

BULLETIN**Welcome to this week's Bulletin****From David: Cherishing the mundane – it's the stuff of life.**

Since the start of lockdown, I've been getting out for a walk at least once a day. Sometimes twice. On the way back I call into a local café and buy a takeaway coffee – skinny flat white 1 sugar extra hot. Then I go sit on a bench and look out over Port Philip Bay. 10 reflective minutes later I make my way back home.

That's the short version.

The longer version goes something like this: check weather forecast and decide between 2 jumpers, coat and beanie + camera, or 1 hoodie, sleeveless jerkin and sunscreen + camera, or just a hoodie + camera? Which route shall I take? Left down Central or straight down to Ebden? Which café shall I buy my takeaway from today? I try to buy from each of them so that each one gets supported equally. Black Drop has the best coffee but Gulay in United appreciates a cheery chat. Bob in Endo's gets a go but he often only gives $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cup. Still, I try to be fair – they are all struggling to keep their businesses alive.

So many shops have 'For Lease' pasted on the window. Others are using this down-time to renovate or redevelop the inside of their shops. Some have stacks of correspondence piling up on their doormats inside. A Hairdresser has one of those clock dials on the front door that says 'Gone to lunch – back in October'. The one I like best is in a café called The Colonel's Son - it has a notice which says 'We hope you stay COVID negative, but while you're in here, please stay positive'.

But my favourite café is run by Wang Zi Yong - it's called Happy Jacques. He took the business over just before lockdown. We always chat. He always smiles. He never complains – well not in English, I'm sure he does in Mandarin – who could blame him. But he's hanging in there and making the best of some very difficult circumstances. I've suggested he should change the name of his café to Happy Wang's. He thinks that's very funny. His young assistant, Fiona from Shanghai, until very recently was travelling from Sunshine to the shop – a trip of 2 hours each way on public transport. Last week she moved into a flat 5 mins walk away. She smiles a lot too and is a terrific barista. She says her Chinese name is too hard to say, and anyway she likes Fiona.

Then, with cup in one hand and camera in the other, I make my way to one of the foreshore benches. Each bench offers a different perspective. Some of them have 'In Memory' plaques remembering 'Daisy and Jack' who loved to sit there decades ago. Sometimes they are all occupied (the benches, not the perspectives) and I have to make do with sitting on the little blue stone wall opposite the Surf Life Saving club. I don't mind

really. The view is just the same and it's better for my posture. I often have company on the wall which is an added bonus. I took this photo on Wednesday of a more recent companion (over). I found myself

wondering what it would be like having to stand or rest on one leg all the time. But then, even one-legged sea gulls get to fly. On windy days it's a genuine delight watching them simply lean into the wind and sweep and swoop and then just 'hang' there, about 6 ft above my head. Wings resisting just enough wind to let them hover and look around. Looking at me as if to say, 'Aren't I the lucky one – the one with the disability'. Then with a turn of the head, she's gone.

And with that, I head home. You know, I can't recall the last time I felt bored. I've always cherished the mundane: little ordinary things hold my attention and delight my spirit. The mundane is full of glorious moments if you take the time to sit with them. Shalom.



David

CYBER CHURCH via ZOOM: 10:30am

Bible Reading - Luke 16: 19 - 31

This Sunday we continue the process of weaving the idea of enlightenment, film and creation. Glen will be sharing with us his thoughts on a movie that made him think. I will share some thoughts on Time, and then **we will all share in Communion online**. So please be sure to bring a piece of bread and a glass of wine or juice to share in this simple yet profoundly symbolic meal together.

The zoom waiting room will be open around 9.45 for some chat time, and we will 'gather' more formally at 10.30.

NEXT WEEK September 13th we will be pleased to welcome to our ZOOM church, the congregation from South Port Uniting Church Parish Mission while their supply minister Belinda is on leave. 😊

If you have not joined us before and would like to, please send David your email address so that an invitation can be sent to your inbox. saints163@bigpond.com

BIBLE STUDY via ZOOM 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY September 9th

This week we conclude our series on The Prophets. Moses, the first prophet within Judaism, inaugurated the concept of a covenantal relationship between God and the people of God. **Jesus, at the last supper with his disciples inaugurated a 'new' covenant – we will take a look at what that was all about.**

Please note the change of time

If you would like to be involved, just send David your email address saints163@bigpond.com and he will send you an invitation.

THE GAS FALLACY

Why we need a renewable led recovery for our climate, health and economy

Community Webinar

Tuesday 15 September
7:00 – 8:30pm

Expert Panel | Q&A | Action Session

Professor Penny Sackett
Dr George Crisps
Mark Ogge
Esther Abram



more information at www.pecan.org.au

SYNOD TASKFORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

The JIM Cluster is seeking expressions of interest from people who would like to be part of a Taskforce on Climate Change Action. The purpose of the Taskforce is to identify, encourage and support implementation of measures across the Synod, including congregations, to reduce the Synod's greenhouse gas emissions.

To lodge an expression of interest, please e-mail, phone or text Mark Zirnsak, Senior Social Justice Advocate on 0409 166 915 or mark.zirnsak@victas.uca.org.au Please lodge your expression of interest by Friday 28 September.



ACT for PEACE RATION CHALLENGE

Join the challenge Sunday 13 – Saturday 19 September 2020

Visit the **Act for Peace RATION CHALLENGE 2020** website for more information on the Ration Challenge and to sign up. www.ncca.org.au

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL at Holy Trinity Church. Thursday 3 December to Sunday 6 December. (set up tree on Wednesday December 2nd)

All health restrictions will be adhered to - which might mean no concert or Carols amongst the Trees

Application form will be sent in October, and Maureen – after six years (thank you Maureen) - would appreciate offers of assistance, particularly to take a lead, settle on theme etc. - she is very happy to be involved and take on the administration.

So what better time for creative minds to get into action! Email: maureenawalker5@bigpond.com



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

The August edition of **CROSSLIGHT** is available online at:
<https://victas.uca.org.au/crosslight>

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support our church financially. Contributions to support the work of the church can be made through bank transfer: 013 427. Acct 3108 34465 - the only identification needed is 'offering' – or 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)

As we gather in our various places via Zoom, we acknowledge the *Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung People* as the traditional custodians of this land on which our church building stands. We give thanks for their commitment to nurturing this land over many generations. We honour the sacred stories that belong to this land. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and for those emerging who will lead their communities into the future. We commit ourselves to empowering children to continue the journey of reconciliation on this land.