

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

8 January 2021

In the early days of 2021 we look back on a crisis year. We have experienced a time of uncertainty like no other. Nothing will change the disruption and grief of many. Vaccines will not change the damage done by a tiny virus. On one hand some may feel despair or even loss of faith. For others there is the danger of arrogance and complacency.

Whatever happens during 2021 in the year ahead as we begin to focus on Mark's gospel lets learn to live a life of dependence on God (Psalm 62: 5-8). This means re-learning to wait and look to God as one greater than ourselves for protection from evil and all that would threaten or discourage us.

In the time of Habakkuk the olive crop, sheep and cattle failed yet in defiance he said , *"Yet will I trust in the Lord"*. It was Job who said, *"Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him."* Whatever afflictions come our way let us learn from Christians in other countries who live with poverty and persecution how to respond in a way in which our trust in our heavenly Father remains unshaken.

Rev Ted Curnow.

Fiji Cyclone Appeal

Rev Chris Meneilly and his Fijian born wife, the Rev Eseta Waqabaca Meneilly and the Mision Liaison Group through Rev John Connan want to pack a Container full of supplies to assist Fiji to recover from the devastation caused by 350 kmh Cyclone Yasa.

Packing date: Saturday 16th January from 8:00am to 1:00pm at MLG, Chapel Road Keysborough, behind the Samoan Church.

We are asking for volunteers to help pack unboxed goods as well as helping pack boxed goods into the container.

Please bring yourself and, if you wish, non-perishable foods – canned goods, bags of rice, pasta, noodles. These will be needed over a long period because food crops have been destroyed and these take 6-9 months to grow again.

Toiletries, babies' nappies and cleaning products, bowls for washing clothes, detergent and washing powder, rope, pegs, tents, bedding, household linen, large plastic water containers, rubbish bins, airtight biscuit tins, plastic food containers are all acceptable. Hand-tools will be needed for reconstruction. NO spray cans can be sent: these are DANGEROUS GOODS.

Donated goods will be received that day. If goods are pre-packed in boxes, please pack as tightly as possible. All kitchenware – particularly breakable goods – must be wrapped in clothing, new or second-hand, or linen. Please do NOT pack in paper.

It costs \$6,000+ to get the container on the water. \$5,000 has already been received, including \$1,000 from the resources Dawn Peacock has. Donations are welcome. Any excess over this cost will be used to buy food. Once the container is full any money beyond that will be sent to provide emergency relief in Fiji.

Rev Ian Cayzer will coordinate the collection of goods and/or money from High Street members if you do not wish to go on the day. Please ring him on **0409 860 427 or 8790 8039**. Morning tea will be provided on the day. If you plan to go, please send a text to me so we keep some sort of track of numbers.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (9:00am) Phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **616 254 006**; Participant ID (none); Password **3199**. If you want to join on a computer or iPad, go to [zoom.us](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/616254006?pwd=MkhoWjdXemFIUjAyVmN3bXBzSURqUT09) and “join meeting” using the Meeting ID details above, or use the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/616254006?pwd=MkhoWjdXemFIUjAyVmN3bXBzSURqUT09>

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP (children from 10:25, main worship from 10:40)

Zoom Meeting ID **556 610 676**; Password **3199**. Join meeting from [zoom.us](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/556610676?pwd=T3k4RmVUV0NidGR2eEswZVlvVUIXUT09) or use the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/556610676?pwd=T3k4RmVUV0NidGR2eEswZVlvVUIXUT09> or phone **(03) 7018 2005**.

WEBSITE: Reflections accessible in text format at <https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/>

PRAYER TEAM: The Prayer Team can be contacted on 9781 5351 (Marlene) or email HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com

OFFICE HOURS: The office will be closed from Thursday 24th December and will re-open on Wednesday 13th January 2020. For all urgent enquiries please email frankstonuc@gmail.com

OFFERINGS: If you are not connected to regular direct debit, one-off or regular offerings can be made to the church by transfer to FRANKSTON UNITING CHURCH BSB **063 133** Account **00800128** Description **OFFERING**. Alternatively, mail a cheque to the Treasurer, Keith Holmes 31 Lucerne Crescent, Frankston

Team movements:

David will be away from 28 December to 25 January. During that time, if there is a pastoral need please contact **Rev Brenda Cooper on 0405 194 327**. Brenda will be assisted by some of the other retired ministers from around the congregation as required.

Jacqui will be away from the office from 23 December to 12 January; Emma will be covering for her to produce and distribute the orders of service. Emma can be contacted in the same way that Jacqui can be reached normally – by leaving a message at 9783 3400 or by email to frankstonuc@gmail.com.

Frankston Brekky Club to Resume

Now that coronavirus restrictions are being eased, the Brekky Club will resume early in 2021 on Monday to Friday mornings. Volunteers are needed to cook and serve the food from 6.30 to 8.30am. **Would you be available for one day each month?** If you want to volunteer or need more information, speak with Alan [on 0488130747] or Bronwen Mathews [on 0427130747].

Brekky Club is also looking to appoint two people to paid positions to oversee the operations; and are looking for applicants to interview for:

1. **Brekky Club Program Manager/Supervisor:** 2.5hrs per day Monday- Friday 13 hours per week to oversee the volunteers and ensure the cafe is run in a Covid safe environment;
2. **Client Liaison Support Worker:** 2hrs per day Monday - Friday 10 hours per week; to oversee the front of house and liaise with clients and ensure a Covid safe environment

Both positions are seeking people who have an interest in and passion for community work and supporting the disadvantaged. Speak with Alan Mathews if you want more information; or contact Trudy Poole [on 0414 305 564 or trudypoole@hotmail.com for a job description.