



## PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT



ISSUE NO. 63 MARCH 2021

### RELATIONSHIPS & DANCING WITH THE DIVINE ON THE LENTEN JOURNEY

If I had to encapsulate one of the most important concepts for all of creation, it would have to be relationships and how we commune with and serve with each other and relate to our environment and the wider world, who we are in our workplaces, in our homes and when we are alone. It can be argued that how we understand our relationship to God and the Divine underpins how we connect in relationships.

I love Fr. Richard Rohr's way of expressing relationship as a dance; a to-ing and fro-ing, a concert of connectedness where there is giving and receiving. In his book "The Divine Dance," he talks about the mystery of the relationship of the Trinity. He suggests that we have oversimplified something that is deeply mystery and in doing so we have flattened the revelation of God to us. Rohr says that it is not that we can never understand mystery, but that it is a continually unfolding revelation to us; like a dance – perfect unity, perfect

community, all and one at the same time.

How does that dance of the Divine play out for us as a community of Christ and as followers of Him? In the introduction in the current edition of, "With Love to the World," Dr Peter Butler writes about Martin Bucer (1491-1551) 'who insisted that the purpose of Christian freedom is to serve others... grace takes place in love.' These words again connect us into the depth of what it means to be in relationship. Without service can love truly be expressed? Without an outward expression of our relationships, can that connectedness really be substantial and of any value?

This Lenten period comes to us after a time of unprecedented uncertainty. We have barely met as a gathering of Christ's followers, face to face, in the past 12 months, and the future is still not clear, yet the call is still very clear; "To (continued pg 3)

#### Are you interested in:

- Discovering a Sense of Origin
- Discovering a Sense of Proportion
- Discovering a Sense of Perspective
- Discovering a Sense of Adventure
- Discovering a Sense of Personal Territory and so much more...

You don't need to have completed Julia Cameron's first book, *The Artist's Way* to participate in this course. It stands alone as a great spiritual, self-discovery into creativity in whatever way to express it.

Interested? We will be meeting weekly for 13 weeks, via Zoom.

This is a 12 week program, guiding you through reading, journaling and exploration of your given creative bent. It highlights the connection between creativity to spirituality by experiencing, in non-denominational terms, practical and versatile activities and reflections.

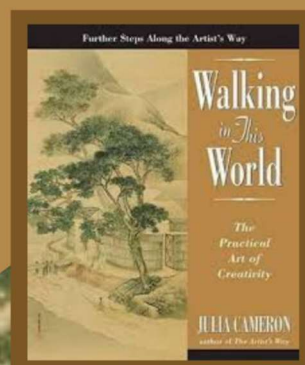
Purchase the book and contact me to receive your link.

An introduction ZOOM meeting is set for:

**Wednesday 24th February**

**@ 7:30pm - 8:30pm**

There is no cost, except for the purchase of the book.



Rev Linda Young - ministryyounglinda@gmail.com



## LECTIONARY Readings Year B

### Lent

A season of preparation and discipline that begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sundown on Holy Saturday. During the forty weekdays and six Sundays in Lent, the Church remembers the life and ministry of Jesus and renews its commitment to him in Christian discipleship. The season is the traditional time to prepare for baptisms and confirmations to be celebrated at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday, or during the season of Easter.

Date	Day/Season	Color	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
7 Mar	Lent 3	P	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
14 Mar	Lent 4	P	Numbers 21:1-17	Ps 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
21 Mar	Lent 5	P	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Ps 51:1-12 or Ps 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
28 Mar	Passion Sunday	P	Isaiah 50:4-9a	31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)
28 Mar	Palm Sunday	P	Isaiah 50:4-9a	118:1-2, 19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
29 Mar	Monday of Holy Week	P	Isaiah 42:1-9	36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
30 Mar	Tuesday of Holy Week	P	Isaiah 49:1-7	71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
31 Mar	Wednesday of Holy Week	P	Isaiah 50:4-9a	70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
1 Apr	Maundy Thursday	P	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14	116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
2 Apr	Good Friday	B or R	Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12	22	Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18:1 to 19:42
3 Apr	Holy Saturday	B	Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24	31:1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

Colours: P – Purple

W – White

G – Green

R – Red

B – Black



The lectionary readings for Lent this year began with a promise from God and a reminder of that promise set in the sky – a bow hung in the clouds as a sign of the covenant between God and all living things on the earth. Following the service on the first Sunday in Lent – one of my responses was to share the rainbow with my family – a rainbow quiche. How do you respond to the readings or the service each week? Can you share with your congregation when it gathers... or with the partnership through PiP? Robyn (ed)

(from page 1) love the Lord Your God with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... love your neighbour as yourself." Mark 12:30,31b. A relationship that loves not only with thought, or word, but with action and dare I say, relationships that are transformational and missional.

As we walk the journey, once again to the cross, where Jesus laid down his life for humanity, what is it that you will take with you on this path? Is it something about relationship building, mission, allowing ourselves to be transformed in His likeness? Is it about leaning deeper into the mystery of Our Master who loves and cares for us and then being inspired to share with others? As we travel down this path, whether physically together or not, as part of the Macedon Ranges Partnership, where do you see yourself in the Divine Dance and where do you see your congregation and the Partnership moving and responding to God, to our communities and to each other?

May God bless you as we travel together in a dance with the Divine on this Lenten path towards the cross.

Rev. Linda Young

Minister

Macedon Ranges Partnership

Uniting Church

## MEETINGS

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March**      **Gisborne Congregation AGM** in the church at 10.30am

## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March**      **Gisborne World Day of Prayer** will take place this year at the Anglican Church at 10am

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March**      The **World Day of Prayer** worship service for the **Romsey Lancefield** district will be held at Christ Church, Anglican at 33 Chauncy St, Lancefield, at 11am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This will be a worship service only. Due to COVID-19 restrictions we will not be having lunch so please do not bring food.

The service this year was prepared by the women of Vanuatu. The guest speaker will be Lynn Pryor, a theological librarian, who has worked around the world including 2 1/2 years in the Pacific region.

**Woodend Faith Community** is meeting at 2.30pm behind the Woodend church under the trees (weather permitting – otherwise in the church)

**Prayer Meetings**      Every week in the Gisborne Uniting Church on Fridays at 10am.

**Kyneton Fish'n'Chips**      Fortnightly worship service – BYO meal (it doesn't have to be fish and chips!) not for sharing due to ongoing COVID restrictions, held on the Friday after the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month – this month on 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm

**RM Begg Worship**      All welcome to join on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 3.30 pm, this month on 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**Other Worship times**      These times may change depending on the week and potential COVID restrictions. Usual Sunday service times for churches across the partnership currently are:

- Tylden is at 9am
- Romsey is at 9am
- Gisborne is at 9.30am
- Mt Macedon is at 10.30am
- Lancefield is at 10.45am

## OTHER GATHERINGS

**Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> March**      A gathering of Northern UC folk "**Ministers Munch**" at the Café Budburst in Redesdale at **10am** 'a different way of doing church'. Come and share in a coffee or tea (they do a great Chai latte!) in conversation, and reflection on the month.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend				10am Prayers at Gisborne  World Day of Prayer	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Lent 3	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend				10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish'n'Chips Worship at Kyneton	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Lent 4	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend				10am Prayers at Gisborne	PIP items due tomorrow!
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Lent 5	Woodend Faith Community hoping to meet at: 3.30pm RM Begg Worship		10am Ministers munch Redesdale		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish'n'Chips Worship at Kyneton	
28			<h1>March 2021</h1> <p>For Sunday and other worship times see page 6 of PiP</p>			
Lent 6						

### Prayer for the day.

Today, God,  
The world is turning,  
There is beauty around us,  
We have people who love us,  
And people to love.  
There may be troubles and worries.  
There are issues to face,  
And problems to solve.  
Nothing will magically take these away,  
But we have the choice to see good,  
To savour what is right,  
To appreciate what is lovely,  
To honour the efforts of others,  
And to be grateful for the small things.  
These help us in our coping,  
They lighten our spirits,  
And bring some balance to our thinking.  
May we look beyond our present trials,  
And see hope and support,  
At least the kind that we might share with others.  
Love us through our hardships.  
Lift our spirits when they fall.  
Be with us and bless us we pray.  
Amen.

Philippians 4:6-7 New International Version (NIV)

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Blessings,

Jon

~Jon Humphreys: Prayers that Unite~

## BLAST FROM THE PAST...? TIMES ARE STILL WEIRD

### A Prayer in Weird Times

Sweet Jesus,  
what the hell is going on?  
We were just getting used to the idea  
that temperatures are rising and everything must change.  
Now this.  
A virus we can't see.  
And suddenly our neighbours -  
the neighbours you  
absolutely,  
explicitly  
commanded us to love like we love ourselves -  
look like a threat.  
So we are going to need your help.  
More than usual.  
Help us to keep the distance physical, not social.  
Keep us connected.  
Especially help us to remember that some people  
are getting badly screwed right now.  
Make us unscrewers.  
Even if some of those screws are tight,  
stand by our side with a tea towel  
and tell us to really put our elbows into it.  
And give us a cuddle when we feel like trash.

Cuddles from you are a soothing balm  
(and present zero infection risk).  
And remind us, please,  
that things have got bad before.  
Maybe we didn't see it,  
or think about it much.  
But you did.  
You were there.  
You've been walking with scared and battered people  
while we've been living large.  
Some of us, anyway.  
But it turns out  
we've all been in this together  
the whole time.  
But you already knew that.  
We are the forgetful ones,  
So we need you to remember all that is beautiful and  
good and true,  
and nudge and poke and nag us  
so we remember too.  
Amen.  
~Fr Chris Bedding, Facebook~

As long as we have memories, **yesterday remains**.

As long as we have hope, **tomorrow waits**.

As long as we have love, **today is beautiful**.

As long as you have God, **anything and everything is possible**. Amen



## WORSHIP DATES AND TIMES AROUND THE PARTNERSHIP

Date	Service details	Minister	Notes
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Romsey World Day of Prayer	Ps Annette Buckley	11am at Christ Church, Anglican 33 Chauncy St, Lancefield
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Tylden 9:00 am	Ps Annette Buckley	
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Kyneton 6.30pm	Ps Annette Buckley	Fish'n'Chips
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Gisborne 9:30am	Rev Linda Young	
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Kyneton 9.30 am	Rev Linda Young	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	RM Begg 3.30pm Woodend Faith Community meeting at RM Begg, if possible	Rev Linda Young	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kyneton 6.30pm	Rev Linda Young	Fish'n'Chips
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sutton Grange 10am Romsey 9am	Ps Annette Buckley Rev Linda Young	
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Woodend Faith Community 2.30pm	Rev Linda Young	



**Sammy Stamp** a summary of the update from February 2021 Network.

Despite moving from the Synod Offices in March 2020 to Trinity UC in Brighton, then having to shut down most of our operations for the rest of 2020 due to the pandemic, the amount of grants given to worthy causes since inception in 1977 passed the million-dollar mark – \$1,012,693

Sales in 2020, up to, and including 16/12/2020 have reached about \$18,975.

Total sales since 1977 stood at about \$1,014,378 at the same date. A special thank you was expressed to Jan Searle who retired during 2020 after 40 years as a volunteer with Sammy Stamp.

The Sammy Stamp office is now housed at  
Trinity Uniting Church: 15 Black Street, Brighton 3741

Some of the Sammy Stamp Grants approved during 2020:

Uniting Vic/Tas Bushfire Relief Appeal – Immediate Use	\$5000
Uniting Vic/Tas Bushfire Relief Appeal – Recovery assistance	\$5000
Uniting World – Small business training, Ambon Island, Indonesia	\$5000
Vanuatu Prevention of blindness project	\$2000
High Street Frankston U.C. – Operation Larder, food, baby clothes etc. to the disadvantaged	\$6000

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES** Do remember that the ministry team are still publishing a video service and text version each week for those not able to attend worship, for those providing worship via video... and for those who want to connect to worship at any time during the week. These may be viewed at any time by going to [www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au) and selecting **WORSHIP SERVICES** If you haven't yet seen one, do get online and have a look

Contacts Other Groups		
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> <u>MIA MIA</u> <u>BARFOLD</u> <u>METCALFE</u>	<u>Congregation Chair</u> - Dot Smith <u>Elders - North</u> Dot Smith Marge Townrow	<u>Elders- Kyneton</u> Pip Elston      Helen Aldridge Joan Mills      Andrea Strack Doug McIver
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston
<u>LANCEFIELD</u>	<u>Elders</u> Peter Fraser,      Ian Kennedy Judy Stammers,      Rita Vandervalk	<u>Classical Music Group</u> Ian Kennedy
		<u>Organist</u> - Rita Vandervalk
<u>ROMSEY</u>	<u>Church Council/Elders</u> Noel Shaw,      David Strack Jeni Clampit,      Jenny Elliott,      Jay Brooks John Laing,      Carol Toy	<u>UCAF</u> Pres/Sec - Jeni Clampit Treasurer - Carol Toy
<u>TYLDEN</u>	<u>Elders</u> Shirley Bowen, Joy Evans Max Hinneberg,	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole
<u>WOODEND</u>	<u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> – Robyn Zumstein	
<u>MT MACEDON</u>	<u>Elders</u> Anne Fyfield David Liebich,      Neil Tweddle <u>Men's Group</u> - John Cross	<u>Thistle Club</u> President - Shirley Cross Secretary - Anne Fyfield
<u>RIDDELLS CREEK</u>		<u>Craft Group</u> - Lynette Bucknall
<u>GISBORNE</u>	<u>Prayer Ministry/F &amp; C</u> - Glennis Speed <u>Pastoral Care/F &amp; C</u> - Bev Gilbertson <u>Social Justice</u> - Wendy Hebbard & Nola Anderson <u>Worship &amp; Education</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>UCAF</u> - Maree Clarke <u>Craft Group</u> - Linda Moorhouse <u>Friends Pizza Night</u> - Ron Hebbard
<u>CoCo</u> - (Co-ordinating Council)	<u>Chair</u> - Colin Chapman <u>Secretary</u> - <u>Minute Secretary</u> – Keith Hallett <u>Treasurer</u> - Paul Gilbertson	<u>Finance Committee</u> Chair - Paul Gilbertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman & Bronwyn Hewitt <u>Property Committee</u> Chair - Ian Kennedy Paul Gilbertson, Noel Shaw

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**Next Partnership in Print** Please share something of yours or your congregations' life or faith journey: a thought, a prayer, a favourite scripture or reflections thereon; You can send me an email at [zumstein@mmnet.com.au](mailto:zumstein@mmnet.com.au) or hand something to one of the ministers for the next edition. Please send all corrections/new contacts/events/stories/photos/tidbits to me **by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March**. I am happy to receive emails or texts via phone or you can pop something in the post or my letterbox.

Robyn (contact details at bottom of Contact list under Z 😊)



Address label

**Partnership in Print** is a monthly magazine produced by the Uniting Church in Australia – Macedon Ranges Partnership and is available on the last Sunday of each month, except December

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**PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE** [www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au)

CONGREGATION DETAILS	CHAIRPERSON	SECRETARY	TREASURER	PROPERTY	CoCo REPS
<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> - Church Access Rd <u>MIA MIA</u> - Matheson Rd <u>BARFOLD</u> - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd <u>METCALFE</u> - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd <u>KYNETON</u> - 54 Ebden St (PO Box 892)	Pip Elston	Doug McIver miamiakynetonu c@outlook.com	<u>Finance Committee</u> Helen Carey (Treas) Roy Gibbs Jenny Elston	Church Council Executive	Marge Townrow Dot Smith Helen Aldridge, Pip Elston
<u>LANCEFIELD</u> - 9 High St	Rita Vandervalk	Ian Kennedy	Peter Fraser		Ian Kennedy, Rita Vandervalk
<u>ROMSEY</u> - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)	Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampit	Roger Baker		Noel Shaw, Jeni Clampit, Jay Brooks (alt)
<u>TYLDEN</u> - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)	Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole	Dawn Hinneberg	Max Hinneberg	Bronwyn Hewitt, Janet Cole Dawn Hinneberg
<u>WOODEND</u> - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)					George Roberts
<u>MT MACEDON</u> - 682 Mt Macedon Rd	Neil Tweddle	Fiona Armour	Lyn Almond		David Liebich, Neil Tweddle, Anne Fyfield (alt)
<u>GISBORNE</u> - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett, Paul Gilbertson

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