

BULLETIN**From David: It's raining on the rocks.**

How good was it to hear and see the rain on Friday. Good, heavy, soaking rain. When it rains like that you can almost sense the relief in plants as they feverishly begin to siphon up the moisture. Their leaves start to lose their limpness immediately and a brighter green returns. How the earth loves rain. And then the road starts to flood. Flash- flooding, swirling and swishing around the tyres of parked cars. Pushing and dragging weeks of fallen debris along the gutters. Bubbling up out of stormwater drains blocked with autumn leaf matter. Large puddles forming in the road, and passing cars sending cascades of water into the air. How rapidly the landscape transforms and starts to shine. All surfaces start to reflect light. A dazzling display of sparkle, glitter and twinkle.

I love blue sky days. I love the heat of the sun. But I just as equally love watching rain fall steadily. Watching it beat against the window. Watching it splash off the rocks. Watching it bounce off the lid of the rubbish bin and the roof of the car. Watching it drip from the leaves of shrubs. Watching it nourish the land selflessly and generously. Rain. As I sat watching it fall steadily, I remembered so many songs that have rain in their title: Purple Rain, A hard rain is gonna fall, Singing in the rain, Raining in my heart, Have you ever seen the rain, Rain drops keep falling on my head, Here comes the rain again, Fire and rain, I wish it would rain down, Laughter in the rain, Raining on the Rock etc etc. So many songs. So many perspectives. So many images and expressions of this glorious thing called rain. I paint quite a few pictures with rain in them. A recent one is included here.



I like the different moods that rain can create. Joyful. Thoughtful. Quiet. There's something about rain that stirs and feeds the imagination. Maybe it's because the human body is roughly 60% water, our brains are 75% and our lungs 85%. Perhaps our affinity with water makes us more receptive to its wonder and its threats, its ebbs and its flows.

So, as winter starts to kick in, and if we get some more really wet days, find some time to watch the rain fall. Let it stir your imagination. Maybe put on a rain song. That reminds me, Guns n Roses – November Rain. Love that track. Has one of the best and longest instrumental openings to a rock ballad.

Shalom. David

CYBER-CHURCH - SUNDAY 5th July 2020: 10.30 am

This Sunday is Communion Sunday, but instead of treating this simple 'sacred' meal as an appendix to a service, it will form the focus of the whole service. We will spend some time thinking about different features of this very ancient liturgical act.

4 people will be sharing with us their thoughts about the meaning of certain words associated with breaking bread and pouring wine.

So, come prepared by having with you a piece of bread and a cup containing your preferred 'wine'.

Peace

David

BIBLE READING: Acts 3: 36- 42

BIBLE STUDY /DISCUSSION: WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 6.00 – 7.00 pm

We are having a 2 week break from studying together. We will start again on **Wednesday 22 July at 6.00 pm.**

By request, our topic of study will be the Holy Spirit. An invitation will be sent out at 5.45pm on the 22nd.

See you then. Shalom. David

Please visit our website: 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

(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.