

**BULLETIN*****WELCOME TO THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN*****From David: *Adapting to change***

One of the things that lock-down has given me, and I suspect has given lots of other people, is time. I don't have anywhere that I need to be. My day is no longer being driven by the clock. Or the diary. Or a schedule of activities. There are a few things I need and want to do like preparation for 'cyber-church' or our regular study night; researching and all that kind of stuff. I've been staying in touch with some people via Zoom. In the main I've been in isolation mode and trying to use my time wisely.

**But 'time' swirls effortlessly around things in ways I have not experienced before: much like a river runs around rocks and logs and old discarded fence posts. It's all very smooth and gentle really.**

I know it's not like that for everyone; especially for parents with young children – working from home, running a home and acting as teaching supervisors / entertainers / and full-time conflict resolution experts.

I've been reading a fair bit too – going deeper into my appreciation of all things Chinese (philosophy, art etc ) Even watched a bit of TV – more than usual. Been writing too, as well as face-timing my adult children (I wish we could find another name to describe 'that' relationship). But one thing that has kept me occupied is my deep love for painting. I don't mean bedroom walls etc. but my genuinely humble attempts at trying to be artistic.

I've dabbled with painting on and off since I was about 12. My first painting in poster-paints was of a horse show-jumping over a red and white striped fence. Since then I've played around with oils, and acrylics. But I've been back with water colour painting for about 6 months now. It's a most unforgiving and at the same time, exciting medium.

I love painting with water colour because it feels like a real partnership in which the medium imposes itself upon the process. Unexpected things happen. There is a real sense of watching 'magic' unfold as water, pigment, paper and ideas come together.

**Here's one of my more recent ones. Just lately I've been having a recurring dream. In it I am in a rowing boat crossing a river. In the dream I am of Asian appearance. I even have hair. It's all very quiet and calm on the river. It's like the river is in lock-down too. Not a ripple. Not a sound except for that gentle slapping sound of water against the side of a boat; just that beautiful sense of stillness that invites me to relax and go with the flow. The flow of the river. The flow of time. The flow of life.**

Peace be with you.

David



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**We have now concluded our period of post-Easter exploration of Doubt, Grief, Transformation and Hope. I 'hope' you found it meaningful.**

**This week begins a short journey into the Book of Acts.** A book in the Christian Testament that captures some of what happened once the Disciples, now referred to as the Apostles, worked through the Easter experience for themselves. After an unknown period of time, they appear to have pulled themselves together. Individually and collectively, they made decisions about what they were to do next with all the things they had experienced, and their sense of carrying forward the legacy of Jesus's life, teaching and ministry.

So, we will have a look at how the Gospels end, how Acts begins, and what happened between these two points in time.

See you on Sunday  
David

**Wednesday night study group – *The Book of Revelation***

Next Wednesday will be Session 5 of this series. Last week we had a candid look at how the misuse of Apocalyptic material has produced one of the more disturbing periods in US political history, and how the current President influenced by a particular cohort of Evangelical Christians within the Whitehouse administration are pursuing a very dangerous course for the world. (Slides and notes are available if you would like to receive them)

**Next Wednesday will be a little gentler as we explore some of the numbers and images used in the Book. The Zoom meeting room will be open at 5.45 (invitations distributed around that time) for a 6pm start. If you are not on the study email list but would like to be included, let me know.**

Best wishes  
David

The next **PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK VICTORIA (PCNV)** meeting will be an online on Sunday May 24 from 4:00pm - 5:15pm. Speaker: author, scientist and theologian, **DR VAL WEBB**. Topic: **FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE: The Making of a Radical Theologian**. Val's book, by the same title, is widely regarded as the definitive biography of this remarkable and complex nineteenth century ground -breaking woman. This past Tuesday, May 12, was the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. 2020 is also WHO's International Year of the Nurse and Midwife, in acknowledgment of Florence's contribution to humanity. **Please see attached flyer for information re connecting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82084317994?pwd=WIVrNFhxc1g2V2liVzNNNDIWWUxxdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 8431 7994 Password: 293015

**?????? ISOLATION TRIVIA - a fun night on Zoom hosted by Brian and Janet ???????**

**FRIDAY 29 MAY 7.30 - 9:00 PM**

**Step 1: Get a team together**

Your 'team' can be 1 - 8 people

People in the same house can be on different teams (as long as you log in on different computers/tablets/phones)

We suggest you team up with at least one other household from church

Feel free to invite other people to join the fun

We can use Zoom to put you in breakout rooms so you can collaborate as a team on your answers

We do all that at the touch of a button - so no need for any extra Zoom knowledge

**Step 2: Let us know you are going to join us - RSVP by 25 May**

Let us know your team name and who will be in your team

Where we are sending the zoom link: email or mobile number

We can always put you with a group if you are unsure, just let us know

There will be a wide variety of questions - something for everyone (including those under 40!!)

To join all you need are:

A Zoom connection (same as church)

A pen and paper (each team will record and mark their own answers - NO CHEATING!!)

A burning desire to have a great night 😊

**See you there!!**

[janetsnashall@gmail.com](mailto:janetsnashall@gmail.com)/[bsnashwood@hotmail.com](mailto:bsnashwood@hotmail.com)

Here is a link to the **Confined 11 virtual exhibition** featuring artworks by Indigenous artists currently in or recently released from prisons in Victoria, Australia. Presenting 300 artworks from 286 artists, Confined 11 creates a strong visual metaphor for the over-representation of Indigenous Australians in the criminal justice system. It is the biggest exhibition ever presented by The Torch. <https://thetorch.org.au/exhibition/confined-11/>

**From The Uniting Church in Australia Assembly - *JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR:***

- All those in Australia and beyond who are unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Our global church partners who are offering pastoral support and advocacy in their communities, where there is devastating loss of life, overwhelmed healthcare systems, loss of livelihood and fear for the future.
- People with disability, made in the image of God like all of us, who seek equity and justice.
- Uniting Church members, as we gather in various ways for worship.

*The Church Council will meet via ZOOM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. If you have any questions or concerns please email Randall Kent [rakent@ozemail.com.au](mailto:rakent@ozemail.com.au)*

If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact David Pargeter 0412 334 334 or email [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

Please visit our website: [www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au) It is updated on a regular basis by Petra.

If you would like to make a contribution to support the work of the church, the best way is through bank transfer: 013 427. Acct 3108 34465. The only identification needed is ' offering' .

By mail: PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183

Contributions to these bulletins welcomed – please send to [desleighk@ozemail.com.au](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
(photos, articles, poems – anything you would like to share with others)

*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.*