

is still plenty to see and do ... including Trump's motorcade swinging by us yesterday on Pennsylvania Ave Washington DC. We miss our St Kilda Uniting community very much and look forward to being back with you ... hopefully on Sunday 6 October if our jet lag allows us. With much love - **Janet and Brian**

*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	8 September	15 September	22 September	29 September
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David P Roma	David P Mary	David P Randall	David Wendy
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Wendy	Roma	Mary	Maureen
<i>Flowers</i>	Louise	Roma	Petra	Desleigh
<i>Coffee</i>	Mark/Ruth	Andrej/Petra	Mary	Maureen
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Randall	Roma	Mary	Darren/Melissa

#### Church

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

**Church phone no.**

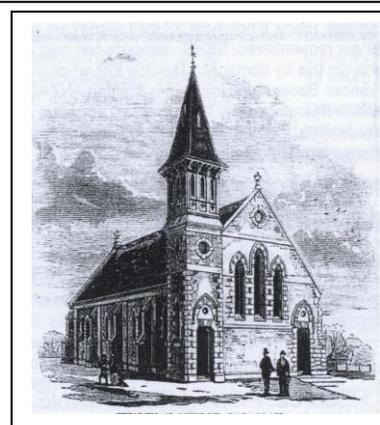
**0458 417 708**

#### 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 54, Issue 29**

**Sunday, 8 September 2019**

**Pentecost 13**

**You are all most welcome to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead our worship.**

**Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Readings: Jeremiah 18: 1 – 11 pg. 277**

**Luke 14: 25 - 33 pg. 689 *The Inclusive Bible***

#### **From David: Ignorance is not bliss, and wisdom is not folly**

My fascination with history, especially that of the Roman Empire, began as a young child growing up in Cambridge, UK. I was surrounded by so much history. One favourite historical excursion was walking along one of Britain's earliest Roman roads constructed around 200 AD. It is still known as the Old Roman Rd, and it connects Cambridge to the even longer Ickniel Way. We would walk the road and then divert into a place known as Wandlebury Ring – an Iron Age hill-fort built in the Gog Magog Hills around 400 BC.

#### **Strong childhood memories from those early years.**

When I first emigrated to Australia as a 19yr old in 1972, I missed this history so much that I pined for it. Longed to reconnect with it. Where were all the fine old 12<sup>th</sup> Century buildings? In my ignorance, I initially thought that Australia was 'so young' that there was nothing of historical significance to whet my appetite for things ancient. I had been seduced into thinking that the only valuable history was European history.

**That all changed 3 years later in 1975 when I went to Halls Gap in the Grampians, Victoria.**  
**PTO**

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Being a curious young man, I went searching for the story behind the naming of the town: **named not after Ben Hall the bushranger, but Charles Hall who 'found' the gap by following Aboriginal tracks.**

It was in that moment that I realised I was standing on land that had a human history stretching back thousands of years. Way beyond Henry VI, founder of Kings College Cambridge in 1441. That its true name was **Gariwerd**; a place central to the dreaming of Aboriginal people especially the Djab Wurrung and the Jardwadjali, whose descendents are still at Gariwerd.

**Gariwerd** is a very spiritual place for Aboriginal people, because of the dreaming stories and the abundance of food, water and shelter it provides. There is evidence of this long and ancient history, found not in bricks and vaulting beams and mortar, but in the number of continuous occupation sites found in Gariwerd. The fact that still today, Aboriginal people are drawn to this place.

**It was also the first time that I had seen rock art, by entering the Caves of Hands and Fishes.** It was also before I fully understood the sacred nature of these sites, their spiritual significance, and ought not have ventured in. I have since been forgiven for my ignorance by an elder of that land to whom I confessed my ignorance.

Which is why I now fully understand why the Uluru climb will be closed on

the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, and why the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* needs to be heard. Or read perhaps? Here's the link: <https://www.referendumcouncil.org.au>  
Peace  
**David**

### ***HYMNS/ SONGS. On the screen NOTICES:***

The next **163 CONVERSATIONS** is **this Tuesday, 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](mailto:brimary@iprimus.com.au) Donation and drink to share. Time 6 to 6.15, to finish at 8.30.** We are looking forward to seeing you!

**OUR CHURCH** this week will be used by the theatre group: *Three Sides of the Coin*. They will be performing their play *What's Your Gamble?* for the Melbourne Fringe Festival **on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> from 7 - 8 pm** and then again on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 7 – 8pm**. Five people speak up and act out their personal lived experience narratives of gambling harm. Engaging, emotional, confronting collage of personal stories, told with courage and humour.  
**The cast are accidental activists, appealing to audiences to view gambling as something that affects us all.** Gambling is a public health issue in Australia. We are the biggest losers in the world! It's time to reclaim and change our cultural narrative. **Catherine Simmonds, Artistic Director, explores the space between the 'lived experience' and the language of art, providing marginalized people a creative space in which to 'discover the need to speak and speak the unspoken'.**  
**\*They are very kindly offering our church community free admission.**

**REMINDER that next SUNDAY we will have lunch together after the service – if you can, please bring something to share.**

**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)**

### ***CHRISTMAS IS COMING!***

Nearby **Holy Trinity Church** is again arranging a *Community Christmas Tree Festival* and we have been invited to participate. Although Maureen has had some very preliminary discussions with our new Zimbabwean friends, ideas are most welcome.

**Dates and Times:** 5/6 December 10.00 – 7.00; 7 December 10.00 – 4.00; 8 December (Sunday) 12.00 noon – 4.00 followed by Carols among the Trees.

**Admission:** Children free, Adults by gold coin donation

**Concert:** Elwood Community Choir and friends, Friday 6 December, 7.00pm, Supper included (Gold coin donation)

**Queries and suggestions to Maureen: [maureenawalker5@bigpond.com](mailto:maureenawalker5@bigpond.com)**

*Our Zimbabwean Methodist friends would welcome anyone interested in joining their services on Sunday afternoons(except first Sunday of the month) from 4pm.*

### ***FROM JANET AND BRIAN.***

Greetings all. Even for us now it seems that this trip is going on far too long!! This last stage of the trip, Canada and USA, is really about catching up with family and friends including people we met on our Camino. So we now travel at a very gentle pace and we have time to do things like lie around in our pjs watching the final season of GOT (Game of Thrones). That said, there