

PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK. The next meeting will be on **Sunday 25 February at 3pm** at Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church, Burke Rd. Malvern East. Glenn Loughrey, the vicar of St Oswald's Anglican Church Glen Iris, will bring insights into a spirituality informed by his indigenous background and expressed through his art. Notice board.

We respectfully acknowledge the Yalukit Willam clan of the Boon Wurrung. We pay our respects to their Elders and community past and present. We acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.

Date	January 28	February 4	February 11
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Randall	David Andrej	David Janet
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Melissa & Darren	Brian	Maureen
<i>Pre-Service Prayer</i>	Mary	Melissa	Brian
<i>Flowers</i>	Desleigh	Andrej & Petka	Maureen
<i>Coffee</i>	Melissa & Darren	Brian & Janet	Randall
<i>Music</i>	Laura, Bryan, Andrej, Desleigh, Glen.		

Church

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Engagement Hub

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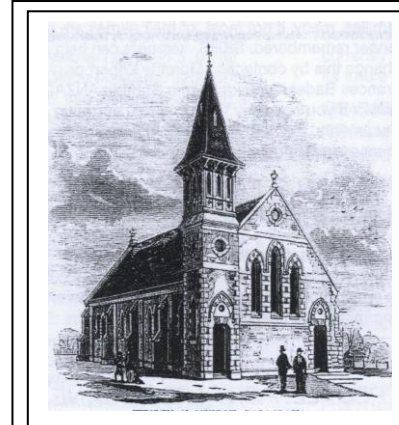
VISION STATEMENT:

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 of the Newsletter. **Contributions are welcome and can be sent to her at desleighk@ozemail.com.au**

If you would like to be part of a growing congregational email list (and receive a full colour copy of the church newsletter in pdf format), please contact Rob Hess at Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au



**St Kilda Uniting Church
Parish Mission**

NEWSLETTER

Volume 53, Issue 01

Sunday, 28 January 2018

Welcome to our first newsletter for the year and to the service today. Rev David Pargeter will lead our worship. Please stay afterwards for morning tea.

Bible Reading: Mark 1: 21-28 pg1093

From David: One morning last week I went for a walk through the park just behind our home. I walk there often; usually with my greyhound Jack. It had been a hot uncomfortable night and I was hungry for some fresh cooler air. Jack didn't stir from his personal cushion near the laundry, so I walked alone.

The sun hadn't been up too long and was just rising above local roof tops. There was a gentle breeze and new morning light danced along the footpath. The softness of the light was comforting but the shadows it created were dull and gloomy. It was pleasantly eerie. A familiar footpath had been transformed into something dark and mysterious. It produced within me a heightened sense of mystery. I was acutely alert. Magpies were warbling and a few bats were still making their way home to enjoy their upside-down world near the Yarra River.

I slowly made my way through the small woodland area making very little noise and emerged at the edge of the local cricket oval. A tiny movement caught my eye so I stopped. I gave myself some time to focus. About 10 metres away sat a fox. You don't often see them sitting. She didn't move and nor did I. We just looked at each other for what seemed like ages. Then she slowly stood up, turned and loped away. PTO

She didn't look back (why would she) but I watched her canter confidently across the oval and disappear behind the practice nets of the local cricket team.

It doesn't matter how old I get, simple encounters with nature of this kind still thrill me, just as they did when I was a child. There's something enchanting about meeting another living creature that is so different from me yet we share and enjoy the same environment.

That reminds me, I must find a way of enticing a family of brush tailed possums out of my roof and into a nesting box in the garden. Have a nature-filled 2018 - and may the parables you find within it enrich your faith-life. David

Songs/Hymns

TiS: 643 I want to walk as a child of the light.

Song: Here I am, reflecting deeply.
Tune: The Carnival is Over
Words: David Pargeter: January 2018

Here am I, reflecting deeply
On my life, and who I am.
what I've done, and where I'm going.
How can I begin again.
There are things which mark my story
Some are bad and some are good
But I know there is compassion
And I'd change things if I could.

But this life, can't be repeated
Just one chance, is all we have
So right now, I'll face my future.
With some faith and share my love.
God of hope and new horizons
lead me now along the shore
take this life and let me follow
where I've never been before.

Leave behind those nets that bind me.
Find the peace that freedom brings
Fill my heart with deep compassion
Evermore, my spirit sings.
Here am I, reflecting deeply
On my life, and what I've done..
Who am I? Where am I going.
Let me follow you again.

Repeat last two lines.

Deep Stillness

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland;
for you, deep blue of the desert skies;
for you, flame red of the rocks and stones;
for you, sweet water from hidden springs.
From the edges, seek the heartlands,
and when you're burnt by the journey
may the cool winds of the hovering
Spirit sooth and replenish you.

In the name of Christ x 2

2nd time. In the name of Christ x 3

Words: Julie Perrin; Music: Robin Mann ©

NOTICES

POETRY and FAITH. The next meeting will be here at the church on **Wednesday February 7th** (the last day of UN World Interfaith Harmony Week) at **6.30pm**. Please talk to David if you would like attend. **All welcome.**

163 TABLE CONVERSATION
Sharing Food – Sharing Ideas. The next Table Conversation will be here on **Tuesday February 13th at 6.15pm**. The speaker will be Vicky from **Space2b Social Design** (just down the road at 144 Chapel Street). **All welcome.** Please RSVP to Janet: 0417 670 132 for catering purposes. **BYO drinks.** Donations appreciated.

It's not too late to donate to the CHRISTMAS BOWL appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the **National Council of Churches in Australia.** Envelopes on the front table. See Mary if you would like further information.

Church Council met on January 18th. From the business discussed here are some dates for your diary:

- That we **re-establish lunch on the first Sunday of the month**(Communion Sunday) after church. So **next Sunday** you are encouraged to bring

something to share and stay for some catch-up conversation.

- **Ash Wednesday February 14th - the first day of Lent** – there will be a service here at **7pm**.
- We are planning to have a **“Church Open” session** every Tuesday afternoon from 1 – 3pm starting in March. We need two people at a time so If you are interested in helping, please see Mary or Desleigh.
- **Church camp** this year is on the weekend **23 – 25 March**. Venue yet to be confirmed. Do hope you can come.
- **David** is planning a **Lenten Study** – more info to come.
- Reminder that our church has signed the Uniting Church Synod of VicTas Statement of Commitment **Keeping Children Safe**. Louise Price has been appointed the **Culture of Safety contact person**. In the near future there will be a presentation during the Sunday service to explain what all this means, plus a training session for all congregational members. For more information talk to an CC member or online www.victas.uca.org.au