

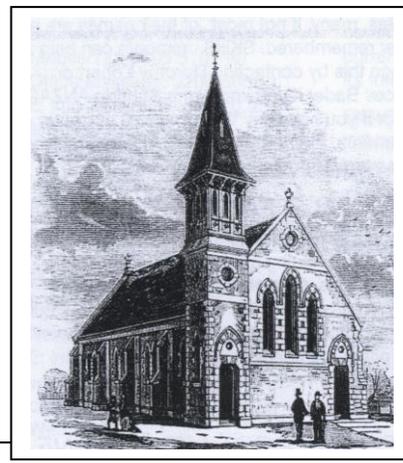
(cont). The topic is: **12 Women, 3 Faiths and 1 City**. Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church cnr Burke Rd and Coppin Sts. Malvern East. **Speakers:** Di Hirsh OAM a Vice president of the International Council of Jewish Women, Anushe Khan - Project Manager of Salamfest, Muslim Creative Arts and Cultural Festival and Rev Dr Julie Hall, Minister at Bentleigh Uniting Church.

***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	13 October	20 October	27 October	3 November
<b>Worship Assistance</b>	David P Andrej	David P Denham Grierson Roma	David P Andrej	David P Brian
<b>Welcome at door</b>	Wendy	Brian	Louise	Janet
<b>Flowers</b>	Petra	Deb	Petka	Mary
<b>Coffee</b>	Roma	Mark/Ruth	Louise	Janet
<b>Rubbish collection</b>	Randall	Brian/Janet	Randall	Darren/Melissa

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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](mailto:desleighk@ozemail.com.au)  
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
Parish Mission**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**Volume 54, Issue 34**  
**Sunday, 13 October 2019**  
**Anti-Poverty Week**

**You are all most welcome to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.**

**Bible Readings: Jeremiah 29: 1 – 7 pg.283 Luke 17: 11-19 pg.691**  
*The Inclusive Bible*

**From David: An Evolving Faith**

One of the first things I studied as a young adult was Darwin’s *Origin of Species*. I learned through that encounter that contrary to general opinion it’s not the strongest that survive, but rather those who are the quickest to adapt. **Religion and faith are no exceptions to this rule.**

When you look back over thousands of years of faith history, you can identify some significant ‘moments’ when adaptation was both required and resisted for long periods of time. Some obvious ones are the shifts that eventually occurred through greater scientific understanding – the world is not flat, and ships do not fall off its edges. The earth is not the centre of the universe. But there are some less obvious yet equally important shifts in humanity’s understanding of God.

**God used to be talked about as ‘out there’ and ‘above’ all things - sometimes *in the world but certainly not of it*.** A God who visited now and again. While the Jewish faith talked about God being intricately involved in their national life, there were many times when prophets perceived God’s absence as a form of punishment for disobedience.

**PTO**

[Continued from page 1 ...]

But even their faith had to adapt to certain circumstances. Especially when, to their absolute surprise, the Assyrian empire captured them and sent them into exile into Babylon. How could God let that happen to (his) favoured nation? *How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land.*

**However, they did settle and began to think about God differently.**

They were disconnected from the Temple and had to locate the presence of God differently. In time, they began to sing new songs in a land that became less and less strange - 70 years is a long time.

**But the key 'shift' in theological thought that emerged from that experience is that the Jewish leaders no longer spoke about a *theology of judgement* but a *theology of salvation*.**

So very often discomfort, uncertainty and suffering lead to theological enlightenment. **Then Jesus comes along and invites us to imagine God as being very present in the world all the time and very much involved in its affairs – when invited in.** Jesus encouraged people to think differently about the concept of sacrifice; that it had nothing to do with killing birds or animals or shedding blood, but rather a

willingness to surrender things like privilege and power, and learning about humility and grace.

**It seems to me that faith is always being invited to adapt and evolve.**

We are being faced with many situations for which the bible does not have a specific response. Yet, as we 'evolve' it's important for us to hold onto some things and let go of others. That's where discernment kicks in, and discernment emerges in the context of faith-filled conversation and discussion.

So, when the writers of the Gospels start a sentence with: "*You have heard that it was said, but I say to you*", then we are being given a glimpse into an important evolutionary moment in the thoughts, words and faith of Jesus.

Shalom

David

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

**TiS: 135. All things bright and beautiful**

**Cov. 144. One more step**

**TiS: 156. Morning has broken**

### ***NOTICES***

***Church Council will meet this Tuesday. Please talk to any of the CC members if you would like any issue(s) discussed.***

**At the 163 CONVERSATION last Tuesday**, Carlene Harlock, Coordinator of Friends of Suai/Covalima Timor Leste (East Timor), for the City of Port Phillip, spoke about her work. One of the projects being undertaken in TL is tree planting in collaboration with *With One Seed*. If you would like a "More trees please" tee shirt or Tote bag please speak to, or message Desleigh. Coffee – ground or whole beans – is also available.

**TODAY October 13th, Christ Church in Acland St is having a Grand Organ Concert from 3 -4pm. The organist is Lachlan Redd, Assistant Organist at St Paul's Cathedral. Entry \$10.**

**PORT PHILLIP COMMUNITY GROUP** (PPCG) invites you to their '*Raise the Rate*' event in conjunction with **Anti-Poverty Week**. This will be held next door at 161 Chapel Street **THIS Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October between 12pm – 2pm.**

No RSVP required – just come!

**TAKE ACTION & sign up:**

<https://raisetherate.org.au/org-signup/>

**PORT MELBOURNE UNITING CHURCH**, 144 Bridge St PM, is joining the **Garage Sale Trail NEXT Sat 19th October 10am – 3pm.** You might like to pay them a visit and help to raise funds for their projects.

**An informal FILM GROUP** has been arranged for **Tuesdays at the Elsternwick Classic Cinema**. The first one is on **October 22<sup>nd</sup>, then November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Time and film to be decided closer to the time. If you would like to be included please contact Mary 9529 6927.

**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! More information very soon.**

**THE JEWISH CHRISTIAN MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (JCMA)** invites you to spend an afternoon **walking together in friendship and goodwill** between a church, synagogue and a mosque **Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 1.15pm.** The event is free but bookings are essential.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/jcma-friendship-walk-24th-november-2019-tickets-67976909767>

**The PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK OF VICTORIA will hold their next meeting on SUNDAY October 27<sup>th</sup> 3 to 4.40pm**