

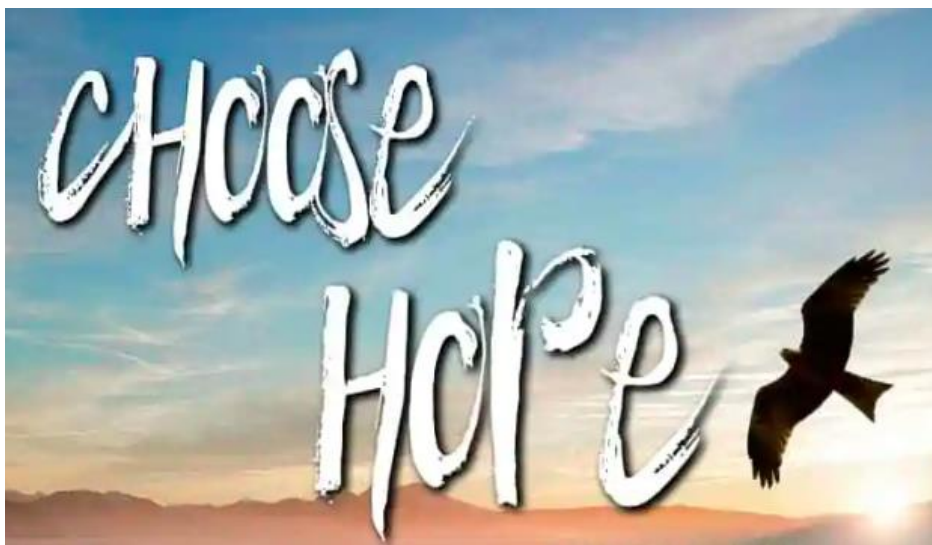
October 2023

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



MINISTER: Rev Ross Pearce (0437 561 833) /
PASTORAL CARE / CHAPLAIN, MONASH UNIVERSITY:
Mandy Lake (0438 715 029)
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:
Esther Galvin frankstonuc@gmail.com
CHURCH 9783 3400
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9:00 am–1:00pm
WEB: www.frankstonuniting.org.au
HIGH ST TIMES EDITOR:
John Annable johnannable@bigpond.com (0409 938672)



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.





ANTI Racism Project

Victoria University is conducting an anti-racism project called *Understanding reporting barriers and support needs of people experiencing racism*, in collaboration with Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria (ECCV) and the Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV). The project is funded by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth).

It is widely known that many people who experience racism (including religiously based prejudice and discrimination) often do not speak out and formally report it. This can have negative implications for the individual, the community and society at large. We acknowledge that there are many reasons why people do not report racism. For many the personal costs of reporting may seem too high and the prospect of meaningful outcomes too low.

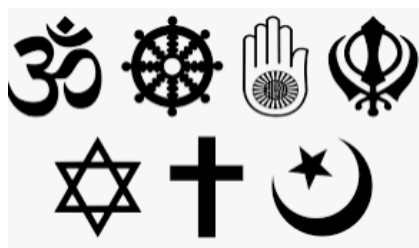
Guided by the community inputs and expertise drawn from community forums, focus groups and a short online survey, the project team led by Associate Professor Mario Peucker will develop recommendations to make reporting racism easier, and to improve the responsiveness of support services.

All Victorians aged 18 and older from multicultural and/or multifaith communities are encouraged to take part in this 10-minute survey and share their views, lived experiences and suggestions around reporting racism and support needs. If you are from a multicultural background or know someone who would be interested, go onto the websites of either the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria or the Victoria University and take part in the survey which is supported by the Victorian Council of Churches.



PreachFest! 2023 – Melbourne November 1 - 3

PreachFest! brings together preachers from all backgrounds and cultures who share a passion for the inspirational and transformational message of Scripture. It is a space designed for you to connect, learn, and be inspired by other ministers, pastors, as well as teachers of bible, theology and preaching. The event is organised by Uniting Mission and Education, which supports the mission of the Uniting Church in NSW and ACT by providing Strategy, Research, Education, Theological Insight and Other Resources for Mission, Leadership and Discipleship. To share with the Victorian Synod, presentations will happen in both St Stephens Uniting Church, Sydney and Wesley Uniting Church, Melbourne, and available by zoom. Further information and booking details can be found on the VicTas Synod website.



Many Faiths, One People - A tour of the places of worship in Greater Dandenong

Wednesday 11th October 2023

Beginning and ending at Interfaith Network [IFN] Office, 39 Clow St, Dandenong.

Visiting Hoa NghiêM Buddhist Temple (Vietnamese) in Springvale South, Shiva Vishnu Temple (Hindu) in Carrum Downs, Brahma

Kumaris Retreat Centre in Baxter (with lunch), and returning to Clow St for a presentation on the Baha'i Faith.

More information: Helen Heath: 8774 7662 / 0421 829 563 education@interfaithnetwork.org.au

From the Minister...



Rev Ross Writes

Some economists are talking about a possible recession and even depression as the world economy slows, but I am more concerned about a different sort of depression; the depression of hope in the world through worry over the many problems that we face climate problems, military tension, over-use of resources, increasing nationalism and racial tension.

All of these combined are producing a generation that sees no future; young people saying, "Why should I stress over exams and a career when the world is going to end in 20 years?" Also, young couples deciding not to have children because it would be cruel to bring them into a failing world. A depression of hope. The situation of our country and the world does not hold much hope.

And yet, we are the people of hope; the Gospel of God's love in the resurrected Jesus is all about hope. The first Christians saw the Roman Army raze Jerusalem to the ground, faced persecution and rejection, were deported from cities and countries and yet they lived and preached a Gospel of hope.

The Irish monks who set out to re-evangelise Europe after the Dark Ages went through a ritual funeral because they knew they would not return alive, and yet it was the hope in the God of Jesus Christ that drove their mission. The church of the Middle Ages faced the loss of hundreds of thousands of people, whole villages, and towns, to plague and yet they continued to hold to the hope of God in Jesus Christ. We are the people of hope with a message of hope.

Many years ago, at a personal development course, we were led through an exercise in fear. We were told to imagine one of our fears and then live through it, imagining the worst that could happen. After a few minutes the whole room was in laughter as we all realised that the worst thing that could happen was not the worst thing that could happen; fear was emptied of its power. That is nothing compared to thinking through the power of our faith; whatever we can imagine as the worst that can happen still does not separate us from God. That is our hope and that is why we are the people of hope. If this world ceases to be, we are still with God.

This is not a call to complacency – the world can fall to ruin we are safe in God – because our hope is based in love; the hope that we have in God that calls us to act. Love that can act in this nation where we have freedom to speak and act and where we have democratic responsibilities. Love that can bring hope to people in times of stress and struggle. Things are not hopeless. Many in the world are in depression, not just in mental illness but in a lack of hope, and we have an antidote. A faith that calls for us to reach out and help people in need and suffering, because it is based in the love of God inaugurated on the cross and in the empty tomb.

-oOo-

A Prayer for the Environment

Breath of Life, from whom all order was created,
the whole of creation bears witness to you.
Teach us to respect all creatures
and increase our gratitude for your loving providence.
Forgive us for our insensitivity
and carelessness with the environment.
Instigate us to fight for socio-environmental preservation
and for the end of the climate crisis,
taking care and working for the preservation of species
and the maintenance of life on earth,
as living proof of our conversion to the way of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. 🙏
(Bishop Marinez Rosa dos Santos Bassotto, Amazon, Brazil)



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 Vicky Leitch, and family and friends of Barb Conner, following her passing.
- For all who are in poor health and having treatment, including Jen Johnson, Michelle Clarkson, and Howard Kerr.
- For Fiona Jones, in hospital recovering from back surgery.
- For Leon Knoop, in respite after a fall.
- For Chris Johnston, following treatment for her back.
- For Carmen Pearce and her family, with her sister Miriam in very poor health.
- For members of our church family in Baxter Village, and the monthly communion service there.
- For Ukraine, still under attack from Russia.
- For Hawaii, following the devastating fires, for Morocco, following the earthquake, and for Libya, following the floods. For all the people affected and for the first responders and governments in the aftermathFor all who mourn the loss of loved ones.
- For wisdom and discernment around the Voice Referendum discussions.
- For those around Frankston who experience homelessness.
- For all those living with mental health needs in our church family and our community.
- For all those dealing with strained family relationships of different kinds.

*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.*

Listening for 'The Voice'

As October 14 comes ever nearer, both the focus of Australian voters and that of the wider world, will be on the outcome of this year's important Referendum: to enshrine an Indigenous Voice in our Constitution. Thousands of people around Australia, and even in New York, showed their support for the Voice by marching on Sunday 17 September, including members of our own congregation in the Mornington Peninsula rally. Other countries including New Zealand and Canada have already begun the process of addressing the unjust actions of the past towards their indigenous peoples. So, eyes worldwide will be firmly fixed on the outcome of this momentous Referendum.



Some 44 Referenda have been held since federation in 1901, but only 8 have been successful, most notably that of 1967, which was supported by almost 85% of Australians nationally. That Referendum for the first time, enabled indigenous people to be included in the national census and transferred all powers for laws and policies affecting aborigines to the Commonwealth Government for the first time. So, this proposed change to the 1901 Constitution is another step in addressing the colonial perception of the First Nations people of our land, who were deliberately marginalised in that document, reflecting the principle of *terra nullius*, which asserts that no-one before the British owned this land. This ignores the 60,000 years of known aboriginal settlement. It also echoes the overtly racist 1901 White Australia policy, not fully renounced until 1973.

The Social Justice Group of our Uniting Church, from the very outset, acknowledged that aboriginal Australians have been disadvantaged, discriminated against, and denied the same freedoms and opportunities other Australians perceive as their right. First Nations people make up around 3% of our total population and yet are almost 13 times more likely to be imprisoned as an adult, and 26 times more likely to be incarcerated as a child than non-indigenous Australians. In addition, 61% of First Nations people die before they are 65, compared with just 17% for the rest of the population. This represents gross inequality and injustice. Hence, we nominated support for 'The Voice' to Parliament to be one of the focal points of our actions. Hence, the banner at the front of our church proudly and unequivocally urges all to vote YES!

In June this year, Associate Professor Glenn Loughrey, a Canon of the Anglican Church and a proud indigenous man, addressed a group at Murrumbidgee UC. He calmly, clearly and concisely outlined the evolution of this important and decidedly historic Referendum. Importantly, there have been attempts to provide federal government created bodies to provide an indigenous voice, each of which has been abolished, most recently ATSIC (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission) which ceased to exist in 2004. So, at present, as Glenn pointed out, there is no existing way in which indigenous Australians can directly convey to the federal government their wishes and needs

Some key points made by Glenn Loughrey were:

- The Uluru 'Statement from the Heart' was created in 2017, following a series of 12 dialogues across Australia to enable a document to be generated through extensive consultation which could speak for indigenous Australians across our country. This Referendum for 'The Voice' is a direct result of this historic document.
- The 'Statement from the Heart' conceives core elements in a circle since circles are all about healing and wholeness in indigenous culture. These are: Voice, Treaty, Truth and Makarrata (the coming together after struggle). Once these facets have been attained then- and only then- justice can be achieved for First Nations People.

- The First People seek consultation through a permanent advisory body on laws and policies which impact them, and to ensure that this capacity to directly speak with parliament and the executive of federal government is enshrined in the Constitution.
- The elected representatives would be selected only by First People. This would mean that this voice could not be abolished by any future government. However, this body would not be able to actively interfere with legislation or allocation of money or services to First People, as it would only have advisory status. Over 80% of First People support this plan for such a constitutionally-enshrined organisation.
- 'The Voice' would not be a means of abolishing non-aboriginal land ownership. Rather, it would formally and constitutionally embed First People sovereignty alongside the sovereignty of the Commonwealth of Australia. This would echo the Acknowledgement of Country we endorse each Sunday at church: that we recognise that the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation are the original owners and custodians of the land upon which we worship and live.

Let us hope- and pray- that the majority of the Australian population, across at least 4 of the 6 original states, vote YES for 'The Voice' on October 14th to enable our First Nations' people to be able to reliably convey their needs, desires and wishes to the federal parliament for the first time in our post 1788 and 1901 history. Then, hopefully, all the array of injustices experienced by aboriginal people can hopefully begin to be meaningfully, effectively and consistently addressed.

Carmel and Ross Huggard, *Social Justice Group*



Vale Barb Conner

Barbara Florence Conner was born in 1949. In 1950 Barbara and her parents moved to Palo Alto, California, . In 1951 when Barb is almost 2 years old. Mavis and Barb take a two-week trip to Sydney, Australia to meet the grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins who had never seen her.

Arriving in Australia Barb was a bit shy at first but warmed up to all the relatives. Barbara's first sibling Nancy Joy was born on January 12, 1954. Barb had waited a long time for a brother or sister so was not jealous at all, quite happy to take charge and be a little mother at 4 ½ years old. Barbara took her responsibility seriously and did her job very well!

Her Australian Grandparents Andrew and May Hofer came to America for a 3 month visit December 1954 – February 1955, Barbara was thrilled because she got to have both sets of her grandparents for Christmas, New Years Eve, and Nancy's first birthday. Barbara loved holidays, family and friends together, celebrations and getting ready for the events. Her enjoyment of organizing and running the show started early in life.



Barbara went to Loma Vista Elementary School K – 6th grade starting in September 1954. She went to Terman Junior High School 7th – 9th grade and Gunn Senior High School 10th - 12th grade.

Barbara's next sibling, Andrew George Conner arrive March 8, 1956. Barbara now 6 ½ years old was even more happy to play mother to a boy, Andy. She left "Nancy in the dust" and helped care for Andy each month as he grew. She loved giving him his bottle, rocking him, pushing him in the stroller, getting him toys and making him laugh. Nancy was 2 years old when Andy was born, and survived just fine.

Uncle Reg, Mavis's brother, came to visit us on his way home from working in Europe. He arrived November 17, 1956 in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas and stayed through February 1957. He was so much fun and treated Barbara and Nancy like little princesses. Except that he gave them cowboy hats, toy cap guns and holsters for Christmas presents! In 1957 Barbara started ballet Lessons at 7 ½ years old, Barbara started Brownie Scouts in 1958 and Girl Scouts in 1959 with Mavis as both the Brownie and the Girl Scout Leader. Barbara moved onto Cadet Scouting in Junior High school.

As the children grew around 1959 the family embarked on camping excursions for weekends and holidays. Barbara was dad's second-hand man (second-hand young lady) when it came to packing, loading and unloading the camping gear. Barbara was already in training for working the bus tours in Australia!

In 1962 Barb went to Junior High School and started to play the Clarinet. She was quite good. The family enjoyed lots of band concerts through the years and watched her in many parades. This was also the time that Barb started taking all the Home Economic classes for cooking and sewing that were offered in Junior High and High School.

November 1965 through April 1966 she went to Australia for a 5-month trip to meet all the relatives. This was Barb's second trip Down Under. She had a fabulous time, meeting her grandparents, but was eager to get back home and practice for her driver's licence.

Her family attended Wesley Methodist Church in Palo Alto since 1951. Barb was very involved with the MYF, Methodist Youth fellowship. She loved to be in charge (No surprise there) and took turns rotating through all the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, planning activities, singing in the Youth Choir, running Bake Sales and being in bible studies. She had wonderful friends that she hung out with in church, and at home.

Barbara attended DeAnza Community College for 2 years and earned her Associates Degree in Preschool Education in June 1969. She learned basic Piano and took more Guitar Lessons as part of her degree. Everyone was very proud of Barb. Barb had been babysitting for a doctor's family the Stricklands, at Stanford University while he did graduate research studies at Stanford hospital. The family asked Barb if she would like to move to Australia, live at their house for a couple years, get a Nursery school teaching job and then sometimes babysit for their family on weekends. Barb did not waste any time making her decision, she was destined to a life of travel and adventure and said yes right away.

Barb left the USA in August of 1969 with 2 suitcases and her guitar. She moved in with the Stricklands in Apollo Bay, Vic. Australia. Life moved rather quickly and in 1975 Barb became an Australian citizen. Mum had become a US citizen in 1951.

Now the next 54 years was the fabulous life she had with all of us: Nursery School Teacher/Director, Gail assistant teacher, Nadine's parents supporting Barb with the school, Helen, Tim & Barb share a house together, Lananda Bus tours Guide and Cook, Lance, Bryn and Reen, ALDECC, Abbey Field Senior Home Board and Cook, Vicky comes to live with Barb, High Street Uniting Church Frankston, Children's Ministry, The Church Roster, trips and people too many to list them all... All of you shaped Barb's life and welcomed her as our own. Barb's family thanks you.

Barb's sister remembers her good oldest child: loved being a cow girl, secure, determined, responsible, dependable, polite, caring, loving, stubborn, say it like it is, loud, a servant, organizer, good cook, fast worker, mind of her own, adventurer, talented seamstress, fast knitter, likes to talk, steadfast friend, loved to travel, love to laugh, enjoyed playing Scrabble and Rummikub, and loved Jesus.

It was wonderful that Barb had the opportunity of a 7 week visit to California last September through November. She got to see Andy and his family, Celebrate Grandma at her grave with dad, see the neighbors she grew up with, see family friends for life, visit our cousins in Fresno, go to Disney Adventure and Disneyland, see all her sister's kids and their families, meet great nephews and nieces, sort through 5000 slides and lots of mum and dad's letters together, with laughter and tears, besides ending the visit with Dale and I having Covid. I thanked God every day you never got it from us, so you could fly home. It was an incredible gift that God gave us.

So the Lord has called Barb home to him so she didn't have to be in pain and discomfort any more, even though she has been taken from us too soon.

All our family and friends love you so much and miss you terribly. The Joy is: you are with Jesus and so many family and friends in Heaven Rejoicing. A great lady and dearly missed.

-oOo-

Editor's Note: The above tribute to Barb was edited from the Eulogy provided by her sister. Due to space constraints we have just taken the major points in Barb's life. The original document contains many delightful anecdotes from Barb's colourful upbringing. I would be happy to provide anyone with a copy should they so desire.

Another wonderful Social Event: The LEGS Afternoon Tea. The years with an Aussie theme. Can you spot the costumes? Thanks once again to Alan Matthews for the Photos.



Rosters

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Date	Colour	Preaching	Bible Reader	Prayers of the People	Day	Bible reading
01-Oct-23	G	Robert J.	Elaine Kenyon	Rona Russell	Pentecost 18	Matthew 21:23-32
08-Oct-23	G	Ross Pearce	Alan Mathews	Keith Holmes	Pentecost 19	Matthew 21: 33-46
15-Oct-23	G	Ross Pearce	Mac Cleland	Dawn Peacock	Pentecost 20	Matthew 22: 1-14
22-Oct-23	G	Ross Pearce	Ross Huggard	Erica Hutchinson	Pentecost 21	Matthew 22:15-22
29-Oct-23	W	Ross Pearce	Bronwen Mathews	Marlene Thresher	All Saints Day	Matthew 5: 1-12

Date	Notes	Stewards	Flowers
01-Oct-23		Daryl Groves, Heather Rawson	Marion Coulson
08-Oct-23		Mick Johnson, Neville Parker	Marion Coulson
15-Oct-23		Aubrey Mair, Cheryle Wilson	Beryl & Marg
22-Oct-23		Robert Latimer, Marilyn Sheerin	Beryl & Marg
29-Oct-23	Combined service at 10:00	Marilyn Sheerin, Fiona Jones	Beryl & Marg

Date	Morning Tea Helpers	Duty Elder	Communion Setup	Communion Helpers
01-Oct-23	Graeme and Jenny Horsburgh, Bev Fowler	Robert Latimer and Dawn Peacock	Rona R. & Jill Cayzer	Dawn P. & Robert L.
08-Oct-23	Karin Jooste, Harriet Holton, John Upton			
15-Oct-23	Dorothy Bucher, Alistair Munro			
22-Oct-23	Marilyn Sheerin, Stanley & Viola Zhungu			
29-Oct-23	Fay Loader, Rona Russell, Vilma LaBrooy			

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Date	Holy Communion	Notes	Children's Time	Band Leaders	Singers	Zoom	Sound
01-Oct-23	RJ		Irene	Mike	Mandy & Jenni	Karin	Tim
08-Oct-23			Meg	Mike	John & Tim	Matthew	Alan
15-Oct-23			Rowena	Russell	Jenni, Valmai	Russell	Tim
22-Oct-23			Meg	Russell	Alan & Bronwen	Karin	Alan
29-Oct-23		Combined service at 10:00am	Irene	Mike	Russell & Kerry	Matthew	Alan

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Date	Welcome and Offering	Hospitality
01-Oct-23	Ley & Patti	Irene
08-Oct-23	Mandy & Kate	Joy
15-Oct-23	Ley & Glenise	Gill
22-Oct-23	Kate & Irene	Joy
29-Oct-23	Ley & Patti	Gill

Please keep this roster handy and if you find yourself unavailable please organise a replacement rather than leave it to others.



High Street Uniting Church
*Christmas
Fete*

Saturday, 9th December
9:00am - 1:00pm

16 - 18 High Street, Frankston 3199

To book a stall, please email Marg at pcs@cogroup.com.au

Christmas raffle, handmade goods, morning tea
sausage sizzle, coffee van, books, cakes, condiments

Christmas gifts, children's activities,
Trash 'n' Treasure, and more!

All are welcome!

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 #

Children's Colouring Page

