



PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT



ISSUE NO. 84 FEBRUARY 2023

WORSHIP ACROSS THE PARTNERSHIP



Christmas has come and gone, the tinsel and trees are stored away, the melody of carols has faded until next year, and many of us have been enjoying the hiatus of activity that January brings. I hope you have found the time to reflect on the last year and ponder what your hopes might be for the coming year. You might have had a chance to take stock and reset, using the themes of the Epiphany season to try to identify what might be guiding lights for you as you wait to see what God has in store for you, for us, in 2023.

For us, as a Partnership, this year brings another significant change to how we live and worship together. By now, most of us will have been part of at least one online worship service, streamed from one of the churches in our Partnership. A number of people have been working hard to bring this project to fruition, and we have ironed out a few of the 'bugs' over the last couple of months. I'm hoping that we are now at the point where we can start experimenting to see what this new technology enables us to do, beyond the basics.

Of course, any major change such as this brings difficulties, uncomfortableness as we adapt, and perhaps a sense of loss for how things used to be. For me, I'm finding it hard at the moment to be limited to a format that is necessarily more rigid, with less opportunity for conversation and creativity. I also need to remember to look at the camera occasionally...it's not feeling very natural at the moment. My sincere hope is that, as with our online services during times when we were unable to meet because of COVID-19 restrictions, this new way of worshipping will present us with opportunities to be creative in ways we have never imagined.



(continued on page 3)



THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU!

At last, some people in ECHUCA are able to move back into their homes to start to clean up. Our BUCKETS have gone to ECHUCA and the people are overwhelmed by the generous donations of the cleaning products. They could not thank you enough for your thoughtfulness of such a helpful gift. THANK YOU TO ALL IN THE PARTNERSHIP who have helped to fill the buckets

LECTIONARY Readings Year A

Epiphany

An 'Epiphany' is a revealing, appearing or manifesting of something or someone, and in this season the Church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all people. The length of this period varies depending on the date of Easter.

Date	Day/Season	Colour	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
29 Jan	Epiphany 4	G	Micah 6:1-8	15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12
2 Feb	Presentation of the Lord	G	Malachi 3: 1-4	84 or 24: 7-10	Hebrews 2: 14-18	Luke 2: 22-40
5 Feb	Epiphany 5	G	Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)	112:1-9 (10)	1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16)	Matthew 5:13-20
12 Feb	Epiphany 6	G	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
19 Feb	Transfiguration Sunday	W	Exodus 24:12-18	2 or 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9

Lent

A season of preparation and discipline that begins on 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. This 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.

22 Feb	Ash Wednesday	P	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
26 Feb	Lent 1	P	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
5 Mar	Lent 2	P	Genesis 12:1-4a	121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17, or Matthew 17:1-9

Colours: P – Purple

W – White

G – Green

R – Red

B – Black

TONGA APPEAL

In January TV news bulletins marked the anniversary of the Tonga tsunami. The reason is that the recovery is far from over. On some smaller islands every house was flattened. To replace them - taking supplies on small boats - is quite a process. Food supplies were interrupted for months. Uniting World has kept its Tonga appeal open. One of our Gisborne members (not me) makes a regular contribution. If anyone else wants to contribute I am happy to forward the money to Uniting World which has a partnership with the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga which dates back many years.



D'Arcy Wood

(from page 1) If you have any ideas about how we might use this new way of gathering to try something new, please feel free to discuss your ideas with the ministry team (at the moment, myself and Meg as Minister in Association).

One significant difference will be how we share communion around the Partnership. We are now trialing a five-week cycle, which will see us sharing communion as a Partnership every month on the same Sunday, at this stage the first Sunday of the month. Communion will be led from the congregation where the minister is, where the stream is coming from, and will be distributed locally so that we all share at the same time. The celebration of communion online, beyond the need for COVID-19 restrictions, was approved by the Assembly Standing Committee in March 2022*. Our five-week cycle should see communion being celebrated in person at each of our 5 locations in a six-month period. There is also the opportunity to share in communion monthly at Kyneton at 'Fish & Chip' worship, although we are in the process of confirming dates for this for the coming months. We'll keep you updated.



We were very blessed to have Rose Broadstock working with us last year, but the half-time ministry position is yet to be filled. We hope to have some news on that soon, and we'll let everyone know as soon as we have something to announce.

Whatever the season of the year, or the season of our lives, God's constant love is available to us in every moment. Whether it's the disruption of changes to worship, or unknowns about what the year might bring, let's remember that the God who brought the people out of slavery in Egypt, the God whose coming as a child to be with us we so recently celebrated, the God whose Spirit continually provides us with grace and strength...will not let us go. Let's face this year with hope, and wonder at what God will do next.

grace & peace,
Annette

***1. Holy Communion in Online Settings Task Group Report (ASC Minute 21.62)**

Ann Perrin introduced Document 12, consisting of a report from the Task Group and its recommendations regarding Holy Communion in Online Settings.

22.10 It was resolved to:

22.10.01 receive the report;

22.10.02 recognise the ways in which the UCA has received the gift of Holy Communion in online settings, and abstaining from Holy Communion while worshipping online;

22.10.03 encourage the Church to continue this period of creative, contextual theological exploration and celebration; and

22.10.04 allow the continuation of online gatherings for Holy Communion.

Photographs on pages 1 and 3 are from a number of worship services around the partnership over the Advent and Christmas season

It's too hot for Muffins! But not for the regular gathering of Muffinites. We begin our year on Tuesday February 14 between 10-12 noon at the Gisborne church. This is an opportunity to share any excess of fruit and vegetables from your backyard (or your neighbour's). You might also bring with you memories of Harvest Festivals of yore. The front of the church or church hall would be decked in produce of all kinds: pumpkins featured prominently. Then packets of cornflakes infiltrated what had once been a display only of garden produce. Then came the tins. Whatever the produce it would be packed up and donated to the local orphanage or old folks home.

Perhaps you have photos of the Harvest Festival of your local church...or you might simply want to chat about it to others. I am personally hoping to find at least one other person who would love to have my rhubarb.

Janet Wood 0407 888 725 for any queries.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2023			1	2	3	4
			9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek	Presentation of the Lord	10am Prayers at Gisborne	9.30am CoCo Romsey UC
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Epiphany 5 9.30am Tylden HC - AB	2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship Kyneton HC	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Epiphany 6 9.30am Gisborne HC	2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation	10am Muffin'n'More at Gisborne	9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek	Ash Wednesday	10am Prayers at Gisborne	*PiP articles due tomorrow please
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Transfiguration Sunday 9.30am Kyneton HC	2.30 Faith Community 5.30pm Romsey Meditation World Day of Social Justice		9.30-1.30 White Goose open Riddells Creek		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship at Kyneton	
26	27	28	February			
Lent 1 10am Romsey HC	2.30pm Faith Community 3.30pm RM Begg 5.30pm Romsey Meditation					

Thirteenth Annual
Peter Barcham Memorial Lecture

MUSLIMS IN AUSTRALIA: COMMON GROUND BETWEEN MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS

Presented by

IMAM ALAA ELZOKM



Gisborne Uniting Church
23 Brantome Street, Gisborne

MONDAY 6TH MARCH, 2023, at 7.30 P.M.

Free Admission Supper to follow
Enquiries to Janet or D'Arcy Wood, 5428 6700

Sad Joy

I pray for enlargement of my mind, of my whole being,
that it may hold more of your beauty and your truth.

I gaze, tormented, my soul weeping, at the magnificence of the mighty forest trees caught in a mist,
with the silver rays of the sun slanting down between.

Why does this make me cry, this beauty that is yours and you?

I think I know...

it is because I am too small to comprehend and hold that beauty in my being,
and I weep because I waste a gift as wonderful as life itself.

Enlarge my mind, my God, I pray,
that I waste not this gift that is yourself.

And sometimes, worshipping, in church or without,
I catch a precious glimpse of you and, briefly,
then I know you and your truth.

And all my being fills with joy and light but briefly....
because, it seems, I am too small and cluttered and unkempt
to receive and store the truth that is both yours and you.

O God, for these gifts that bring such brief and sorrowful delight
I give you thanks.

But, Father, if you will it, with them give me, too,
that enlargement of my mind to hold more of the beauty
and the truth that is both yours and you.

M.W. Williams
The Clarion September 2006

Extra Little Notes

The next CoCo meeting will be on Saturday 4th February at 9.30 am at Romsey Uniting Church.

RM Begg (Kyneton) – Alison Killoh is the contact person for worship on the 4th Monday of the month (if the home is not in lockdown) Communion is celebrated. For more information see the March edition of PiP or contact Alison

Woodend/Tylden Op-Shop is closing over February for renovations in the hall. Last trading day is Thursday 2nd February. If you can help relocating stock please contact Bronwyn or Shirley – all help will be greatly appreciated and many hands make light work – come and join in!

PETER BARCHAM LECTURE 2023

Relations between Christians and Muslims have often been very difficult. This is an under-statement. Muslims remember the Crusades of long ago and the invasions of recent times. Christians in Australia remember the Bali bombing and the huge destruction of 9/11.

The Uniting Church believes that relations between the various faiths should be friendly and co-operative wherever possible. To achieve this requires not only good will but a lot of work. Gisborne UC is making a small contribution to this effort by inviting **Imam Alaa Elzokm** to deliver the Peter Barcham Memorial Lecture for 2023. The Imam has accepted the invitation with enthusiasm. The Lecture will be on **Monday 6th March at 7.30 p.m.** and the title is:

“Muslims in Australia: common ground between Muslims and Christians”

The Imam will also take questions. He will be accompanied by other Muslims, so there will be opportunity during refreshments to meet them and discuss the Lecture.

Further information is available from Janet or D’Arcy Wood on 5428 6700. Copies of the flyer are also available.

Ash Wednesday Commemoration at Mount Macedon Uniting Church

A commemoration service will be held on Thursday evening, 16 February 2023 at 7.00 PM in the Mount Macedon Uniting Church on the 40th anniversary of the devastating Ash Wednesday bushfires that swept across much of Victoria and South Australia on 16 February 1983.

Rev Dr D’Arcy Wood will lead the service with a Presbytery of Port Phillip West minister preaching.

The Anglican Church of the Resurrection in Honour Avenue, Mount Macedon will be holding a service on Sunday 12 February at 7.30PM.

The CFA is also organizing a Community Gathering in Centennial Park, Mount Macedon Road (opposite the Church of the Resurrection) on Thursday 16 February at 5.30PM.

The Uniting Church in Mount Macedon was one of the 400 buildings destroyed in Macedon and Mount Macedon on that day. While 7 people died in Macedon and Mount Macedon, no-one from our congregation died. Only the stone walls of the church remained after the fire. Insurance was insufficient to rebuild. With faith and drive, the minister, Rev Graham Hall, and congregation decided to rebuild. Massive support poured in from congregations, individuals and organizations across the State, Australia and internationally. The rebuilt and extended church complex was reopened just 14 months later. Many of the furnishings were donated by other congregations.



A warm welcome is extended to everyone to join us as we remember and reflect, especially those closely associated with events on that terrible day 40 years ago.

Neil Tweddle
5426 2045

The Riddell geese practice round the edge of the labyrinth at **White Goose Books** at the UC at Riddells Creek. You’re welcome to come along and try it too. Contact Meg for more information



FEBRUARY ONLINE SERVICES

On these Sundays, the host congregation's worship will be live-streamed around the partnership.

5 th	Tylden	(Communion for all) Annette
12 th	Gisborne	Gisborne Worship Team
19 th	Kyneton	D'Arcy Wood, Robyn Zumstein, Shirley Bowen
26 th	Romsey	Janet Wood

For church times, see page 9

MARCH ONLINE SERVICES

these services will be streamed and led by a minister

5 th	Northern	Communion
12 th	Tylden	
19 th	Gisborne	
26 th	Kyneton	

Reminder Annette is on annual leave for 3 weeks from Monday 6th February to 26th February inclusive. For pastoral care while Annette is away, contact your elders or pastoral care team. For urgent pastoral care contact Meg.

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, Jenny Elston, Helen Aldridge Andrea Strack
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Church Council</u> Roy Gibbs, Helen Carey Chair – Pip Elston Sec – Helen Aldridge	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston <u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs
<u>ROMSEY</u>	<u>Church Council/Elders</u> Noel Shaw Jay Brooks Jeni Clampit Jenny Elliott 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, Shirley Bowen
<u>WOODEND</u>	<u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> – Robyn Zumstein	
<u>RIDDELLS CREEK</u>		<u>Craft Group</u> - Lynette Bucknall
<u>GISBORNE</u>	<u>Prayer Ministry/F & C</u> - Glennis Speed <u>Pastoral Care/F & C</u> - Bev Gilbertson <u>Social Justice</u> – Nola Anderson <u>Worship & 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

Meditation in Romsey for February

Meditation continues Monday evenings in February at 5.30pm. If you are interested in joining in, please give Steve a call on 0411781695.

Changes in Partnership contact details

Please note that Jay Brooks' landline no longer exists – all contact should be through her mobile number which is available in the contact details. Check you have the correct email address for her if you require an email response 😊

Romsey notes

Our February worship services will be at 9.30am. The fourth Sunday 26th February, Janet Wood will take the service and Jay Brooks will conduct Holy Communion.

Usual Weekly Sunday Service times are as follows;

- Tylden is at 9.30am
- Gisborne is at 9.30am
- Romsey is at 9.30am
- Kyneton is at 9.30am on 1st and 3rd Sundays
- Northern Churches at 10am preceded by morning tea at 9.30am

Presbytery of Port Phillip West has a website full of resources and information: <https://ucappw.org.au/>

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

Macedon Ranges Partnership is part of the Port Phillip West Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Australia.

<u>MINISTER</u> Pastor Annette Buckley Ph 5429 5351 or 0457 608 539 annettebuckley@ucaromsey.com	<u>MINISTER IN ASSOCIATION</u> Rev Deacon Meg Evans Ph 0439 492 245 marevans@bigpond.com
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<u>OFFICE PHONE</u> (03) 5428 6920	<u>OFFICE LOCATION AND POSTAL ADDRESS</u> 3 Sutherland Rd, Riddells Creek, 3431	<u>PARTNERSHIP EMAIL ADDRESS</u> macedon.ranges.partnership@hotmail.com
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PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE 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 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)	Pip Elston	Helen Aldridge miamiakynetonu c@outlook.com	<u>Finance Committee</u> Helen Carey (Treas) Roy Gibbs Jenny Elston	Church Council Executive	Marge Townrow Dot Smith Pip Elston, Lyn Ward (alt)
<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	Lauren Turner, Janet Cole, Dawn Hinneberg
<u>WOODEND</u> - 37 Forest St					
<u>GISBORNE</u> - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett, Paul Gilbertson

What is going on in your congregation in March? What does worship mean to you? How is your faith growing at this time? Do you have an article for PiP or something you would like to share with the rest of the Partnership? Please send me your additions for PiP by **19th February 2023**.

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

Stop Press! There will be no Souper Lunches in Woodend in February as the church will be filled with Op Shop stock until the renovations are complete. Join us behind the church for Faith Community at 2.30!

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