

**ART EXHIBITION 30 January to 27 February 2019:** The *Confined 10* exhibition features artworks by Indigenous artists currently within, or recently released, from Victorian prisons. Artworks created through *The Torch* program support these men and women to explore their culture and identity through practising art. **Hours** Sat. 12 to 4 pm. M, Tue, Wed, Fri: 8.30 am to 5 pm, **Thurs during exhibitions: 8.30 am to 7 pm.**  
**St Kilda Town Hall, Carlisle Street Arts Space (CSAS)**

*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	3 February	10 February	17 February	24 February
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Randall	David Melissa	David Andrej	David Janet/Brian
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Mary	Janet/Brian	Roma	Louise
<i>Flowers</i>	Deb	Maureen	Petra	Deb
<i>Coffee</i>	Mary	Janet/Brian	Mark/Ruth	Louise
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Randall	Janet/Brian	Roma	Darren/ Melissa

**Church**

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts  
 St Kilda 3182. Ph:

**Engagement Hub**

101 Carlisle St.  
 St Kilda 3182. Ph: 9525 5478

**Minister:** Rev. David Pargeter  
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**0458 417 708**

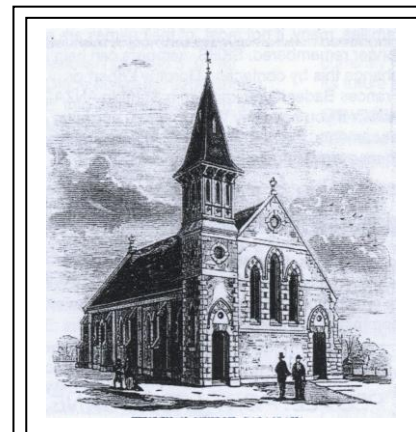
**VISION STATEMENT:**

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 of the Newsletter. **Contributions are welcome and can be sent to her at [desleighk@ozemail.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:Robert.Hess@vu.edu.au)



**St Kilda Uniting Church  
 Parish Mission  
 NEWSLETTER  
 Volume 54, Issue 2  
 Sunday, 3 February 2019**

You are most welcome to our worship service. Rev. David Pargeter will lead our service today which includes communion. We will also have lunch afterwards so please stay if you can - there is always plenty of food and conversation!

**From David:**

*Funny February*, may seem like an odd choice for a theme just before Lent but humour/fun has always been a feature of life. In fact, it's one of humanity's earliest forms of entertainment as well as an early form of political commentary in the guise of graffiti. Poking fun at things and people is an ancient and modern past-time. Comedy shows would not survive without it. Nor would comedians.

But, and it's a big 'but', there is always an invisible line which only become visible once its crossed. Ooh, that went too far or hmm, didn't like that.

Of course, there are personal limits and tastes, and the comedy shows that work the best often leave things in the air so-to-speak; hinted at but not stated. Ronnie Barker was a master at this – who can forget the Fork Handles sketch. Dave Allen less ambiguous with lines like, 'I'm an atheist, thank God'. And then there's the dark humour of Spike Milligan who insisted that his gravestone should read 'I told you I was sick'.

Interestingly, many comedians also have a deep spirituality expressed through their faith. Take Jewish comedian Elayne Boosler who once said about her ancestors; *"They wandered lost in the wilderness for 40 years, because even in biblical times, men would not stop to ask for directions"*.  
 PTO

Melbourne based Muslim comedian Muhamed Elleissi, thinks '*comedy is the best way to make a noticeable point without blowing up an embassy*'. It also breaks down stereotypes. In some ways the comedian becomes the punchline.

One of my favourite comedians, American Jimmy Fallon, is a genuine practicing Catholic who at one point in his life considered becoming a priest. He turned to comedy instead, but before doing so he explained: "I wanted to be a Priest at one point. I was pretty religious. I was an altar boy, and I was good at it. Then, I started meeting girls and I'm like 'You know, maybe I shouldn't be a priest'".

And in her book '*Drink Smoke Passout*' Australian comedian Judith Lucy, who once considered becoming a nun, takes us on an unusual spiritual journey where big questions are handled seriously and humourously.

Thank God for comedians I reckon. They make life lighter and at the same time shed light on some very difficult topics - and all with a smile.

Best wishes  
David

## SONGS

### **God's spirit is in my heart**

God's spirit is in our heart  
S(H)e has called us and set us apart  
This is what we have to do  
What we have to do

*God sends us to be the good news to the poor  
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more  
Tell blind people that they can see,  
And set the downtrodden free  
And go tell everyone  
The news that the kingdom of God has come  
And go tell everyone  
The news that God's Kingdom has come.*

Life in the world can be sad  
It's a struggle sometimes to feel glad  
Walking that old extra mile  
That old extra mile. *Chorus*

Laughter is what we all need  
A giggle is only a seed  
A grin is barely enough  
The world's just too tough. *Chorus*

Words: Alan Dale/Hubert Richards  
Tune: Hubert Richards – arr. Keith Stent

### **Covenant 37: If I were a Butterfly**

**TiS: 538. Feed us Now**

## Notices:

### **READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP - includes studies for LENT**

Our **Easter** preparation for this year will weave into our **Reading and Discussion Group**

The first meeting is next **Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30p.m.** at Mary and Brian's house. We will focus on heresy and what the context was for something being determined as 'orthodox' while other perspectives were proclaimed and suppressed as being heretical. We will also try to make sense of biblical history so that we can develop a deeper appreciation of context and why some material made it into the New Testament while some didn't.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** service on **March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

**LENTEN STUDIES x 5.** To be held weekly held at the church from **7 - 8.30pm, Thursdays: 14, 21, 28 March, and 4, 11 April.** These sessions will be entitled "***Dreaming our way to Easter***". **All welcome**

### **163 TABLE CONVERSATIONS**

**SWING** into a New Year of fantastic conversations in 2019  
**Tuesday 12 February 6.15 pm for a 6.30 pm start**

### **February Speaker: Allan Snashall** **Specialty subject: Swing Dancing**

Learn about SWING dancing and hear about Allan's adventures attending SWING dancing events across the world. If you're game - there will be a chance to 'have a go' ! A great way to get our conversations going for 2019.

**Please RSVP** to Janet:

[janetsnashall@gmail.com](mailto:janetsnashall@gmail.com)  
0417 670 132. BYO own drinks to share. Donations appreciated.

**March CONVERSATIONS is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>. Topic: What does it mean to be a Mormon in Australia?** Is there such a thing as a progressive Mormon? Our guest speaker couple will help us understand this what it means to be a Mormon. **Mark it in your diary!**

**The next CHURCH COUNCIL meeting is this Tuesday: February 5: Elders 9.30 and CC 10.30am**

**LECTURE: The Bible and Secular Australia: Are they compatible?**

**Rev Dr Robyn Whitaker.** Biblical scholar writer and Uniting Church Minister. Senior Lecturer at Pilgrim Theological College.

**Toorak Uniting Church.**  
**Thursday 21 February at 7.30pm**  
Discussion and Supper to follow.  
**Free – no bookings required**