

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

22 January 2021

Minister's word

Day of Mourning on Sunday (from the Assembly website)

On the Sunday before Australia Day, Uniting Church congregations across the country hold worship services to reflect upon and lament the effect of the invasion and colonisation of this nation upon First Peoples.

The observance of a Day of Mourning was endorsed by the 15th Assembly arising from a request of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC). All Uniting Church in Australia congregations are invited to hold worship services that reflect on the effects of invasion and colonisation on Australia's First Peoples and our identity as a nation. This is going to be a focus for today's worship.

Interim UAICC Chair Pastor Mark Kickett said the Day of Mourning is the beginning of a journey with Uniting Church and UAICC and First Peoples across the country.

"It is monumental to have the Uniting Church stand and affirm who we are, our connection to country, our sovereignty, our life that has existed long before colonisation. Not just that, but the challenges for First Nations people having to survive, to find a voice, and to fight for justice that we as people desire," Pastor Kickett said.

UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer said it was important to acknowledge and remember the true history of our country.

"As Second Peoples it is important for us to confess our complicity in the historical and ongoing dispossession of First Peoples. When we see racism, it is really important that we call that out and contribute to the healing of our relationship as First and Second Peoples through lament, confession and seeking forgiveness," Dr Palmer said.

This worship service is an annual observance for us as the Uniting Church. Remembering our history is an important part of our Covenant relationship and our journey toward justice, healing and a new relationship as First and Second Peoples. The service reminds us of the dispossession and violence against First Peoples, and laments that as a Church and as Second Peoples we were and remain complicit.

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We acknowledged this in our Church when we apologised to the Stolen Generations in 1997.

We acknowledged this by revising the Preamble to our Constitution, which was approved by the 9th Assembly in 2009.

We acknowledged this in affirming First Peoples as the sovereign peoples of this land in 2018.

Our declaration of a Day of Mourning allows us to stand together in remembering the truth of our history, and honouring the culture of Australia's First Peoples, their families and the next generations.

Ian Cayzer

Next Sunday (Jan 31):

As part of the Contemporary Worship, we will celebrate "Back to Schools Sunday" where we'll pray for the new school year and recognise those in our community starting school for the time!

The following Sunday (Feb 7), the Contemporary community will be GATHERING at the Frankston beach, and celebrating the baptism/confirmation of Tayla Wagner. If you cannot gather in person, you will still be able to participate by using the regular zoom link.

*More details on location to come

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=T3k4RmVUVONidGR2eEswZVlvVUIXUT09) or use the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/556610676?pwd=T3k4RmVUVONidGR2eEswZVlvVUIXUT09> 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 has returned from annual leave and The church office is now open Wednesdays and Friday's 9am-1pm.

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.