



# HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH

Sunday 24th March 2019

**Traditional Worship - 9:00am**

**Contemporary Worship - 10:40am**

**STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY** *THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT*

**EMBRACING ALL PEOPLE** *WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION*

**CONNECTING YOUNGER GENERATIONS** *IN GOD'S LOVE*



## MINISTRY TEAM

MINISTER: **Rev David Fotheringham** (0407 861 092)

PASTORAL CARER: **Rev Arthur Poole** (0448 326 971)

YOUTH COORDINATOR: **Hannah Dungan** (0422 628 028)

MONASH UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN: **Mandy Lake**

FIND US AT: **[www.frankstonuniting.org.au](http://www.frankstonuniting.org.au)**

EMAIL: **[frankstonuc@gmail.com](mailto:frankstonuc@gmail.com)**

CHURCH OFFICE: **Tuesday—Friday, 9am-1pm, ph. 9783 3400**

## FOR OUR PRAYERS:

Please pray for David Russell, Audrey La Brooy, Eric McNally, Gwen Taylor, Naomi Briggs, Fiona Jones, Marg Shilton and James Mathews.



Following the calendar of prayers for congregations and ministries around the Presbytery, today we pray for Endeavour Hills congregation and Rev Robin Yang.

*Prayer requests can be emailed to [HSUCprayer@googlegroups.com](mailto:HSUCprayer@googlegroups.com), or phone Marlene on 9781 5351. Requests will be circulated to a small group on the prayer chain, and treated confidentially.*

### DISASTER RELIEF APPEAL

Australia has just come out of its hottest summer on record with rainfall well below average. Widespread drought and heatwaves have caused great hardship across much of the land, with crops failed or not planted, and farmers selling off precious breeding stock which are no longer able to be fed. Fires have devastated large areas in Tasmania, Victoria and NSW. In the wake of Cyclone Oma, monsoonal rain has caused extensive flooding in and beyond Townsville, causing losses to stock which – until that time – were being nursed through drought conditions.

The Uniting Church is in all these places and continually seeks to bring support and relief in disaster through its congregations, presbyteries and a range of ministries which reach out to people in need.

Launching a National Appeal, President of the Uniting Church Dr Deidre Palmer urged Uniting Church members to give generously to the National Disaster Relief Fund. This fund supports the work of disaster relief in every state and territory.

**For more information, go to**

**<https://assembly.uca.org.au/presidents-appeal>**

next CHAOS gathering for March will be **Saturday 30th March** (we would have gone for the weekend before, but its a bit busy for a few of us). Everyone welcome!

We will go for a BBQ and hope that its still reasonable weather!

So that means please bring your own meat/chicken/etc. for the BBQ and drinks, plus either a salad OR a dessert to share.  
6.30pm, Saturday 30th March, 102 Highfield Drive, Langwarrin South. Ph. 5971 5028

**Congratulations** to Tim, Penny and Alexander on the birth of their son and brother, Louis James Wittick. All are well!

### **Election of Church Councillors and Elders**

At the AGM last Sunday, the following were re-elected to the Church Council:

- Robert Downing
- Keith Holmes
- Ross Huggard
- Alan Jenkins

The following new elders were elected:

- Daryl Groves
- Shirley Groves
- Jen Johnson
- Fiona Jones

Congratulations to all! Please keep these and all of the leaders in our church in your prayers.

### **WESTERNPORT CRAFT EXPO**

The Westernport Craft Expo will be held at the Hastings Community Hub on Saturday 6 April from 10am - 4pm. Hastings Uniting Church have warmly invited members of High Street Uniting Frankston (and friends!) to come along!

### **SYNOD 2019**

Nominations are open for membership of the Synod meeting which will be held at Box Hill Town Hall from 5-9 July. People wishing to attend are asked to complete a nomination form and return it to Ian Firth, Secretary of the Presbytery of Port Phillip East, by 1 April. Nominations are open to Confirmed Members of the church. The Presbytery is able to send a specified number of lay and ordained people to the Synod meeting. Nomination forms are available on the HSUC website. Please speak to David or to anyone who has previously attended Synod for more information.

### **Wednesday Night Cell Group:**

Continues this week on Wednesday night (27th March) at Kay and Murray's home at 5 Marrilac Court at 8pm. We will be continuing our Lenten Study, "Led by the Spirit" by the Rev. Robert Bos, based on readings from Luke's Gospel. For further details, see Keith Holmes (9789 2575).

Traditional worship  
24 March 2019, 9:00am

Welcome

Introit: *As the deer pants for the water (TiS 703)*

Call to worship

We sing: *Gather us in (TiS 474)*

Prayers of adoration and confession

Declaration of forgiveness

Passing the peace

Introduction

We sing: *God has a table (TiS 544)*

Bible reading: Matthew 22: 1-10

Anthem: *Come to the banquet*

Bible reading: Matthew 22: 11-14

Sermon

Offering

We sing: *Just as I am (TiS 584)*

Dedication of the offering

Notices and sharing

Prayers of the people

Healing prayers

The Lord's prayer

We sing: *Jesus my Lord (TiS 656)*

Blessing

We sing: *Now to him who loved us, gave us  
(TiS 771)*

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP 10:40AM  
24th March 2019

PRE-SERVICE SONGS:            Invitation  
    Together to celebrate

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: Worship Connections

SONG:                                People get ready

READING:                         Matthew 22:1-14

SONG:                                I cannot come to the banquet

MESSAGE:                         David

Song & Offering:                Invitation

COMMUNION

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Song:                                Come to the banquet

BENEDICTION:

SONG:                                Our God

# This Week's Diary...

MONDAY 25 - LARDER - 8:30AM

BAND PRACTICE - Church - 8:00PM

TUESDAY 26 - WALKIE TALKIES - Softball ground, Robinsons Rd- 8:30AM

WEDNESDAY 27 - VOICES OF FRANKSTON - Church & Hall - 10:00AM

COMMUNITY BBQ - Verandah - 12:00PM

CHURCH CHOIR PRACTICE - Church - 3:30PM

THURSDAY 28 - WALKIE TALKIES - Eden Gardens Mt Eliza - 8:30AM

ELDERS MEETING - Blue Room - 1:00PM

FRIDAY 29 - PLAY GROUP - Back Hall - 9:15AM

LENTEN SILENCE - Chapel - 10:00am

SUNDAY 31 - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP - 9:00AM

YOUTH-LED CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP - 10:40AM

## 24th March

**Bible Reading: Matthew 22:1-14, Psalm 45, 6-7**

### TRADITIONAL SERVICE 9AM

**Elders:** Marlene Thresher, Dawn Peacock

**Steward:** Jenni Johnson, Mick Johnson

**Morning Tea:** Kay Burdett, Ali Vagenas, Stanley Zhungu, Viola Zhungu

**Data Projector:** Karin

**Bible Reading:** Elaine Kenyon

**Flowers:** Edna Runciman

### CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:40AM

**Steward:** Beryl **Welcomer:** Marg **Hospitality:** Marilyn & Santhira

## 31st March

**Bible Reading: Matthew 25:1-13, Psalm 43: 3-4**

### TRADITIONAL SERVICE 9AM

**Elders:** Marlene Thresher, Dawn Peacock

**Steward:** Rona Russell, Heather Rawson

**Morning Tea:** Bev Fowler, Pat Johnson, Jess Williams, Heather Rawson

**Data Projector:** Diana

**Bible Reading:** Rona Russell

**Flowers:** Beryl & Marg

### CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:40AM

**Steward:** Kate **Welcomer:** Jackie **Hospitality:** Marilyn & Santhira



you're invited to the

# Garden Party

Hosted by LEGS

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH

2:00PM TO 4:00

POOLE'S PLACE IN STOTTS LANE

Tea, COFFEE AND SCONES WITH JAM AND CREAM

COST: \$10

LIVE MUSIC, GARDEN WANDERING, RAFFLES

TICKETS ON SALE IN THE CHURCH FOYER

BETWEEN SERVICES.

ALL PROCEEDS TO CHURCH OUTREACH PROJECTS

## **LENTEN SILENCE**

Fridays during Lent

Can we give up words and noise

for twenty minutes a week, to join together

in silence

before God?

Come and go as you feel you need.

10:00am in the Chapel.

## **ELDERS**

The next elders meeting

will be on Thursday 28th

at 1:00pm in the Blue

Room.

The next edition of the **HST** will be out next Sunday for submissions of articles please send to the office by Tuesday morning.

## **May fair Saturday 11 May – 8.30am to 1.00pm**

The fete committee has started planning and has requested your kind donations of any of the following items:

- Could members please start make plant cuttings for the plant stall
- Donations for Mother's Day hampers would be much appreciated: chocolates, gourmet items, champagne, gift cards, luxury bath products etc. Baskets will be welcome too.
- Donations for the White Elephant stall - we are not allowed to sell clothes, mattresses, electrical goods or entertainment units. Please donate these items to a charity shop. More details about when goods can be delivered to church will follow later.
- Donations for our book stall: books, vinyl records and CD's
- All donated items must be saleable, clean, and in good condition. This includes pre-owned books.

Thanks in advance. ~Kay, Bronwen, Marlene, Jill, Karin, Graham & Dawn, Robert L.

## Invited to a wedding banquet

At the recent World Day of Prayer, the Bible reading was Luke's version of Jesus' parable of the wedding banquet. Jesus loved feasts, and he probably told various versions of the story. Today we hear one from Matthew. (Matthew 22: 1-14)

The King is giving a wedding banquet for his son, but those who were first on the invitation list didn't bother to come. So the king gets his servants to go and bring in everyone they could find to come and join the feast. In Luke's story, the focus is on bringing in the poor and the lame; in Matthew's version, all of the people who could be found are gathered in, both the bad and the good. It is clear that God's love and grace extends to all.

We are pretty comfortable with this story to that point – God is generous and loving and inclusive of all.

But pushed too far, there's a problem. God loves all people – yes. But does that mean that God wants people to stay exactly as they are? What about abusers, or those who commit hate crimes? God loves them – yes! But does God want them to continue in such patterns?

God loves all people, including the bad and the good, but the point of God's love is draw people to be transformed and healed in *their* loving, as well.

So the story in Matthew's gospel has an ending which we don't expect, but which actually makes sense. If someone rejects and refuses that kind of healing and transformation, rejecting that love and refusing to change, then they are indicating that they don't really want to stay at the banquet. If they won't dress for the wedding, what else can God do?

God's peace,  
David