Coffee

- Office closed 20 Dec 7 Jan 2025
- Warwick mainly music recommencing 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025.
- Bowls in recess till 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025
- Bible study groups in recess till 2025

Flowers next week: Marg Wells.



Using our Bank Acct for direct deposit:

Uniting Church Warwick/Killarney Westpac BSB: 034 226 Acc:141717

Please mark deposits, offerings or donations

Or use our QR link to donate online. We are grateful for every gift.



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Web: http://wkuc.org.au Facebook Page Facebook Group page

Link to our YouTube channel for live Worship recorded for viewing any time.