

DECEMBER 2020

# HIGH STREET TIMES

Connecting Younger Generations IN GOD'S LOVE Embracing All People WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION Strengthening Community THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT



HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH, 16-18 HIGH STREET, FRANKSTON

WWW.FRANKSTONUNITING.ORG.AU



MINISTER: Rev David - ANNUAL LEAVE 1-14 December, and 28 December to 25 January MINISTER: Rev Brenda Cooper (0405 194 327) 400TH & CHILDREN WORKER: Hannah Dungan (0422 628 028)

MONASH UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN: Mandy Lake CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Jacqui Harris FIND US AT: www.frankstonuniting.org.au EMAIL: frankstonuc@gmail.com CHURCH PH: 9783 3400

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday & Friday Mornings

# FOR OUR PRAYERS.....

For our prayers...

Each month, High Street Times publishes the names of some of the people who are associated with our congregation, but who find it difficult or are not able to attend on Sunday mornings. At the moment, none of us can gather physically at the church, so we are praying for everyone!

Nevertheless we especially remember the following:
Shiela Knoop, Barbara O'Malley, Gwen Paxino, Audrey Smith, Glad
Thuraisingha, Audrey LaBrooy, Ruth Conn, Fay Dungey, Marie de Silva,
Lola Coupe, Eileen McCarty, Molly Maughan, Pat Johnson, and Ruth Poole.

Pray for those recovering from surgery, including Fiona Jones and Howard Kerr.

Pray for Rona's extended family after the death of her niece Roberta.

Pray for Cheryl's family Elsie, Lyall and Ray.

Pray for Jenni Forbes, with surgery on her ankle pending.

Pray for Patti Scully, currently in St John of God.

Pray for Eileen Carolus, her health and her family.

Pray for Marlene Thresher's brother Fred and his wife Diane.

Pray for Naomi Briggs and the community in which she is providing care.

Pray for Marlene Thresher and for Arthur Poole, negotiating house moves.

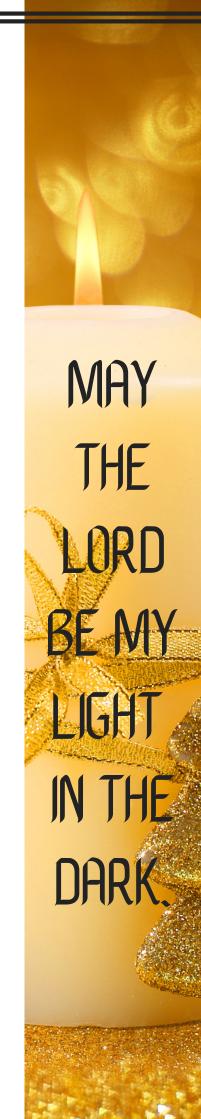
Pray for all those who have loved ones with whom they have much reduced contact.

Pray for those who are struggling with isolation, or the loss of employment.

Pray for year 12 students, for examiners and all involved in the assessment process.

Pray for wisdom as it becomes possible to engage in gathered activities and community service over the coming weeks.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend ourselves and all those whom we love, trusting in your love and grace for us in Jesus, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.





# FROM THE MINISTER...



Dear friends in Christ.

The season of Advent is the season of Anticipation. This year we can understand that in a different way, because nothing is quite as it usually has been, but we anticipate the work of God nevertheless. We have become used to plans being disrupted on short notice and uncertainty about who will be able to gather where. We know that Christmas is coming, but this year, do we really know quite what shape it will take? How will we see God at work in our celebrations and our sharing?

This is perhaps more in line with Biblical anticipation. For the initial birth of Christ, people had the idea that the Messiah was coming, but did they really expect God to take human flesh, as a child born in a manger? Even when Mary and Joseph knew that there was a baby coming, did they know that they would end up in Bethlehem when the time came for his birth?

And yet, through it all, God was working for the hope and salvation of the world, entering the world in humility and simplicity, to share with us the good news of God's kingdom and to lead us into the fullness of life-with-God.

We plan to celebrate this year with several different outdoor events — a Traditional Carols, a Family Christmas, and some Carolling in the street. There is information about each of those events in this edition of High Street Times. Please register if you would like to attend, either through the link or by phoning the church office (9783 3400) because at this stage the numbers for each event are limited to 50. Then on Christmas Day we will share in a combined service of worship, for which you can join in by phone or by video-link (zoom) — again, look for the details in this High Street Times.

Enjoy the new possibilities we have for small social gatherings, as the weather warms up! And as we start meeting

together in new ways, look with anticipation towards the new ways in which God will work though us because of our learnings and prayer in the trials and adaptations of this year.

Peace and grace,

David

#### **WORSHIP LINKS**

#### **TRADITIONAL**

(9:00am)

Phone: (03) 7018 2005;

Meeting 1D: 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. https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/

#### **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: 800128

Description: OFFERING

Alternatively, keep a bowl for your offerings at home, or mail a cheque to the church Treasurer at 31 Lucerne Crescent, Frankston 3199









#### A special Advent announcement!

At both services on Sunday 29 November, special warm wishes were conveyed to David and Robyn for their impending wedding on Saturday 5 December, which many members of the congregation will be eagerly watching online live. A presentation of a card and gift cards, as donated by many of you, was made at that time.

On your behalf, the following was recited:

#### An ode to David and Robyn

Our ever-smiling Minister David
Is an the cusp of matrimanial bliss
With his belaved Robyn will he freely kiss.
Sadly we will anly gaze from our screens
Yet most assuredly we wish them boundless jay
And God's rich blessings in abundance.
We await seeing the married couple together
As they commence their wondrous loving journey- oh
boy!
Ross Huggard, Chairperson

Ross Huggard, Chairperson HSUC Church Council



### OPERATION LADER INC. UPDATE

#### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 17TH 2020**

#### **Presidents Report**

Welcome to the 38th Annual Meeting of Operation Larder. This report for 2020 is like no other Annual Report and I hope it is never repeated. It has been a very challenging year.

Covid-19 Pandemic has challenged all our lives and how Larder operates. Initially we had no access to food supplies and delivered every last item of stock to Community Support Frankston (CSF), it was chaos.

The governement made a substantial grant to Food Bank Victoria and a new system emerged. Food Bank set up an account for Larder and we were allocated a fortnightly delivery of whatever was available to be collected from Dandenong. As our members are mainly senior citizens and in the high risk category we had to rely on our younger member Julie Burnham. A big thankyou to Julie and her family. Without Julie we would have been lost. Julie collects the delivery for both Larder and CSF and takes it straight to CSF.

As this food comes via FoodBank Victoria some is free and the remainder at a considerably reduced cost which is just as well as out fundraising is extremely limited. Philantropic organisations are overwhelmed with requests of support and a lack of funds.

We have recevied grants from the Andrews Foundation, Frankston City Council and a new supported the Charitable Aspley Caring through Service (ACTS) Organisation in Queensland.

Because of the closure of the church for worship there are no donations in the barrel, no cheese club response, no annual appeal, no fete and no fundraising proceeds. The need is considerable as you can imagine. CSF's call rate is in excess of 25,000.

Thanks go to all who give time and effort to support Larder. Secretary Nylma, Treasurer Graeme and Julie. We are doing our best to maintain the support that we have pledged.

Dawn Peacock – President Operation Larder Inc.

#### LARDER FINANCING

Where does the money come from to finance Operation Larder Inc.?

As well as the local fund raising efforts we apply for grants from Philantropic organisation The Andrews Foundation granted us \$10,000. The Andrews Foundation is a perpetual Charitable Trust establised in 1984 at the instigation Mr Ronald Clifford Andrews who was a quarry operator and a successfull business man in the Gippsland area. He sought to share the benefits of his wealth with the community. Upon his death in 2003 the Andrews Foundation was set up.

There are many areas of interest that can apply for funding each year and Larder has received grants on many occasions.

The Colliers Foundation is another Philantropic group we apply to grants for. Jenkin Collier arrived in Melbourne from Wales in 1852 aged 23. He committed himself to making Australia a better place. He entered the building trade and became involved in Railway construction. He was actively involved in Pastoral development in Queensland making his fortune in the boom time of the 1870's. Jenkin Collier died at the age of 91 leaving his estate to his three daughters, Alice, Edith and Annette. The three sisters never married and lived frugal lives making generous donations to many organisations. On the death of Edith the last of the sisters, the Collier Charitable Trust was established with seven avenues of support. Larder has benefited from the avenue devoted to supporting needy groups.

Another avenue is the support of religious groups in maintaining thier properties. Our church has received a grant of \$10,000 to help finance the repair of the Church Organ.

We thank God for the generosity of these two families the Andrews and the Collier families that are still helping the community after all these years.

Share is an organisation within the Uniting Church. Share appeals for donations from the U.C Congregations. They distribute these funds in the form of Grants to UC Outreach Programs. This year Larder is a recipient of a Grant.

Frankston City Council is a regular contributor to Larder through their Community Grants Program and the Christable Fund associated with the Mayor's Charitable Trust. Larder has also received a special Council grant in the light of the Corona recovery.

Our sincere thanks to all our supporters.



## CHRISTMAS HAMPER PACKING FOR 2020

Once again Larder will pack 350 Christmas Hampers this year. They will be distributed by Community Support Frankston (CSF) to those in Frankston in need. Making thier Christmas a bit brighter in this challenging time.

Due to the current COVID-19 Virus we are not able to have all those who usually help pack the hampers. To comply with the current regulations the committee and Steve Phillips at CSF wil invite the number of helpers that regulations allow in the church buildings.





Who has supplied OPERATION LARDER INC. with over \$6,600 since its inception some years ago.?????

#### RITCHIE'S COMMUNITY BENEFIT CARD HOLDERS

The Community Benefit Program has transitioned to a new Ritchie's Card.) A card is available free from any participating Ritchie's Stores. As a new system has been introduced, it is now necessary for all holders of cards to re-register recording OPERATION LARDER INC. as your preferred beneficiary. Download the app or apply on line at www.ritchies.com.au/loyalty, and select Operation Larder Inc as your beneficiary. To participate in benefits a new card must be obtained.

Congregation members who are not members are asked to consider joining up for a RITCHIE'S CARD recording OPERATION LARDER INC as their local beneficiary This is an option to raise funds in our aim to help the needy of Frankston. Your local Store will be able to assist you with any enquiries.

RITCHIES

CELEBRATING

VEARS

or

contact www.ritchies.com.au for more information Your registration would be most appreciated



Envelopes are enclosed with the High Street Times in lieu of the pews.

Donations can be sent directly to the Chirsmas Bowl in the envelopes or directed to me through the church bank account (notation "bowl").

There will not be a collection at the hub this year - too chaotic with renovations.

#### **Keith Holmes**

- 97892575

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL 2020

#### WORSHIP in 2021

Throughout January at least, we will continue to worship with a Traditional service at 9am, and a Contemporary service at 10:40 am (Kids starting at 10:25), using the links below. Please see the links on the below.

If you have been having trouble connecting with worship in this way, please contact the office, your elder (Traditional service) or a contemporary service leader, and we can try to find a way to pair you up with someone else who is connecting to the service, in their house or yours. At present there are limitations on sharing food, singing, and density limits for gathering at the church, and we retain a concern for those who for health, mobility or distance reasons would struggle to gather physically. There is a small group working on ways that the Traditional service will meet in the first half of 2021, combining the benefits of physical gathering and the use of phone/zoom connections. Similarly, the Contemporary Oversight Group is planning for the first half of 2021, with the initial plans including having monthly gatherings in different (primarily outdoor) locations for worship. This will all continue to be developed over the next couple of months.

#### **USE OF THE CHURCH**

Currently the church buildings can be used by groups of at most twenty people, limited by the numbers permissible within a given room. If you want to meet at the church, please book it in with Jacqui in the office (Wednesday or Friday mornings) so that cleaning can be ensured and overlaps avoided. It is no longer a requirement that a member of the group complete Infection Control Training, but it is still necessary to ensure that those who are unwell do not attend, that numbers are limited, that the attendance record is filled in, and that proper hygiene protocols are observed.

The density limits for the rooms of the church are:

Foyer: 5 Main Hall: 32 Back Hall: 15 Blue Room: 11 Green Room: 8 Church: 52

Big Kitchen: 3

Office Area: 2 per office

Chapel: 4

Small Kitchen: Currently Closed

#### **SOUP KITCHEN UPDATE**

We don't need any more Care Kits just at the moment. Numbers at the Soup Kitchen have been very small, and so we are assessing whether to

change tack, or perhaps pause and aim for starting when the weather turns cold again in Autumn.

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# SNAPSHOTS OF LIFE DURING COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

## YVONNE MITCHELL

#### What has been different about your life during the restrictions?

A little bit about me first! My husband Craig and I moved from South Australia in May 2019. Our three grown up daughters are still in SA, and we saw them last in Jan 2020. I work in a Kindergarten in Mordialloc, ordinarily 4 days a week. I was able to continue working throughout the year, but we had very few children on site, and for most of 3rd term I worked from home 3 days a week, helping with remote learning, and trying to stay in touch with children and families. Teaching without being physically with children is very different. A few trips back to SA have been postponed, so not seeing my girls for so long has been a new thing. My husband has also been working at home so negotiating work space has been a new experience.

#### What has been the most challenging?

Craig's brother passed away earlier in the year in Brisbane. Craig was able to be in Brisbane beforehand but was held in quarantine for 12 days after his brother died. I was here, and our daughters in SA. It is hard to be separated from family when tragic things happen. Thinking of all the people in the world who have also experienced grief this year is very sobering, and a weight to our hearts that I think we all share.

#### What have you been doing while spending time at home?

- Developing some new IT skills, through necessity, not choice!
- Having fun making little animations on my phone to share with the children.
- Walking my dogs lots and taking photos of interesting things in nature.
- Reading crime, Rob Roy (my husband may be related), also Michelle Obama's autobiography 'Becoming', and 'Glastonbury'- the story of the early Christian church in the UK.
- Trying to develop a garden in the yard where trees have recently been removed.
- Lots of zooming!

#### What has been the best, or a good, thing?

Newly learnt skills, watching gardens spring to life, the support of family and friends, laughs with the church community on zoom and getting to know people through break out groups, being able to dress down for church (right down to the pink slippers), clean air, some good social change for the better - the need for which has been highlighted by the pandemic, and fine examples of people caring for strangers. Also seeing people's creativity and resilience.

#### What are you looking forward to with eased restrictions?

Giving my SA daughters lots of hugs in about two week's time. Yau!!

# UPDATE ON ABUSE AND THE SOLUTIONS BEING USED BY JAGRITI BHALAI KENDRA

by Dr Alma Ram

To begin with I thought we should find out what the dictionary says is abuse:

"Cruel, violent or unfair treatment of someone. This can be physical or mental."

In our area we will share some women's stories and how we deal with the situations. The latest update of Punjab is 42.7 percent use opium and 18.9 percent use alcohol. So you can observe that this is a major issue.

Recently we were taking a meeting in Amritsar, where one of the ladies was sitting in fear. On gentle probing it was discovered she lived in a house with her only son, who was married and was a drug addict. He has been in and out of rehabilitation centre. He steals money from the home and beats up his wife and mother. The neighbours and people went to the police to remove him but the police also were hesitant to do anything.

Background history was the mother was very rich but the son squandered the wealth so now she lives on what people give. Due to the sons drug addiction and the fact he also fights with anyone who tries to help the mother or wife.

OUR SOLUTION - We report to senior police and take help of an advocate. For emergency we smuggle food to the family. RESULT - He is now in remand awaiting court case

#### 2. From Garyala

A young woman was sitting with the other women with a child about 2 years. The other women said about this lady. That after delivery her husband did take not her to his home. The normal tradition is the girl goes to her maternal home for delivery of baby and then husband takes her back to her in

laws home (his parents.) This had not happened, but husband came to her home on some nights. She then found out he had married another woman! She had done nothing, nor her mother, thinking it was her fault.

SOLUTION - We discussed all problems do not always start from the women, therefore if we have done no wrong we can't blame ourselves. We then discussed with her how she was married and did she have a certificate of marriage? It was discovered she had been married in a gurudwara [Sikh Temple] but never taken the certificate. We encouraged her to get the certificate as she has a photo of the marriage. Then go to the advocate and sort this dear man for bigamy, and get some money to bring up her child.

Since this is a common issue in this block, on the 23rd October we had a meeting to teach the need of certificates: From birth certificate, Marriage certificate, Death certificates all counter signed by the government officer.

We are still working on this problem in Garyala and Amritsar Violence and abuse of the elderly We often have these problems. Unfortunately abuse is increasing and also violence against these ladies. Often their own children are the culprits.

So we hear of it when the matter is now out of control for the victim. We begin by discussion with the abuser. If they don't listen (which is frequent) the whole JBK group will go to the home. Often that is enough. They realize that she is not alone. If still problem we go to the police for help.

When it comes to property we take the women to the advocate who we know is sympathetic to the widow, or single women.

Picture:
Dr Alma Ram and
Ninder (HIV/AIDS worker)
visit women in Gariyala - a new village for the JBK project.





Rev Denise Liersch Moderator Level 2, Wesley Place 130 Lonsdale St MELBOURNE VIC 3000

T +61 3 9116 1422

moderator@victas.uca.org.au

25 November 2020

This letter has been sent to Church Council Secretaries, Ministers, Ministry Agents in Placement, Presbytery Chairs, Presbytery Secretaries, Presbytery Ministers, Chairs and CEOs of Uniting, Uniting AgeWell and UEthical

Dear Friends,

Greetings in Christ.

We write to bring to you long-awaited and very good news.

The Moderator Nominating Committee has completed the task that was requested of it. They have considered all the nominations for Moderator 2022-2025 submitted by the Church, and have spent time in deep and prayerful discernment together, along with those nominated. They now bring the names of three nominees for Moderator 2022-2025, for the consideration and discernment of the Synod meeting to be held in February 2021.

It is with a sense of joy, promise and hope for the Church, that we introduce those three nominees to you now:

Rev David Fotheringham High Street Uniting Church, Frankston Rev Rachel Kronberger Pilgrim Uniting Church, Yarraville

Rev Cameron McAdam The Village Church - Mt Eliza Uniting Church

As it happens, all three nominees are Ministers of the Word and currently in full-time congregational placements. They each have significant gifts, graces and experience in ministry in the life of the wider Church and community in a variety of ways. While this letter brings a very simple introduction, there will be opportunities to come to know each of them a little more over the coming months in the lead up to the 2021 Synod, in particular in the February 2021 edition of Crosslight and in the Moderator Nominating Committee report to the 2021 Synod meeting.

On behalf of all of us, we would like to express our thanks to the Nominees and the Moderator Nominating Committee for their commitment and deep discernment. We are grateful for their work in meeting, working and praying together; to consider this important role in leading the Church spiritually and pastorally over 2022 to 2025; and for bringing these three nominations for the Synod's discernment and election at our Synod meeting in Feb 2021.

We invite you to pray for David, Rachel and Cameron over the coming months, as well as for their families and friends, their congregations and communities, and for those who love and support them over this time. And we also invite you to pray for the Church and the members of the Synod meeting – for the guidance and wisdom of the Spirit of God as we discern our way together.

Blessings, grace and peace,

Danier Lier

Rev Denise Liersch

Moderator

Dan Wootton Chairperson

Moderator Nominating Committee

(for Moderator 2022-2025)



# **Church Office Hours - Christmas**

The church office will close on

December 23rd at 1pm and re-open on January 13th January.

Emma Lindenburg will be covering Jacqui whilst she is on annual leave. If you need to contact the church during this time please do so via email. at frankstonuc@gmail.com or leave a phone voicemail.



# BLUE CHRISTMAS

The holidays can be difficult when you are missing someone. It can feel like the whole world is happy and you alone are grieving.

Blue Christmas is a time of remembrance, comfort and hope. There will be quiet music, prayers, readings and an acknowledgement of those we have lost.

This will be followed by coffee, cake and an opportunity to share with others who are feeling 'blue' around Christmas time.

Remember...You are not alone this Christmas.

BYO chair or picnic rug and a photo of your loved one to display for the evening



SUNDAY DEC 20th at 8.30pm Beauty Park, Frankston



This event is supported by Chasing Change, Frankston City Council and Support After Suicide For more information go to https://www.facebook.com/Chasingchangespn/





# Family Christmas Celebration









Followed by a picnic. BYO chairs, food & drinks.

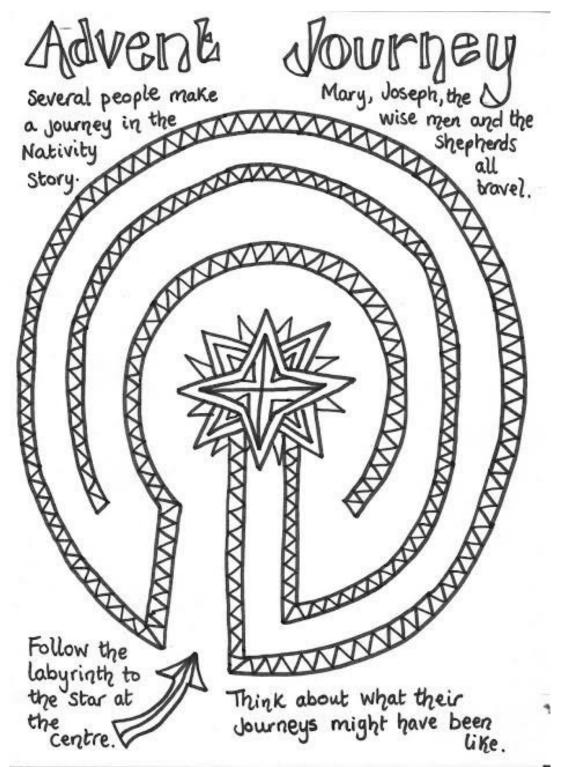
Bookings at the church office or https://www.trybooking.com/BNELC





# CORNER CORNER







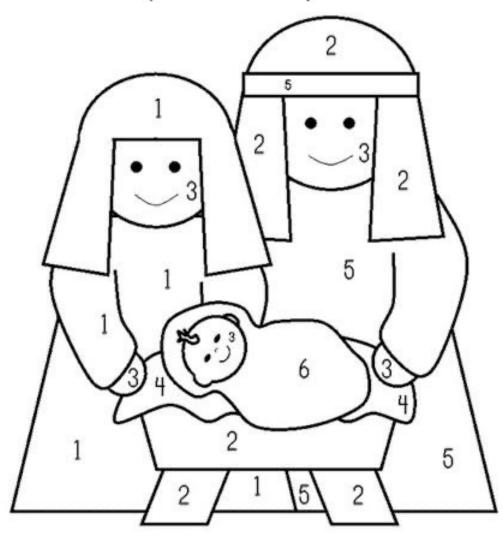




**busted** halo

# Nativity Color by Number

12/12: Christmas treat



1-blue 2-brown 3-skin 4-yellow 5-orange 6-white