

May 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



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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.



Summarised Statement of Income/Expenditure for 3 Months to 31st March 2023

INCOME	Budget		Actual	
Planned Giving/Open Plate		25000		31282
Rental Income		7500		7544
Donations		375		0
Donations: Children's Outreach		125		110
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		1250		2648
Goods and Services Tax				141
Fete				0
Interest - Cash Management Account		100		62
GST Reimbursement MBA		500		0
Atkinson Foundation Income		1500		1489
Guest Foundation Income		1750		1770
Bomar Grant		0		0
Transfer from Wesley Lease		10750		0
Transfer from Bequest		750		0
Transfer from Employment Reserve		5500		0
Money for Mission Fund		20000		18279
Unit Price Adjustment				29
TOTAL INCOME		75100		63354
EXPENDITURE				
Ministerial Costs		30000		30739
Administration Costs		12650		11940
Planned Giving Expenses				0
Property Costs:				
Fire Brigade Levy	125		138	
Cleaning/Maintenance	10750		8587	
Rates: Council/Water	1125		1189	
Gas/Electricity	2250	14250	1184	11098
Insurance				
Sunday School/Children's Outreach		250		31
Organ/Choir/Copyright		625		846
Goods and Services Tax				1965
Miscellaneous		2500		1679
OPERATING EXPENDITURE		60275		58298
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	3000		3000	
Tom Sutherland	125		0	
Community Support	375	3500	0	3000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		63775		61298
Note: Operating surplus for 3 months is \$2036				
The next Money for Mission Fund payment is not due until July, so a deficit is likely next quarter				

Once again we thank Keith Holmes for his application and diligence in looking after our financial health.

From the Minister...



Rev Ross Writes

A few years back, I watched a then new movie called *The Dig*. It is the story of the archaeological dig in Sussex at a place called Sutton Hoo, probably the most important archaeological find in England in the 20th century. Shortly before the Second World War, a lady called Edith Pretty, the owner of Tranmer House, contracted Basil Brown, an amateur archaeologist, to investigate three large mounds on the property. The archaeological world wasn't particularly interested in the mounds at Tranmer House because it was assumed they were just another Viking burial site. Despite his misgivings at finding anything, due to evidence

of grave robbers, Basil Brown proceeded to excavate the largest mound and found an intact ship burial from the 6th Century – Anglo Saxon. The importance of this discovery is that up to that time in the archaeological world, the 6th and 7th centuries were called the Dark Ages. It was assumed that after the Romans left Britain, the country descended into chaos and pagan warfare. And here, in the Sutton Hoo gravesite, was evidence of artistry, trade, community and cooperation, and a social structure that showed respect for a dead king. The ages were no longer dark!

Events like these are a great reminder of how much of our history, both secular and religious is still assumed, and buried, and probably wrong, because we tend to judge the past on our standards. At about the same time as the movie on Sutton Hoo, it was announced that the founding editor of *Biblical Archaeology* magazine, Hershel Shanks, has died. He is reputed to have done "more than anyone in recent memory to stimulate Biblical archaeology" Like Basil Brown, he was an amateur driven by passion, and had to fight the scholars and the academics to get the information out to the public, and to break through accepted beliefs and assumptions to open the past to proper inspection.

The academic assumption was that the Bible is a fabricated history, and it is only through the stimulation of people like Hershel Shanks that archaeology in the Holy Land has discovered evidence to expose the real world of David and Solomon and bring to light the towns that Jesus visited. The stories we have in the Bible may be embellished but it is not an archaeological dark age, there is evidence of real people and a real struggle for a Jewish nation amid surrounding empires.

Scholarship and academic study are all very important, but enthusiasm and passion, and a vision to see the possible, are vital to examine the past and bring to life people who are not all that different to us. As we wrestle with the meaning of events in our Australian history just a couple of hundred years ago, it's good to remember that all history involves people, and they are not that different to us, so let's not assume we are the sophisticated, civilised, moderns and everyone in the past is in some sort of dark age of pagan unsophistication or that history is all made up.



Membership of the Uniting Church

As we renew the membership database and discuss pastoral care in both the Contemporary service and the Elders, the issue has arisen about membership - "Am I an official member of High St Uniting?"



The Uniting Church recognises three types of membership of the church:

Baptised - being any who were baptised as a child and have not yet confirmed their faith as an adult.

Confirmed - being those confirmed in the Church or equivalent in other denominations, such as adult baptism.

Member-in-Association - those who are members elsewhere but actively engaged here.

We also recognise the participation of people who are not members through the category of Adherents.

All these categories, and the requirements and processes around them, are laid out in the Regulations of the Church, and each congregation is required to be diligent in the keeping of Rolls. However, over recent decades, the church has, because of being open and welcoming to all who wish to be involved in the community, become laxer in maintaining Rolls. Not everyone follows the official process of transfer, and some may be unsure of their membership status at all. Rolls have become more about contact and communication, rather than detailing dates and categories of membership.

The liturgies and rituals that we go through in Baptism and Confirmation are all worded as membership of the Church of Jesus Christ - which is why our baptism Certificates are acceptable to all the denominations that practice infant baptism - rather than referring to membership of the local church in which the worship takes place. It leaves people thinking, "Well, I'm a member of the Uniting Church, it doesn't matter where I go." And the only time that membership is treated as important is when issues are being decided in church meetings; officially only confirmed members and accepted members-in-association can decide on issues for the church or be on councils of the church.

All of this can leave people unsure of their membership status unless you have been at High St or its predecessors all your life! However, one of the requirements of the regulations is that all membership issues - transfers, baptisms, confirmations, or members-in-association - are handled by the Church Council. If you are unsure of your membership status or have been welcomed in without any of the formality of transfer, or have never been challenged to confirm your faith since infant baptism, Rev Ross would be happy to talk to you about your membership, and if you like, make your place in our community official.

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 #



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 Ross Huggard and family on the loss of his mother. For Jen Johnson, in the midst of treatment for cancer.
- For the Mathews and Jenkins families, as they continue to live with the loss of Angie.
- For Michelle, daughter of Marilyn and Robert Downing, in ongoing treatment for cancer. And for Marilyn and -- Robert, with various health issues.
- For Kerrin Hill, as she continues her rehabilitation.
- For Roy Gieseman, recovering from surgery.
- For Debra Gibb, on the loss of her cat Missy, and her father's poor health.
- For all others who mourn the loss of loved ones.
- For all others who are in poor health and having treatment.
- For the remembrance of the ANZACs and all who served in wars on our behalf, and for their families and descendants.
- For wisdom and discernment around the Voice Referendum discussions.
- 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 Brekky Club, serving the people of Frankston, and its continued funding, and its new co-ordinator.
- For Ukraine, still under attack from Russia.
- For Turkey and Syria, still in recovery from the recent earthquake causing so much devastation.
- For communities in New Zealand, northern Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, still in recovery from the cyclone, floods, and bushfires.
- 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. 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



Last Sunday I took a service at Boronia Road, a previous Parish, which is between ministers. It's always nice to revisit old friends.

Following the service, several of us went out for a meal together, and we sat for several hours enjoying conversation. We talked about such things as the Uluru Statement, and the upcoming referendum (the upcoming coronation, and updates on old parishioners, and so on). Boronia Road, like many congregations, has a social conscience, runs a food bank, and plays its part in trying to 'right the wrongs'. Later in the day, one of the company emailed me to say how much she'd enjoyed just being able to sit and discuss with friends, issues, which for some, are controversial.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed at times by the pain and suffering which is happening around us, and to be able to gather with others, like-minded or not, and talk about issues of concern, and learn about what is being done, and whether within our own limits, there is more that we can do. Our social justice group provides such opportunities.

We are a small group, but growing - I think!! Instigated by David before he left, and fully supported by Ross, we met monthly. We have decided to focus on just 3 different areas: The 'Uluru Statement', Homelessness, and Climate change. Educating ourselves is of critical importance, as is sharing our activities and concerns. You will have been aware of our existence because of the banners which grace the outside of the building, and other such initiatives.

We learn from each other, we listen with respect to each other, and in that way, raise awareness, and I think enjoy each other's company. This is an invitation to join us!! Usually the 1st Thursday at 7:00pm at the Church (keep an eye out on the weekly notice sheets, for finer details), we'd love to see you!

Brenda

Our Thanks to Rodney Carruthers for this Month's photo spread.



Tributes from recent funerals

Faye Dungey

We are here today to remember and celebrate the life of Fay Lillian Dungey. Born on the 16th of February 1941 to William and Lilian Freeman.

William (Bill) was a schoolteacher, and mum's younger life was spent in the country towns where her father taught. Mum got up to the usual childhood mischief, rode bikes everywhere, wanted to swim in the river, at one place there was a cat that would follow her around and she hated it, the cat went for a swim in that river one day, but it didn't stop the cat from following her around.

I heard from my Auntie Bev who remembers when Fay who was quite young at the time got up to some mischief. Their father had been using the big ladder one day and had had to leave to get milk or something. He left the ladder out, and mum decided to climb the ladder. When he returned, she was above the roof height, and he had to climb it to get her down.

Fay had nephritis during these school years and had not actually been expected to make it to adulthood, so she did well, living to 82. As you can expect she did not like the long periods of complete bed rest that was required. She told me once that her mother would not even let her sit at the window and hold the skipping rope so her sister could skip.

Mum recovered from the nephritis and completed school with her finishing certificate. She then went to work in the bank, where she enjoyed her time and told me of one time when her and her friend were busy tying the shoelaces of the teller together while he was attending to a customer. She met my father Frank at the dances she used to attend at Moorabbin town hall. They were Married on the 21st of June 1960 and had 2 children myself (Leanne) and my brother Steven. Mum loved people, loved being around them and talking to everyone. Mum was involved in many groups throughout her life. When we were kids there were parents and friends' groups, she played tennis and was a youth group leader. She would be off at friends' houses playing cards with us kids running around the backyard. She was always involved in church and had a strong faith. She would be involved in the plays, fetes and events, ladies evening group, and Larder. I remember one time in Ballarat she was playing the part of a bride at a Scottish feast. She loved singing and was always involved in the church choirs; you could see the joy in her face when she sang in the choir.

Her later years took some of that joy away from her. Firstly, her eyesight, which was thought at first to be night blindness, and many of you have stories of helping her to navigate somewhere at night. Later it turned into tunnel vision which affected her in many ways. Then her hearing became worse, making it difficult for her to hear people and to communicate like she always wanted to. Finally, her memory left her, taking away her ability to talk to people and remember the great life that she had.

-oOo-

Mary Morgan

The simple details, when and where born, when and where married, when and where died, can scarcely do justice to an extraordinary life like Mary's. And I can tell that Mary had not only an extraordinary life but an extraordinary effect on people from Peter's description of Mary when I was talking to him. He had Mary's details by memory and was obviously so proud of her.

Mary Veronica Morgan, nee Jones, was born in Oakleigh in 1924, the only Daughter of Mabel and Walter J Jones, after which, in 1925, the family moved to Frankston, with Mary's father building on the corner of Foot St and Frankston-Flinders Rd. There were some issues with the local primary school and Mary was sent to St Francis Xavier and then on to Secondary School to Year 12,



which itself would have been extraordinary in the 1930s. Mary went on to Teachers College and then experience in teaching before returning to Teachers College and then on to university, to graduate with qualifications for Secondary Teaching in 1947, another thing that I imagine as extraordinary for a woman in the 1940s.

Peter listed off the schools and years so quickly that I couldn't get them down fast enough, but Mary taught at a range of schools throughout the state, including Wangaratta, Terang, Seymour, Sale, and Yallourn, before applying to work at Bonbeach to be close to family. She taught at Bonbeach from 1965 to 1983, the last 8 of those years as Principal. Amazingly, Mary was the first woman to serve as Principal of a Secondary School in Victoria and by the time she retired she held the No1 seniority position in the Education Department. I checked the Bonbeach High School Facebook page and Mary's death notice has 155 responses and 106 comments, many of which are filled with appreciative memories from ex-students of the school and especially her staff members, remembering the warmth of her affection for them and their work.

As I said, simple details do not do justice to Mary's extraordinary life and influence.

Peter recalls meeting Mary at the house of a mutual friend, Myrtle McCarthy, w ask Peter to make the tea for them all when he came home from work. The friendship blossomed and Mary and Peter were married in 1973. For people my age, it's a bit of a shock to realise that the 70s are 50 years ago! This August, Peter and Mary would have been married 50 years and we can all imagine how much Peter misses his beloved wife.

Mary was a member of St Andrews Uniting Church which is now High St following the amalgamation with Wesley Uniting. She is remembered as ab quiet, unassuming person, which also speaks to her character, not being the stereotypical strong principal type, but a warm, engaging person. Deteriorating health stopped her coming to church and th here I believe, Peter was boarding, and Mary was visiting regularly to support Myrtle. Myrtle would e elders regret that somehow, we list touch with her.

Peter was struggling as carer for Mary and so they moved to Aged Care and, after a bad experience at one centre, have been happily sharing a couple's room at Bays Aged Care here in Hastings, for the past 3 years.

I could find no better words to sum up Mary's life than the small poem in the death notice.

A special person

A loving nature, a heart of gold.
Never selfish, always kind
These are the memories you left behind
Silent thoughts, a quiet prayer
For a special person in Gods care

-oOo-

Cynthia Beswick

Cynthia was born on 11th July 1934 to Edward James Wootton and Henrietta Ann Wootton nee Woods in Geelong, Victoria. Cynthia was an only child but had a large extended family as her mother was the eldest of 9 children. Her grandfather ran the main hardware store in Geelong in the early 1900s. Her father worked as the production manager for the Ford Motor company and her mother was one of the first female opticians in Victoria.

Cynthia attended the Morongo Girls Grammar school and was very proud that she was a prefect in the last year of her schooling. She participated in many activities including tennis, piano and singing lessons, she also loved swimming at the Eastern Beach. She attended the Methodist church at the top of her street in Geelong. One of her favourite stories of school was when it was her turn to



press the bell to indicate the end of a class session, she unfortunately rang the air raid siren instead which resulted in the whole school marching out onto the oval.

After completing her matriculation certificate from school, she went to the Royal Melbourne Hospital and began training as a nurse. During this time, she and her best friend Margaret Pretty went on a double date where she met Thomas William Beswick and that would lead to a marriage at a church in Toorak. Cynthia and Tom lived in a flat in St. Kilda, Tom recently joining the Victoria Police Force.

The following year Cynthia had her first child Helen Ann Beswick. As part of a generous wedding present Cynthia's parents bought them a block of land in Blackburn South, 41 Aldinga Street. They had a 3-bedroom home built and moved in when Helen was about 2. Four years after Helen's birth Cynthia delivered a son Craig Edward James Beswick, later saying she waited until Helen learnt to sleep through the night. Cynthia was a stay-at-home mum.

Blackburn South was a new suburb east of the city of Melbourne there was a lot of fundraising for kindergartens and local churches with fetes where Cynthia would help by volunteering her time. Cynthia also donated her time as a Sunday School teacher at the local Presbyterian church. During these years Cynthia still craved her passion for singing and performing, she joined a ladies group The Caryinya Players which attended public halls, retirement homes etc. to put on performances of choral pieces, musical comedy numbers in costume, skits, and recitals. This was her happy place.

In 1967 Cynthia & Tom bought a family dog, a black Labrador Retriever "Tammy" she was pedigree and lead to an introduction into the world of showing dogs. This led to more dogs and recording a kennel name of "Rowlock". Many weekends travelling the Victorian countryside to attend shows with plenty of wins along the way which helped to fuel the new hobby. Cynthia was not one for travelling, she was a home body, but with Tom she took a trip up the east coast of Australia to the far north tropics once the children had left the nest.

1982 saw the deterioration and break up of her marriage which totally turned her world around and she had to learn how to survive in life alone. She obtained a job as a care attendant at an aged care facility looking after people who lived in small self-contained units. This facility was within walking distance of her home though she did sleep in several nights a week being on call. This later lead her to completing a 'management course' at the Box Hill TAFE for which she attained a certificate and lead her to manage an aged care facility in Malvern which in turn lead her to a larger facility at Croydon Lodge where she remained until she retired in 1989. Selling the home in Blackburn South and moving down to Frankston and a two-bedroom unit, 6 minutes away from her daughter.

Cynthia shortly thereafter joined the congregation of St Andrews Uniting Church, which is now High St Uniting, in Frankston and subsequently joined the choir.

Not content to sit around Cynthia obtained a position as housekeeper/nanny to a local doctor where she cared for two children for many years from birth to teenagers.

Cynthia was the conductress for the Frankston Ladies choir for over a decade, putting on variety concerts at various theatres throughout Frankston. Singing and performing was her passion.

Unfortunately, 11 years ago she had major problems with Alzheimer/dementia symptoms which required her to move into Regis Sherwood Park, an aged care facility to keep her safe and well cared for.

During her stay at Sherwood Park, she fell fracturing her hip in two places and after a 4-hour operation, she pulled through but never walked again. Five years ago, she lost the ability to communicate with family and friends; lost in a confused state of mental deterioration.

The family is now happy that she is free from suffering and her daughter believes she will have already set up a singing group in heaven doing what she most enjoyed.

Rosters

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Date	Colour	Preaching	Bible Reader	Day	Bible reading	STB
07-May-23	W	Ross Pearce	Aubry Mair	Easter 5	John 14: 1-14	Issue 11, p. 110
14-May-23	W	Ross Pearce	Ross Huggard	Easter 6	John 14: 15-21	Issue 11, p. 117
21-May-23	W	Ross Pearce	Dawn Peacock	Easter 7	John 17: 1-11	Issue 11, p. 124
28-May-23	R	Ross Pearce	Erica Hutchinson	Pentecost	1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13	Issue 11, p. 130

Date	Notes	Stewards	Morning Tea Helpers	Flowers
07-May-23		Jen & Mick Johnson	Dorothy Bucher, Alistair Munro, Eileen Carolus	Gill Jenkins
14-May-23		Jen & Mick Johnson	Jill Cayzer, Virgil Snyder, Denise Andrews	Marion Coulson
21-May-23		Rona Russell, Heather Rawson	Michael & Jen Johnson, Sue Baker	Marion Coulson
28-May-23	Combined service at 10:00am	Rona Russell, Heather Rawson	Marilyn Sheerin, Carol Calderbank	Beryl and Marg

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP (Elders and Communion)

Date	Holy Communion	Duty Elder	Communion Setup	Communion Helpers
07-May-23	RP	Mac Cleland and Marlene Thresher	Dawn Peacock and Shirley Groves	Erica Hutchinson and Stanley Zhungu
14-May-23				
21-May-23				
28-May-23				

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Date	Holy Communion	Notes	Children's Time	Band Leaders	Singers	Zoom	Sound
07-May-23	RP		Meg	Russell	Arthur & Fiona	Tim	Alan
14-May-23			Irene	Mike	Jenni & Mandy	Matthew	Tim
21-May-23			Meg	Russell	Alan & Bronwen	Karin	Alan
28-May-23		Pentecost combined service at 10:00am	Rowena	Mike	Fiona & Russell	Meg	Alan

Date	Welcome and Offering	Hospitality
07-May-23	Santhira & Joy	Gill
14-May-23	Patti & Barb	Santhira
21-May-23	Marg & Beryl	Barb
28-May-23	Kate & Mandy	Joy



MAY FETE

SATURDAY, 13th May

9:00am – 1:00pm

High Street Uniting Church

16 – 18 High Street, Frankston

All are welcome!

Handmade goods, sausage sizzle, coffee van, morning teas,
books, cakes, jams, sauces, plants, Mother's Day gifts,
Children's clothing and activities, Trash 'n Treasure,
entertainment and much more!

