

*Thursdays* protested at the Plaza de Mayo, against the disappearance of their children during the violent dictatorship. The **Women in Black** in Israel and Palestine, who up to now protest against war and *violence*. **Women in Rwanda and Bosnia** who were protesting against the use of *rape* as a weapon of war during the genocide. **Black Sash** movement in South Africa protesting against apartheid and its use of violence against black people. **But what also became visible was women's resilience, agency and personal efforts to resist such violations.** [www.thursdaysinblack.com](http://www.thursdaysinblack.com)

*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	1 September	8 September	15 September	22 September
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David P Andrej	David P Roma	David P Mary	David P Wendy
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Maureen	Wendy	Roma	Mary
<i>Flowers</i>	Maureen	Louise	Roma	Petra
<i>Coffee</i>	Roma	Mark/Ruth	Andrej/Petra	Mary
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Darren/Melissa	Randall	Roma	Mary

#### Church

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

#### Engagement Hub

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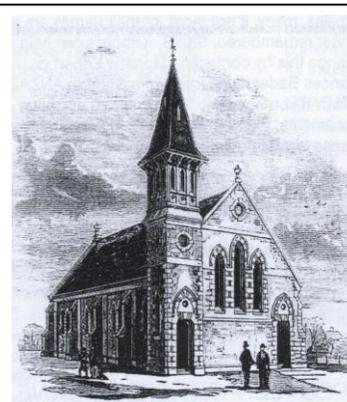
#### VISION STATEMENT:

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 28**

**Sunday, 1 September 2019**

**Pentecost 12**

**You are all most welcome to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead our worship. Today is our communion Sunday and we are joined by the Zimbabwean congregation. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Readings: Jeremiah 2: 4 – 13 pg 265**

**Luke 14: 1, 7 – 14 pg. 689 *The Inclusive Bible***

#### From David: Jesus and politics

I'm often asked why I always bring politics into religion. My answer usually goes something like this: *I don't know how to take politics out of religion.* It's part of its DNA. Attempting such an exercise on Christianity would mean stripping it of its rather unique form of spirituality.

From my reading of the Jesus story, his life was one of constant faith-filled encounter with the politics of his day. Not so much party politics (although there were parties of sorts, eg Sadducees, Pharisees, Sicarii), nor even a challenge against the ruling empire of his time, except in a non-violent way, but rather, politics in its true sense of the word. *About how societies impact the lives of citizens and the systems that effect public life.*

**In particular, his persistent confrontation with the politics of the Temple's impact on the people of Judea; particularly the poor, the sick and the indebted.**

PTO

[Continued from page 1 ...]

**Jesus didn't emerge onto the public scene until he was in his 30's.**

I suspect that until that moment, triggered by the public ministry of his cousin John the Baptist, he was sharpening his political awareness and political consciousness - having watched, listened and learned about peasant life in the Galilee basin. **It clearly influenced his faith, his sense of justice, and his compassion.**

**Thinking about that, I often wonder how today's 30 yr olds are developing their political consciousness.** Again, I don't mean party politics, but their understanding of what life is like for so many people living around the world, and in this land particularly.

When I listen to that age group, (and I acknowledge it's a small sample), especially those with young families, both working, and funding significant debts, I sense they have almost disconnected themselves from issues around the world. Just getting through daily life is stress enough. They've stopped 'watching' the news but sometimes read short pieces about an issue of interest on-line. Often pieces about Climate Change or Refugees.

It's not that they don't care but that they are time poor, short on emotional energy, and have just enough for family, home and friends. I don't sense a growing level of despair, but I do detect a growing sense of political powerlessness. **As if democracy has become something of an illusion. That**

**party politics has abandoned integrity for the sake of power. That the ordinary citizen cannot effect change.**

**Perhaps this is one of our primary tasks as a faith community in this land and at this time; to awaken the political consciousness of our community.**

**Shalom  
David**

### ***HYMNS/ SONGS***

***Covenant 148 : This is the Day x 2***

***Song: Rejoice in the Lord.***  
(Evelyn from ZMC will lead)

***Rejoice in the Lord x 4***  
***I say rejoice in the Lord, I say rejoice x 4***

***Faral munashe x 4***  
***Ngatifare munashe ngatifare x 4***

***Covenant 160 Let there be loved shared among us x2***

***TiS: 538. Feed us now.***

### ***NOTICES:***

***UNITING CHURCH JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION CONFERENCE*** will be held next ***Saturday SEPTEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>*** 9am to 4pm, at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville. ***TOPIC: A Climate for Change – Tomorrow's Moral***

***Imperative Today.*** Cost: Metro \$40. Conc. and non- metro: \$30. Registration form on Notice Board

The next ***163 CONVERSATIONS*** is ***Tuesday week September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6.15pm.*** Our guest speaker will be the award-winning author and clinical psychologist, ***Jill Giese.*** She will take us on a journey back to the early lunatic asylums in nineteenth century Victoria. This was a booming time of golden wealth, but dwelling among the prosperity was an alarming fact – ***Victoria officially had the highest rate of mental illness in the world.*** As a response, the proud colony embarked on a grand asylum project, aiming to cure insanity with an enlightened treatment. It is a little known slice of Melbourne's social history with surprising humanity and striking contemporary relevance. Jill Giese's extensive career in mental health encompasses many years of clinical practice, as well as senior executive roles in policy and advocacy. ***Jill's recent book, "The Maddest Place on Earth," won the Victorian Premier's History Award in 2018.***

***For catering purposes please RSVP to Mary 0409060846 or brimary@iprimus.com.au.*** Bring the usual donation and drink to share. Come around 6 to 6.15, to finish at 8.30. We are looking forward to seeing you!

***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".

She has asked us also to take part in the ***GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE Friday 20 September . at Treasury Gardens 2pm.*** ***More information***  
[www.unitingworld.org.au/climatestrike](http://www.unitingworld.org.au/climatestrike)

***Thursdays in Black.*** This campaign grew out of the ***World Council of Churches (WCC) Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1998),*** in which the stories of rape as a weapon of war, gender injustice, abuse, violence, and many tragedies that grow outward from such violence, became all the more visible. ***But what also became visible was women's resilience, agency and personal efforts to resist such violations.***

In every country, gender-based violence is a tragic reality. This violence is frequently hidden, and victims are often silent, fearing stigma and further violence. ***We all have a responsibility to speak out against violence, to ensure that women and men, boys and girls, are safe from rape and violence in homes, schools, work, streets – in all places in our societies.***

***Resistance and Resilience Campaign*** is simple but profound: ***Wear black on Thursdays. Wear a pin to declare you are part of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence.*** Often black has been used with negative racial connotations. In this campaign Black is used as a colour of resistance and resilience. The campaign was inspired by: ***The Mothers of the Disappeared*** in Buenos Aires, Argentina who on