

REMINDER: Church gathering at Merricks for the weekend of 15/16/17 November. Could EVERYONE please fill in the form on the Notice Board so we know who will be coming and when. Please also indicate if you are NOT coming. Everyone is welcome even if only for a short time!

Scots Presbyterian Church in Collins Street is having a **Big Hymn Sing** at 2pm on Sunday 6th October.

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	22 September	29 September	6 October	13 October
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David P Randall	David P Wendy	Robert H Melissa	David P Andrej
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Mary	Maureen	Louise	Wendy
<i>Flowers</i>	Petra	Desleigh	Mary	Petra
<i>Coffee</i>	Mary	Maureen	Louise	Roma
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Mary	Darren/ Melissa	Mary	Randall

Church

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

Engagement Hub

101 Carlisle St.

St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

Minister: Rev. David Pargeter

Email: saints163@bigpond.com

PO Box 385, Balaclava 3183.

Ph: 0412 334 334

www.stkildaunitingchurch.org.au

Church phone no.

0458 417 708

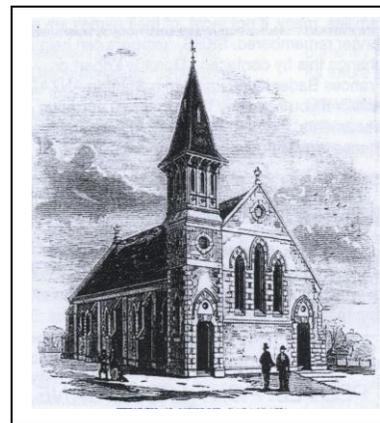
VISION STATEMENT:

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

Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 54, Issue 31

Sunday, 22 September 2019

Pentecost 15

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: Exodus 5: 1 – 14 pg.36, Matthew 20: 1 – 16 pg. 657
*The Inclusive Bible***

From David: Doubt

One of the big philosophical questions that physics threw up when I was about 14, is *what happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object?*

I remember the discussion, and we all concluded that perpetual stalemate was the answer. However, our rather whacky physics teacher demonstrated that this was a flawed paradox, because something will always happen because energy will always be transferred somehow – probably in the form of heat

So why begin this week's article with a physics question?

Because a similar question emerges around what happens when unshakeable faith meets unresolvable doubt? Stalemate? I hope not. I suspect that in that situation, faith evolves. Or rather, I hope it does. **Because that's how we grow in faith. A static faith is a fossilised faith.**

An important task of a faithful person in trying to navigate experiences of doubt is not to resist or reject doubt, but to sit with it and attempt to integrate it. When we embrace and grapple with those things that puzzle us we tend to grow. Faith and curiosity go hand in hand.

PTO

[Continued from page 1 ...]

For example, when we discover from experience that praying for healing seldom works, or that in difficult financial circumstances a sincere prayer for economic relief doesn't quite cut it, then we have to find a way of accommodating the truth of things.

It can come as quite a shock to discover that God is in fact not our personal valet meeting all our needs. But rather a mysterious symbol for giving humanity hope.

After the last Federal Election, Scott Morrison asserted that he believed in miracles and the result indicated to him that a miracle had taken place. The implications of such a declaration of belief is that God is more interested in the outcome of an election and the ambitions of a politician than say, ending suffering in Syria or Yemen, or caring for a little child who dies seeking asylum in another land.

These are the kind of realities and assertions that we need to think through, and through that process, let go of the things that don't hang together with any integrity. In that way, we can uncover a faith that can cope with the truth of things and yet remain resilient.

Because, at the end of the day, the kind of God we believe in shapes the kind of faith that we bring to life.

Speaking personally, I'm not keen on having a faith that cannot adapt and adjust to what I am learning about life through either my own or other people's experiences. That which doesn't learn to bend usually breaks.

Peace
David

HYMNS/ SONGS.

TiS: tune 454

Gather this day, in a spirit of holiness
Graciously sharing the gift of this day
Thankful for many things, grateful
creation sings.

Stand now and listen, to what she might say.

Here in this place, there's a sense of serenity
Speaks to the heart of the troubled and sad
Here with impunity; loved by community,
Standing together; we walk hand in hand.

Space in our lives; there is room for the mystery
Learning to see what the world has to give
Living abundantly. Caring courageously.
Bringing God's kingdom to life as we live.

This is the place where we gather in hopefulness.

Here in this building the church comes to pray.

Faithful remembering. Never abandoning.
Those for whom life is a struggle each day.

David Pargeter 12 August 2019

TiS: 418 She sits like a bird

TiS: 636 God has spoken

NOTICES:

Next Sunday we will have the Zimbabwean Regional Bishop come and join our morning gathering.

David will be flying to Perth on October 3rd to attend the Zimbabwean Methodist Conference.

Today Sunday 22 September 2.30 -4pm. DIALOGUE on FREEDOM of RELIGION sponsored by the Council of Christians and Jews.

Rev Dr Rene Erwich and Rabbi Fred Morgan will draw on their rich historical experience to inform our current dilemmas. Kew Baptist Church, 10 Highbury Grove Kew.

The **UNITING CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL CHURCH TOUR** is **this Tuesday 24 September** from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm. This year's tour is to Collins Street Baptist, Scots Church and St. Paul's Cathedral. Please contact Maureen if you would like further details. Ph 9534 1966

Next Sunday September 29, the PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK VIC. will meet at the Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church, cnr Burke Rd. and Coppin St. Malvern East, 3 – 5pm.

Rev Dr Sally Douglas will speak about the Early Church Understanding of Jesus as the Female Divine. Members \$5, non-members \$7

The next **163 CONVERSATIONS** is on **Tuesday 8 October 6.15 to 8.30pm.** The speaker will be **Carlene Harlock, Coordinator of Friends of Suia/Covalima, Timor Leste, for the City of Port Phillip.** This year marks the **20th anniversary of East Timor's Vote for Independence** (from Indonesia) – which was followed by almost total destruction of the country as the Indonesian military withdrew. **Next year it will be 20years since the CoPP became involved in assisting and supporting the Suai/Covalima region as it gradually rebuilt.** It's a great story of partnership and relationships!

FILM GROUP is up and running with the first outing on **Tuesday October 22nd and then November 26th at Elsternwick Classic Cinema.** Time and film to be decided closer to the time. If you would like to be included please contact Mary 9529 6927