

CALL to ACTION. UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer has urged all people of the Uniting Church to sign up to global action on Climate Change as Pacific nations have declared a "climate crisis". Meeting in Fiji, Pacific leaders warned of the grave consequences facing their people and joined the movement declaring a global climate emergency. She has asked that we sign up to take part in the **GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE on Friday 20 September 2019.** *More information: www.unitingworld.org.au/climatestrike*

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

Date	4 August	11 August	18 August	25 August
Worship Assistance	David Mary	Robert H Wendy	Coralie Ling Randall	David Melissa
Welcome at door	Melissa	Roma	Louise	Darren
Flowers	Mary	Deb	Desleigh	Petra
Coffee	Andrej/Petra	Mark/Ruth	Louise	Darren
Rubbish collection	Randall	Andrej	Roma	Mary

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

Engagement Hub
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St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

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Email: saints163@bigpond.com
PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.
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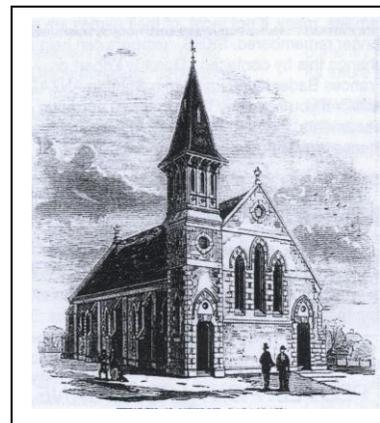
Church phone no.
0458 417 708

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
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission
NEWSLETTER**

Volume 54, Issue 24

Sunday, 4 August 2019

National Homelessness Week

You are most welcome to our service this morning. The Rev. David Pargeter will lead our worship which includes Communion. Please join us afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation

Bible Reading: Ecclesiastes: 1:1 – 2:8 pg.477. Luke 12: 13 – 21 pg. 687
The Inclusive Bible

From David: A Library - not a Book

I still bump into Christian folk who want to assert that the bible is a faith story which begins with **Genesis** and ends with **Revelation**, and should be read like a novel. That it contains no contradictions and has within it all we need for our faith.

What follows such an assertion is often a long and sensitive conversation. Sensitive because it becomes clear very quickly that the assertion has emerged from hearsay rather than deliberate study.

I had one such conversation in a café on Wednesday. I was using the break to read the texts for this Sunday and think about some ideas for our time of gathering. A man sitting near me saw what I was reading on my ipad. He leans in and says to me, "I read the bible you know. All the time. Wonderful book. No fake news in that one". He had a name tag from a local bank hanging from his jacket. He clearly wanted a conversation.

We introduced ourselves. I listened for a while. Offered a few alternative perspectives when I could, but after a while it started to feel a bit combative. A little later I suggested we might need to just accept that we are coming from very different positions and I should get back to my coffee. He got up and left with these words: "You liberals are all the same – no wonder your churches are dying".

[Continued from page 1 ...]

Here's the essence of what I said. I thought some of you might appreciate reading about it. It was offered as bits and pieces rather than one long lump. But here it is in lump format:

“Tom, I think it's more helpful to see the bible as a library rather than a book. It contains around 66 books written by more than 40 authors over 2000 years ago and more. That most of them are like a historical journal of faithful individuals and communities, even a nation trying to work out what faith means in their time and in their place. The mistakes they made. How they misunderstand God. And that since, 2nd Peter (the latest book written around 110 CE) millions of stories have been told and books written about the journey of faith.

If we were adding books into the 'library' today we would need to include stories about the Holocaust and Hiroshima, and the impact those 2 events have had on the experience of faith; stories of women of faith, international wars, environment, other faiths and cultures. As well as something about science and space travel”.

To me, all this makes the bible both important and yet inadequate - rich stories of faithfulness did not conclude in 110 CE.

Peace
David

HYMNS/SONGS:

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising (tune TiS 52)

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.

Give me joy in my heart, I pray.

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.

Keep me praising till the break of day.

Refrain:

**Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!**

**Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!**

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.

Give me peace in my heart, I pray.

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.

**Keep me resting till the break of day.
R**

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.

Give me love in my heart, I pray.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.

**Keep me serving till the break of day.
R**

TiS 755 You shall go out with joy.

NOTICES:

For *National Homelessness Week* the Port Phillip Community Group will be holding a **Pop Up event this Wednesday from 12md to 2.30pm** on the front lawn of the church.

There will be a Speaker's Corner plus music, refreshments and stalls.

The DATE for the CHURCH CAMP had to be changed (requested by the UC Merricks camp administration) The **CAMP** will now be held from **Friday 15th to Sunday 17 November. Please note in your diary.** More information to come.

PUBLIC LECTURE: "WHAT SHE MAKES": Tomorrow AUGUST 5th, 7:30pm Koonung Heights Uniting Church, Cnr of Belmore and Winfield Roads, Balwyn East. Oxfam's *What She Makes* campaign is successfully pressing for the major Australian brands to take the action needed to ensure that garment workers making our clothing receive a living wage and work in safer and fairer conditions. **Jointly presented by Maningham and Koonung Heights Uniting Churches and Oxfam.** **Contact:** Ian 0438 118 995 or iananderson@sandi.com.au

Coralie Ling is leading **four studies** on **THE SPIRITUALITY OF RESISTANCE** with reference to biblical and contemporary women.
Tuesdays 1:30 -3pm:
August 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th
at the Kildara Centre rear 41 Stanhope St Malvern, next to St Joseph's Church.

The next 163 CONVERSATIONS will be on Tuesday AUGUST 13TH. Anne Cowden will be the speaker. She will explore the principles of animal first aid and the practicalities of what to do if we

find an animal in trouble. Nibbles 6.15, light meal. **RSVP Mary 0409 060 846**

FUNDRAISER FILM NIGHT: The Australian Dream: Wednesday AUGUST 21ST, 7pm, at the Classic Cinema in Elsternwick for Friends of Suai/Covalima (Timor Leste) **With One Seed** project (tree planting). Tickets are \$25 each. Check with Desleigh for more information. To buy tickets, please visit <https://theaustdream.eventbrite.com.au>

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
The City of Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation invites you to a community conversation on **TREATY**. St Kilda Town Hall, Carlisle St.
Thursday AUGUST 22nd, 6,30 to 8.30pm. Victoria is in the process of developing a Treaty with Aboriginal people and is the first state in Australia to enter into formal Treaty negotiations to recognise and celebrate the unique status, rights, cultures and histories of First Nations people. Free event – refreshments provided. All welcome.

READING AND DISCUSSION
evening will now be on Friday AUGUST 23 at 7.30pm at Mary and Brian's. Please talk to David if you work like some reading material.

UNITING CHURCH JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION CONFERENCE will be held on **Saturday SEPTEMBER 7TH** 9am to 4pm, at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville. **The topic is: A Climate for**