

February 2023

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



MINISTER: Rev Ross Pearce (0437 561 833)
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WEB: www.frankstonuniting.org.au

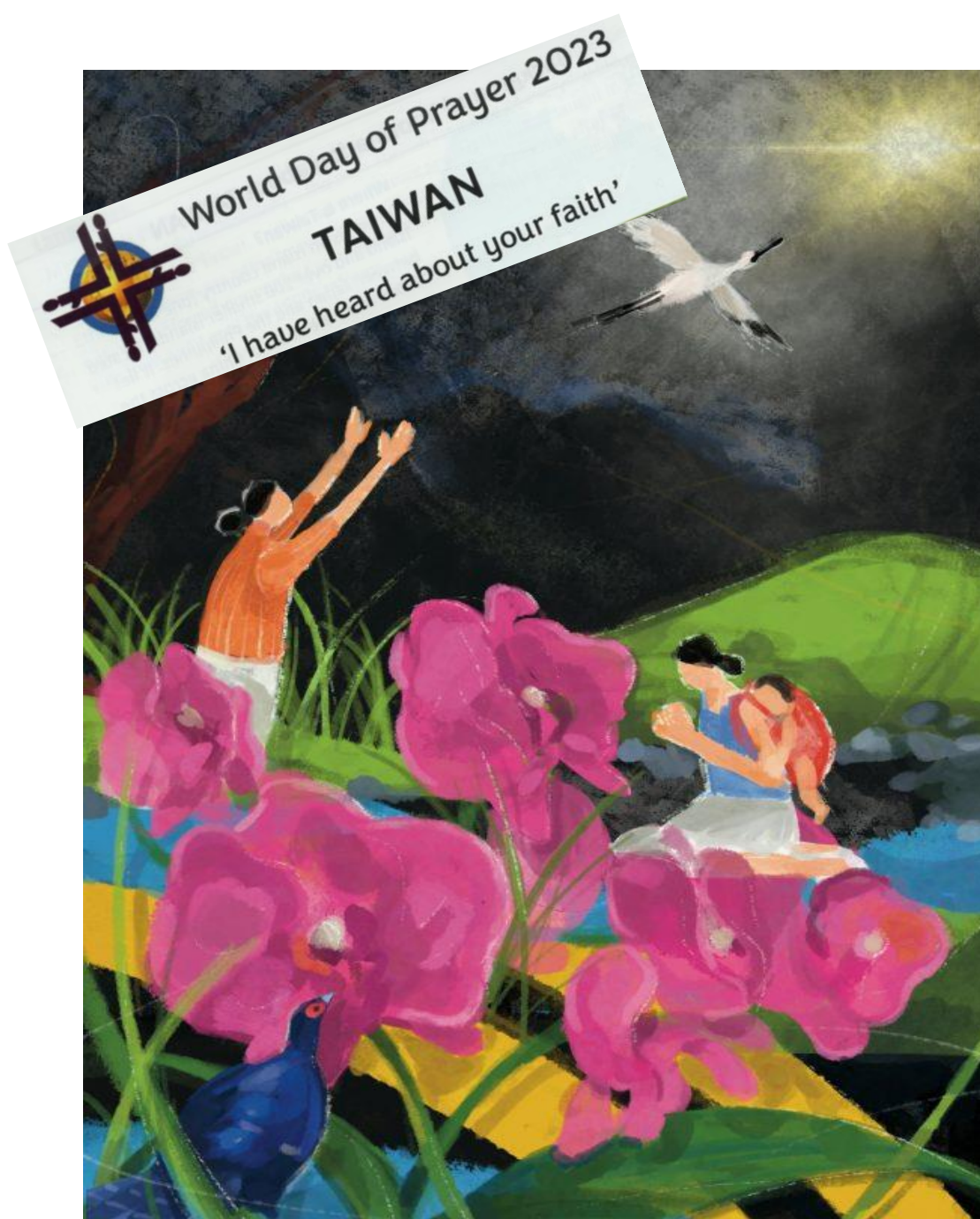
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John Annable john@annable.net (0409 938672)



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather: the Bunarong people and we pay respect to their past present and emerging elders and their ancestors.





Art by Hui-Wen HSAIO

World Day of Prayer Taiwan - “I Have Heard About Your Faith”

One of the WDP Guiding Principles states that ‘Prayer is rooted in listening to God and to one another. In WDP we listen to the Word of God and to voices of women sharing their hopes and fears, their joys and sorrows, their opportunities and needs.’

The theme of the worship service “I Have Heard About Your Faith,” based on the letter to the Ephesians, is an invitation to active listening, which is the ground of our prayers. Following the example of the letter (1:15-19), where the author praises the church for their faith in Jesus and love toward all the saints, the worship service contextualizes the witness of the saints with the stories from Taiwan.

Date: Friday, 3rd March 2023

Time: To be confirmed

Place: High Street Uniting Church

More details to follow! Please keep an eye on the weekly news sheet.

From the Minister...



Rev Ross writes...

A growing trend in recent decades has been the Slow Food Movement; a response to the ubiquitous fast-food stores. (Slow food is defined as food which is carefully prepared using traditional cooking methods with organic ingredients and is intended to be eaten and enjoyed slowly for maximum benefit.)

The issue is not about speed despite the names of fast and slow. The issue is one of commonisation and standardisation of food; every one of each chain of fast-food stores has the same menu options, even if they are in different countries. This process of commonisation – called ‘McDonaldisation’ by some – has come in the name of efficiency and economy, but at the expense of individuality. The Slow Food Movement, which began in 1989, values the differences of seasons, plants and animals, and tastes to produce unique food from fresh, local sources.

Something very similar is happening in parts of the church. In response to the rise of ‘one size fits all’ programs like 12 step plans, franchised mega churches, and the church growth movement, some are advocating Slow Church. Church that is about spending time to find out what are the unique needs, skills, tastes and likes of the community. Not just the congregation but the surrounding neighbourhood community. Rather than efficiency, statistics and predictability, Slow Church is about ethics, place, and abundance. Church that respects the cultural and racial and generational diversity of a neighbourhood and takes the time, including experiments and failures, to be an effective, loving expression of Christ’s presence and influence in that place.

The very essence of Slow Church, maybe because of its connection to the Slow Food movement, is hospitality. Being open to welcoming any people from the community, but not just offering a meal. This is hospitality that opens the way for relationship building; patient, inclusive relationship building. Relationship building through conversation at shared meals. The nature of those meals can vary depending on the people, the community, and the neighbourhood. But in all the variance, the common factor is a simple meal. The difference between simple and the Slow Church Movement is that the theological basis of Slow Church pictures the Last Supper not as the start of communion but an instruction to remember Jesus in shared meals – ‘do this in remembrance of me’. The Gospel of John has no Communion, but it does have a lot of conversation around that table which Jesus and the disciples shared.

In the face of an ageing, shrinking church, all the presbyteries are working on introducing congregations to possible mission opportunities to build a future – Emerging Church, Mission Shaped Ministry, and other programmes based on overseas experience or other congregations’ experiences. The risk is that



the programmes can become more important than the examples – the very problem that Slow Church addresses. In a culture that desires success, large numbers, and fancy programmes, can we imagine a future for the church in simple things such as meals, honest conversation, and small groups of disciples?

God bless. Ross

We pray...

For those within our church family who find it difficult or are unable to attend worship, including: Sheila Knoop, Gwen Paxino, Audrey Smith, Audrey LaBrooy, Ruth Conn, Fay Dungey, Marie de Silva, Lola Coupe, Molly Maughan, Pat Johnson, Margaret Snyder, Beth McNamara, Effie Tilley, and Barbara Yates.



- For Rev Ross Pearce as he recovers from COVID 19.
- For the Mathews and Jenkins families, as they continue to live with the loss of Angie.
- For Debra Gibb, following the loss of her mother Marilyn, and settling into her new unit.
- For the Poole and Pederick families, following the loss of Ruth.
- For Ross Huggard's mother who has been ill, and moved into care.
- For Michelle, daughter of Marilyn and Robert Downing, undergoing treatment for cancer. And for Marilyn and Robert with various health issues.
- For Kerrin Hill, as she continues to recover after hospital and rehab.
- For all others who mourn the loss of loved ones.
- For all others who are in poor health and having treatment.
 - For those around Frankston who experience homelessness, or face injustices.
- For all those with mental health needs in our church family and our community.
- For the many people in Victoria and elsewhere still recovering following the devastating floods.
- For Ukraine: for those fleeing, those caught up in fighting, and those seeking to provide shelter and hope.
- For students and teachers as they approach a new year in schools and universities.
- For our church as we move forward into a new year, and for our whole community that we serve in the love of God.

The prayer chain regularly and continuously keeps particular needs in prayer. You can ask for prayers through the prayer chain by contacting Marlene, phone 5971 2840 or emailing directly to HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com. The prayer chain is a small group of church members who are dedicated to prayer, and consider all communication and prayer needs strictly private and confidential unless specified otherwise.



Refugees

Its nearly 20 years since I was asked to speak to a Meeting of Frankston Combined Probis Inc. about Refugees. I hadn't addressed an audience of this size previously. It was a challenge as I was sure some in attendance would have some negative feelings towards refugees. At that time I was a member of the Peninsular Refugee and Asylum Seeker Group and felt that I couldn't refuse.



I started researching how many Refugees were here on shore, how many were off shore and how they were being treated. I asked the Immigration Department for some information and to my surprise I received a parcel containing many pages.

I found an article on the 1951 United Nations Convention that enlightened me on the definition of a refugee:

“someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.”

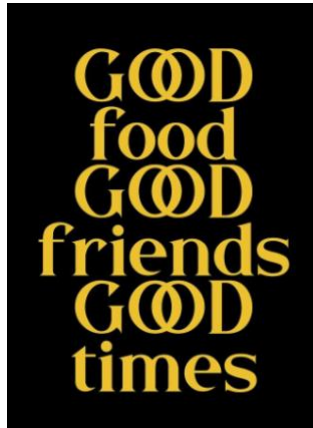
Because of this they ask for protection of the Country that they are in and so become “*asylum seekers*.”. Australia was one of the first Countries to sign the agreement. As signatories to this agreement all Governments should make sure that all refugees are treated with dignity and respect. I think we have neglected this commitment for the past 20 years and still do.

Our Social Justice Group has received information from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre that claims that on Monday 12th December 2022 there were 31,000 people yes, all are People, trapped in uncertainty without permanent protection.

The new Government gave the impression that there would be meaningful reform! When? Australia's Legal System has an application form for refugees to fill in to ask for asylum. It is 36 Pages of Legal Language in English! With 110 questions. The majority of applicants obviously struggle with this and are given no help.

The Uniting Church has a Voice! High Street Uniting Church has a Voice!
You and I have voices. We must be heard if this Unjust System is to be Reformed.

Dawn Peacock (Social Justice Group)



We had a great evening hosted by Marion and John Coulson. We enjoyed delicious food along with much laughter and good conversation. There were two celebrations to be enjoyed, first being the birth of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, as we all know that is what Christmas is all about.

Second we had John's birthday to celebrate. What a privilege it is to be able to contribute to the Wednesday lunch.

Erica Hutchinson



Walking Group

Rain, hail or shine Walking Group continues.

You may recognise Kay and Murray Burdett Who are down south visiting family and friends for Christmas from their new home in Queensland.

We met at the Harvest cafe at Sages Cottage during the week before Christmas and enjoyed coffee, friendship and a walk around their scenic little lake.

All are welcome. For more information

Ley Mackintosh. 0408 355 622



Walking Group Program for January – July 2023

8:30 start for January & February

Start time for March TBA

9:30 start April – July

TUESDAY

- ï Flora and Fauna Reserve Aldershot Rd Entrance
- ï Sandhurst Meet at the front of the Sandhurst Club which is in Sandhurst Boulevard off McCormicks Rd
- ï P.O at Karingal Hub Shopping Centre
- ï Norman Ave shops
- ï Pearcedale football ground
- ï Frankston Pier
- ï Seaford LSC
- ï Gateway Shopping Centre outside the Council shop
- ï Brompton Turn left at the lights AFTER the Cranbourne Rd/ Westernport Hwy intersection, which is Encore Drive.
- ï Hastings Pier

THURSDAY

- ï Softball ground in Robinsons Rd
- ï Ballam Park
- ï Pines flora and fauna reserve Park in Warrawee Circuit. Enter off Skye Rd into Dalpura Cct, take the 1st left into Warrawee. Continue to the start of the track on the northern side of the road {after the 2nd speed hump in Warrawee}
- ï Somerville outside Target
- ï Conservation Reserve Jeremy Way off Waterways
- ï Ashleigh Ave shops
- ï Pentland Gardens in Williams St.
- ï Liddesdale Ave for Sweetwater Creek walk
- ï Dame Elizabeth Arboretum Edwards Street Langwarrin
- ï Shops in Culcairn Ave

WALK	TUES.	THURS.	TUES	THURS		
1	JAN 3	5	MAR 14	16	MAY 23	MAY 25
2	10	12	21	23	30	JUNE 1
3	17	19	28	30	JUNE 6	8
4	24	Australia Day	APRIL 4	APRIL 6	13	15
5	31	FEB 2	11	13	20	22
6	FEB 7	9	18	20	27	29
7	14	16	Anzac Day	27		
8	21	23	MAY 2	4		
9	28	MAR 2	9	11		
10	MAR 7	9	16	18		



Summarised Statement of Income/Expenditure for 12 Months to 31st December 2022

INCOME	Budget		Actual	
Planned Giving/Open Plate		120000		112424
Rental Income - High St & Manse		45000		41096
Donations		1500		550
Donations: Children's Outreach		500		440
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		5000		14672
Goods and Services Tax				1124
Fete		12000		9551
Interest - Cash Management Account		100		89
GST Reimbursement MBA		2000		4011
Atkinson Foundation Income		2000		1282
Guest Foundation Income		2000		1352
Bomar Grant		0		0
Transfer from Wesley Lease		37500		42450
Transfer from Bequest		3000		3000
Transfer from Employment Reserve		38500		38400
Unit Allocation				626
Unit Price Adjustment				-191
TOTAL INCOME		269100		270876
EXPENDITURE				
Ministerial Costs		171000		138602
Administration Costs		35000		39546
Planned Giving Expenses		500		466
Property Costs:				
Fire Brigade Levy	500		486	
Cleaning/Maintenance	25000		35256	
Rates: Council/Water	3500		3486	
Gas/Electricity	7000	36000	7274	46502
Insurance		10000		10410
Sunday School/Children's Outreach		1000		0
Organ/Choir/Copyright		2000		2609
Goods and Services Tax				5482
Miscellaneous		10000		14437
OPERATING EXPENDITURE		265500		258054
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	15000		15000	
Tom Sutherland	500		500	
Community Support	1500	17000	750	16250
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		282500		274304

Note: Operating deficit for 12 months is \$3428

ROSTERS FEB '23

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (See also other side of page)

Date	Colour	Bible Reader	Preaching	Holy Communion	Bible reading*	STB	Notes
05-Feb-23	G	Dawn Peacock	Ross Pearce	RP	Lamentations 1:1-6	45	
12-Feb-23	G	Erica Hutchinson	Ross Pearce		Ezekiel 16:1-22	45	
19-Feb-23	W	Rona Russell	Ross Pearce		Hosea 11:1-11		
22-Feb-23	P	TBA	Ross Pearce		Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21		Ash Wednesday service at 7:30pm
26-Feb-23	P	Keith Holmes	Ross Pearce		Matthew 4: 1-11		

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Date	Stewards	Morning Tea Helpers	Flowers	Organ
05-Feb-23	Rona Russell, Heather Rawson	Graeme and Jenny Horsborough, Brenda Cooper		
12-Feb-23	Daryl & Shirley Groves	Vilma LaBrooy, Harriet Holton, John Upton		
19-Feb-23	Daryl & Shirley Groves	Edna Runciman, Stanley & Viola Zhungu		
22-Feb-23	TBA			
26-Feb-23	Robert Latimer, Neville Parker	Carol Calderbank, Sue Baker, Robert Latimer		

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Date	Preparing and Leading Worship			Preaching	Children's Time	Holy Communion	Bible reading*	STB	Notes
05-Feb-23	Ross			Ross Pearce	Irene	RP	Lamentations 1:1-6	45	
12-Feb-23	Barb	Valmai	Glenise	Ross Pearce	Rowena		Ezekiel 16:1-22	45	
19-Feb-23	Alan	Gill		Ross Pearce	Irene		Hosea 11:1-11	45	
22-Feb-23				Ross Pearce			Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	RCL	Ash Wednesday service at 7:30pm
26-Feb-23	Fiona	Arthur		Ross Pearce	Meg		Matthew 4: 1-11	RCL	

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Date	Band Leaders	Singers	Zoom	Sound	Welcome and Offering	Hospitality
05-Feb-23	Mike	Bronwen & Alan	Matthew	Alan	Marg, Beryl	Andi
12-Feb-23	Russell	Valmai & Jenni	Karin	Alan	Santhira & Joy	Gill
19-Feb-23	John	Mandy & Kerry	Russell	Tim	Patti & Ley	Santhira
22-Feb-23			TBD	TBD		
26-Feb-23	Mike	Arthur & Fiona	Matthew	Alan	Kate & Mandy	Barb

ZOOM/PHONE DETAILS

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 #