

From Dr Sureka Goringe National Director *UnitingWorld* : Your tax-deductible donation, no matter how big or small, can save lives by giving people access to clean water and choices about good health and sanitation. *As a partner of the Australian Government, UnitingWorld can access funding for certain projects to help us reach more people. In order to receive Australian Aid funding, we are required to contribute \$1 for every \$5 we can access. That means your gift goes up to six times further!* PO Box A2266, Sydney South, NSW 1235: 1800 998 122

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	2 June <i>LUNCH</i>	9 June	16 June	23 June
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Melissa	David Wendy	David Randall	David Roma
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Mary	Roma	Maureen	Louise
<i>Flowers</i>	Mary	Roma	Deb	Petra
<i>Coffee</i>	Darren	Roma	Mark/Ruth	Louise
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Roma	Randall	Andrej	Darren/ Melissa

Church

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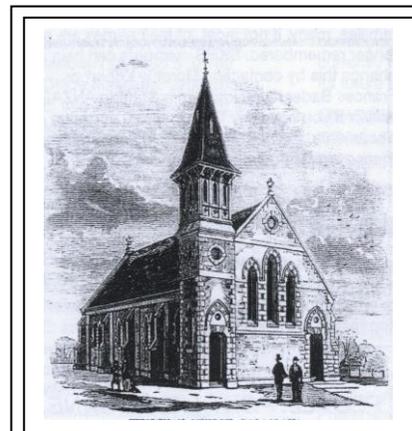
0458 417 708

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 usually the editor and distributor of the Newsletter but while she is away for the next 3 weeks, Rob Hess will take over. 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 54, Issue 15

Sunday, June 2nd 2019

Reconciliation Sunday

You are most welcome to our service this morning. A special welcome to our friends from the Zimbabwean congregation. Rev. David Pargeter will lead our worship which includes Communion. Please join us afterwards for lunch/ tea/coffee and conversation.

Bible Reading: John17: 20 - 26 Pg.713. The Inclusive Bible

Grounded in Truth: Walk Together With Courage.

That's the theme of **National Reconciliation** week. **Truth and justice** are not comfortable walking companions but they are necessary components in a journey that leads towards wholeness and healing - psychological and spiritual. I have spent time in quite a few countries where truth avoided, is justice denied. Sri Lanka. Cambodia. Myanmar. Sth Africa. England. Ireland. Australia. None of them have done a great job of telling the truth. **Truth tends to be very inconvenient.** Especially truth associated with the tragic and brutal impacts of colonization, which in essence, is all about invading and occupying for the benefit of some empire.

A classic example of a truth denied lies in the lyrics to our national anthem. The song by which we are known around the world.

Now, I realise I am at risk of offending but hear me out. I've never been comfortable with singing any national anthem. I was asked to leave a cinema in Cambridge once because I did not stand up for 'God save our gracious Queen'. I've never been a fan of nationalism or rampant patriotism. History has taught me that both have been the incubator of all wars.

PTO

Which is why I think Indigenous NRL player Cody Walker, is to be applauded for his public refusal to sing the anthem at the next state of origin encounter. It offends him and his family.

The 2nd line goes “for we are young and free” – as if Australia began with the arrival of the invaders.

The line is a complete denial of a critical truth - the continuing existence of one of the oldest living cultures on the planet; at least 60,000 years of uninterrupted human connection to this land.

Whenever we say “*We gather on the land of the Wurundjeri people*” we affirm that particular truth. But it needs to mean so much more than words. Reconciliation cannot be advanced until the idea that ‘we are young and free’ has been replaced with a sentiment that reflects a very inconvenient truth – the traditional custodians of this land were systematically removed, killed and were denied their freedom.

On this day, let us remember Eddie Mabo and pray for courage for Ken Wyatt.

Ken is the first Indigenous cabinet minister in the history of the Commonwealth government and the first Indigenous member of the House of Representatives when elected in 2010 as the member for

Hasluck, WA. He is now the first Indigenous person to be minister for Indigenous Australians. The short history of Indigenous involvement in Australia’s political community is one of exclusion. But that exclusion was never because Indigenous people lacked persistence and ability. Ken’s appointment marks the start of a hopefully new chapter in our troubled history of denying truth.

Peace
David

HYMNS/SONGS

TiS: 10. The Lord’s my shepherd

TiS: 640. Kneels at the feet of his friends....

TiS: 699 A new Commandment I give unto you.

TiS: 217 Love divine all loves excelling.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK ends TOMORROW Monday June 3 – MABO DAY.

From 11.30am to 2pm, there will be a **Flag-raising ceremony** a **Welcome to Country, Smoking ceremony** on the lawn outside the Town Hall, ending with a **community lunch** in the Town Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY 9TH June some attendees at the ***Uniting Church 2nd Biennial History Conference*** in Melbourne, will take a tram ride to visit the Alma Road Presbyterian church and then come on to ***OUR CHURCH where they are scheduled to arrive at 3.30 and depart at 4.15.*** **Maureen is looking for volunteers to help her host and serve tea and coffee.**

163 DINNER & CONVERSATIONS. The next gathering is on ***TUESDAY JUNE 11 from 6pm, for dinner at 6.30.*** The guest speaker is **Karen Sait**, the Executive Officer of the ***Port Phillip Community Group***. As a church, we have long supported this organization, starting from when it was called the St Kilda Community Group. That would be a history of almost 50 years. **All welcome.** Ula and Maureen will be our cooks for this conversation **Please rsvp to Mary Heinemann for catering purposes. 0409 060846. Donations accepted.**

INVITATION: Coralie invites you to a big birthday afternoon tea after the matinee performance of the play “***Beachside Stories***” at Gasworks Park 21 Graham St Albert Park. Play at 2pm. **Afternoon tea 3 – 4.30 pm Saturday 15th June.** rsvp Coralie: coralieling@gmail.com
For play: www.gasworks.org.au

HOMELESS MEMORIAL – for remembering those who have died whilst homeless, is on **Thursday 20th June from 4.30pm until 7.30pm** at the Peanut Farm cnr Chaucer St & Shakespeare Grove St Kilda (next to VegOut).

READING GROUP The next Reading and Discussion Group is on **Thursday July 4th 7.30pm at Mary and Brian’s.** If you would like some information from the last meeting on *Heretics and Heresies* please speak to David. **All welcome.**

Copies of Crosslight for June available on front table

June copy of Newsbeat– the Newsletter for the Presbytery of Port Phillip East, on Notice Board.



This was Day 1 for Janet and Brian who have now just completed 680+kms in just under 5 weeks of the Camino San Diego CONGRATULATIONS !