

**CHURCH COUNCIL approved the distribution of 6% of funds for not-for-profit organisations for this year. If you have suggestions for this distribution, please talk to a CC member or David. It can be an international, local or an Aboriginal organisation.**

**SAVE THE DATE: Walk for Justice Palm Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> - 2pm at the State Library**

**COMMUNITY FORUM – Heat, Fire & Flood. Next Saturday February 29<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm at Phoenix Theatre – Elwood College, Glenhuntly Road. Tickets and more information [www.pecan.org.au](http://www.pecan.org.au) . Free, but you need to register.**

**We respectfully acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung – the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather. We pay our respects to their Elders - past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.**

Date	23 February	1 March	8 March	15 March	22 March
<i>Worship</i>	David	David	David	David	David
<i>Assistance</i>	Brian	Mary	Roma	Randall	Brian
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Janet	Louise	Wendy	Mary	Janet
<i>Flowers</i>	Deb	Roma	Deb	Mary	Maureen
<i>Coffee</i>	Janet	Roma	Darren	Maureen	Janet
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Randall	Randall	Darren/ Melissa	Roma	Randall

**Church**

163 Chapel St., St Kilda. 3182  
(cnr Chapel & Carlisle Sts.)

**Engagement Hub**

101 Carlisle St.

St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

**Minister:** Rev. David Pargeter

Email: [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

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Ph: 0412 334 334

[www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au)

**Church phone no.**

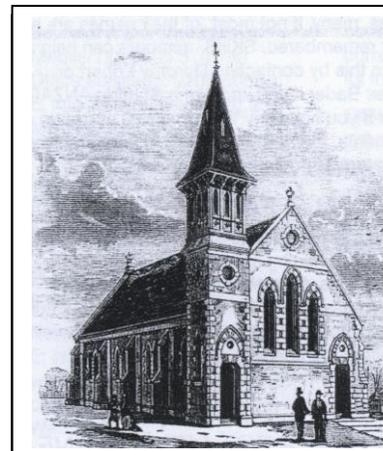
**0458 417 708**

**VISION STATEMENT:**

As a community of faith, the St Kilda Uniting Church Parish Mission strives to do what is just, to show constant love and to walk humbly with God.

**NEWSLETTER DETAILS:**

Desleigh Kent is the editor and distributor of the Newsletter. .If you would like to receive a copy of the church newsletter each week or if you wish to be removed from the list, please contact Desleigh: [desleighk@ozemail.com.au](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
Parish Mission**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 55, Issue 04**

**Sunday, 23 February 2020**

**Welcome to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Readings: Isaiah 25: 6 – 8 pg 236. Luke 14: 12 – 24 pg 689**

*The Inclusive Bible*

**From David: Hospitality 4**

**We can't put him next to her !** One of the most enjoyable aspects of ministry is being invited to conduct a marriage ceremony. I've done some interesting weddings in some very interesting places; many of those when I was an Industrial Chaplain and didn't have a building to use. Which was fine for most people because they wanted to celebrate their marriage by a water-fall. On a bridge. On a boat. In a cave. In a forest.

All weddings are different and I could write a book about some of the strangest experiences I have had. I remember one wedding.....no, I won't tell that one!

But among the diversity of them all, one thing stands out as being relatively common to so many of them - seating arrangements at the meal.

The only ones who escaped the traumatizing interference of expectations and in-laws, were those who chose to have a stand-around buffet-style reception.

**PTO**

[Continued from page 1 ...]

The couples who didn't go for that option would agonise for days and weeks over who should sit at which tables and with whom. One of the biggest sources of stress was the informal hierarchy around the 'top table' and the tables next to or near it. Family or friends? Which family members and which friends?

Thus begins the great debate: "We can't put Uncle Eric there. You know he doesn't get along with your sister Annabel. Grandma has to sit there; otherwise she won't see or hear a thing". "But she will only complain about being next to the band". "Let's put your friends near the bar. That solves a few problems". "What are you saying about friends?" And on it goes.

Funny thing is, it always works out fine in the end. After a while everyone gets up and moves around and does their own thing. They sit next to whoever they want. Grandma takes her hearing aids out. Annabel moves away from Eric as quickly as she can. The drinkers prop up the bar. The smokers hover near the exit. Families and friends become indistinguishable. And everyone has a great time – mostly.

Agonising over seating arrangements gets frustrating but it illustrates one of the aspects of hospitality that reaches back into ancient times. **But Jesus had a solution. You can read about it in the little series of dinner party stories remembered by Luke and told by him in Ch14: 1 - 24**

**Grace and Peace**

**David**

***HYMNS/ SONGS.***

**TiS 474: Here in this place**

**TiS 636: God has spoken**

**TiS 677: Christ's is the world in which we move**

**TiS 677:(repeated as a meditation)**

**NOTICES:**

***CHURCH DINNER*** –Thank you to Janet and Brian for hosting the *Church Dinner* last night and for everyone who contributed. It's always such a great opportunity to get together.

***PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK VICTORIA*** (PCNV) **Today: Sunday February 23 @ 3:00pm-5:00pm.** The speaker will be **Ro Allen - Victorian Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality. TOPIC:** Understanding Sexuality & Gender Diversity in 2020 - Implications for Christians & other faith traditions. **Ewing Memorial Centre of**

**Stonnington Uniting Church.** Cnr. Burke Rd and Coppin St, Malvern East. **Ro** will also address the implications for LGBTIQ people of the proposed **Religious Freedom Bill.** Q&A will follow

The monthly **FILM AFTERNOON** at the Elsternwick Classic with Mary and Brian is **this Tuesday 1.30 for 2pm**, \$8 for the session. There are some good films to choose from – please let Mary know if you would like to join the group and particularly if you require transport. Coffee afterwards.

**BAPTISM** of Georgia Grace and Bryan Barrass **NEXT SUNDAY March 1<sup>st</sup> during our worship service at 10.30am. Please join us for this wonderful celebration. For catering purposes please let Laura or Janet know if you can stay for lunch Laura: 0474 077 249 Janet: 0417 670 132**

The next **DISCUSSION NIGHT** for the **Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP)** will be on **Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 7'30 to 9.30pm at St Joseph's Hall 274 Rouse St., Port Melbourne.** There will be a panel of asylum seekers and a migration agent to speak about the challenges facing individuals and the lack of consistency and justice in the processing of applications for protection. Supper will be served. BASP is in need of stock for the pantry and vouchers for the big supermarkets are always appreciated.

**The WORLD DAY OF PRAYER service for this year was written by the women of Zimbabwe. The local service is at 10.30am Friday March 6 at St Joseph's Catholic Church 274 Rouse St, Port Melbourne.**

**The next 163 CONVERSATIONS. Will be Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6.15 for 6.30pm at the church.:** We will hear about the Watoto Children's Choir - a group of African children choirs based in Kampala, Uganda, at Watoto Church. Each is composed of about eighteen to twenty-two children from Uganda. Watoto means "Children" in Swahili language. More information to come. **RSVP:** by email: [janetsnashall@gmail.com](mailto:janetsnashall@gmail.com) or phone Janet 0417 670 132. BYO drinks and a donation for dinner.

**Advanced notice BOOK LAUNCH. Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>** Rev Dr Robert Hoskin will take the service. This will include the launch of his book – **A Kimberley Collaboration – the story of the Boab Network 2008 – 2018.** Robert's Perth friend, Ross Gobby, a key person in the Boab Network, will assist him with this.

**UNITING CHURCH SUBMISSION – RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BILL** The Uniting Church in Australia Assembly believes the latest version of the Federal Government's Religious Freedom Bills won't adequately balance the human rights of all Australians. To read more visit the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly page: [HERE](#)