

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

15 May 2020

Dear Friends,

This week has been a very quiet week at home for me – the kids have been with their mum for the first full week in a while, and I've really noticed it. While sometimes it can feel rather nice to have a quiet week, this time has been different.

I'm so conscious that for some of us, this has been the experience of the whole of this period of staying at home. While some might almost thrive in this environment, for others this is uncomfortably quiet.

I have appreciated walking a bit more, and practicing a rhythm of 9am Bible reading, 3pm prayer, 9pm review/reflection; and I've also appreciated catching up with elders and COG leaders as they have been catching up with others through the community. And it's always good to see and hear people in the ways we're able to 'gather together' on Sunday mornings.

This week's Bible reading is about love – that rather famous passage from 1 Corinthians 13 which is often read at weddings. It's about love in action – patient, kind, bearing all things, hoping, trusting and enduring. Love means that we miss people when we don't see them; but the other part of love is practicing trust in God's love, knowing that we ourselves are loved and held by God. This famous passage is well worth reflecting on through this time.

Peace and grace, David

WELCOME SOPHIA!

Hannah's baby girl Sophia Charlotte Felicity Dungan was born on the 7th of May, weighing in at 2.94kg. Mother and baby are doing well! Congratulations, love and prayers!

PENTECOST SUNDAY

In two weeks' time, on 31 May, there will be a COMBINED service of worship as we celebrate the Holy Spirit who brings us together. This will involve both the Contemporary and Traditional congregations; it has not been possible to make arrangements with the Chinese congregation this year. Similar to Easter Sunday, this will be a service at 10:00am, to which people can connect through phones or through zoom video links. Further information will be supplied closer to the time.

CHURCH COUNCIL

There is a special meeting of the Church Council on Tuesday night, 19 May, focused on the current situation with respect to the impact of COVID-19. Information about how to join the church council meeting will be emailed to members of the Church Council.

UPDATING ZOOM

If you are using Zoom to connect with worship, or for any other meetings, please be aware that there is now an update for zoom available (Zoom 5.0) which has improved data security. It is necessary to update your version of zoom by 30 May, which can be done by downloading the newer version from zoom.us/download (for PC) or from your app store; otherwise, when you go to use zoom for the service on 31 May, you are likely to experience a short delay while it applies the updates. If you would like some help with this, please contact Alan Jenkins on 0412 643 804.

YOUTH GROUP

We are exploring YOUTH GROUP coming back. Admittedly there would be restrictions – numbers strictly limited to no more than 10, maintaining social distancing, with clear records of attendance. The Church Council will be discussing the possibility and the required protocols, but it is possible that on **Sunday May 31** there will be a GAMES AFTERNOON at the church, for school years 3-9, from 3:30pm to 5pm. Parents would *not* be allowed to enter the building, but only drop children in the car-park. Activities would take place in the foyer of the building. RSVP necessary to Meg. For further enquiry, phone Meg on 0415 255 289. A *tentative* diary date!

AA GROUPS

We are working with AA groups to negotiate their use of the building. Many of the groups are larger than 10 and are preferring to stay meeting as whole groups via zoom, but if adequate precautions are taken some groups may begin meeting again in the hall (but only in the hall).

LARDER

You may recall that Larder was given a grant of \$3000 from Sammy Stamp. In fact, two cheques for \$3000 arrived from Sammy Stamp. It has been confirmed that we are actually recipients of \$6000 in grants from Sammy Stamp this year! Wonderful news! ***Please keep saving any stamps that you receive on any letters or parcels, to contribute back to Sammy!***

HIGH STREET TIMES

Please prepare any articles for the next edition of High Street Times **by this Friday, 22 May**. We are aiming for distribution by Pentecost Sunday, 31 May.

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, keep a bowl for your offerings at home, or mail a cheque to the church office, 16-18 High Street, Frankston 3199.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LINKS

TRADITIONAL (9:00am)

Phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **616 254 006**; Participant ID (none); Password **3199**.

If you want to join using a video link that is also possible by going to

<https://zoom.us/j/616254006>

but the focus will be on people linking by phone.

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

<https://zoom.us/j/556610676>

or phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **556 610 676**; Password **3199**.

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

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 19, 7:30pm Church Council

Thursday 21, 7:30pm Thursday Bible Study Group (by Contemporary zoom)

Friday 22, 2:00pm 'OPEN' conversation group

Friday 22, Items for High Street Times due