

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among our own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

MARK 1:21-28

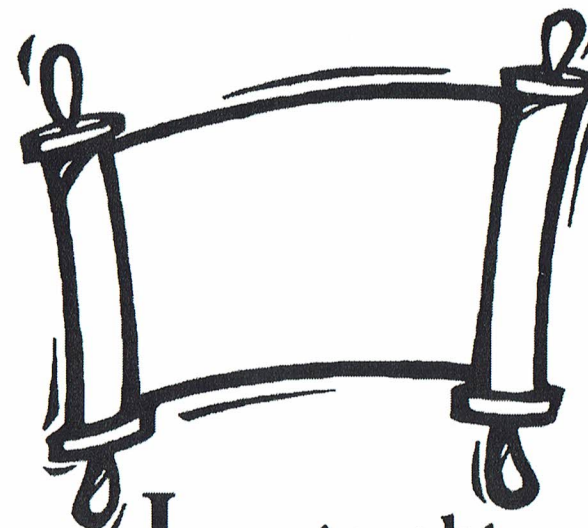
They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

**MERIMBULA UNITING CHURCH**

(PART OF SAPPHIRE COAST UNITING CHURCHES)

Address: Cnr Henwood St & Lake View Ave

(PO Box 653) Merimbula NSW 2548

Office Phone 02 6495 4780**Website:** www.merimbulaunitingchurch.com.au**E-mail:** merimbulaunitingchurch@gmail.com**Rev. Jean Shannon****Manse:** 02 6495 0509**Mobile** 0418213073*'Creating a caring, nurturing community'*

**Jesus taught
them as one having
authority. Mark 1:22**



Morning Worship: Roster

| | 31 st January 2021 | 7 th February 2021 |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Leader | Rev Jean Shannon | Revs Bob Smith & Jean Shannon |
| Music | Corinne Nicolson | Elizabeth Prosser |
| Duty Elder | Stuart Edwards | Shirley McLennan |
| Stewards | Janet & Cecil Smith | Colin & Margaret Manley |
| Reader | Shirley McLennan | Iris Ballard |
| Pastoral Prayer | Stuart Edwards | Shirley McLennan |
| Morning Tea | No Morning Tea | No Morning Tea |
| Projection | Tony Olinsky | Jeff Haynes |
| Lectionary | Deuteronomy 18: 15-20 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13 Mark 1: 21-28 | Isaiah 40: 21-31 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23 Mark 1: 29-39 |

Regular Activities

Morning Worship - 1st, 2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday/month: - 10am

Holy Communion - 3rd Sunday/month - 10am and at Wyndham - 2:30pm & 3rd Wednesday/month - 2:00pm at Imlay House. (not at present)

Tura Beach Op Shop - Open Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 9:00am to 4:00pm

Fellowship Group - 1st Monday/month at 1.30pm - contact Joan or Corinne

Uniting Church Tai Chi 108 Thursday 10-11am in the hall. Contact Shirley

Uniting Church Dance Group - Tuesday evenings at 7 pm and Friday mornings at 9 am Contact John Tanner: 0428 957 165 for details.

Church Bring-and-Share Brunch - T.B.A.

Birthdays this week: Shirley Bazley - 2nd
Cathy Baker - 6th



For those who would like to make their **Offering** via regular direct bank transfer, our banking details for **Giving Direct** are: Acc Name: Sapphire Coast Uniting Church
BSB: 634-634 Acc Number: 100037934



An induction loop is installed in the church. It connects automatically to newer hearing aids. For older aids you need to switch to "T" telecoil setting.

Fellowship Meeting

There will be no Fellowship meeting tomorrow 1st February.

Duty Roster

The roster for **March, April & May** will soon be prepared. New volunteers are very welcome. Please note any planned absences you may have during this period on the sheets provided on the notice board, to avoid changes to the roster after publication.

Blessing Workshop (How to get your fingers on their toes)

A workshop to learn to write blessings for people who think they can't write (and for those who can)

Ecumenical - all are welcome.

Presented by Marylyn Judd Smith and Jean Shannon - this workshop has been presented to the Pastoral Care Conference; the Uniting Women's Conference and Clearview Uniting Church

Saturday 6th February, 9:30am to 1:00pm

Merimbula Uniting Church, corner of Henwood and Lakeview Ave, Merimbula

To Register: Email jean@jeanshannon.com with heading BLESSING WORKSHOP with contact details.

or phone 6495 0509 and leave a message with contact details.

Cost: Gold Coin to cover costs

DISCIPLESHIP THOUGHT

In 2018, Oobah Butler created a fake restaurant called *The Shed*. Complete with a menu made up of moods rather than dishes, Butler set out to create a social experiment that asked questions about truth and trust. He didn't expect that his restaurant would make it to be the top rated restaurant on Trip Advisor with celebrities trying to make bookings. In an era of fake news, Oobah Butler points out, perhaps with the greatest skill, that the world in which we live is not necessarily the one we think we live in. The Shed invites us to ask questions about truth, trust and authority. The people were amazed by Jesus' teaching - a teaching with authority. But authority is a two way street. Authority cannot be imposed, but must be earned. Trust cannot be demanded, it must be given. Today, we must ask ourselves: to whom do we give authority? Who gives us authority and what do we do with their trust?