



22 August, 2021

ZOOM - FOR ALL SERVICES

On a tablet or laptop computer:

Go to <https://zoom.us/j/95468493260> and use the password 3199.
(or go to <https://zoom.us/join> and use the meeting number below)

To join on a phone without video

Call (03) 7018 2005

The meeting ID is 954 6849 3260 #

Participant ID – just press #

From the minister

Dear friends,

Psalm 37 is going to be a part of our worship this week – this is the Psalm that starts with the words “Do not fret because of the wicked...”

Over the last few weeks, so much that has been in the news has been grim. A lot of it is beyond our individual ability to directly influence, which can leave us feeling anxious or despairing. Psalm 37 addresses this situation.

The Psalm has several pieces of advice, including “Do not fret... Trust in the Lord, and do good... Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him... Wait for the Lord, keep to his way...”

I look forward to sharing this Psalm this week, as well as the reading from Ephesians about the armour of God, our protection in challenging times.

Apologies to anyone who had trouble connecting last week because of errors in the zoom links on the top of the orders of worship. I'll try very hard to avoid that happening again. If you do suspect that there's a problem in the zoom link, please double check again the link as published in High Street Times or on the website.

On Sunday 29 August, Rev Robert Johnson will be preaching while I attend a meeting of the Assembly Standing Committee (on zoom). Worship will still be on zoom and phones with the usual links. Robert will begin a series from the book of James. On the 29th Robert will preach on James chapter 1, “Practical Christianity”.

God's peace,
David

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

PRAYER TEAM: The Prayer Team can be contacted on 5971 2840 (Marlene) or email HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com

OFFICE HOURS: CHURCH OFFICE CURRENTLY CLOSED – PLEASE EMAIL OR LEAVE A VOICEMAIL
Email: frankstonuc@gmail.com
PH: 97833400.

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.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

A separate document has been sent with this newsletter with some colouring pages to print out, as well as some instructions on having some cardboard and sticktape and someone adept with scissors to work on making "the armour of God" as part of our pre-service activities.

JOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE (JNC)

During the next week, confirmed members of the church will receive an email asking for approval for those who have been nominated for the JNC, as part of the process of following through with a mission study and preparing to call a new minister for after David's departure (May/June next year). The Church Council has gone through a prior discernment process and has previously circulated profiles of the nominees, which will be circulated again with next week's emails. Please respond to the emails with your votes, which will be kept confidential. This was the best method that the Church Council Executive could find. Those who are not on email will be contacted by Jacqui Harris (office secretary) by phone.

BEING WELCOMING

Along with this email is information about a seminar on BEING WELCOMING as a church. The seminar features Rev Mat Harry and John Jeffries OAM, CEO of CBM. The seminar is on Tuesday night at 7:30pm, online, and includes a discussion of:

- * When does a visitor decide is a community is friendly?
- * Who should welcome newcomers?
- * Why do first-time visitors choose not to return?
- * How can we welcome people so they feel they belong?

SOMERS

Unfortunately the Somers Camp has had to be cancelled this year, and will return in safer times.

PRAYERS AROUND THE PRESBYTERY

This weekend we pray for Uniting Eastern Victoria and Southern Victoria Divisions with General Managers Wenda Donaldson, Lee-Anne Chapman, and Michelle Riggalls; and Mission and Ethos Partner Rev Gavin Blakemore.

A prayer from Rev Sharon Hollis, UCA President

God of mercy and compassion,
We pray for the world as across the globe we face the challenges of COVID.
We give you thanks for those who care for the sick,
for those who work on limiting the spread of the disease
and those who develop and administer vaccines.
We remember before you all those affected by COVID,
Comfort those who mourn the death of a loved one,
Heal those who have COVID-19 or suffer the long-term effects of having had COVID.
Sustain those who work in health care, testing and vaccination.
Encourage those who are supporting education remotely,
Console those who must stay at home,
And bless and protect those whose work is essential for our wellbeing.
We long for a world where access to health care and vaccines are shared equitably
Strengthen the efforts of those who work to end COVID for all.
And fill us with a desire to work for justice and care for all. Amen