HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS
28 November 2021

Advent could not be better timed! Our first Advent reading this week, Luke 21:25-36, sets the scene of a world distressed by the roaring of the seas and signs in the heavens. This passage shows Jesus looking ahead, and proclaiming to people that in the midst of such times, "raise your heads, for your redemption is near". We may be tempted to despair or disengagement, but Jesus invites us to open our eyes and look for the signs of God's kingdom, which is near.

Let's celebrate the beginning of Advent as we worship face-to-face or using zoom/phones this Sunday! Peace and grace, David

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
We are now advertising for an Office Administrator, for a 15 hour per week position (Monday to Friday, 9:30 – 12:30). A position description is available on our website, frankstonuniting.org.au. Please make this known to anyone who may be suitable with good reception, administration and computer skills. Applications close on 13 December.

HALL HIRING
The Church Council has adopted a new COVID-Safety plan, and has opened the hall and facilities for outside hiring groups so that:
- Essential support groups are able to meet, without checking vaccination status, with numbers limited by the 4 person per square metre rule
- Other regular groups are able to meet with no number limits but with the requirement that all attendees must be vaccinated or exempt
- We are not currently accepting most new or casual bookings from outside the church, until we have a new Office Administrator in place

HIGH STREET TIMES
The latest copy of High Street Times (for December and January) is available for collection in the foyer of the church. Any copies that aren't picked up this weekend will be posted out, so if you are present in the church and can see some that you could deliver to anyone who isn't in the church, please take them on Sunday!

WITH LOVE TO THE WORLD
The current issue of this lectionary-based daily devotional is now available. Subscriptions for 2022 ($20 for 4 issues) are now being received. Please pay directly to Keith Holmes or via a marked envelope in the offering bowl or a named transfer to the church bank account.

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!

THIS WEEK
Tuesday Coffee Mornings are back on, at 10:30 at Deganis in Mount Eliza.
COG will meet on Tuesday 30 November at 7:30pm, via zoom.
The Choir meets on Wednesday afternoons at **3:00pm** – **NOTE THE NEW TIME**

JNC NEWS

There will be a short congregational meeting on Sunday 5 December between the services, to conduct a survey of members of the congregation regarding our Mission priorities, as part of the process of preparing a profile form for calling a new Minister. Please contact your Elder or a member the leadership team if you would like access to the survey and are not able to attend on 5 December. Surveys can be completed and collected over the week following 5 December.

PRESBYTERY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Presbytery is looking for someone to take up the role of **Presbytery Communications Officer** in early 2022, which includes editing Newsbeat and helping with the Presbytery website and Facebook page. The role is part-time (0.3) and has some flexibility, noting that we have monthly deadlines. See the position description on the Presbytery's Positions Available web page, https://ucappep.org/positions-available/. Applications close on Wednesday December 15.

PRESBYTERY PRAYERS

This weekend we ask you to pray for the Faith Communities recognised by the Presbytery last Wednesday: So Mang Church in South Melbourne, including minister Jun Ho Back, assistant pastors Hwa Young So, Sue Hyoun (Sarah) Back, and Gil Dong Yu, and Melbourne Methodist Church in Zimbabwe, St Kilda, including steward Evelyn Mavodza.

 The World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle invites us to pray this week for the people of Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore. Find prayer resources from these countries on the WCC Prayer Cycle site.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

Port Phillip East Presbytery is partnering with Dayspring, Hampton Uniting Church, to host a contemplative day of worship and personal reflection, with opportunities for spiritual direction and contemplative walks (labyrinth & cliffside beach walk), on Monday December 13. There is a limit of 25 people. Lunch is provided. This is designed for **any people linked with the Uniting Church**. Register online at dayspring.eventbrite.com.au

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 #

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.

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.