

## CHURCH COUNCIL

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Norm Green  
Irene Beddes  
Rev. John Dihm

(Grapevine and website)  
(Children's ministry)

CHURCH CONTACT  
NUMBER:  
0407579349

## UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

# THE GRAPEVINE

## NOVEMBER 2024



NORTHAM CONGREGATION  
103 Duke Street, NORTHAM, Western Australia 6401

WORSHIP 9.30am  
1st and 3rd Sundays

**NEWS - ROSTERS - CHURCH INFORMATION - EVENTS**

### SOME THOUGHTS ON JOY FROM ANN

The meaning of joy varies from one person to another. Joy, like peace, is not the absence of something, but the recognition that we are loved, we are valued, we matter, by those around us, but also by our Creator.

#### ***Carolyn Dickinson***

Joy has nothing to do with physical circumstances. Joy is much deeper and constant. Happiness is great but it's not as deep and lasting. Joy is the strength of our faith that allows us to live with faith in Christ.

Sometimes - not always - joy is a lump in the throat and a prickling in the eyes, a racing of the heart and roaring in the ears. Sometimes - not always - it is deep silence; sometimes it is a song heard or remembered.

**Joy hides** in the darkest corner of the room, found only when you're sweeping up after the party.

**Joy jumps** into the open car door, buckle up, you might get a glimpse in the mirror.

**Joy sits** with you at the bedside of the dying, dancing with delight at what is to come.

**Joy waits** patiently tickling your ear, longing to be embraced completely.

**Joy sings** your birth tune, spun in the stars, melody of heaven on earth, for you; listen.

#### ***Rev. Jennie Gordon***

Some of "life's joys" are unexpected, whilst with other "joys", the anticipation adds to that joy!

I first look to nature to receive great joy! In the early summer of "Down Under" I find great joy in the brilliant colours of my Asiatic Lilies and roses; and the perfumes of the Gardenias. I also really love and "enjoy" listening to the young magpies as they learn to warble and watching them as they play together.

I find great joy also in the night sky with all the stars and heavenly bodies, as that tells me out the wideness of God's merciful love and creativity.

People also bring me great joy, especially when I receive unexpected thanks or praise; or unexpected gifts, such as a slice of freshly cooked quiche from a neighbour.

I believe "joy" is whatever is possible wherever one looks, or experiences "life's" challenges as well as achievements.

***Joan Stott***

**HOLY COMMUNION** is on the first Sunday of each month.  
**BETHAVON & THE RESIDENCY (JUNIPER RESIDENTIAL & COMMUNITY CARE)** are supported with pastoral care to the residents, family and staff of Juniper Northam.

**NORTHAM CONGREGATION** gives financial support for Chaplaincy in local schools.

**CHAPLAINCY (DONATION DAY)** is the first Sunday of each month.  
(Collect the marked envelopes in the Church foyer.)

**CAFE FELLOWSHIP** every third Sunday of the month.

**SONG SERVICE** every 5th Sunday (To be advised).

### **EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS**

**LIFELINE WA** would like to invite Northam Uniting Church to attend free family and domestic violence training in Northam this December as part of 16 Days in WA – Stop Violence Against Women.

The 2024 campaign theme is Stopping Family and Domestic Violence: Play Your Part. You are invited to create change during this campaign to educate, motivate and advocate in your community, and stand up to stop violence against women and their children.

Fully funded by the Department of Social Services and free for members of the public and community to attend, this workshop will explain what domestic and family violence is and how to recognise the signs. Attendees will learn how to respond safely and options for referral for the person experiencing domestic and family violence.

2 Hour DV-Aware

4 December 2024

9.00am to 11.00am

Northam Recreation Centre

Registration Link: 2-Hour DV-aware: <https://www.dvalert.org.au/enrolment-listings/cselif07435>

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you,  
DV-Alert

## BIBLE READERS OCTOBER

3 Nov Raelenne Ashman  
17 Nov Kay Lockley

## PREACHING PLAN OCTOBER

3. Rev John Dihm - HOLY COMMUNION  
17. Ann Barnes - CAFE FELLOWSHIP



### HOMES REQUIRED

As I'm sure you're aware our housing crisis is still a major issue for many and we currently have a number of families (particularly single mums) looking for accommodation. Two of these families are very urgent and would require at least a 3x1 home. If you have any information that would assist us in finding homes for these families in need I would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Thank you church for all you are doing and I pray God's continued blessing upon you as you serve Him!

God bless,  
Kym Edwards  
Pastor

Bridgeley Church of Christ  
91 – 93 Wellington Street  
NORTHAM WA 6401

### FRIDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP - PRIDE SERVICE

Formed as a successor to Social.Justice.Church, Friday Night Fellowship stands on a legacy of radical inclusivity, loving fellowship and a genuine concern for promoting justice.

Date: Friday 8 November

Time: 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Location: Wesley Uniting Church, cnr William & Hay Streets, Perth  
Refreshments after the service.

### BIBLE READING

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 CORINTHIANS 14: 1-5

## 2025 STATE ELECTION RESOURCES

With a WA State election scheduled for March 2025, the Social Justice Commission is calling for expressions of interest from people connected to the Uniting Church wanting to be involved in developing resources to help Christians reflect on election issues from a social justice perspective.

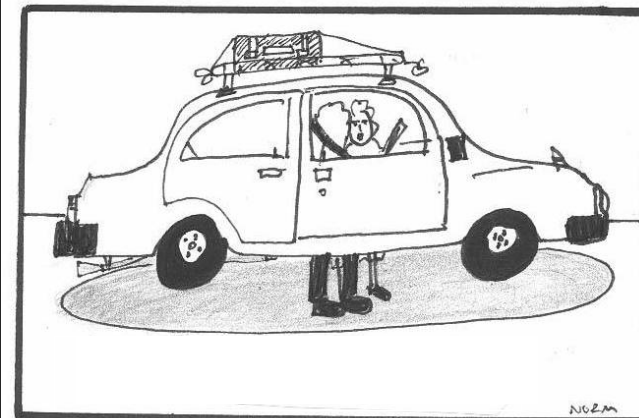
In previous years, the Uniting Church WA Social Justice Unit has prepared resources designed to help people consider the different political parties' policies on justice issues that are State responsibilities, including housing, education, prisons and the environment.

If this is something you are interested in, please contact :  
[chair.socialjustice@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:chair.socialjustice@wa.uca.org.au) and let us know your area(s) of interest and/or expertise.

### CHRISTMAS

Time to start our giving for the Christmas Hampers. Please place your donations in the grey tub on the back table.

NEW toys [no used toys please] suitable for babies and teenagers 13-14 are also needed for the Salvation Army Christmas Gifting.



"I know we are on an economy drive but this is ridiculous."

### SHAKESPEARE

"Let it be known to the birth-giver that mine stomach consists of emptiness"  
"Oh for heaven's sake William, can't you just say 'mum I'm hungry'?"

The difference between me and Superman is that he has super vision and I require supervision!



### POPE NEWS

Pope Francis has decided to cut the salaries of the cardinals working at the Vatican again, a measure that will take effect Nov. 1.

I MAY BE BALD  
BUT I DO OWN A  
COMB.  
I JUST CAN'T  
PART WITH IT'

What do we call a crying sister?  
A crisis.  
If you ever get cold just stand in a corner. They're usually 90 degrees.  
Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? He didn't have the guts.