

November 2024

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



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Scan the QR Code to access our website.



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



## Assembly News

### Appointment of new General Secretary

The Uniting Church in Australia Assembly is delighted to extend an invitation to the Commissioning of Andrew Johnson as Assembly General Secretary.

All are invited to attend the service, which will be held at **3pm AEDT on Saturday 23 November at Gungahlin Uniting Church** north of Canberra. It will also be live-streamed, with details below.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly [joyfully appointed](#) Mr Johnson as the new Assembly General Secretary in July this year, following a rigorous nomination process. He is a deeply committed member of the Uniting Church and an established strategy, change and governance leader. He holds qualifications in law, science and theology.

Andrew will commence in the role in late October.

RSVPs are invited by **8 November** for catering purposes. For those attending online, please indicate this in your RSVP to receive the live-streaming link.



### Lutheran Church in Australia

Last week the General Synod of the Lutheran Church of Australia endorsed the ordination of women, removing a clause from its Theses of Agreement which has prohibited women from entering pastoral ministry. We congratulate our Lutheran friends in Christ and join with you in celebrating women's ministry.



## Don't Forget

### Armchair Travel takes you to North India

Save the date for your diary  
Sunday, November 10, 5pm-7.30pm  
Tickets \$10  
Framed photo to win.  
Bring a plate to share.



Proceeds to JBKS and Women's spirit project.

### SWISH Fundraiser for November

As a part of its "Local Matters" initiative, Grill'd Frankston is once again raising funds for our very own SWISH group! To participate, enjoy a burger at Grill'd and put your token in the "Frankston Vision Impaired Table Tennis Club" jar.

For more info, visit: [grilld.com.au/local-matters](http://grilld.com.au/local-matters)



# From the Minister...



Rev Ross Writes



While it has become somewhat overshadowed by the dominance of ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day still has an importance as a time to reflect on the great losses of war, the sacrifices and bravery, and the broken lives of returning soldiers. And the great symbolism of the eleventh hour of the eleventh month, when the guns fell silent, leads to Remembrance Day being the day to talk of peace. However, is war and conflict the only way to talk about peace? Isn't there a value in peace for itself? The poppy, the great symbol of Remembrance Day, evokes the image of the

blood of all the young men lost in war. But a field of poppies is also a great symbol of the growth and beauty that can happen when there is no war.

Many people talk of the necessity of war when talking of peace. They don't argue that peace must be earned but say that war and conflict and tension are necessary for human progress. Look at all the technology and progress that comes from people uniting in a common purpose they argue. Look at all the great art and music that comes from conflict and tension – Vaughan Williams, Lewis, and Tolkien were all servicemen in the First World War – the argument goes. Peace is wonderful but for humanity and civilisation to progress, we must strive and come into conflict, it is in our nature. Look at all the conflicts we have had over the last century alone; a quick estimate gives us less than 60 years of peace since 1919! Less than 40 years if you count the Cold War, or if you include local or national conflicts. So much for the War to End Wars, war is in our nature.

But for others, the price of war is so high that it forms a natural argument for peace. So much death and destruction over issues that could have been solved in other ways. So much loss and waste when cooperation and trade could have built a better world. The stories of veterans are not just the stuff of valour and awards, they are a powerful argument for peace. Sometimes the arguments for peace as a concept on its own are vague and not very persuasive, but the example of war is itself a great argument for peace.

And for us, the followers of the Prince of Peace, honouring Remembrance Day as a call to peace should come naturally. The cross is not a story of the necessity of violence to bring peace. The cross and the tomb is the great story of peace triumphing over violence. The followers of Jesus in the Roman Empire made that such an important part of their lives that, alone in the Empire, they were granted exemption from military service. Peace is not just an absence of war; it is a state of mind that comes from being reconciled to God and reconciled to people around us. For us, war is not so much an argument for peace, as an example of the consequences of not embracing the peace on offer in the Gospel. So let us honour all those who served, willingly or grudgingly, as victims of systems of conflict, and look to a better way – peace.

At the going down of the sun,  
and in the morning,  
we will remember them.  
Lest we forget.

## 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 #



## Victorian Council of Churches

### Bishop Mykola Bychok - new Catholic Cardinal



Melbourne-based Bishop Mykola Bychok has been chosen by Pope Francis as one of 21 new cardinals. Bishop Bychok of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will be the first Australian-based Cardinal since the death of George Pell last year. Bishop Bychok will become a cardinal at a meeting in December. At 44, Bishop Bychok is the youngest of the 21 cardinal-elects announced by Pope Francis. The Ukrainian Catholic Church of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania welcomed the appointment of Bishop Bychok. "This is a significant event for the entire Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and the Ukrainian people. On behalf of all the clergy and faithful of the Eparchy of Melbourne, we sincerely congratulate Bishop Mykola on his proclamation as a cardinal."

### VCC - Future of Ecumenism survey

The Victorian Council of Churches Standing Committee will be circulating a survey and inviting responses to the question of the future shape of ecumenism in Victoria. The link to the survey will be uploaded to the VCC Facebook page, the VCC website, and a special edition of the VCC e-news next Monday, 14th October. The VCC Standing Committee will welcome responses in order to chart the next steps for a strategic plan.

## CHRISTMAS BOWL

**2024 celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Christmas Bowl - and you're invited!**

**Date:** November 24


**Time:** 3pm, followed by light refreshments

The event will include presentations by Act for Peace staff about current campaigns, and what Act for Peace through the Christmas Bowl has achieved over the years. Special guest Rev Dr D'Arcy Wood will speak about Rev Frank Byatt (an early proponent of the Christmas Bowl). Rev Dr Brian and Jill Polkinghorne from South Australia will also be present. Their long term stay in Tanzania to support tree planting and farming projects was in part supported by the Christmas Bowl.

The event will also include a Blessing of the Christmas Bowls, and congregations are invited to bring along their Christmas Bowl as part of the blessing.

ACT FOR PEACE  
IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH THE  
VICTORIAN COUNCIL  
OF CHURCHES  
INVITES YOU TO  
THE LAUNCH OF THE  
75TH ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS BOWL

75  
years



Christmas  
Bowl

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY **24** 3.00PM

2024

St Peter's Eastern Hill  
15 Gisborne St Melbourne

Celebrating 75 years of  
acting for peace together

## We pray...

For those within our church family who find it difficult or are unable to attend worship, including: Sheila and Leon Knoop, Gwen Paxino, Ruth Conn, Marie de Silva, Lola Coupe, Barbara Yates, and Ken Gilbert.



- For the family and friends of Margaret Snyder who died very recently.
- For Vilma LaBrooy and family, following the funeral for her brother, and her sister-in-law Audrey LaBrooy's recent death.
- For Maureen Beens, following recent health difficulties, and moving into care.
- For Enid Churcher, and Jessie Williams, who have moved into care.
- For Nylma Carruthers, and Jen Johnson, and Dawn Peacock's daughter receiving ongoing treatment.
- For Shirley Groves following recent surgery.
- For all others who are in poor health and having treatment.
- For our Moderator, Rev. David Fotheringham, and his family.
- For all the saints who have gone before us, and are still with us, especially faithful people who have shaped our lives and our faith, the church and the world.
- For the family and friends of all our loved and valued members who have passed away during this past year.
- For Alan and Gill Jenkins, as they finish up their long term volunteering at Monash Peninsula.
- For the Breakfast Club as they move to their new location, after being located at our church for some time this year.
- For the conflict in Israel and Palestine, and Leb, and all affected.
- For Ukraine, still under attack from Russia.
- For the United States of America, and their upcoming election.
- For all those living with mental health needs in our church family and our community, and our country.
- For those around Frankston who experience homelessness.
- For those struggling with the ever-increasing cost of living.

*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 email [marlene.thresher@gmail.com](mailto:marlene.thresher@gmail.com), 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.*

## REFLECTIONS ON MONASH UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

I have been very privileged to have had the role of Chaplain at Monash University Peninsula Campus for the last eight years. I've been asked to reflect a little, upon finishing up in the middle of the year. Here are some of my thoughts!

- It's been a wonderful place to work. Peninsula campus is small enough to develop connections and a sense of community, and campus management and staff are very supportive of each other, including myself. Over the years, relationships and trust have been developed, and staff have understood the particular role of a Chaplain, and the value of having a Chaplain alongside other support services.

- The students are also lovely! The vast majority are health-related students (nursing, paramedics, physiotherapy and occupational therapy) or education, and will be working in jobs and careers which will help others, so it's wonderful to be supporting them along their way.

- It's been an honour to be a presence and a listening ear for staff and students on all kinds of issues which are affecting their lives - emotional and mental health and well-being, and stressful life events which happen for us all. Sometimes these issues have included spiritual and faith issues, and it is very important and beneficial that there is a space for that in the very busy University life.

- I've taken part in some fantastic University events. For example, the Human Book Library, where students talk to various "books", hearing their particular stories, and practising respectful interviewing and questioning.

Also, supporting the Iftar and Eid celebrations for Muslim students, which have provided meaningful and happy gatherings for many overseas students who are missing their families at these times. Orientation Week, RUOK Day and other special days through the year have been great connection points with students and staff.

- Thursday morning Pancake breakfasts are one of the biggest regular events on campus, and are a wonderful point of contact with students and staff. Yes, students love free food! But it is also so much more than that – the space is warm and friendly and welcoming, and very conducive to a quick chat and "how are you doing?", sometimes leading to a longer conversation. Students often come in in groups either before or after classes, and sit and eat together, talking about their lecture or assignment coming up, providing peer support for each other. Students in the residential halls get up and come over for brekky, even if they don't have classes. Groups of staff often come and have a pancake together for morning tea, and say they love Thursdays! There has been so much appreciation expressed to me over the years for this quite simple but very effective event.

- A very special thank you to the most wonderful volunteers, Alan and Gill Jenkins, who have supported the Pancake Breakfast for more years than they can remember! (See separate article). And also several others from our congregation who have helped over the years: Peggy and Rachel Menge, Jen Johnson, Phoebe Mathews, Meg Ryan, Tim Lake, Alan Mathews, and John Annable.

Thank you also to all at High Street Uniting Church who have supported me through your interest and your kind and encouraging words, it has been very much appreciated. I've been very fortunate to have been in this position which I have loved, on behalf of you all.

Mandy Lake.





## THANK YOU ALAN AND GILL JENKINS

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, Alan and Gill Jenkins packed up their wooden mixing spoon and pancake flipper for the final time at Monash Peninsula, after a huge 17 years of wonderful volunteering service. Alan and Gill first volunteered when Rev. Jay Robinson, the previous Chaplain, started the breakfast all those years ago, and found themselves continuing to support it until now – an incredible effort!



Each Thursday morning during semester, they have risen early to be on campus around 7.30am to prepare the pancake mixture and cook the pancakes on the BBQ for the first students to arrive at 8.30am. Between 8.30am and 10.30am there would be anywhere between 100 and 180 people, meaning several batches of mix and hundreds of pancakes! Alan and Gill were thanked by the University staff for their contribution to the life of the campus, and received a lovely gift from them. Several students made a point of thanking them personally as well, and letting them know how much they were appreciated. Jay and myself

attended on the last morning, and we shared a coffee together, also expressing our gratitude to Alan and Gill for their passion and commitment, and their support for us in our role. They were presented with a lovely camelia named "Volunteer" which seemed very appropriate for the occasion!



Mandy Lake.





Hee Haw.....



LEGS presents

## A Little Bit of Country

Fabulous afternoon tea,  
entertainment,  
dancing & much more



A wonderful time was had by all as everyone reached back to their country roots and enjoyed the good down-home company, fine vittles, boot scootin', nutbushing and a good sing-a-long. A huge thankyou to Rob Foenander who once again donated his time and talent. \$1225 was raised on the day.

Y'all come back now y'hear!





## *Vale Audrey Ninette La Brooy*



Audrey Ninette La Brooy was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 1934 in Ceylon, now known as Sri Lanka. She studied at various primary schools during her childhood years, this was due to her father being a doctor and needed to work at various hospital across Ceylon.

Audrey attended St John's Girl School in Pandura, which was during the war, she recalls wearing a cord round her neck with a wooden stick, that they would need to bite on when they heard the Air Raid warnings, this was to stop them from screaming,

In 1946, her father decided to travel England to further his medical studies, to enhance his qualifications.

Audrey, Trevor and mum Cynthia moved to Colombo. Where she stayed with various family members getting to know many of her cousins well.

Audrey took up typing and shorthand after school and gained her first job with Brown and Company in 1963.

During her career at Brown & Company she excelled and received many promotions, so when it was time for her to leave 1968, she was a junior executive.

This is when she decided to pursue her passion in Nursing and looked at going to England to study.

One of the highlights during her time at Brown and company was that she met a wealthy man, Cliff Adams. This friendship blossomed into a romance that continued when she left Brown and company and went to England. There were many trips made by Cliff to England and Audrey to USA.

Audrey was a brave girl of that era to leave her family that she loved dearly and go to the England to study Nursing. Her parents did not want her to work as they thought the woman in the work force at that era were not respected or fairly treated.

Audrey started her General Nursing at Leicester Royal Infirmary, where her tutor was Phill Goodall, who took Aunty Audrey under her wing.

In 1972 she gave up general nursing and started Midwifery training at the same hospital. In 1975 Aunty Audrey became a "Sister" and that is when Audrey new that her passion and career was to be with babies as seen from her young age. Aunty Audrey continued doing Midwifery until she retired in 1999 after completing 27 years of service at ripe old age of 65.

In 1978 Audrey made her 1<sup>st</sup> of many trips to Australia, where she met up with all her family that had left the shores of Ceylon/Sri Lanka and moved to Australia.

In 1980 She purchased her property in Alcester Drive in Leicester, where she resided with her tutor Phill Goodall, the Goodall's had become her England family as her immediate family was spread across the globe. The Goodall's loved Aunty Audrey as one of their own family members. In this house she hosted many cousins coming to England on trips and she showed them around all over the country. Audrey loved gardening and even had a hedgehog in her garden. She was greatly involved and was proud when she was able to take flowers from her own garden and decorate the church for Sunday service.

Audrey being the kindhearted person she was, in year 2000 came to Sri Lanka to help look after her sister in her final years as she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

In 2003 Audrey migrated to Australia, she purchased her house at Dunstan Grove in Frankston South, she was very happy as it was close to other relatives who had also migrated from Sri Lanka. Not long after her arrival into Australia Audrey became involved in High Street Uniting Church attending Sunday Services, bible studies and other church activities, she made a lot of dear friends.

Audrey loved babysitting her great grandnephew and great grandniece during this time spoiling them with toys, food, and much love. Family would often joke that if Audrey had kids of her own that they would be the size of a house as she would feed all her children under her care nonstop.

In June 2006 She travelled back to Ceylon/Sri Lanka to attend a family wedding. This was the last overseas trip that she made. Audrey loved traveling and seeing the familiar parts of he country and indulging in its beauty, various fruits, and food.

In Sept 2014, Audrey Moved into Benton's Lodge where she continued to reside until her demise in September 2024. She will be sadly missed, and we thank for your love until we meet again and hear you say, "Not bad for an old girl!" *The above is an except from ther family eulogy at Audrey'*

# Summarised Statement of Income/Expenditure for 9 Months to 30th September 2024

INCOME	Budget		Actual	
Planned Giving/Open Plate		78750		84902
Rental Income		34500		27651
Donations		1125		1550
Donations: Children's Outreach		375		350
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		4500		8269
Goods and Services Tax				1350
Fete		5000		5362
Interest - Cash Management Account		200		288
GST Reimbursement MBA		750		775
Atkinson Foundation Income		3000		5204
Guest Foundation Income		4000		6310
Bomar Grant		9000		13500
Transfer from Wesley Lease		15000		6000
Transfer from Bequest				
Transfer from Employment Reserve		16500		0
Money for Mission Fund		40000		83819
Unit Price Adjustment				42
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>212700</b>		<b>245372</b>
EXPENDITURE				
Ministerial Costs		93000		93894
Administration Costs		35125		35330
Planned Giving Expenses		500		580
Property Costs:				
Fire Brigade Levy	375		814	
Cleaning/Maintenance	34500		42547	
Rates: Council/Water	4125		4074	
Gas/Electricity	7500	46500	5381	52816
Insurance		12000		13232
Sunday School/Children's Outreach		750		0
Organ/Choir/Copyright		1875		2744
Goods and Services Tax				7399
Transfer to Employment Reserve				4500
Miscellaneous		7500		4740
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>197250</b>		<b>215235</b>
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	9000		9000	
Tom Sutherland	375		500	
Community Support	1125	10500	500	10000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>207750</b>		<b>225235</b>

Note: Operating surplus for 9 months is \$20137  
(Resulting from an unexpectedly high income from the Money for Mission Fund)

As always we thank Keith Holmes and his team for their financial diligence on our behalf.





*High St Uniting Church*




# *Christmas Fete*

Saturday 7th December

9:00 am - 1:00pm

Christmas Raffle, handmade goods,  
Christmas gifts,  
Devonshire Teas, sausage sizzle,  
coffee, cakes, books, children's activities,  
market stalls.

To book a stall contact Church office [frankstonuc@gmail.com](mailto:frankstonuc@gmail.com)  
or Marg [info@margscarlett.com](mailto:info@margscarlett.com)



*If you want to stock up on some good did-you-know? Facts about the Bible, I've put together a few for you below.*



### **1. The longest book of the Bible is Jeremiah**

This prophet had a lot to say. He even wrote in the twentieth chapter of his book:

But if I say, "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot. (Jeremiah 20:9)

Granted, Jeremiah is the longest book based on how we currently arrange the books of the Bible. If we did it the old school way, the two-part book of Kings would be the longest book. And if we did it really, really, really old school, the five-part Torah (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) would dwarf all other contenders. This megabook alone makes up about one fifth of the whole Bible!

### **2. The shortest book of the Bible is 3 John**

You can read this book in about one minute. The book right before it, 2 John, is the second-shortest book of the Bible.

### **3. The books of the Old Testament are arranged differently in Judaism**

The English Bibles we use group the books of the Bible loosely by type of literature. So in the Old Testament, you have the books of law first, then books about Israel's history in the promised land, then books of wisdom and poetry, then books by the prophets.

But the Old Testament isn't always arranged this way. For example, in Judaism's Hebrew Bible (the Tanakh), the books of law come first (the Torah), followed by the former and latter prophets (a blend of prophets and history), followed by "the writings" (a blend poetry, history, and prophetic books). In this arrangement, the last book is Chronicles, not Malachi.

### **4. There are at least 185 songs in the Bible**

About 150 of these are in the book of Psalms. (I say "about" because there's some debate as to whether a few of the separate Psalms were originally meant to be sung as one.) But throughout both the Old and New Testaments, people will sing songs about God or the events around them.

And 185 is a bare minimum—that's only if you count the portions of Scripture that are specifically labelled as "song," "psalm," "dirge," or "chant."

### **5. The authorship of Hebrews has remained anonymous for centuries**

Several books of the Old Testament were written by people unnamed. Tradition doesn't identify the authors of Joshua–Kings, Esther, or Job. Plus, many of the books with traditional authors assigned to them were likely penned and edited by other people. For example, while Jonah is the traditional author of Jonah, there's a good case to be made that some later scribe wrote this satire of the compassionate God, the rebellious prophet, and the repentant cows. The church has been (roughly) consistent with assigning authors (or at least names of authors) to books in the New Testament. Even works that are technically anonymous, like the Gospels, were so important that the early church leaders consistently assigned their authorship to either the same traditional person or a small group of candidates.

**But the book of Hebrews is a glaring exception.** Authorship of this book has been debated for centuries. Augustine was sure Paul wrote it. Luther was convinced it was the eloquent Apollos. Tertulian assigns the work to Barnabas. But we just don't know.

Granted, there seems to have always been a large group of Christians who doubt Simon Peter wrote 2 Peter. But pseudonymity is a whole other ball of wax. ;-)

### **6. The word "Trinity" is never mentioned in the Bible.**

Most Christians believe that God eternally exists in three persons: The Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. And all three are referred to as divine in Scripture—in fact, I've found 20 times when the three of them are mentioned in the same verse.

However, do a word search: the word "Trinity" doesn't come up.

### **7. The book of James is the bossiest book of the Bible**

If you make a list of words in each book of the Bible and then a list of commands in the same book, the book with the highest concentration of words is the book of James.