

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS – web version

24 April 2020

Dear friends,

Apart from some health issues (which are all good now), over the last week the kids in my house have been adapting to the new routine of online school. If nothing else, making connections with their friends and their teachers over the internet has been a helpful disruption to their relative enclosure. I'm very grateful for all of the teachers, and all kinds of professionals, who are adapting as best they can; and very appreciative of the technology which enables us to keep in touch. Meanwhile, working from home has meant lunches with the kids in the backyard, and more opportunities to notice the magpies in the birdbath. Amongst the difficulties of social distancing, there are still opportunities for gratitude. In worship this week there will be an opportunity to bring to mind some of those things for which we are thankful, recognising the gifts that God gives us now, even as we pray for the world and for God's kingdom.

This week's reading, Acts 3:1-21, takes in a particular act of healing in the context of the broader story of the grace of Jesus and the promise of the Kingdom – the "universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets". We continue to pray and take actions for the sake of the world in the context of our membership in that Kingdom of God, which breaks in around us and for which we pray.

Peace and grace,
David

ANZAC DAY

* You may be aware that there is a widespread invitation over social media to "stand" somewhere at 6am – maybe at your letterbox, your front door, or in your lounge room - at 6am and remember all those affected by war. If you do this, you may like to post a photo on social media with hashtags like *#LightUptheDawn #ANZACSpirit #ANZACDay2020*

* Senior ADF Chaplain Rev Charles Vesely has pre-recorded a special ANZAC Day service for Uniting Church members. This service will be streamed on the Uniting Church in Australia Facebook page at 9am Australian Eastern Time on ANZAC Day.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* During the Prayers of the People this week, you will have the opportunity to light a candle as you consider people for whom you want to pray. If you would like to do that, please have a candle and matches with you.

* This week we will introduce a new song, "Teach me to dance", by Graham Kendrick. You might like to search up various versions of that on YouTube prior to Sunday, if you want to get the idea of how it goes.

TIPS FOR ZOOM

Have you been having trouble dialling in to our worship meetings? Or have you been having trouble with your microphone on your computer, and want to know how to use your phone for audio and your computer for video? Have you been confused by what you see on the screen? Along with this newsheet I've attached a set of tips that might be useful for you! Have a look – it's not a complete guide, but it has a few hints about the most frequently encountered difficulties that will hopefully help.

“HI NEIGHBOUR” CARDS

Frankston City Council is prepared to provide interested people with a small of “Hi Neighbour” cards, to drop around to neighbours (paying heed to social distancing), with offers to either pick up and drop off groceries, phone for a chat, run urgent errands, share extra supplies or walk a dog. To get involved, register on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Neighbourdaycards>, and a bunch of cards will be posted to you. For more information about how the Council is supporting the community go to www.frankston.vic.gov.au/COVIDcommunitySupport.

FOOD DONATION BINS

There are donation bins for non-perishable or long-life food items at Coles and Woolworths in the Bayside Shopping Centre, and a few other locations. Those location will hopefully expand over time. We are unable to collect or distribute food items at the church at present.

HIGH STREET TIMES

We are planning for the next edition of High Street Times to be out in time for Mother’s Day on May 10, which will mean posting late in the previous week. If you have any material that you would like to propose for it, please send it in to frankstonuc@gmail.com by Monday 27 April. There may be limits on what we can print.

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, keep a bowl for your offerings at home, or mail a cheque to the church office, 16-18 High Street, Frankston 3199.

WORSHIP LINKS (the same every week)

TRADITIONAL (9:00am)

Phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **616 254 006**; Participant ID (none – just press #); Password **3199**.

If you want to join using a video link that is also possible by going to <https://zoom.us/j/616254006> but the focus will be on people linking by phone.

CONTEMPORARY (children from 10:25, main worship from 10:40)

<https://zoom.us/j/556610676>

or phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **556 610 676**; Password **3199**.

WEBSITE:

Reflections accessible in text format from Sunday afternoons.

<https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/>