



THE OLIVE BRANCH

UNITING CHURCH NORANDA

79 Camboon Rd, Noranda
Meets for Worship 9.30am each Sunday
Church Office - 9276 8150



WELCOME to the service this morning, especially to any visitors who are with us today. We wish to extend an invitation to join us in the hall for morning tea after the service.

If you would like to add anything to The Olive Branch, please email mairi_co@yahoo.com.au
The Olive Branch is now available online! <https://noranda.ucwa.au/about-us/newsletters/>

14 December 2025

Christmas Services

Carol Service on Christmas Eve (Wednesday) – 7pm
Christmas Day 9.30am

Lectionary Readings: Advent 3 Is 35:1-10 Ps 146:5-10 or Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11

Chris Crause Bible Readings: New Testament Readings: Luke 1:5-22, 57-67, 76-80

Advent 3: Second fiddle Zechariah – Empowering others

Hymns/Carols: Once in Royal David's City - Together in Song 312 (5 verses)

Away in a manger - Together in Song 318 (3 verses)

Quiet Hands That Lift the Flame (Tune: Sicilian Mariners) Together in Song 330 4 verse. My new one.

Jesus Christ is born in our country - Singing a New Song 25 (Tune Waltzing Matilda) 4 verses

You are invited to join us for a series on the Advent stories where the spotlight falls on those behind the scenes. The "Second Fiddle" people.

I will be looking afresh at key stories from this pivotal event and exploring its message for our time.

I hope that you try and read the Gospel stories of the announcement and birth of Jesus before the series starts.

The music/singing promises to be very special. I have written 5 sets of new liturgies for this special season.

I've tried to retain the really special feel of the songs we all know and love, but modernize the lyrics to reflect our understandings today.

I hope you will join us at Noranda for a time of worship, searching and reflection.

Rev Chris Crause

- **Christmas Bowl envelopes** are also available for this special donation at this time of the year.
- The Revive Magazine will no longer be printed and delivered to congregations. We previously had a Christmas Bowl envelope in Revive.



Blue Christmas Services

Christmas isn't always a time of great joy and celebration, especially for those who have recently lost loved ones, or are feeling disconnected from family and friends at this time. Some of our congregations offer a special 'Blue Christmas' style service, which are usually more reflective in nature, allowing people to take some time out of the busyness of the season for quiet prayer, reflection and remembrance. You can search for Blue Christmas services, along with other types of Christmas services and activities, using the search function on our Christmas event calendar - click on the 'Filter by Event Category' panel.

December

- Sunday 14 December. ***Third Sunday of Advent***
 - Sunday 14 December, 11.30am to 12.30am. ***Peace Pole Ceremony*** at Margaret River Uniting Church, Margaret River.
 - Tuesday 16 December, 12.00pm to 5.00pm. ***Uniting Church Centre closed for staff Christmas Party.***
 - Sunday 21 December. ***Fourth Sunday of Advent***
 - Monday 22 December. ***Final News and Notes for 2025.***
 - Wednesday 24 December. ***Christmas Eve.***
 - Wednesday 24 December, 4.00pm. ***Uniting Church Centre closed until 9.00am Monday 5 January 2026.***
 - Thursday 25 December. ***Christmas Day***
 - Friday 26 December. ***Boxing Day Public Holiday.***
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Sri Lanka Cyclone Ditwah Emergency Appeal

Cyclone Ditwah has brought the worst flooding in decades to Sri Lanka.

Nearly a million people have been affected, with 212 killed, 218 missing and nearly 200,000 people displaced [statistics as at 1 Dec 2025 from ABC]. Sri Lanka's health system is under severe pressure and the country's food security has been devastated.

UnitingWorld partners are responding and have called for financial support to deliver food, water and shelter to people affected.

Kalamunda community cares about climate

ARRCC WA invites you to come up the hill on Tuesday 9 December to meet with a local group of environmental advocates who have helped their faith community respond to the climate challenge. Gather at the Kalamunda Uniting Church from 2.00pm to 3.30pm for an informal opportunity to hear what they've managed to do.

Recently they worked together to achieve Certificates in Eco Church under the Five Leaf Eco Awards. RSVP to Ken or Elaine via arrccwa@arrcc.org.au to assist with catering, or to join via Zoom.

Wollaston Library

In February this year the Wollaston Theological Library officially opened. This event was attended by our past-Moderator, Rev Dr Ian Tozer, and Formation and Learning Culture Co-ordinator, Rev Dr Cathie Lambert. The library collection was moved from Murdoch University after the closure of the Theology program. It consists of books from both the Anglican and Uniting Church. The library is open Monday to Friday from 8am until 4pm. Everyone is very welcome to visit the library and browse the collection. You can also join the library, giving you borrowing rites for 20 items for a period of three weeks, for a fee of \$50 per year. The library is found at Wollaston Theological College, 5 Wollaston Road, Mount Claremont. To find out more visit their website.
