

# HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

29 May 2020

Dear Friends,

This week is Pentecost; also the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; also Reconciliation Week, which is particularly poignant this year as it is 20 years since the walks for reconciliation. I had been aware of the significance of Sorry Day this year, but the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity had escaped me until I realised that there was a reason why my morning prayer podcast had been spending so much time in John 17, where Jesus prays for unity for his disciples down through history. As Jesus prays for us, so we too can pray for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, including the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, and the Bunurong people of the Frankston region.

I'm looking forward to the Pentecost service, with both congregations coming together. I encourage you to wear something **RED!** Admittedly, if you connect by phone, we may not SEE it, but it might still add to the setting in your home. If you can do so safely, perhaps also (or instead) have a **candle flame** burning somewhere nearby, a reminder of the presence of the Holy Spirit divided between us and among us.

Just a reminder, this week's service is at **10:00am.**

Connect using the following details (which are the usual details for the *Traditional* service)

**For computer/ipad, go to:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/616254006>

or go to the website [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and click "Join a meeting" and use Meeting ID: **616 254 006**, Password: **3199**

For connection by phone, ring (03) **7018 2005** and use Meeting ID **616 254 006**; Participant ID (none); Password **3199**.

**Kids can connect for a 9:45am start** – so if you phone in between 9:45 and 9:55, don't be surprised to hear unusual activity going on!

## 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](https://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.

## COVID-SAFETY OVERSIGHT GROUP

The latest edition of High Street Times, out now and available on our website under the NEWS tab, contains details about the establishment of the HSUC Covid-safety Oversight Group (CSOG), and the Principles established by the Church Council. The Group met on Wednesday afternoon. After reviewing the principles that we will follow and the latest advice from the Government and the Synod, the things that we have determined at this point include:

1. **We are asking small groups to continue *not to meet*** physically together indoors, either at the church or in homes, at least through June.
2. **No other community groups** are using our facilities at this stage. **We are beginning preparations** including signage, provision of sanitiser, and clarity around allowable numbers. We will be requiring any user groups to sign agreements regarding the conditions under which the facilities can be used. Group will be required to ensure that numbers are within limits, that those who are ill do not attend, and that contact tracing will be possible if necessary.
3. Jacqui will undertake a short course on **Infection Control**.
4. We will monitor whether we will be able to begin **Youth Group and Play Group** activities in term 3 – i.e., no earlier than 13 July.
5. **No groups will yet be allowed to use shared mugs, dishes or morning tea facilities;** hall-hirers would need individuals to bring their own mug and thermos if necessary.

We have a great deal more to work through, and will be meeting regularly to monitor the situation and ensure that anything we do is done safely and in compliance with government requirements. This will be a long-term process.

## 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.

## THIS WEEK

Tuesday 2, 7:30 Contemporary Oversight Group (COG) (using the Contemporary zoom details)  
Thursday 4, 11:00 Ministry Team meeting (using the Contemporary zoom details)  
Thursday 4, 7:30pm Thursday evening Bible Study group (using the Contemporary zoom details)  
Friday 5, 1:30pm Covid-Safety Oversight Group

## NEXT WEEK

The services will be back at the regular times on 7 June – 9:00am Traditional, and 10:40 Contemporary (with a 10:25 start for the kids). We will be sharing communion on that day, for all who would like to do so. More details will be provided next week.