

NOVEMBER 2020

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

WWW.FRANKSTONUNITING.ORG.AU



MINISTER: Rev David Fotheringham (0407 861 092)
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday Mornings

FOR OUR PRAYERS.....

Each month, High Street Times publishes the names of some of the people who are associated with our congregation, but who find it difficult or are not able to attend on Sunday mornings. At the moment, none of us can gather physically at the church, so we are praying for everyone! Nevertheless we especially remember the following:

Shiela Knoop, Barbara O'Malley, Gwen Paxino, Audrey Smith, Glad Thuraisingha, Audrey LaBrooy, Ruth Conn, Fay Dungey, Marie de Silva, Lola Coupe, Eileen McCarty, Molly Maughan, Pat Johnson, and Ruth Poole.

- Pray for those recovering from surgery, including Stanley Zhungu and Margaret Burrows.
- Pray for Wendy, Elaine Kenyon's sister, and for wisdom in diagnosing and managing.
- Pray for Eileen Carolus, her health and her family.
- Pray for Marlene Thresher's brother Fred and his wife Diane.
- Pray for Rona Russell's niece Roberta, and for all of Rona's extended family.
- Pray for Naomi Briggs and the community in which she is providing care.
- Pray for Marlene Thresher and for Arthur Poole as they prepare for moves.
- Pray for all those who have loved ones with whom they have much reduced contact.
- Pray for those who are struggling with isolation, or the loss of employment.
- Pray for year 12 students
- Pray for wisdom as it becomes possible to engage in gathered activities and community service over the coming weeks.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend ourselves and all those whom we love, trusting in your love and grace for us in Jesus, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

MAY
THE
LORD
BE MY
LIGHT
IN THE
DARK.



FROM THE MINISTER...

Dear friends in Christ,

I've enjoyed us being able to share in a few 'special' services over the last month, including the Blessing of the Animals, and worship with a focus on remembering those who have died; and as I write the next Contemporary service is going to have a focus on the young people, with particular prayers for year 12 students.

Unfortunately we're not going to manage to have a Fete this year. Even launching the Soup Kitchen is proving tricky, though hopefully that will have been sorted out by the time you read this. Dealing with this new environment has meant that even the Brekky Club is applying for a grant to cover supervision of COVID-safety in both the kitchen and food service areas.

On the best information currently available, the Church Council agreed to some plans for December and January. You may recall that earlier in the pandemic, the Church Council agreed on the principles that:

- *Gathering for worship is important, but safety of people is more important.*
- *People, relationships, and love for our neighbour are to be safely fostered.*
- *Decisions about activities will take into account the needs of the most vulnerable.*
- *We commit to the good of the whole community.*

It is unlikely that more than 50 will be able to gather within the confines of the church itself for quite some time yet. Cleaning would be required between any group gatherings, and singing and morning tea together may be problematic for some time. As such, the plans for December and January include:

1. Fellowship gatherings in small groups, at the church or other locations, are likely to be started well before we will be able to gather as a large group for worship.

2. A working party is being formed to plan for a transition back to face-to-face worship, which will explore what changes to our patterns may be necessary. The Contemporary Oversight Group will do further work on plans for the Contemporary service.

3. We will aim to hold Christmas Carols events outdoors. There is likely to be an event in a park, primarily for those associated with the Traditional Congregation. A small group is being formed to plan for Carolling around the Neighbourhood for those associated with the Contemporary Congregation.

4. Christmas Day will be a "Combined" service of worship at 9am, over phones and zoom, using the connection details otherwise used by the Traditional service.

5. During January, 9am Traditional services by phone (and video), and 10:40 Contemporary services (with children's time prior) will continue. I will be taking some Long Service Leave during this time, while Robyn and the kids and I sort out new living arrangements.

In the meantime, one of the things that N.T. Wright suggests in his book "God and the Pandemic" as part of our stance for the future is the pray the prayer based on Psalm 72 for our political leaders here and throughout the world:

"Give the king your justice, O God...
May the mountains yield prosperity for the people and the environment in righteousness;
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor..."

I urge you to pray for all of our leaders. Please also pray for our Elders and Pastoral Carers, who are doing a marvellous job keeping up contact and care as best they can, almost entirely through phone calls. May God continue to bless the community we share through this time and into the future.

Peace and grace,
David

WORSHIP LINKS

TRADITIONAL

(9:00am)

Phone: (03) 7018 2005;

Meeting ID: 616 254 006;

Participant ID: (none – just press #); Password: 3199.

If you want to join using a video link that is also possible
by going to

<https://zoom.us/j/616254006>

but the focus will be on people linking by phone.

CONTEMPORARY

(children from 10:25, main worship from 10:40)

<https://zoom.us/j/556610676>

or phone (03) 7018 2005; Meeting ID: 556 610 676;

Password: 3199.

WEBSITE:

Reflections accessible in text format.

<https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/>

OFFERINGS

If you are not connected to regular
direct debit, one-off or regular
offerings can be made to the church by
transfer to

FRANKSTON UNITING CHURCH

BSB: 063 133

Account: 800128

Description: OFFERING

Alternatively, keep a bowl for your
offerings at home, or mail a cheque to
the church Treasurer at 31 Lucerne
Crescent, Frankston 3199



HIGH STREET
UNITING CHURCH,
FRANKSTON

SOUP
KITCHEN

OPEN TO ANYONE WHO
WANTS A HOT MEAL

EVERY SUNDAY... 6PM-7PM

COMMENCING
SUNDAY 8 NOV 2020

HIGH ST UNITING CHURCH 16-18 HIGH STREET, FRANKSTON



Robyn and David
together with Matthew and Cameron
warmly invite you to celebrate

The Wedding of Robyn and David

Saturday, December 5th at 3:00 PM

online at

<https://www.turbo360.com.au/david-and-robyn/>

*While we'd love to have you there in person,
given the pandemic, we're delighted
to share this celebration online.*

In lieu of gifts, we invite you to donate
to the UNHCR COVID-19 appeal at

<https://www.mycase.com.au/page/237975/robyn-and-davids-wedding>



- High Street Uniting Church, Frankston -

-Community Outreach -

CARE KITS

The Community Outreach Team(COT) at the High Street Uniting Church have put together the concept of "Care Kits" as a part of our outreach strategy. These kits will be distributed to people in need at our new Soup Kitchen that is expected to start operating from the church once COVID-19 restrictions are eased.



How you can help?

1. CHOOSE - Male or Female Care Kit.
2. PREPARE - We are asking for people to purchase items and put together a kit over the next month - see listed items.
3. WAIT - A date will be advised when we are permitted to accept donations of the care kits.

For further information you can email us at:
frankstonuc@gmail.com

Care Kit - List

MALE CARE KIT

- New Reusable Shopping Bag
 >Green = Male
- 1 Bar Soap
- 1 Deodorant
- Masks > 10pk
- Hand sanitiser > pocket size
- Tissues > pocket size
- Sunscreen > small tube
- Tooth Brush
- Tooth Paste
- Shampoo
- 1 pair of woollen socks

FEMALE CARE KIT

- New Reusable Shopping Bag
 > any colour except green
- 1 Bar Soap
- 1 Deodorant
- Masks > 10pk
- Hand sanitiser > pocket size
- Tissues > pocket size
- Sunscreen > small tube
- Tooth Brush
- Tooth Paste
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- 1 pair of warm woollen Socks
- Pads/Tampons
- Hair Brush
- Lip Balm



"We share the joy of Harriet Holton and John Upton, who were married in Canada on the 11th of October, in Harriet's son's back yard. Harriet and John were regularly worshipping with us before they travelled to Canada; they hope to return to Australia in due course."



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From Edna Reeves

I agree with Brenda's observation about the stunt that Donald Trump pulled in the "black lives matter" incident, which was quite out of order. Perhaps if and when he gets better, God might plant a seed in him and make him realise there's more to life than money, power and showmanship and be more humble in his attitude.

Scripture verses that sustain me, that are relevant to my own life are;

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 "Everything that happens in this world happens at God's choosing, he sets a time for sorrow, a time for joy etc. etc."

After numerous attempts at learning to drive and with a unhelpful husband with an attitude to match starting in 1978 I finally got my licence in 1994 at 51 years of age, on my own this time. I rented for 20 years, but really wanted to move to a retirement village. In 2019 I was financially able to do this. These episodes in my life made me realise God chooses his time to make things happen.

Jeremiah 1:5 "I chose you before you were born etc etc"

Just leaves me in awe, blown away at the majestic power God has. To think that God knew me before I was even an embryo, that's something. God always is always with us even when your faith wavers a little.

Finally I am looking forward to seeing you all, won't it be a great occasion and a visit to the hairdresser will be another great occasion for a lot of people.

Love and kisses Edna Reeves

FROM THE TREASURER

Summarised Statement of Income/Expenditure for 9 Months to 30th September 2020

INCOME	Budget		Actual	
Planned Giving/Open Plate		99000		94731
Rental Income - High St & Manse		42000		26273
Donations		1125		1300
Donations: Children's Outreach		375		110
Reimbursements/Miscellaneous		3750		4304
Goods and Services Tax				5601
Fete				175
Interest - Cash Management Account		1000		1350
GST Reimbursement				
MBA		1500		2075
Atkinson Foundation Income		2500		3039
Guest Foundation				
Income		3000		3672
Bomar Grant		81000		80483
Transfer from Wesley Lease		34200		21844
JobKeeper Payments				48100
TOTAL INCOME		269450		293057
EXPENDITURE				
Ministerial Costs		158250		149540
Administration Costs		39550		29756
Planned Giving Expenses		1000		629
Property Costs:				
Fire Brigade Levy	375		149	
Cleaning/Maintenance	24000		11935	
Rates: Council/Water	4125		3341	
Gas/Electricity	6000	34500	2867	18292
Insurance		8000		7409
Sunday School/Children's Outreach		750		149
Organ/Choir/Copyright		1500		1338
Goods and Services Tax				2241
Miscellaneous		7500		6231
Transfer from Parish Account to Reserve				15000
OPERATING EXPENDITURE		251050		230585
Outreach:				
Mission and Service Fund	24300		24301	
Tom Sutherland	375		500	
Community Support	1500	26175	1000	25801
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		277225		256386



SNAPSHOTS OF LIFE DURING COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

ERICA HUTCHINSON

What has been different about your life during the restrictions?

Erica says that for her, the main difference has been not having to stick to a time frame. Rather than having your life mapped out for you with different activities, you had to stop and think "What am I going to achieve today?". To achieve something in a day became very important to her.

What has been the most challenging?

For Erica, the most challenging has been to learn the best way to motivate yourself. Each day she realised she had to have a plan - the plan came unstuck sometimes but at least it was in the background. She adds that of course, like a lot of people, she is by herself with no family here, which at times has been hard.

What have you been doing spending time at home?

Erica walks a lot, and has certainly caught up on her reading, which is her favourite thing. Her favourite author is Ken Follett, and she loves his "Pillars of the Earth", set back in the 1800s which is wonderful. She has also just finished "Becoming" by Michelle Obama, which is a good read and very educational. Village life means that Erica has lovely neighbours, so she shares her cooking which she loves to do. She is at the moment perfecting sausage rolls, which she has never been able to achieve before. Erica has also used this as a good time to have some interior painting done.

What has been the best or a good thing?

Erica says she thinks having time at home has been good. She opened her blinds one morning recently just in time to see a family of baby ducks walking across her patio - a lovely thing to see. On a spiritual level she seemed to need the time to reconnect with her faith, and that has also been good.

What are you most looking forward to when restrictions ease a bit more?

Erica is looking forward to going away with her favourite tour company, Daytripper from Mornington, and seeing a bit more of Victoria, including Bright for their autumn festival and to the Grampians for Christmas. She also hopes to go to Warrnambool in April to visit her sister whom she hasn't seen for a long time. All after a visit to the hairdresser that is!



SNAPSHOTS OF LIFE DURING COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS CONTINUED.....

MEG RYAN

What has been different about your life during the restrictions?

Since restrictions have started, Meg says she guesses the main thing that is different is that she's doing more things from home. While her dogs are definitely enjoying having her family and her at home more often, it is definitely a little strange doing things like socialising with friends and family, attending church and working from home.

What has been the most challenging?

For Meg, as she is quite a social person, she thinks one most challenging thing has been not being able to catch up with her friends and family normally, like we had been able to before lockdown.

What have you been doing while spending time at home?

Meg has been trying to keep herself occupied while at home with a variety of things. She has had time to be able to catch up on some books she has wanted to read, and has even been able to create a virtual book club with some friends. Meg is a major science fiction and fantasy fan, some of her favourite authors from these genres are T.R.Tolkien (Lord of the Rings) and J.K.Rowling (Harry Potter series). She has also been slowly making the different parts of the Hogwarts castle from the Harry Potter series of Lego. Otherwise she has been taking her dogs for long walks, keeping in touch with friends, working on her drawing, and doing crafts with some of our young people. Recently she has even had some time to work on relearning sign language.

What has been the best, or a good, thing?

One of Meg's favourite things throughout lockdown has luckily been a weekly occurrence for her. Each Sunday she is able to connect with some of our young families and young people. Meg looks forward to this time each week because she knows there is always something new and exciting. Each week it varies from an exciting story, to a new costume or dance, to the toy of the week or to even an interesting interpretation of the craft we were doing.

What are you most looking forward to when restrictions ease a bit more?

Meg is most looking forward to being able to interact and catch up with her friends and family a little bit more normally, rather than having to catch up via technology. But she is also looking forward to the volunteer and work opportunities the easing restrictions will bring.