

of all Australians. In a submission on the *Religious Freedom Bills – Second Exposure Drafts*, the Church said it could not support “blanket provisions that would permit statements and actions that demean and unjustly diminish the rights of others on religious grounds”. To read more visit the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly page: [HERE](#)

CHURCH COUNCIL met last Tuesday . Please talk to David or Council members if you would like a copy of the Minutes.

LUNCH: A reminder that we will have lunch together after church next Sunday. Please bring something to share if you can.

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	9 February	16 February	23 February	1 March	8 March
<i>Worship</i>	David	David	David	David	David
<i>Assistance</i>	Melissa	Mary	Brian	Mary	Roma
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Janet	Roma	Janet	Louise	Wendy
<i>Flowers</i>	Maureen	Mary	Deb	Roma	Deb
<i>Coffee</i>	Maureen	Roma	Janet	Roma	Darren
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Brian/Janet	Melissa/Darren	Randall	Randall	Darren/Melissa

Church

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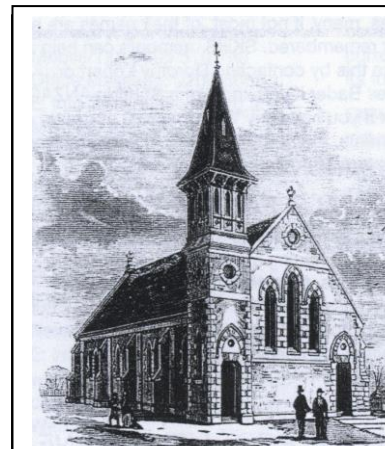
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VISION STATEMENT:

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
Contributions to the content are also welcomed.



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 55, Issue 03

Sunday, 9 February 2020

EPIPHANY 5

Welcome to our service this morning. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation.

**Bible Readings: Isaiah 61: 1 - 8 pg. 261. Matthew 25: 31 – 46 pg.661
*The Inclusive Bible***

From David: Hospitality 2

It’s a few years ago now but I remember it well.

I was visiting the church organist to talk about Sunday’s music. She lived with her husband Hugh in a little terraced house on the West side of Llandudno in North Wales.

Before ageing had robbed him of the use of his hands, he had been a very fine organist. But as if life isn’t cruel enough, he was also now totally blind. Anyway, the front door was open. It was an unusually hot July day.

I knocked on the door frame and called out. “Hello, it’s David from the church.”

“Come in, Ethel is down the shops. She won’t be long”, his rich Welsh accent luring me down the gloomy hallway toward the kitchen. A cassette player was filling the house very gently with choir music. “It’s the Treorchy Male Choir”, he said.

I sat down and listened while he put the kettle on the stove for a cup of tea. The kettle began to whistle, and I watched him turn off the gas and fill the teapot.

.PTO

[Continued from page 1 ...]

He stirred the pot and tipped it up and down a bit before pouring it into two green mugs, then added milk from a jug near the sink.

“Help yourself to some of those crackers with cheese on”, he said, as he walked over and placed the mug of tea in front of me. The milk had gone off and little bits of greasy white stuff were floating on the top, but he wasn’t aware of that.

I picked up a cheese cracker and it was hairy with a blue green mould. All of a sudden, I didn’t feel very thirsty or hungry. Hugh sat down, sipped his tea and was consuming a cheese cracker before I could say anything. What could I say? How could I say it? So, I just picked up my mug and slurped my tea. It looked worse than it tasted. I picked the cheese off and ate the cracker.

We just sat there quietly. The choir on the cassette began to sing ‘All in the April Evening’. **And then Hugh began to sing.** His beautiful tenor voice harmonising perfectly with the radio but rising above it like the lead tenor that he was.

Just one of many moments in ministry, indeed in life, when a simple act of hospitality became a celebration of human joy.

Shalom
David

HYMNS/ SONGS.

TiS: Gonna lay down my burden (video clip)

TiS 629: When I needed a neighbour

TiS 640: Kneels at the feet of his friends.

TiS 650: Brother, sister let me serve you.

NOTICES:

163 CONVERSATIONS. This Tuesday February 11th at 6.15 for 6.30pm at the church.: Janet and Brian SW will bring insights from their 2019 travels. Not a boring slide night but a wonderful night of chat about the way travel teaches us stuff. Plus a few photos to keep you interested! **RSVP:** by email: janetsnashall@gmail.com or phone Janet 0417 670 132
Remember: BYO drinks and a donation for dinner.

CHURCH DINNER – Saturday February 22 at 6.30pm at Janet and Brian’s home in Southbank. Please let J and B know of your attendance and meal contribution email – janetsnashall@gmail.com or phone 0417 670 132 (J) or add to list on Notice Board. Please come and enjoy hospitality and friendship – it’s always a wonderful night!

ABORIGINAL SPIRITUALITY AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. Sunday 16 February, 3:00pm – 5:00pm.

“Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time”. Rev Glenn Loughrey is a Wiradjuri man from NSW and a priest at St Oswald’s Anglican Church. He is an artist who fuses Indigenous art styles with Western forms of storytelling. **St Oswald’s Anglican Church, 100 High Street, Glen Iris. \$10.00** Please advise the CCJ office if you are attending, ph: 9429 5212; email: ccjvic@bigpond.net.au

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK VICTORIA (PCNV) Sunday February 23 @ 3:00pm-5:00pm. The speaker will be **Ro Allen** - Victorian Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality. **TOPIC:** Understanding Sexuality & Gender Diversity in 2020 - Implications for Christians & other faith traditions. **Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church.** Cnr. Burke Rd and Coppin St, Malvern East. **Ro** will also address the implications for LGBTIQ people of the proposed **Religious Freedom Bill.** Q&A will follow

WESLEY UNITING CHURCH, 148 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, in collaboration with the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Network, is hosting a public event on **Monday February 24th from 6.30 to 8.30pm.**

Brother Peter Bray, Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University will speak on the theme of ***Education under Occupation.***

BAPTISM of Georgia Grace and Bryan Barrass. Sunday March 1st during our worship service at 10.30am. Please keep the date free and join us for this celebration. For catering purposes please let Laura or Janet know if you can stay for lunch Laura: 0474 077 249 Janet: 0417 670 132

Advanced notice BOOK LAUNCH. Sunday April 5th Rev Dr Robert Hoskin will take the service. This will include the launch of his book – ***A Kimberley Collaboration – the story of the Boab Network 2008 – 2018.*** Robert’s Perth friend, Ross Gobby, a key person in the Boab Network, will assist him with this. A community launch of the book will be held on **Friday 21st February at Victoria University Community Hub at the MetroWest centre 138 Nicholson Street Footscray at 6.15pm.** You are welcome to this.

UNITING CHURCH SUBMISSION – RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BILL

The Uniting Church in Australia Assembly believes the latest version of the Federal Government’s Religious Freedom Bills won’t adequately balance the human rights