

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

21 November 2021

Dear friends,

As the requirements around masks and density limits keep changing, this week we celebrate the Reign of Christ. It's the last Sunday of the church year, before Advent comes quickly upon us next week. I am reminded of Jesus' comment that "the kingdom of God is among/within you", independent of all of the other changes that happen in the world.

There are no longer density limits or number limits on our gatherings, with everyone fully vaccinated or exempt, and masks are no longer compulsory for worship – though by all means if you would like to wear a mask please do, as they do offer an extra layer of safety. If you have symptoms of COVID, it would be appreciated if you could join church on zoom/phone rather than attending in person, and be sure to get tested. We will continue to share worship over zoom/phones so that all who want or need to participate from home can do so. The Church Council is meeting on Tuesday night to discuss further arrangements for hall hiring and office staffing.

Rejoice! The Lord is King: the King of love and the Shepherd of our souls.

David

HAMPER PACKING

Anyone who would like to volunteer for the Hamper Packing Day on Wednesday 8 December is asked to write their name and contact details on the list in the foyer. There are limited numbers of helpers required, and all helpers will need to be double-vaccinated. It will not be possible to simply 'turn up on the day' if you haven't booked in prior, as part of the COVID-Safety management. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance with this!

JNC NEWS

No doubt you will be pleased to learn that the JNC (Joint Nominating Committee) has very recently held its first full meeting at which the steps and processes which need to be followed were clearly explained by its Chairperson, Rev Joy Blamires (Mornington UC Minister). As a key part of this process, as a congregation, we need to discern our mission priorities, based around the relevant Synod Placement Profile form. As a result, it is planned to Email you a copy of a survey we will be conducting between the services at a short special Congregational Meeting on Sunday 5 December beforehand. It is hoped that Elders will be able to assist in accessing completed surveys from those unable to attend church in person on that Sunday. All of this needs to be done at this time to ensure that we can finalise the full Placement Profile in readiness for Church Council approval and subsequent forwarding to both Presbytery (PRC) and Synod (Placements Committee) at their first meetings in 2022. - *Ross Huggard (on behalf of the JNC)*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CELL GROUP.

The fortnightly Bible study group will be continuing on Wednesday 24th November at 8pm at the church. We will be using the booklet, "The Jesus Paul Knew", study 3. If anyone is interested in joining the group, could you please see or contact Keith Holmes (9789 2575). Extra copies of the study booklet are available.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH WORKER

We are looking to employ a **Children and Youth Worker (half time)** and a **Somers Camp Chaplain (0.1)**. Applications for either or both positions close **26 November 2021**. Further details are available on our website, frankstonuniting.org.au under the JOBS tab. Please feel free to make this known to anyone who you think might be appropriate.

CHOIR

The Choir is starting again, meeting at 3:30pm on Wednesdays, with attention to social distancing and with masks for practice (but perhaps not for performance). The choir will begin singing in church from the beginning of December.

OPERATION LARDER

We are looking for donations for the Christmas Hampers this year. We would be very happy to receive donations of the following: Christmas cake (7000gm); Leg ham (450gm); Christmas Pudding (400gm); Tuna (425gm)

TUESDAY 'COFFEE' MORNINGS'

Tuesday Coffee Mornings are back on, at 10:30 at Deganis in Mount Eliza.

OLD BAGS NIGHT

An opportunity to purchase beautiful pre-loved handbags, wallets, scarves and other goodies, and support the Community Support Frankston Christmas Appeal and the Free to Shine Girls Support Program in Cambodia. \$10 admission includes bubbles, cheese and biscuits. Thursday 2 December. To book and for location information phone 0418 541 993 or 0409 419 927.

PRESBYTERY PRAYERS

This weekend we ask you to pray for leaders in the Victoria Tasmania Synod, including Moderator Denise Liersch, General Secretary Mark Lawrence, Associate Secretary Isabel Thomas Dobson, eLM Executive Director Jenny Byrnes, Mission Resourcing Unit Executive Officer Sam Nicholas, and Moderator Elect David Fotheringham.

The World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle invites us to pray this week for the people of East Timor (Timor Leste), Indonesia, Philippines. Find prayer resources from these countries on the [WCC Prayer Cycle site](#).

VACCINATIONS

We are presently focused on ensuring safety for the most vulnerable. For the near future, only those who are fully vaccinated and those with a medical exemption will be able to attend face-to-face worship. We will continue to encourage participation in worship over zoom and phones for those who are unable or are concerned about attending worship face-to-face.

LINKS AND INFORMATION

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)

On a phone without video: call (03) 7018 2005

Meeting ID: 954 6849 3260 #

Participant ID: #

Password: 3199 #

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

PRAYER TEAM: Phone 5971 2840 (Marlene) or email HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com

CHURCH OFFICE: Messages can be left on email: frankstonuc@gmail.com or Phone 9783 3400.

OFFERINGS can be made directly to the FRANKSTON UNITING CHURCH account, BSB 063 133 Account 00800128 with the description OFFERING; or by mailing a cheque to the Treasurer, Keith Holmes, at 31 Lucerne Cresc., Frankston, phone 9789 2575 or 0417 892 575.

Please send any items for the newssheet to frankstonuc@gmail.com by midday on Thursday.