

**PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN NETWORK: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 3 – 5pm**  
 Ewing Memorial Centre of Stonnington Uniting Church Burke/Coppin sts  
 Malvern. Speaker is Rev. Dr. Coralie Ling: *Widening our Horizons – Eco  
 feminists reinterpret Christianity in light of climate change.*

The next **POETRY AND FAITH** evening will be here at the church on  
 Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm Please rsvp Louise. All welcome!

*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	May 13	May 20	May 27	June 3
<i>Worship Assistance</i>	David Roma	David Brian	Rev. John Cranmer Melissa	David Randall
<i>Welcome at door</i>	Melissa & Darren	Louise	Mary	Deb
<i>Pre-Service Prayer</i>	Melissa	Mary	Roma	Brian
<i>Flowers</i>	Mary	Deb	Maureen	Desleigh
<i>Coffee</i>	Mary	Maureen	Louise	Mark & Ruth
<i>Rubbish collection</i>	Roma	Randall	Mary	Andrej & Petka

**Church**

Corner Chapel & Carlisle Sts  
 St Kilda 3182. Ph:

**Engagement Hub**

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**Church phone no.**

**0458 417 708**

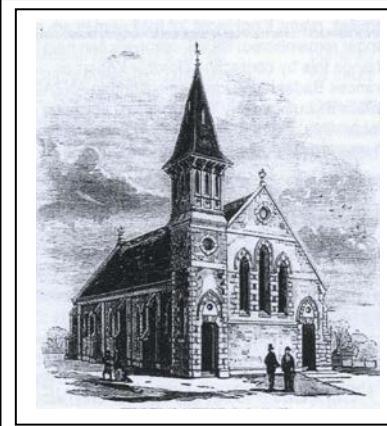
**VISION STATEMENT:**

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 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 53, Issue 15**

**Sunday, 13 May 2018**

**A very warm welcome to everyone today. Rev. David Pargeter will lead us in worship. Please stay afterwards for tea/coffee and conversation**

**Bible Readings: John 15: 12 – 15 pg. 1193. Ruth 1: 1 – 18 pg.289**

**From David:**

I thought on Mothering Sunday, some appreciation of the feminine qualities of G-d, might be appreciated as well as informative. Below is an extract from a sermon by Dawn Hutchings. She starts by listing all the ancient ways of talking about G-d: ‘ *El Shaddai* – which translates as “She – breasted one”. *Eloheim* – the feminine plural for majesty.

*Rauach* – a feminine word for wind, breath, spirit. *Chokma* – a feminine word for wisdom. *Rechem* - also a feminine word which translates as “womb love” mother love, compassion. **YAHWEH** – I AM, WHO AM or I shall be who I shall be’.

At the time of Jesus there was also another name for God that was used by the Jewish people: *El Shekinah* - which translates as “she who dwells among us.” We should also include words like *Theos* – a feminine noun which translates simply as God. *Sophia* – a Greek translation of the Hebrew word *Rauach*

What is most remarkable about all this is that within a very short time the Roman Empire (eg Christendom) effectively transgendered God, and translated all this into Latin: *Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti* - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PTO

As Dawn so eloquently puts it:  
“Stripped of her breasts and her  
womb-love, the One we call God, the  
‘El Shekinah’ who dwells among us,  
is given the aura of a powerful young  
Roman God as the word for breasts is  
translated as “Almighty” and whose  
Rechem – womb-love is reserved for  
those who fear HIM”.

Thanks to the work of so many  
courageous female academics,  
theologians, historians and  
theologians the original gift of a  
feminine spirit has been re-claimed  
and offered as a gift to faith  
communities of our time.

Let us celebrate this today.  
David

### Songs/Hymns

#### **Doubts and Faith (Tune TiS:**

Come to a sacred space with open  
heart and mind;  
come willing to explore and seek a  
living faith.

In this new space, we long to gain  
a faith that touches joy and pain.

We come with questions deep; we  
come with answers few,  
yet longing for some light to shine  
upon our quest.

We take the risk of losing faith,  
yet we can walk no other path.

We gently put aside concepts and  
creeds of old,  
yet seek some ancient wisdom that  
our hearts may hold.  
From seeds of doubt, new life may  
flow,  
if given care and space to grow.

Finding a bridge of faith that has  
integrity,  
we'll work with all who seek to walk  
with honesty.  
With openness and hearts of grace,  
we touch the wisdom of each faith.

We honour Muslim prayer and  
treasure Hebrew thought.  
We see the noble pathway that the  
Buddhist treads.  
A Christian hymn, a Hindu prayer,  
speak of a sacredness we share.

What do we hold as true?  
Compassion for each one,  
justice and love for ev'ry creature on  
this earth;  
the sacredness of human care;  
this is a path that all may share.

Words: Helen Wiltshire..© Pilgrim Publishing 2011

#### **A New Commandment**

A new commandment is given to us,  
That we love one another as we have  
been loved  
That we love one another as we have  
been loved  
By this the world will know that we  
are his disciples,

if we have love one for another.  
By this the world will know that we  
are his disciples,  
if we have love one for another.

Friends not servants – communities of  
care

When we love one another and learn  
how to share.

When we love one another and learn  
how to share.

By this, our world is changed through  
acts of love and kindness

When we show love each for the other  
By this, our world is changed through  
acts of love and kindness

When we show love each for the other

(Adaptions and additions, David Pargeter 2018)

#### **Friendship (Tune: TiS 624)**

Friendship gives meaning to life and to  
faith,  
true understanding, compassion and  
grace.

Friendship is joyful, a song to be sung;  
music created, a chorus begun.

Friendship births laughter, forgiveness  
and tears,  
growing in beauty with each passing  
year.

Friendship risks darkness, deep sorrow  
and pain,  
asking forgiveness, so love lives again

Friendship wakes memory of those we  
embraced,  
partings and sorrow, deep grief we  
have faced.

Friendship brings healing, new life and  
deep peace;  
hope that tomorrow our joy will  
increase.

Friendship needs patience, with silence  
and space,  
dawning awareness, with nurture and  
grace.

Friendship takes courage and infinite  
care,  
time now to listen and deep truths to  
share.

Friendship holds promise of seeds and  
of Spring,  
deepening wonder and love  
blossoming.

Friendship is sacred, a gift of God's  
grace;  
may we be faithful as love we embrace.

Helen Wiltshire © Pilgrim Publishing 2011

### NOTICES

#### **163 TABLE CONVERSATION**

**Sharing Food – Sharing Ideas.** The  
next dinner/conversation is at the  
church on **Tuesday June 12.** The  
speaker will be **Karen Sait the CEO  
of Port Phillip Community Group.**  
**Nibbles 6.15pm** followed by dinner.  
**All welcome – bring your friends!**  
please RSVP to Janet 0417 670 132  
BYO drinks. Donations appreciated.

**READING AND DISCUSSION  
GROUP** will meet this **Thursday -  
May 17<sup>th</sup> at Mary and Brian's – 7.45  
to 9.30pm. All welcome.**