

REVISED DRAFT AGENDA - MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

10.45 am Sunday 6 December 2020: Streamed at <https://youtu.be/zL5R8I4bcBU>

1. Welcome, acknowledgement of land, COVID-safe arrangements, attendance and apologies
2. Confirmation of Agenda
3. Confirmation of Minutes – 8 December 2019 (taken as read)

4. MISSION IN ACTION

4.1 Ratification of Council decisions re election of office bearers for 2020

- 4.1.1 Chair and Secretary of the Congregation
- 4.1.2 Elders

4.2 Ministry update

- 4.2.1 Council Chairperson, Bruce Ind
- 4.2.2 Minister, Bob Hutchinson

5. RESOURCING AND ENABLING MISSION

5.1 Finance Update (see <http://www.morialtauca.org.au/meeting-of-the-congregation/> for papers)

- 5.1.1 Treasurer's report, Audited 2019 accounts and January to October 2020 accounts
- 5.1.2 2021 Budget

5.2 Congregational Singing in COVID times

Proposer: John Secombe; Seconder: Colin Cargill (See Attachment 1 overleaf for Rationale)

In order to fulfil our goal of being an inclusive church, and to enable more of our people to be available for rostered duties while still feeling safe, that – for the next roster cycle (January to March 2021), we request Council to designate in advance every second Sunday as a Congregational Humming Sunday, and the alternate Sundays as Congregational Singing Sundays, with confirmation of the Singing Sundays being dependant on Council's discernment in the light of the advice in place from the government and the Synod at the time.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS and CLOSING REMARKS

Diary Dates

Day	Date	Time	Details
Monday	21 December	7.30pm	Blue Christmas
Thursday	24 December	7.00 pm	Christmas Eve
Friday	25 December	9.00 am	Christmas Day
Sunday services after Christmas will continue to be held at 9.30 am in the church with livestreaming, COVID-safety permitting			
Wednesday	17 February		Ash Wednesday
Friday	2 April		Good Friday
Sunday	4 April		Easter Day



Attachment 1: Proposal Rationale

We are now many months into a COVID-19-affected world, and this is likely to continue for many months to come. At Morialta, our priority has been and continues to be the safety of our largely vulnerable community, taking into account the guidance provided by the government and the Synod, while endeavouring to maintain a life of worship, fellowship and service as we are able. Balancing these aspects can be challenging, especially given the range of health statuses among our congregation.

As some restrictions have lifted, many congregation members have expressed a strong desire to be able to sing during worship. Council has been sympathetic to this request, allowing congregational singing from 8 November until the most recent cluster of cases erupted. For some members of the congregation, though, congregational singing has meant that they have not felt safe to attend worship at all, leading to a feeling of exclusion. Our AV team is providing weekly livestreaming of our services for those at a distance – but it has become more difficult to fill the rosters for this and other activities each week as some people have had to withdraw due to the congregational singing.

A way forward is needed that could help everyone feel included, in line with our Vision Statement, and allow more people to contribute to Sunday mornings. A trial of a compromise solution is being proposed, where for Jan-March every second week is designated as humming only, with alternate weeks including congregational singing if the external COVID situation permits. This would mean that people could volunteer for rosters on humming weeks only, expanding the pool. People who feel confident to join in-person worship only without congregational singing could attend fortnightly.