

## COVID RESTRICTIONS:

Please wear a **mask** at all times when inside and especially while singing.

Keep your **distance** from others.

Register with the **QR code** – the “welcome at the door” person can help you with this if necessary.

Please use the **hand sanitizer**.

Tea and coffee will be **served to you**

*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 July	18 July	25 July	1 August	8 August
<b>Worship</b>	David P	David P	David P	Robert H	Mark L
<b>Assistance</b>	Louise	Mary	Melissa	Wendy	Roma
<b>Welcome at door</b>	Roma	Darren	Maureen Roma	Roma	Mary
<b>Flowers</b>	Louise	Mary	Maureen	Deb	Mary
<b>Coffee</b>	Roma	Melissa	Louise Mary	Mark	Maureen
<b>Rubbish collection</b>	Randall	Mary	Darren	Randall	Darren

### Church

163 Chapel St., St Kilda. 3182  
(cnr Chapel & Carlisle Sts.)

### Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.

St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

**Minister:** Rev. David Pargeter

Email: [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.

Ph: 0412 334 334

[www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au)

**Church phone no.**

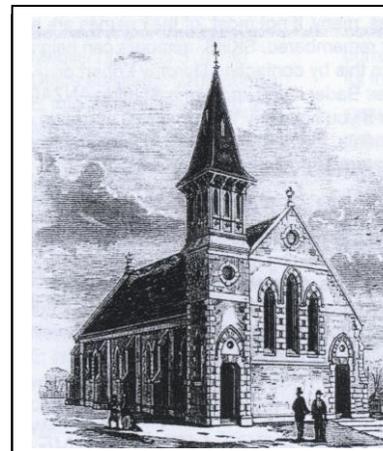
**0458 417 708**

### 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](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
Parish Mission**

**NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 56 Issue 24**

**Sunday, 11th July 2021**

**Pentecost 7**

We welcome you all to our service today. **Rev. David Pargeter** will lead our gathering. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation. Please remember to wear your mask and practise physical distancing .

**READINGS: Amos 7: 7 – 17 pg. 344. Mark 12: 35 – 40 pg. 673**

*The Inclusive Bible*

**FROM DAVID:** Faith seeking Understanding

I was sitting in Truffle’s café on the corner of Chapel and Carlisle. My fruit toast had arrived, and I was about to enjoy my first sip of coffee when a stranger wearing a Skull & Crossbones mask sat down at the table next to me. He was in his 30’s, I reckon. We nodded to each other in the way that stranger greets stranger. I turned my attention away from him and toward my toast.

“You’re the minster from over there aren’t you”? he said pointing to our building. “Nice new roof. Tell me do you believe in the bible”?

The suddenness of such a question caught me by surprise.

“Well, depends on what you mean and why you’re asking”, I said, while buttering my toast, and looking forward to my first mouthful.

“Do you”? he said but not in an aggressive way. Genuinely curious I thought.

I’ll abandon speech marks for a moment and just summarise for you. (I think speech marks in a short article create a kind of clumsiness). **Cont ...**

**Cont...** He clearly 'believed in' the bible but I told him that I didn't believe 'in' the bible as such, but that for me it's a different kind of book. A book about the beliefs that different people held over a period of about 1900 years from 1800 BCE to about 150 CE. The oldest most likely being Job and the latest most probably 2 Peter.

He found that interesting. He'd always thought Genesis was written first and Revelation last. Then I went on to say that since then millions of books have been published in which people have written about what they believe about God and what faith is for them.

He thought about that for a while, which gave me a bit of time to eat my toast before it went cold and order another coffee – extra hot this time. **Then he asked a very thoughtful question. "So, how do we know they were inspired by God, like the bible writers were"?**

**He seemed satisfied with this answer: "The spirit that inspired Job to write about his understanding of God 3900 years ago, is the same spirit that inspired 'you' to ask your initial question about the bible today. The spirit of curiosity."**

It seems to me that faith is always seeking deeper understanding; always posing questions rather than providing answers. We chatted for about 20 mins longer and then he left. Another strange encounter of the religious kind.

When I went to pay for my coffee and toast, I discovered it had already been paid for. I have no idea who he was or where he came from, or if we will ever meet again. But I enjoyed the conversation very much.

Shalom. David

### **SONGS/HYMNS:**

TiS 455

TiS 474

TiS 658

**Blessing song: God of Grace.**

(tune: Edelweiss)

### **NOTICES:**

#### **BIBLE STUDY (via ZOOM).**

**Wednesdays 7.30 - 8.30 pm.**

After a very stimulating consideration of the topic 'Myth-making' we are going to have a look at the place of anger in a life of faithfulness. Is there a place for it? Interested?

**Next Wednesday 14 July at 7.30 pm**

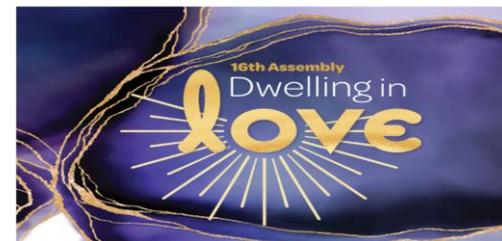
**Invitations to the zoom gathering go out around 7 pm for a 7.30 start.**

If you are not already included on the bible study list, email David [saints163@bigpond.com](mailto:saints163@bigpond.com)

The ***INDUCTION SERVICE*** for **Rev John Tansey** will be at **2 pm on Sunday 18th July** in the Port Melbourne Uniting Church. Chair of Presbytery, Tom Spurling, will lead the service.

***163 CONVERSATIONS*** will be on **this Tuesday July 13<sup>th</sup>, 6.15 for 6.30.** Please let Mary know if you can come: [brimary@iprimus.com.au](mailto:brimary@iprimus.com.au)

***SUNDAY July 25<sup>th</sup>*** will be David's last service with us. Tom Spurling from Presbytery will officiate at the 'cutting of ties' ceremony as part of our worship service. Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of the service. Everyone is welcome.



All Uniting Church members are invited to watch the Opening of the Assembly and the installation of Rev Sharon Hollis as President of the Uniting Church in Australia. The service will take place next Saturday 17 July at 11.30am. Tune in on [our website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

<https://uniting.church/16thassembly/>

**This Tuesday the Church Council will meet. If you have any concerns that you would like the CC to discuss, please talk to David or Randall.**

Our church dinner is on tonight July 10<sup>th</sup> so a report about that will be in next week's Newsletter



### ***COMPASS***

<https://iview.abc.net.au/show/compass/series/35/video/RN2011H017S00>

Last Sunday's program called *God Is a Wandjina*, shows Janet Oobagooma and her old friend Gudu travelling from their remote Aboriginal community home in Mowanjum in the West Kimberley to the place they grew up – the abandoned Presbyterian Mission of Kunmununya. This program uses Robert Hoskin's material. Robert wants to remind the church that the trip was made possible from our 6% donation.

### ***SPACE2B*, 144 Chapel**



St, St Kilda festival: *Feels Like Home: Multicultural Celebrations* will be held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August from 12.30 until 3.30pm here at our church. The Carnival parade will leave from Space2b to the church @ 12.30 pm.