

July 2023

# High Street Times

Connecting Younger Generations IN GOD'S LOVE

Embracing All People WITH CHRIST'S COMPASSION

Strengthening Community THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

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



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*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.*



## National Tree Day - Sunday 30th July 2023



The Port Philip East  
Presbytery (Uniting  
Church in Australia)

Climate Action Network has developed some resources to  
help congregations celebrate National Tree Day.

They are encouraging people to take the opportunity to include  
a link to trees and care for the environment into a worship  
service. A two page resource document with suggestions and a

PowerPoint prayer presentation is available, as well as beautiful National Tree Day bookmarks.  
Perhaps you would like to follow the Sunday service with planting a tree or native plant and  
invite the community, family and friends to join you in celebrating National Tree Day.

Contact: Rev. Deacon Andrea Mayes, Heatherton Dingley UC  
andreamayes@gmail.com, or call 0408 615 939.



### Early Notice: Armchair Travel

On Sunday, 20 th August from 4.30 to 6.00pm: followed by a  
'Bring a Plate Shared Supper' at HSUC.

Illustrated by Alan Mathews' photography, we will travel  
through Central and Western Australia: enjoying the highlights of Bronwen & Alan's  
2022 holiday.

Your admission gift of \$10 (or more) will provide funds for worthy young people in  
Timor-Leste – who are friends of Tim and Mandy Lake - to support them in their  
endeavours to  
become independent and self-sufficient citizens of their country.

A framed photo from Alan's collection will be raffled.



### Chaos goes Indian

The \*Chaos" social group mostly, but certainly not limited to contemporary congregation  
members is holding a Curry Night this month. Come along, bring drinks, a curry or a dessert  
and join in the fellowship.

Where: 28 Schooner Bay Rd Frankston (Dave & Kate Sherry)

When: Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July 6:30pm

Enquiries and RSVP: Kate 0404 064 020



*\*for those who are wondering Chaos grew out of the Mother and Baby group "Mayhem" some  
thirty years ago.*

### 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 #

# From the Minister...



## Rev Ross Writes

As many of you know by now, I am a fan of science fiction. Not because it's an escape from the real world, but because imagination gives us stories that can approach issues in the real world from a different, less challenging but more powerful direction. A story can give people a different take on an important but sensitive issue. Issues that might be controversial and not acceptable in other media, can be imaginatively addressed in a story set in another time or another place. That is a part of the power of stories. Stories about aliens invading earth, or attacking humans in space, can be allegories for colonisation and start conversations about our past and the effects on Indigenous people, when a documentary would be too confronting. Stories about interactions with other species in space can start conversations about racism or sexism, where such issues would be too touchy in a real-life story. Stories can carry more meanings and insights than the surface tale.



And that applies to Bible stories as well. The old stories of Israel are not just history, they carry other insights and meanings. The trick is to read them as stories without getting too stuck in the details, particularly the violence. The Book of Joshua is a story of Israel claiming the land of Canaan for themselves. A story of conquest and genocide if read purely as history, but also a story of the faithfulness of God, in which it isn't the brutality of Israel that wins the land but the intervention of God. A difficult read, but an allegory that can speak to the church's task of evangelism – it's about being faithful to God and the faithfulness of God.

In this world of reason and science, we often lose the power and possibilities of stories, particularly the almost unseen power of the stories that we tell each other in our culture. The great problems facing the world today: environmental degradation, rampant development, and deforestation – partly stem from 200 years of telling ourselves stories of progress and development, without the balancing stories of stewardship and working with the environment.

We also have the rampant rise of disinformation and conspiracy theories that, in part, stem from 80 years of telling ourselves stories of individualism and freedom, without the balancing stories of community and cooperation.

There is a current television show called Five Bedrooms which tells the story of five people – working adults - who for various reasons need accommodation but can't afford a house. They realise that pooling their resources would allow them to buy a house large enough for them all to have a bedroom. This may not seem like much to most of us, who grew up in large, multi-generational families, but it is a radical story for our current culture.

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words, however a picture only has value if you know

the story behind it, something that everyone with old family photo albums will recognise. Funerals have a time for a description of the person's life, but the best tributes are treasured memories in the form of stories. Stories are valuable in building and sharing identity, in holding onto memories, and declaring what is important in values and life lessons. Not everything can be held and transmitted in rational teaching or carefully constructed lessons, we need stories and poetry and art to hold not just our knowledge but our emotions and our beliefs. Long live the power of stories.





## Anniversary of the Uniting Church in Australia

June 22 marks the 46th Anniversary of the forming of the Uniting Church in Australia with the amalgamation of our previous traditions – Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational.

Two important points come with this anniversary:

- There is a rapidly growing proportion of the church with no memory of the previous traditions or a strong church culture. While we may want to pass on important teachings from our past, this is a time for new practices, new insights, and new expressions of theology.
- We are at risk of missing important parts of our name. We are the UNITING Church. We confess to being part of an ongoing process of agreement and sharing and cooperation. Many people favour calling us a movement rather than a church. A movement of the Spirit to bring the many parts of the one church back together. And we are the Uniting Church IN Australia. We do not belong to the government or the culture and are free to play our prophetic role of speaking God's truth in this society.

As the church looks to the future with the ongoing ACT2 conversations and research, let us hold to who and what we are, a young, vibrant expression of God's will for community and faithful service, free to change and free to speak truth.

### Uniting VicTas Winter Share Appeal

As rental costs skyrocket, food bills mount and power bills soar, the many agencies that are a part of Uniting VicTas are receiving more calls for help from across Victoria and Tasmania. You can help Uniting VicTas keep supporting people in crisis through its 2023 **Winter Share Appeal**, allowing them to put food on their table, connect with mental health support and start to feel hopeful for the future.

"For people on the edge of crisis, every day can spell disaster and they have to make difficult choices. To buy food or to pay a bill. To buy children's shoes or to pay for petrol. Our services work to support people with whatever hardships they face. We offer a depth and a breadth of service to help people in every way across Victoria and Tasmania. We are at the frontline assisting people in need every day. We understand the plight of people in crisis. Our experienced workers understand how to help and what to do.

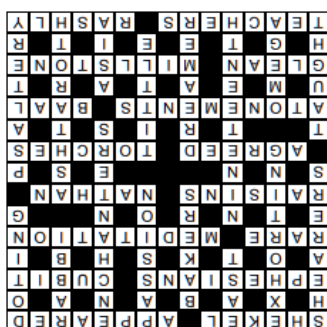
If you wish to contribute to the appeal, go to [unitingvictas.org.au/share-appeal/](https://unitingvictas.org.au/share-appeal/)

### Security For Faith-based Places

The Albanese Government, in collaboration with Attorney General Mark Dreyfus KC MP, has announced a substantial grant of \$40 million aimed at safeguarding faith-based places and improving security measures. The grant showcases a commitment to fostering a diverse and harmonious society where people of all faiths can practice their beliefs without fear or intimidation. Investing in the protection of and security for faith-based places contributes to ensuring that Australia remains a safe and inclusive nation for all its citizens. The Securing Faith-Based Places grants program will open for applications in July 2023.



### Crossword Solution





## 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, Molly Maughan, Pat Johnson, Margaret Snyder, Beth McNamara, Effie Tilley, and Barbara Yates.



For all who are in poor health and having treatment, including Jen Johnson and Michelle Clarkson, and Barb Conner.

For Ken Gilbert, in hospital and rehabilitation.

For Debra Gibb, following the loss of her father.

For the Mathews and Jenkins families, as they continue to live with their loss.

For the friends and families affected by the bus accident after the wedding in NSW, and other road trauma.

For all others who mourn the loss of loved ones.

For all those struggling with increased costs of living, including rental and mortgage stress.

For Somers Camp in early July, all the children who will attend, and all the leaders who work so hard to provide a great experience, including Meg Ryan.

For wisdom and discernment around the Voice Referendum discussions.

For those around Frankston who experience homelessness, particularly at the moment with the cold winter months.

For all those struggling with mental health needs in our church family and our community.

For asylum seekers leaving their homes for safety, and facing uncertainties in their lives.

For Ukraine, still under attack from Russia.

For Turkey and Syria, still in recovery from the recent earthquake causing so much devastation.

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 [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*



## Thankyou...

Recently we were very pleased to receive a new Barbecue to help our weekly Community Outreach Barbecue.

We are extremely grateful to Bunnings Warehouse For their support.



# What is the Voice all about?

The Prime Minister has stated that in a Referendum to be held before the end of 2023 the question that will be put is as follows:



*A proposed law to alter the constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.*

“That’s the question before the Australian people. Nothing more, but nothing less”, the PM said.

The National Assembly of the Uniting Church has declared support for the proposed change to the constitution with a Voice to parliament as a step towards the initiation of the Uluru Statement of the Heart - to Voice, Truth telling and Treaty.

Former Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett writes that the 1901 constitution discriminated against Aboriginal people. They were not allowed to vote or be counted within Australia’s population. It took until 1967 for the discriminatory sections of the constitution to be removed by a thoughtful Australian population through a referendum.

Now 55 years later we are being asked to go one step further to give the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders a voice to those who make the laws, our federal parliament, on those matters that might affect them.

The referendum is an historic occasion and great opportunity for all of us to unite as we seek to restore justice and promote healing for First Nations people in this land.

## **What will the Voice to parliament do?**

- The Voice to parliament is a practical way of making sure that constitutional recognition of First Peoples is more than symbolism.
- The Voice to Parliament is a body that will provide advice, wisdom, experience, evidence and solutions to the Federal Parliament on matters affecting our First People.
- The Voice to Parliament will provide our lawmakers with the means to HEAR the views of First People on laws and policies that affect them allowing for more effective laws through informed decision making.
- The Voice will be a critical step towards honouring the sovereignty of First Nations Australians in this land and furthering the work of truth telling and treaty.

A Voice to Parliament, enshrined in the constitution, to advise parliament on laws affecting our First People is practical and unifying. It is fair enough and way overdue.  
Let’s say YES!

**Rev Arthur Poole** for Social Justice Group



## HIGH STREET FRANKSTON: OUTREACH OF LOVE

*High Street Frankston UC have a passion for connecting with their community. All the programs they run offer practical help and connection for all those in need in the Frankston Community. A practical outreach of love.*

### FOOD PROGRAMS

As part of our community outreach, and connection to the Frankston Emergency Providers Network, High St Uniting both provides and supports a number of free meal opportunities for the many in need in the Frankston community.

On Wednesdays there is a BBQ lunch, either in our courtyard or in the hall depending on weather. Sausages or burgers in a roll, sometimes roast pork, tea, coffee or cordial, and piece of cake. We get a range of people coming along, some because they are homeless and this is an opportunity for a meal, some because they live alone and value the interaction with others. A loyal band of volunteers from the High St community, and some long-term attendees at the BBQ, keeps this program operating week in, week out.

On Saturdays there is a vegetarian meal offered by one of two groups...Mother's Kitchen (a part of Amrita Australia), and Fresh Start that share alternate weeks and have their own teams of volunteers and welcome any who are in need to either a served meal in the hall or take away.



Both these groups have strong connections to Community Support Frankston and Fresh Start provides meals through their Community Fridge at the Needle Syringe Program site in Frankston

During the week there are a couple of free breakfast opportunities in our local tertiary institutes. On Thursdays there is a Pancake Brekkie at Monash Peninsula coordinated by our College Chaplain – Mandy Lake. And the Frankston Brekkie Club at Frankston Chisholm Institute operates each day and draws volunteers from our church and others in the Frankston area.

### FETE PROGRAMS

High St Frankston runs a fete twice a year, as both a fund raiser and community connection. As well as the usual offerings of cakes, jams, hand crafts, books and trash and treasure, we invite others to 'rent a stand' to share their talents and goods. We had Grandmothers for Refugees, and Voices of Frankston, as well as stalls selling jewellery, cards, and face painting join us for the day And the food truck from the Bayside Community Kitchen supplied coffee and pancakes – a good connection for them and for our food programs.



For this year's Mother's Day Fete, we were blessed with delightful weather and so, good attendance to produce a successful result but also a great day of social interaction.

Rev Ross Pearce



## LARDER News



It was a full house at the fundraising concert recently to support the Larder program.

Dawn Peacock introduced proceedings with a potted history of Larder's (30 or 40?) years of supporting those undergoing hardship in the community.

"Cadence", with our very own Bronwen Mathews, led the performance with many hits from The Seekers and other classics from the 60s and 70s. Before the outrageously talented Peter Jenkins played and sang five of his own songs - reflecting months of the year - written during Covid lockdowns.

He accompanied his nephew Owen Mathews, who brought the house down with a tear-jerking song from Aladdin in which he is to star at his school. Peter rounded off with Love is in the Air to give a cheeky plug to the Baz Luhrmann Strictly Ballroom musical in which he will perform with PLOS from July 28-August 5.

To complete the day Cadence sang a few more hippie favourites and everyone joined in for the resounding finale of The Seekers' famous We are Australian.

A fabulous afternoon that raised over \$1200 for Larder activities.

Thanks to all who attended and showed support.

*Words and photos by Helen Beeby*





# Rosters

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP							
Date	Colour	Preaching	Bible Reader	Prayers of the People	Day	Bible reading	STB
02-Jul-23	G	Ross Pearce	Marlene Thresher	Ross Pearce	God rested	Genesis 2: 1-3	Issue 12, pp. 31-38
09-Jul-23	G	Ross Pearce	Aubrey Mair	Keith Holmes	UCA Anniversary	John 17: 20-26	N/A
16-Jul-23	G	Ross Pearce	Mac Cleland	Erica Hutchinson	Pentecost 7	Matthew 10: 40-52	Issue 12, pp. 25-30
23-Jul-23	G	Ross Pearce	Ross Huggard	Marlene Thresher	Pentecost 8	Matthew 13: 24 -30, 36-43	Issue 12, pp. 47-54
30-Jul-23	G	Ross Pearce	Keith Holmes	Mac Cleland	Pentecost 9	Romans 3: 21-31	N/A

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP				
Date	Notes	Stewards	Morning Tea Helpers	Flowers
02-Jul-23		Robert Latimer, Daryl Groves	Edna Runciman, Bev Fowler, Enid Churcher	Edna Reeves
09-Jul-23		Mick Johnson, Neville Parker	Dorothy Bucher, Alistair Munro	Gill Jenkins
16-Jul-23		Marilyn Sheerin, Fiona Jones	Michael Johnson, Eileen Carolus	Gill Jenkins
23-Jul-23		Robert Latimer, Aubrey Mair	Marilyn Sheerin, Denise Andrews, Virgil Snyder	Marion Coulson
30-Jul-23	Combined service at 10:00am	Marilyn Sheerin, Fiona Jones	Carol Calderbank, Brenda Cooper, Sue Baker	Marion Coulson

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP							
Date	Preparing and Leading Worship		Preaching	Day	Bible reading	Title	STB
02-Jul-23	Ross		Ross Pearce	God rested	Genesis 2: 1-3	Jesus or John?	Issue 12, pp. 31-38
09-Jul-23	Valmai	Glenise	Ross Pearce	Pentecost 6	John 17: 20-26	UCA Anniversary	N/A
16-Jul-23	Gill	Alan	Ross Pearce	Pentecost 7	Matthew 10: 40-52	Hospitality	Issue 12, 25-30
23-Jul-23	Kerry	Mandy	Ross Pearce	Pentecost 8	Matthew 13: 24 -30, 36-43	Different seeds	Issue 12, pp. 47-54
30-Jul-23	Jackie	John	Ross Pearce	Pentecost 9	Romans 3: 21-31	Romans	N/A

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP		
Date	Welcome and Offering	Hospitality
02-Jul-23	Ley & Patti	Santhira
09-Jul-23	Santhira & Kate	Gill
16-Jul-23	Ley & Patti	Joy
23-Jul-23	Marg & Beryl	Santhira
30-Jul-23	Santhira & Kate	Joy

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP							
Date	Holy Communion	Notes	Children's Time	Band Leaders	Singers	Zoom	Sound
02-Jul-23	RP			John	Jenni & Valmai	Karin	Alan
09-Jul-23				Mike	Yvonne & Valmai	Matthew	Alan
16-Jul-23				John	Kerry & Mandy	Russell	Tim
23-Jul-23				Russell	Alan & Bronwen	Meg	Tim
30-Jul-23		Combined Service at 10:00am		Mike	Valmai & Jenni	Karin	Alan

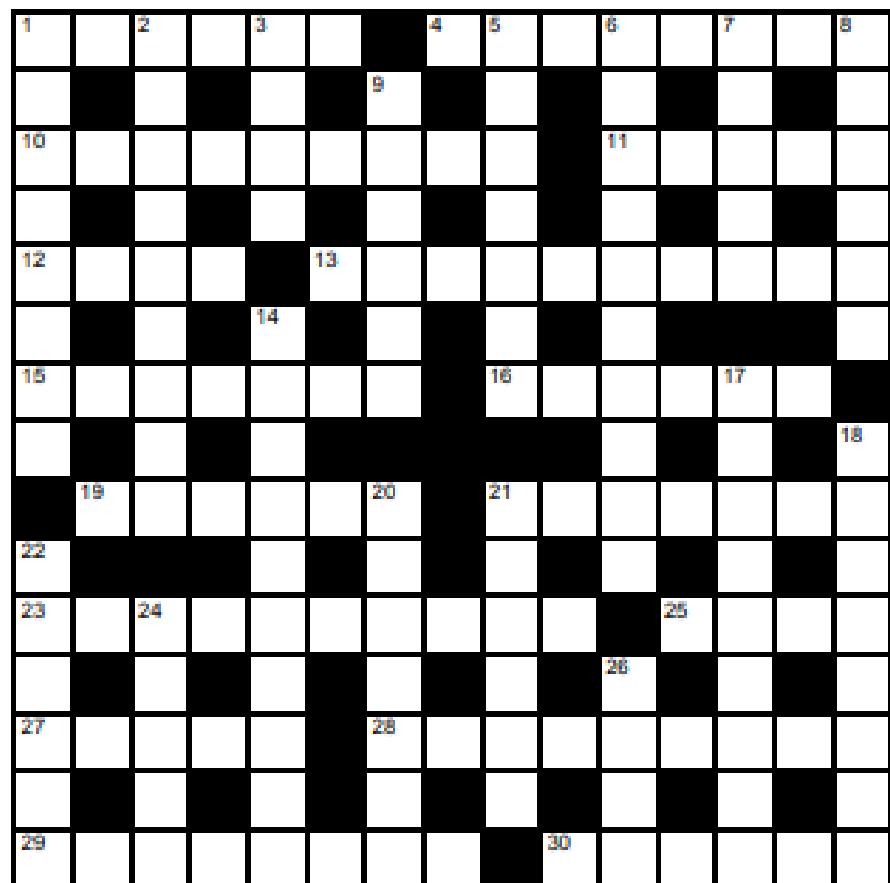
# BIBLE CROSSWORD I

## Across

- 1 An ancient weight (6)  
 4 Seemed (8)  
 10 New Testament book (9)  
 11 Unit of length (5)  
 12 '...it is a \_\_\_\_ thing  
 the king requireth'  
 (Dan 2:11) (4)  
 13 Contemplation (10)  
 15 Abigail supplied David  
 with one hundred  
 clusters of these (7)  
 16 A son of King David (6)  
 19 Concurred (6)  
 21 Light sources (7)  
 23 Propitiations (10)  
 25 A false god (4)  
 27 Gather (5)  
 28 Abimelech was hit by  
 this (9)  
 29 Instructors (8)  
 30 Hastily (6)

## Down

- 1 Skilled animal  
 workers (8)  
 2 Inspiring (9)  
 3 Compass point (4)  
 5 Intense emotion (7)



by Philologus

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- 6 The words of Jeremiah  
 said not to listen to  
 these (10)  
 7 Jewish leader (5)  
 8 'He is proud, knowing  
 nothing, but \_\_\_\_\_  
 about questions and  
 strifes of words...'  
 (1 Tim 6:4) (6)  
 9 Bread makers (6)  
 14 In this year of King  
 Nebuchadrezzar's reign,  
 Nebuzaradan arrived in  
 Jerusalem (10)  
 17 Ancient city of Og, King  
 of Bashan (9)  
 18 Stringed instrument (8)  
 20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)  
 21 Tiny amount (6)  
 22 Jesus did this with  
 authority (6)  
 24 Last letter of the Greek  
 alphabet (5)  
 26 Province of the Roman  
 Empire (4)

**Solution on page 4**