

You might be interested in looking up the *Uniting Church in Australia Assembly* <https://assembly.uca.org.au/> There is a Pre-election Vision Statement for 2019. A *Vision for a Just Australia* brochure is available. This week the focus is on “a National Climate policy that drives down Greenhouse gas pollution, including no new coal or gas mining in Australia, and investment in renewable energy.

*We respectfully acknowledge the Yalukit Willam 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	21 April EASTER	28 April	5 May	12 May
<i>Worship</i>	David	Coralie Ling	Robert Hoskin	John Cranmer
<i>Assistance</i>	Randall	Melissa	Roma	Mary
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Maureen	Roma	Mary	Wendy
<i>Flowers</i>	Maureen	Roma	Wendy	Deb
<i>Coffee</i>	Maureen	Roma	Mary	Mark/Ruth
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Randall	Darren/ Melissa	Randall	Roma

#### Church

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts  
St Kilda 3182. Ph:

#### Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.

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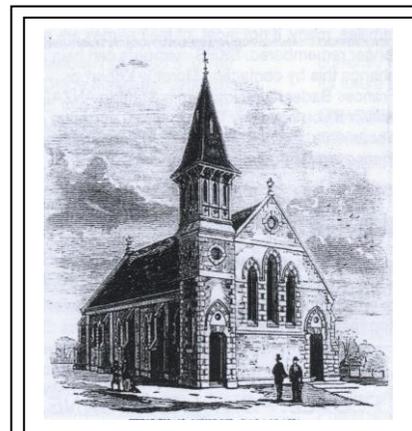
#### VISION STATEMENT:

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](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)

Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
Parish Mission  
NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 54, Issue 12**

**Sunday, 21 April 2019**

*Easter Sunday*

**You are most welcome to our service today. Rev. David Pargeter will lead our worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Reading: Luke 24: 1 – 12 pg.696 The Inclusive Bible**

#### From David - The mystery remains:

The **Resurrection aspect of the Easter story** has always been a difficult thing to navigate. It's a sensitive space in which different 'beliefs' need to be held in tension.

They were held in tension in the early days of the emerging Christian Community but the process of 'engineering' a particular orthodox perspective meant that other views were shut down or suppressed. However, regardless of where people sit on the spectrum of belief, the resurrection experience retains its mystery.

*Clearly something happened after the crucifixion that impacted upon everyone who had been close to Jesus.*

We also know from our own experiences of grief and desolation when someone we love dies - that we are open to all kinds of hopes and longings and indeed mysterious experiences that can't be easily explained away.

So, there we have it – the mystery remains and so does the 'truthiness' of it. By 'truth' I mean that whatever took place in Jerusalem over a few days, a small band of women and men were transformed from being utterly dejected and without hope, to being a resurrected community full of life. They were brought back from the dead.

PTO

Wendy Smith, who is part of our faith community, can relate to this story and this desolating experience.

In her own words she says: "I experienced my own resurrection. When Kit died, I couldn't imagine life without him or what the future held. Now I have a new life - a resurrection - and it is a good life and I am so grateful for the support and fellowship of the church in contributing to that". Last Sunday, Wendy shared with me a thoughtful article which is worth circulating.

It's a short but profound extract from a book by Catholic writer **Megan McKenna - *Not Counting Women and Children: Neglected Stories from the Bible.***

She writes, "Once in a parish mission when I was studying this scripture (Luke 7: 11-17) with a large group, someone called out harshly, 'Have you ever brought someone back from the dead?'

I had been saying that life happens when we are interrupted, and that some of the most powerful acts of resurrection happen to the least likely people; that we are the people of resurrection and hope, called to live passionately and compassionately with others - to defy death, to forgive, and to bring others back into the community - to do something that is life-giving, that fights death and needless suffering.

And then this challenge from the back of the church.

*"My response was 'Yes.'*

*I went on to say: 'Every time I bring hope into a situation, every time I bring joy that shatters despair, every time I forgive others and give them back dignity and the possibility of a future with me and others in the community, every time I listen to others and affirm them and their life, every time I speak the truth in public, every time I confront injustice — yes — I bring people back from the dead.' "*

Peace

David

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***HYMNS/SONGS:***

***TiS 156 Morning has broken***

***TiS 382 Now the green blade***

***TiS 526 Lord Jesus Christ***

***TiS 242 I danced in the morning***

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***NOTICES:***

***FYI:*** David will be on leave from **today until May 19<sup>th</sup>** See roster for those who will be leading our worship..

The next meeting of the ***PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK OF VICTORIA*** is next

**Sunday 28 April, 3 to 5pm at Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church** cnr Burke Road &

Coppin Street, Malvern East. The speaker will be Dr Rachael Kohn. **"Why faith still matters: Rachel Kohn reflects on 21 years of 'The Spirit of Things'** Rachael has had a distinguished career as the presenter of the ABC program "The Spirit of Things" since 1997. She has interviewed a great variety of people from a wide range of religious and spiritual backgrounds. Her academic qualifications and wide experience give her a unique perspective on the current 'religious' scene in Australia. She has agreed to reflect on her experience and draw some personal conclusions about religion in the contemporary world.

***The next 163 CONVERSATIONS will be on Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 6.15 for 6.30pm.*** The speakers will be Amaryll and Sue whose topic will be ***Climate Change.*** Spread the word! Please **RSVP** to Mary 0409 060 846

**On Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> we will have a group of Zimbabweans join us for worship. Please come if you can to make them welcome. We will have COMMUNION during the service, plus LUNCH together afterwards**

**READING GROUP 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.30pm at Mary and Brian's.**

Material for discussion to be distributed beforehand.

**For your diary.** Our **AGM** will be held on **SUNDAY 26 MAY AT 9AM.** Breakfast will be provided, so come and hear reports from our interesting church community.

**Lenten Offering envelopes available on front table or go online:**

<https://www.vt.uniting.org/get-involved/lenen-offering-2019/>

Your **Lenten Offering** will

- support the **Ecumenical Accompaniment Program Palestine and Israel**, to work towards a just peace in the Holy Land (International).
- will help support the Pakenham Homework Hub for another year while working with grant authorities to develop and build an ongoing relationship with the Centre for Multicultural Youth
- **Benalla Central Community Garden; Benalla Uniting Church**, regional Victoria
- **Migrant Women's Music and Language Project; Scots-Memorial Uniting Church Hobart, Tasmania**