

7.30pm AEST via Zoom with the following link or by putting in the meeting I.D. and passcode below. <https://uca-nat.zoom.us/j/95190820410?pwd=dUNxSDhiVWVUWGcyY2tFZENQMhZkUT09> Meeting ID: 951 9082 0410 Passcode: 145252

<https://unitingworld.org.au/> Devastating flash floods and landslides have killed at least 113 people in Timor-Leste (East Timor), West Timor and Flores since the Easter weekend. Officials expect the death toll to rise as there are still dozens of people missing. Our partners are responding. **Please click here to donate to our emergency appeal today.**

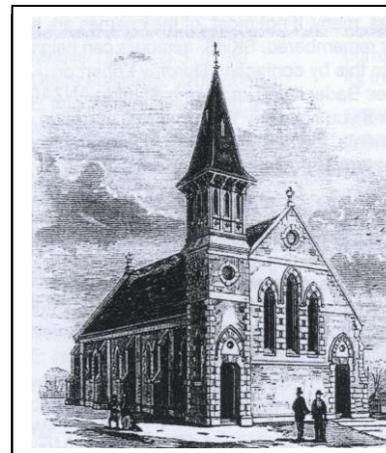
We respectfully acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam clan of the Boon Wurrung – the Traditional Owners of Port Phillip. We pay our respects to their Elders and community - past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

Date	11 April	18 April	25 April ANZAC DAY	2 May	9 May
<i>Worship</i>	David/ Ishe	David	David	David	David
<i>Assistance</i>	Wendy	Mary	Roma	Melissa	Randall
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Deb	Wendy	Melisaa	Roma	Mary
<i>Flowers</i>	Louise	Roma	Desleigh	Mary	Roma
<i>Coffee</i>	Randall	Roma	Darren	Mary	Louise
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Louise	Randall	Melissa	Darren	Roma

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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
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 56 Issue 11

Sunday, 11th April 2021

EASTER 2

A warm welcome to everyone today. David will be conducting the service this morning with a very special guest speaker – Mr Isheunesu Mupakami from the Zimbabwean Methodist Fellowship. Ishe has played a major role as a Lay person, over the past 10 years, establishing and nurturing Zimbabwean Fellowships around Australia. Ishe has recently completed a Bachelor of Theology and I suspect is going to play a significant part in enabling the Zimbabwean Fellowships to find and indeed make their place in the Uniting Church. **Ishe is going to reflect upon the experience of the disciples after the Easter weekend. We welcome Ishe to our service today.**
Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.

Bible Readings: John 20: 19 – 31 pg 716 Acts 4: 32 – 35 pg. 719
The Inclusive Bible

From David: What now? Where to from here?

The final week of Jesus’s life leads into the first week of the disciples’ lives without him.
Endings and beginnings – this is the way of all things.

I’m pretty sure most of us can relate to the experience of losing someone who was very important and very close to us. Such grief defies simple articulation yet demands that we at least try. Grief unfolds in so many ways; the experience has both common and unique characteristics. **Cont....**

Cont.....

There are no 'correct' or normal ways of navigating the experience of someone dying, only the way that each person identifies as their way of accepting and integrating their loss. **The disciples were no different to us.**

Their humanity was exposed during that final week and is revealed again in the weeks that followed. The Gospels and the Book of Acts have a go at trying to reveal glimpses of what the disciples felt, thought and did in the weeks, months and years after the crucifixion of their teacher – **we read about confusion, fear, doubt, and disorientation.** We even see glimpses of them attempting to re-establish some kind of normality. Some even go back to the fishing business.

But what we also learn from them is that once grief has held you in its grasp, the old 'normality' cannot be resumed. A new 'normality' has to be crafted.

This is something we are all starting to realise about the idea of a new COVID 'normal' – life will never be as it used to be back in 2019. The experiences of 2020 have changed us and the world in which we live, in large and little ways. For example, working from home is likely to remain a significant factor in how organisations and employees manage work life balance. Something that Jacques Ellul, French theologian, Sociologist and Philosopher of Technology anticipated back in 1954 (The *Technological Society*). He was

one of the earliest advocates of practicing 'presence in the modern world'.

The disciples can't just go back to their old jobs. Their journey with Jesus and the dream that he lived and died for, had changed them in ways that could not be reversed. They had no choice really, but to move on and to integrate into their lives all that they had lost, learned, loved and experienced.

The Easter experience is something they navigated and wrestled with but with a new kind of emerging faith. Thus, the next Chapter in the life of the Jesus Movement begins but it is a chapter which demonstrates how grief-stricken disciples discover fresh purpose and motivation for their lives.

Their story can be our story.

Shalom. David

Songs/Hymns:

All hymns are from Together in Song but a few lines have been amended' to better reflect contemporary usage of gender-neutral language when referring to G-d.

All words will be on the screen.

TiS 547 Be Thou my vision

TiS 599 Take my life and let it be

TiS 614 O God of love

TiS 640 Kneels at the feet

NOTICES:

BIBLE STUDY (via ZOOM).

We are having an Easter break so there will be no study sessions for a couple of weeks. **It's been suggested that when we resume we spend time thinking about and discussing what Progressive Christians think about Resurrection and God.** Should be a very interesting conversation. Enjoy the break.
Shalom David

If you are not already included on the bible study list for these intellectually stimulating studies, let David know via email and he will add you to the invitation list. **They are held on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm**

For your diary, Church AGM Sunday May 23rd starting with breakfast. Reports need to reach David no later than **May 9th.**



The PCNV is resuming FACE TO FACE monthly meetings!

You are invited to JESUS & THE EMPOWERING INFLUENCE OF FRIENDSHIP

Why Gracious Living is More Important than Right Belief with Rev John Smith

SUNDAY April 25, 2021

3:00pm - 5:00 pm @

Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church

Corner of Burke Road & Coppin Street, Malvern East

Online access to PCNV meetings will continue. Feel free to invite other interested friends
There is no charge for this meeting either by zoom or in person. (pcnvictoria.org.au)

The ASSEMBLY RESOURCING UNIT OF THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA is inviting people to come together on Thursday 15 April for an online conversation to talk about new ways of being Church

How can we be the Church in new and exciting ways?

- Are we open to the inspiration of the Spirit?
- Where can you see creativity and imagination?

Innovation is one of four pillars in the most recent Strategic Plan of the Assembly describing centres of future work and development needed to enable the Church to move boldly and confidently into the future. We believe that openness to innovation which has been part of our DNA for almost 44 years is all the more necessary today. We would love to hear your examples of Innovation across the Church and yarn some more about the possibilities to come.

You can join Lets Yarn About Innovation on Thursday 15 April