



10 October, 2021

Dear friends,

It's good to be back after a good holiday-at-home break. I'm grateful for good opportunities for rest, family activities and gardening, and to be refreshed for the opportunities that God will bring in the next few months.

The Church Council met on Tuesday night to carefully consider the possibilities for us as we reach various targets on the Victorian roadmap out of lockdown. Maintaining safety for those most vulnerable in our community remains a key priority.

We are currently in "phase A" on the roadmap, and will be for the next few weeks.

Not very much changes for us at "phase B", when Victoria reaches the target of 70% of 16+ year-olds being fully vaccinated, perhaps in late October. The main difference for the church will be that up to 10 fully vaccinated people, or 5 of unknown vaccination status, will be able to meet together outdoors. Funerals will be about to have up to 50 fully vaccinated people, or 20 with vaccination status unknown.

The bigger changes happen at "phase C", when 80% of 16+ year-olds are fully vaccinated, which could be in early November. From that point we will resume face-to-face services for those fully vaccinated and ask that anyone who is unwell or not vaccinated to participate over zoom (and phones). Funerals will be able to be a bit larger, home visits will be possible, and church-based groups will be able to meet at the church subject to density limits and vaccination status. We will be making sure that we maintain good ventilation when any group is present at the church. The church office will not be open on-site at this time, but those who are vaccinated would be able to the church. We will not be allowing external hall users back at this time; the Church Council will review the situation for hall users at our December meeting.

The final opening up, "phase D", occurs when 80% of those aged 12 and above are vaccinated. At this stage we don't know what the requirements will be at that time.

I'm very happy to talk with anyone about how these plans are shaping up. By all means get in touch with me if you have any questions.

As flagged in the High Street Times, this month we are focused on the Season of Creation, as the whole scope of our world is sometimes not seen in our usual lectionary cycle. This week our focus is the Earth. It is timely for us to take a global perspective, with the Climate Change conference being held in Glasgow at the end of the month. The account of God creating the world in Genesis 1 is a constant reminder to God's people that God's love is for the whole world (see also John 3:16). May we be good stewards of the earth – the land from which we come and in which we live – that all generations may recognise the glory of God in creation (Romans 1:20).

God's peace,
David

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 #

Gill Jenkins is doing the marathon walk for the Heart Foundation in the month of October – 42 Km in 31 days. If you can help with sponsorship / donations please contact Gill on 5978 6362.



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:

As we are now in an extended lockdown, our offerings have become even more important in maintaining our mission. Thank you to those who were on the now discontinued Direct Offering program with UCA funds who have created a regular direct credit/transfer with our Commonwealth Bank account below.

For any queries about this, please contact Keith Holmes on 9789 2575 or 04 1789 2575.

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.

Friends Relocation:

Friends of the Frankston Uniting Church community, with a mixture of reserve and anticipation we inform you that we are soon relocating to be closer to family and to live in the Ballarat area. We thank you for your friendship over the years of our retirement and pray for your continued witness and service in this local community.

Forwarding details available from the Church Office.

Rev Ted and Beryl Curnow

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES TODAY

During the Contemporary service we will be sharing Holy Communion, so please have a small portion of bread and some juice/wine/equivalent with you. There will be singing and story-telling with the children – there is no need to have anything prepared for them, although some pencils and paper might be handy for drawing pictures of God's favourite place in the world ;-)

TUESDAY 'COFFEE' MORNINGS'

Thanks to all who joined me on Zoom last Tuesday.. I will be on Zoom, 10.30-11.30 each Tuesday morning, until we can return to 'Deganis'. It's not quite the same, but pop in for perhaps for 10 mins or so, just so that we can touch base and I can check that you're OK and vice versa!! See you then? Brenda

NB: Please use the usual worship zoom link to connect to this meeting.

PRESBYTERY PRAYERS

This weekend we ask you to pray for Springvale Uniting Church, including minister Paul Dau, and chair Jean Taylor, and St Kilda Uniting Church, including chair Randall Kent, and Alex Sangster who will begin as minister in February 2022. Also keep in your prayers the Zimbabwe Methodist Fellowship who are preparing to join the Uniting Church as a faith community.

The World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle invites us to pray this week for the people of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. Find prayer resources from these countries on the [WCC Prayer Cycle site](#).