

## BULLETIN

### Welcome to the Bulletin

#### **From David: Parable in the Air.**

Sorting through some papers in the bottom of my wardrobe I came across an idea for a short play that I had written quite a few years ago. I had just taken the grandchildren to a local circus. I thought I would share it with you; well, the guts of it at least. The play is set in a small circus tent involving 4 trapeze artists. They are mic'd up to the sound system in such a way that it feels like we are eaves-dropping on a conversation that we don't usually get to hear. **I called the play Parable in the Air.**

Picture if you will the scene: one person standing on one of the platforms, a 'catcher' sitting on one trapeze just gently swinging backwards and forwards, and two people standing on the platform at the opposite end. One of them catching and releasing an empty trapeze – getting the timing right. The other one just standing and waiting. The conversation starts out very humourously. Some banter among all of them about some of the people they can see in the audience. Followed by some more 'private' and personal banter between the two standing on the platform about the 'catcher' and his assistant, and how much the 'catcher' had been drinking just before the show.

Then it's time for the other performer to take hold of the trapeze and at the right moment abandon the platform by swinging toward the catcher. She hooks her legs over the trapeze and begins to match the arc of the catcher – meeting in the middle, then swinging apart.

The audience is then treated to two very different monologues. The first by the 'catcher' with him telling the story about his self-doubts as a performer; feeling too old now, not as fit as he used to be, and weary of being away from home so often, to the point of not being sure where 'home' is anymore. All the time he is swinging with his legs hooked over the trapeze and his arms, hands and eyes ready to catch the other trapeze artist.

Then the monologue changes as we listen to her airing her doubts about the catcher. Concerns about his state of mind – was he alert enough to catch her at the crucial moment. Then she became a bit more philosophical, talking about life involving taking calculated risks. That life seemed to be about timing – right place wrong time. Wrong place right time. Wrong place wrong time. Right place right time. Was it all just a matter of luck or was there some 'vast eternal plan' that we are all held captive to. If the latter was true then what did freedom of choice really mean?

All the time the two trapeze artists are swinging backwards and forwards. Two great arcs meeting and parting.

**We hear the catcher say that it's time and that he's ready. We hear the other saying that all she has to do is find the courage to let go and to trust.**

Then the lights go out.

A few moments later the lights come back on and all four are bouncing off the safety net.

Hmm. I reckon I could develop that idea a bit.

Shalom and courage. David



***CYBER CHURCH via ZOOM: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 10.30am***

**Bible Readings:** Joshua 18: 1 – 10:    Matthew 27: 30 – 36:    Acts 1: 21 – 26

**This Sunday our guest presenter is Desleigh.** Desleigh will talk about a well known Melbourne statue, but it's also a statue which she embodies and reflects in her own life and faith. I will offer some thoughts about the ancient practice of 'casting lots' – seems relevant given what is unfolding in the USA.

**Looking forward to seeing you online at 10.30.**

**An invitation will arrive in your inbox around 9.45 am for anyone who feels like a chat – the 'waiting room' will be open from that time.**

**If you have not joined before please send David your email so that an invitation can be sent to your inbox: [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)**

***BIBLE STUDY/Discussion Group via ZOOM - Wednesday 11 November: 7.30 – 8.30 pm.***

A big thank you to Robert for leading us into 3 weeks of thought-provoking reflection on After Life.

**Next Wednesday there will be a one-off study, as promised, on the biblical concept of *Grace*.**

The Zoom waiting room opens around 7.15pm. See you then. David

**Interested? Then please join us.** If you are not already on the list and would like to join, just send David your email address and he will add you to the distribution list: [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

You are invited to gather in the Engagement Hub garden for **AFTERNOON TEA** together – (Chapel Street entrance) **NEXT SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> BETWEEN 2 AND 4PM.** We are assuming that groups of people meeting outside will be increased tonight allowing this to take place. We will also be inviting our Zimbabwean and '163 Conversation' friends.

**You will need to bring your own food and drink – there cannot be ANY sharing.** You might also like to bring your own chair. We will need to practice physical distancing and adults will need to wear masks. We will have hand sanitizer. This, of course, will all depend on the **WEATHER!**



**NAIDOC WEEK 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November** celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Traditionally held in July, this year's celebrations were moved to November in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year City of Port Phillip will commemorate the occasion with a virtual program, making the events accessible to a wide audience whilst keeping our community safe. The week is a great opportunity for people from all walks of life to participate in a range of activities that celebrate and support our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander com.

For all virtual events with City of Port Phillip go to: [www.portphillip.vic.gov.au](http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au)

**Knowledge Melbourne (City of Melbourne): MELBOURNE CONVERSATIONS: Truth-telling and Reconciliation**

Join November's Melbourne Conversations to get an understanding of how truth and reconciliation processes work around the world. Speakers will discuss their own experiences from before and after truth-telling processes in Canada and South Africa, and discuss what this could mean in Australia. We'll hear first-hand accounts of the effectiveness of these processes in accounting for injustices in countries which have begun the long transition from colonial rule. **Join Hans Bokelund, Marcus Stewart, Phyllis Webstad and Dr. Mochekoe Stephen Rametse LIVE on Wednesday 18 November, 1– 2.30pm.** <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=649821&>

**PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK VICTORIA Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November 3.30 to 4.40pm**

**TOPIC: 'Being Black Fella's Young Fella in Neo-Colonial Australia'**

**SPEAKER:** Rev Glenn Loughrey. Glen will explore the following themes from his recent book "On Being Blackfella's Young Fella". Glen is a Wiradjuri Man and Anglian Priest at St Oswald's Anglican Church, Glen Iris. Glen is passionate about treaty, sovereignty and self-determination for First Nations peoples.

This meeting will be followed by the AGM from 4.40 to 5pm Zoom Meeting link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82793544335?pwd=Y2xteWhQaUE5M2VCcEJtbGtPeWRyUT09>

Meeting ID: 827 9354 4335 Passcode: 764602

The monthly News and Resources from the Justice and International Mission Cluster is available online at:

The Justice Cluster at the Uniting Church [jim@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:jim@victas.uca.org.au)

It is packed with excellent information and guidelines for letter writing for particular issues in pursuit of social justice. They are also keen to get feedback from its supporters about what issues would be important to pursue. Also included is a list of resources for congregations on issues of climate justice.

Blessed are those unheralded souls  
who slip tangentially into situations,  
coaxing forth possible solutions;  
and who, on the edges, help and  
restore.

Blessed are those who seek the common  
good even when it's not their own;  
caring for those who don't care for them,  
caring for those who can't or won't be  
good.

Blessed are those who've learnt and  
give empathy  
without needing reciprocity,  
without needing recognition or  
reward.

They emanate contentment; like  
angels.

Blessed are those tireless encouragers,  
who see the best in the worst,  
who see the light in the cracks of our lives,  
who lead us, guide us, bring us home to  
our heart. Rev Glynn Cardy

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](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au) (photos, articles, poems – anything you would like to share with others)

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

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.