

# February 2024

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

Connecting Younger Generations IN GOD'S LOVE

Embracing All People WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION

Strengthening Community THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT



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



# High Street Times



For your diaries...



also look out for

Organ concert with Christopher Cook



Coming soon...

# *From the Minister...*



Back at the start of my ordained ministry, I attended a set of studies on adaptive change in churches. One strong message that I hold from those studies is the important truth – people don't fear change, they fear loss. And I think an important reason for that is our experience of all the changes over the last fifty years has been loss. Loss of safety, loss of 'down time', loss of friendly neighbourhood shops, loss of community life, loss of privacy, and loss of personal

connection. Other people, through the changes in politics, may feel a loss of power or a loss of place in society. Because of all that loss, there seems to be an abiding grief in our society now: an unstated grief that shows itself because the symptoms look a lot like the stages of grief – denial, anger, bargaining and depression.

Some might look at our culture and our society now and think, "The world looks sad". Some people have adapted and made it through to acceptance, and of course, the newer generations have no idea that something has been lost, for them this is how the world is. But for many, particularly in the older generations, so much has been lost that our society is looking like a foreign country.

Our churches are more than just a representative group or a subset of this, I see people in the church suffering this grief even more than those in the general society. For many in churches this is a grief that is reinforced every week when we see the loss of people, the loss of children, the loss of social standing, even the loss of Sunday! And there is that unspoken but abiding grief, and symptoms of grief as each of us are in different stages of grieving.

But it needn't be all doom and gloom. Indeed, it needn't be a cause of grief. Most of those we have lost were never really members; church was more about socialisation than faith, or, like the parable, they were not deeply rooted in the faith. The ones who are members now want to be here and want to do what is necessary to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. The loss of people needn't mean a loss of faith or a loss of purpose and possibility. Our faith is not shaped by how many people are sitting around us on a Sunday morning but the One who is with us every day. Our scriptural heritage is filled with small numbers of people doing amazing things. People who always looked at what they had, and not at what they may have lost. Jesus told his disciples not to focus on the family and traditions that they left behind to follow him, but to look at what they gained in the community of followers.

We needn't be caught in grief but see a time of opportunity. Opportunity to offer a lot of what society feels they have lost, and to address the grief that we see around us. We can be agents of hope. We can be a place of safety, a place of social connection and community life, a place of gentle reflection and down time, and a place of friendly neighbours. For people who feel lost in the enormous, connected, global village we can be a smaller, personal village centre. Rather than getting caught up in the grief of change, let us be the people who address grief with the comfort of community, faith, and hope.

Rev Ross.





Is this the year you delve into issues of faith with a little study? Pilgrim is the theological college for The Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania, located at the Centre for Theology and Ministry in Parkville, and is a college of the Australia wide, ecumenical University of Divinity. Most of the courses available are held both face to face and online if Parkville is too far to travel.

You may be too late to catch one the Summer intensive courses such as Christianity's Big Ideas, but there are plenty of other

opportunities to catch up with the latest in scholarly exploration of Biblical Studies, Theology, Christian History, Mission, or Pastoral Care. Information about available classes can be found online at pilgrim.edu.au, on Facebook at Pilgrim Theological College, or there are copies of the programs available in the foyer.

### On the Road to the Assembly 2024

Preparations have begun for the 17th Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia which will take place in Sydney from 11-16 July in 2024.

Assembly General Secretary Colleen Geyer said it was an exciting time as Presbyteries and Synods finalise their members and planning begins in earnest for the triennial decision-making meeting of the Church's national council. "We are officially on the road to the 17th Assembly!" said Ms Geyer. "National assemblies are always a significant event in the life of the Church as members gather together in worship, form community and discern together the movement of the Spirit in the life of the Church."

President-elect Rev Charissa Suli is delighted to announce the theme for the 17th Assembly and the next triennium, "Threads of Love, Weaving Christ's Love Across Cultures and Boundaries".

Inspired by the honoured Tongan tradition of weaving the fala (mat), the theme speaks to our God-given call to weave Christ's love into the world by building bridges across social and cultural divides. "Each strand of the fala is important to each other in the same way that the Holy Spirit gifts and empowers all members of the Church to confess Jesus Christ and serve him," said Rev Suli. The phrase "Threads of Love" is a reference to Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:14) and spotlights the transformative power of Christ's love as it overcomes cultural boundaries and unites us in God's service. The President-elect said she was further inspired by the story of the Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well in which Jesus traverses cultural and religious divides to engage in deep theological dialogue with the woman, who in turn is transformed by and becomes a beacon of Christ's love. "My hope is that the theme inspires us to acknowledge and honour our shared humanity in God our creator, and to act upon our common duty to shape a world that mirrors the love and unity Christ has for us all."



### 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 #

## Prayer for the New Year from The Assembly President Rev Sharon Hollis

God of endings and beginnings,  
God first and last,  
we pray for all who are marking the end of another year.

We pray for those who long for this year to end.  
Where there is sorrow,  
bring comfort.  
Where there is brokenness,  
bring wholeness.  
Where there is pain,  
bring healing.

We pray for those who look back on this year with gratitude.  
Where support and encouragement has been offered or received,  
sustain community  
Where life has been full of joy,  
sustain wonder.  
Where life has been awash with your presence,  
sustain faith.

We pray for your world in all its glory and terror.  
Where there is war,  
may peace prevail.  
Where there is injustice,  
may your righteousness come.  
Where creation is breaking,  
may it be restored.

God of endings and beginnings,  
God first and last,  
as we stand on the threshold of a new year  
send us the gift of the Spirit to reassure us that  
by your goodness  
we dwell in your love.  
By your mercy  
sin is forgiven.  
By your grace  
your kingdom is coming. Amen.

## World Day of Prayer, March 1 2024



Theme: "I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"  
(Ephesians 4:1-3)

This program calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression. The program was written by a group of ecumenical Christian Palestinian women in response to the passage from Ephesians 4:1-7. They reflected collectively from the context of their suffering as Palestinian Christian women with the hope of inspiring other women around the world to bear with one another in love during troubled times.

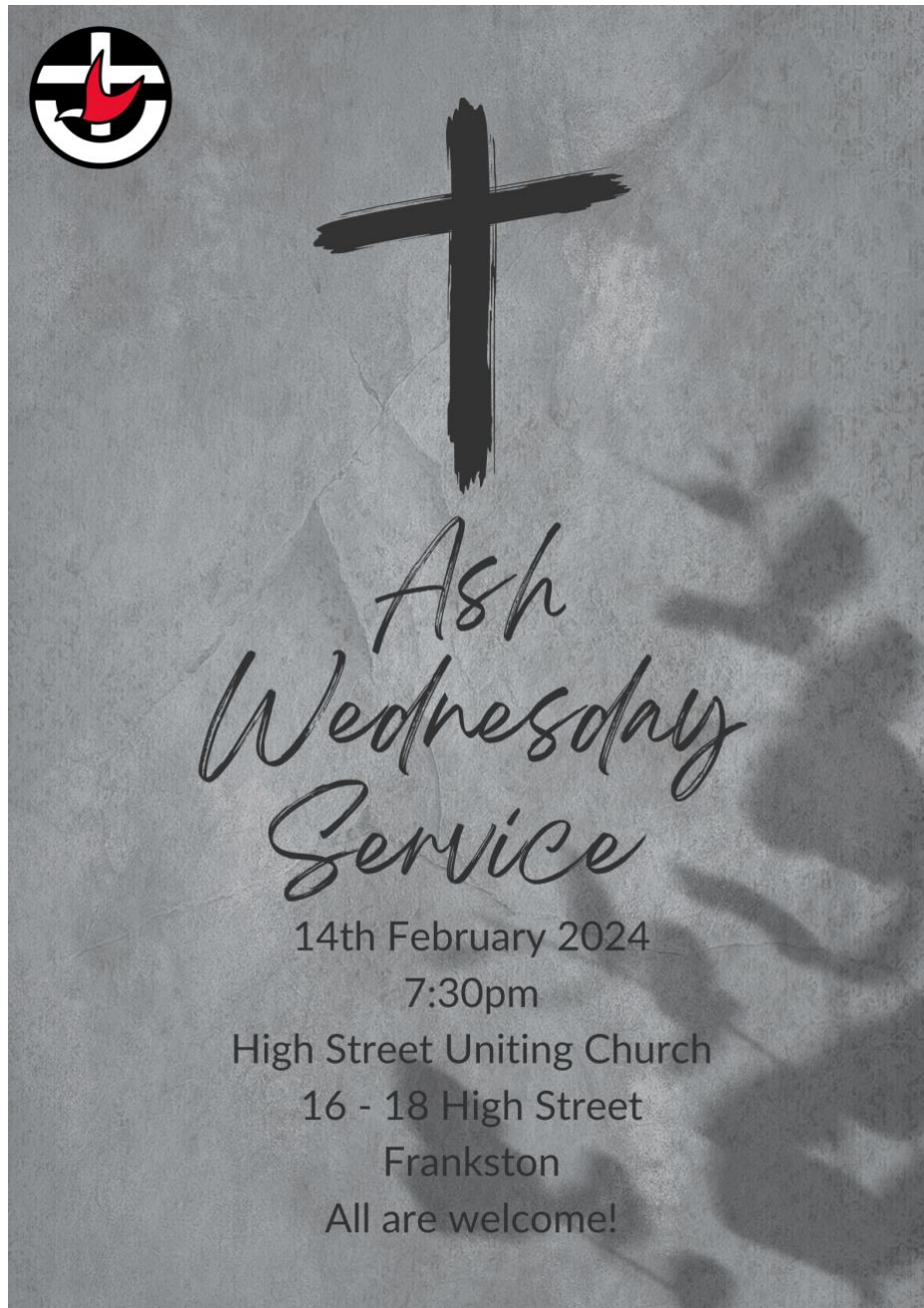
*(This theme, and resource, was prepared long before the current crisis in the Holy Land).*

'It's possible to resist anti-semitism and advocate for Palestinian human rights at the same time' (quote from Telos)  
Further information about the local celebration of the World Day of Prayer will be in the weekly newssheet as it becomes available.

# Lent

Ash Wednesday, the traditional start of Lent is coming fast – February 14, and many Christian minds turn to the age-old question, “What am I giving up for Lent?” In more recent years Lent has been seen as a journey of discipleship, mirroring the Early Church practice of preparing candidates for baptism during Lent, rather than a pious time of abstaining from pleasures. In that vein consider giving up bad habits or bad thoughts – judgement, anger, envy, prejudice – or consider taking up a new, good habit – daily devotion, Bible reading, letter writing – because research shows that habits develop or change in about 6 weeks. That’s the length of Lent.

May Lent bring you closer to God to experience a deeper, more meaningful Easter celebration.





## 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, Marie de Silva, Lola Coupe, Margaret Snyder, Beth McNamara, Effie Tilley, and Barbara Yates.
- For family and friends of Molly Maughan who passed away in December.
- For Effie Tilley, currently in palliative care.
- For Cheryl Wilson and family following her father's funeral.
- For Carmen Pearce and her family, as they come to terms with the loss of her sister Miriam.
- For all who are in poor health and having treatment, including Jen Johnson, and Michelle Clarkson.
- For Virgil Snyder who has been in hospital recently.
- For Fiona Jones, recovering from back surgery.
- For Chris Johnston, with continuing issues with her back.
- For Rev Ross and his recovery from surgery.
- For Howard and Andi Kerr as they prepare to move to Baxter Village shortly.
- For the continuing struggle between Israel and Hamas, and the innocent people who are caught up in the conflict, suffering both injury and death. For the leaders of the world countries who are attempting to bring about resolution, and for the aid workers who are trying to make a difference.
- For Ukraine, still under attack from Russia.
- For those recovering from floods around the east coast of Australia over summer, and for all who are offering assistance.
- For those around Frankston who experience homelessness.
- For all those living with mental health needs in our church family and our community.
- For those struggling with the ever-increasing cost of living.
- For all students and teachers and other staff returning to school for the new 2024 year.

*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 [hsuca-prayer@googlegroups.com](mailto:hsuca-prayer@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.*

# VALE Patti Scully Dec 1945 – Dec 2023

We were all very saddened with the passing of Patti Scully just before Christmas. What follows is the eulogy presented by Ley Mackintosh for those who missed the beautiful service.

*Firstly, I would like to extend my sympathies to Patti's family – to James. Megan, James, Sophie, Charlie and Rosemary.*

*I know for a fact that she loved you all very much.*

*Can I offer you a quote from the composer Irving Berlin – The song may be ended but the melody lives on.*

*Patti was born in Broadford in 1945, the youngest of 6 children to her parents who lived and worked in Strath Creek. Her childhood was filled with fun, freedom and laughter and she said she always felt treasured and loved.*

*She attended Strath Creek Primary {which was a one room school with 12 pupils} and Seymour High. After obtaining her Leaving Certificate she came to Melbourne and worked at the Commercial Bank of Sydney.*

*Patti met her future husband Alan at church youth group, and they married in 1971. They were blessed when first James arrived in 1974 and Megan completed the family in 1979. Patti spent 17 years working at Peninsula Special Development School as a Teacher's Assistant where she was able to make a profound difference in the lives of many children. She was always kind and positive and the children responded to this. The school encouraged Patti to gain extra qualifications including her bus driver's licence and she even completed the Transport Management Course in Bus and Coach operations, so she was responsible for the 3 buses the school owned. – how she could see over the steering wheel, manage the disabled children on trips and not lose her cool beats me but she loved the kids and her job caring for them. When Patti's husband Alan was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy in 1992 and with his health failing her decision to leave work and care for him was an easy one.*

*I first met Patti at Wesley when our children were small. We shared a friendship with many interests and activities in common.*

*We joined LEGS, became Elders, taught Sunday school, helped with Community Breakfast, formed Ametie, walked with the Walkie Talkies and for several years formed part of a worship planning committee – a busy and varied life you will agree.*

*Soroptimists International was a special interest for Patti and she treasured her organisational roles and the friends she made at the club.*

*While it is tragic to think about Patti leaving us so soon, she has left behind a lifetime of memories we can celebrate, from her two children, her two grandchildren, her extended family, her many friends, her beautifully tended garden and her trust in The Lord.*

*She was independent and strong through life's difficulties and challenges. She was a kind, positive, gentle woman of courage and determination and we will all miss her*





# Summarised Statement of Income/Expenditure for 12 Months to 31st December 2023

INCOME	Budget		Actual	
Planned Giving/Open Plate		100000		117377
Rental Income		30000		31004
Donations		1500		1450
Donations: Children's Outreach		500		550
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		5000		17867
Goods and Services Tax				963
Fete		10000		10275
Interest - Cash Management Account		200		179
GST Reimbursement MBA		2000		868
Atkinson Foundation Income		3000		2722
Guest Foundation Income		3500		3501
Bomar Grant		0		0
Transfer from Wesley Lease		43000		20366
Transfer from Bequest		3000		400
Transfer from Employment Reserve		22000		4200
Money for Mission Fund		40000		49138
Unit Price Adjustment				184
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>263700</b>		<b>261044</b>
EXPENDITURE				
Ministerial Costs		120000		116975
Administration Costs		44900		43588
Planned Giving Expenses		500		520
Property Costs:				
Fire Brigade Levy	500		605	
Cleaning/Maintenance	43000		44609	
Rates: Council/Water	4500		5010	
Gas/Electricity	9000	57000	8358	58582
Insurance		10000		11120
Sunday School/Children's Outreach		1000		208
Organ/Choir/Copyright		2500		2245
Goods and Services Tax				8078
Miscellaneous		10000		7103
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>245900</b>		<b>248419</b>
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	12000		12000	
Tom Sutherland	500		500	
Community Support	1500	14000	100	12600
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>259900</b>		<b>261019</b>

Note: Operating surplus for 12 months is \$25

Thank you to Keith and you team for keeping us afloat financially. -Ed



# Ladies Evening Group – LEGS – 2024 Program – draft as of 18 January 2024

Annual Membership:

\$20 payable January 2024

LEGS Members assist with catering and fetes.

Date	Activity/Speaker	Time & Venue	Devotions	Catering Irene Heidenreich co-ordinate catering	Room Set up	Trading Table
5 FEB	God Class Movie: "About My Father: Robert De Niro, Sebastian Maniscalco	6:00pm CHURCH, HSUC	Guest	Committee to arrange food for the evening		
Friday 2 MARCH	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	10.30am HSUC	LEGS members to assist with <u>catering</u> after service - biscuits, tea, coffee			
4 MAR	Guest Speaker. John and Elaine <u>Govan</u> , Leprosy	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Brenda Cooper	Irene Heidenreich, Anita Setterfield, Sue Baker, Harriet Holton	All	All
29 Mar-1 April	EASTER					
1 APRIL	Member night / Activity: Mother's Day – Alice Needs	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Fiona Jones	Irene Heidenreich. Alice Needs, Fay Butterworth, Rosemary Potter	All	All
6 MAY	Guest Speaker: Carmen Schmandtke "Hand Massage"	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Ley McIntosh	Irene Heidenreich, Dorothy Penny, Fiona Jones, Jenny O'Meara	All	LARDER
Saturday 11 MAY	Church Fete – Mother's Day					
3 JUNE	Guest Speaker: Justine <u>De'Ath</u> , Furniture Renewal	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Margaret Philippe	Irene Heidenreich, Bronwen Mathews, Edna Reeves, Gill Jenkins	All	All
1 JULY	Guest Speaker: Royal Flying Doctor Service	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Jill Cayzer	Irene Heidenreich, Barb Cohen, Brenda Cooper, Jenny Johnson	All	All
20 July	CHRISTMAS IN JULY Lunch					
5 AUG	Guest Speaker: <u>Amanda Hulley</u> , CPR	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Marilyn Downing	Irene Heidenreich, Jill Cayzer. Ley McIntosh, Margaret Little	All	LARDER
2 SEPT	Guest Speaker: Project Hope: Horse Welfare	6.00pm Church HSUC	Bronwen Mathews	Irene Heidenreich, Lindy Lane, Margaret Philippe, Marilyn Downing	All	All
7 OCT	Guest Speaker: Brenda Cooper All about Brenda her journey thus far!	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Margaret Little	Irene Heidenreich, Shirley Groves, Valmai Scully, Mary Brice	All	All
25-26 OCT TBC	WEEKEND AWAY	Ramada Resort – Phillip Island				
11 NOV	AGM – Members Night – Preparation December Fete	6.00pm Blue Room, HSUC	Gill Jenkins	Irene Heidenreich, <u>Nylma</u> Caruthers, <u>Peggy Menge</u> , Joy Butcher	All	LARDER Christmas
Saturday 7 DEC TBC	Christmas Fete					
2 DEC TBC	Christmas Dinner – Settlers Run Golf & Country Club	Settlers Run, Botanic Ridge 3977- 03 9785 6072	Jill Cayzer		Gift \$15 Boy/Girl Christmas	



#### Notes:

**Meetings** in 2024 are held on the first Monday of each month (unless a public holiday) from February until December, commencing at 6.00pm.

**Catering for meetings** – if you are unable to assist as rostered, please arrange a swap in advance and advise the Secretary.

**Room set up for meetings** – if you are unable to assist as rostered, please arrange a swap in advance and advise the Secretary

**Trading Table** – on the designated months the trading table will be run by the member rostered for Devotions. Members are requested to bring items priced and if not sold at the end of the night to please take them home with you. The trading table operator will collect the money and give it to the Treasurer.

**Larder** – on the designated months donations of items for Larder will be accepted. As a guide, items include:

Breakfast Cereal: Weeties	Long Life Milk – 1 Litre	Vegemite
Vita Brits	Tea Bags (25)	Peanut Butter
Corn Flakes	Sugar – 1kg	Honey
Wheat Bix		Jam
Tin Baked Beans	Toilet Paper	
Tin Spaghetti	Soap	
Tin Meat & Vegetables	Hair Shampoo	
Tin Tomatoes	Hair Conditioner	
Tin Tomatoes with herbs	Disposable Razors	
Tin Spaghetti meat sauce	Deodorant	
Two minute noodles – beef/chicken	Toothpaste	
Tin fruit	Toothbrush	

## MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2024

**LEGS 2024 PROGRAM WILL COMMENCE WITH A MOVIE TO BE HELD IN THE CHURCH at 7.15PM.**

Legs MEMBERS:	6.00pm	arrival for light dinner in the Blue Room
	6.45pm	LEGS Monthly Meeting in the Blue Room
	7.15pm	MOVIE “About My Father” in the church

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME: \$20 annual membership fee

NON MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Please arrive by 7.15pm Optional -gold coin donation

#### ABOUT THE MOVIE:

The hottest comic in America, Sebastian Maniscalco joins forces with legendary Italian-American and two-time Oscar winner, Robert De Niro, in the comedy ABOUT MY FATHER. The film centers around Sebastian (Maniscalco) who is encouraged by his fiancée (Leslie Bibb) to bring his immigrant, hairdresser father, Salvo (De Niro), to a weekend get-together with her super-rich and exceedingly eccentric family (Kim Cattrall, Anders Holm, Brett Dier, David Rasche). The weekend develops into what can only be described as a culture clash, leaving Sebastian and Salvo to discover that the great thing about family is everything.....

#### PLANNING TO ATTEND THE MOVIE?

Please ring, text or email Marg Scarlett 0419 805 362 or [smarg508@gmail.com.au](mailto:smarg508@gmail.com.au)



# *Recital Series at St John's Flinders 2024*



Sunday 10 March at 2.30pm  
BRIAN CHAPMAN AND FRIENDS  
**Beethoven, Franck & Mendelssohn**  
Cello and violin sonatas and the Mendelssohn  
Piano Trio in D minor  
BOOK [www.trybooking.com/COEMN](http://www.trybooking.com/COEMN)  
Admission \$35

Saturday 23 March at 2.30pm  
FLINDERS QUARTET  
**Legacy**  
Mozart String Quartet in A major & works by  
Ethel Smyth and Gordon Kerry.  
A two hour program.  
BOOK for a two recital (inc 26 Oct)  
subscription @ \$60  
OR a single recital @ \$35 on  
[www.flindersquartet.com/tickets](http://www.flindersquartet.com/tickets)

Sunday 28 April at 2.00pm  
PENINSULA CHAMBER MUSICIANS  
**Autumn Winds**  
A journey from Russia to France including  
works of Hindemith & Fauré  
BOOK [www.trybooking.com/CNPQB](http://www.trybooking.com/CNPQB)  
Admission Adult \$35, Concession \$25

Sunday 19 May at 2.00pm  
MELBOURNE OPERA  
**Figaro and Friends**  
Artists from the company that brought  
Wagner's Ring to Bendigo in 2023  
BOOK on [www.trybooking.com/COISH](http://www.trybooking.com/COISH)  
for single recital @ \$50  
BOOK for a two recital subscription (inc 4 August)  
@ \$90 on [www.trybooking.com/COISY](http://www.trybooking.com/COISY)

Sunday 23 June at 2.00pm  
GENESIS BAROQUE  
**Paris Quartets**  
Three of Telemann's renowned  
18<sup>th</sup> century quartets. In his day his work was  
more widely acclaimed than that of his  
contemporary, J S Bach.  
BOOK for a two recital (inc 1 Dec) subscription  
@ \$90 OR a single recital @ \$50 on  
[www.genesisbaroque.com.au](http://www.genesisbaroque.com.au)

Sunday 4 August at 2.00pm  
MELBOURNE OPERA  
**Opera Stars of the Future**  
Experience the talent being nurtured  
by this dynamic company  
BOOK [www.trybooking.com/COISO](http://www.trybooking.com/COISO)  
Admission \$50

Sunday 8 September at 2.00pm  
PENINSULA CHAMBER MUSICIANS  
**Spring Strings**  
Works of Shostakovich, Sculthorpe and Vine.  
BOOK [www.trybooking.com/CNPQC](http://www.trybooking.com/CNPQC)  
Admission Adult \$35, Concession \$25

Sunday 15 September at 2.00pm  
150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY ORGAN RECITAL  
**Donald Nicolson, organ &  
Anthony Pope, trumpet**  
A celebration of the St John's 1874 William  
Anderson pipe organ  
A FREE RECITAL – the generous gift of  
**Bendigo Bank**. You can register for admission  
from 25 August on [www.trybooking.com/COIUD](http://www.trybooking.com/COIUD)

Saturday 26 October at 2.30pm  
FLINDERS QUARTET  
**The Mendelssohns**  
A special two hour program focussed on the  
talents of Fanny and Felix  
BOOK [www.flindersquartet.com/tickets](http://www.flindersquartet.com/tickets)  
Admission \$35

Sunday 3 November at 2.00pm  
GEOFFREY TOZER 70<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE  
**Lachlan Redd, piano**  
Spotlighting the late iconic Tozer's compositions  
and favourite virtuosic recital works.  
BOOK [www.trybooking.com/COITP](http://www.trybooking.com/COITP)  
Admission \$40

Sunday 1 December at 2.00pm  
GENESIS BAROQUE  
**Christmas Picnics and Parties**  
Delicious works of the French Baroque to  
celebrate the festive season.  
BOOK [www.genesisbaroque.com.au](http://www.genesisbaroque.com.au)  
Admission \$50

Email [stjohnsflinders@bigpond.com](mailto:stjohnsflinders@bigpond.com)  
to join the Recital Series mailing list.  
For further information refer to  
[www.apfb.org.au/recitals](http://www.apfb.org.au/recitals)  
General recital enquiries to John on 5989 8620

Recital Series is proudly supported by



## Where's the rosters???

. They will be published with your weekly news sheet available at both services on the last  
Sunday of each month. If all else fails, try the website.

[www.frankstonuniting.org.au](http://www.frankstonuniting.org.au)