



PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT



ISSUE NO. 66 JUNE 2021

HMMMM... WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?

Some people have mottoes that they live by, words of wisdom that they can apply whatever circumstances arise: "Never let the sun set on an argument", "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle", "Be the change that you wish to see in the world" (Gandhi) and so on. You might have a particular verse from the bible that is your guiding light for the way you live your life.

I've never really been one for a 'life verse' or a sentence of distilled wisdom to live by. I said to someone recently that I think my tombstone should have a raised hand on it, with a "Yes.... but....." etched underneath. I like paradox and nuance and coming at things from a different angle, so as soon as I might settle on something like "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect" (Mark Twain) I'll find an instance where even that doesn't apply.

So it's unusual that I find myself mulling over a question that I thought would be good to ask myself each day. It actually came out of some ponderings about what would be good questions for congregations to ask ourselves as we try to discern how to be the church in our contexts, with the gifts and graces God has given us as a community. I surprised myself by coming up with a single question:

"What can we do to serve the gospel in the community today?"

For me, that question is broad and deep and rich.

- It holds within it a question about what is available to us... "What **can** we do...? Not what would we like to do if we had more people/energy/money/power, but what resources do we actually have on hand?"
- It involves a call into community... "What can **we** do...?" Who else can I/we invite, include, team up with? Whose wisdom, gifts, creativity do I/we need to tap into?"

(Continued on page 3)



Early in May, Rev Peter Cannon was inducted into his new placement in the Whitehorse Cluster at Mountview Uniting Church.

Please Note: Keep an eye on current COVID-safety restrictions and potential changing of events or dates. Remember to wear your mask inside church or other buildings. If you have any concerns, please call one of the ministry team (see back page for details)

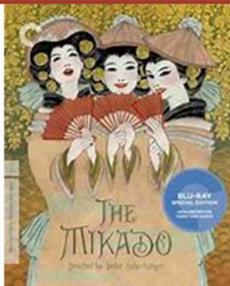
LECTIONARY Readings Year B

After Pentecost

A period of time that varies in length depending on whether Easter is early or late. In this period, the Church recalls its faith in the Holy Trinity. It seeks to relate its faith as a people of God to Christ's mission in the world. It commences with Trinity Sunday and concludes with the feast of Christ the King.

Date	Day/Season	Color	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
30 May	Trinity Sunday	W	Isaiah 6:1-8	29	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17
6 Jun	Pent 2 (10)	G	1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)	138	2 Corinthians 4:13 to 5:1	Mark 3:20-35
13 Jun	Pent 3 (11)	G	1 Samuel 15:34 to 16:13	20	2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17	Mark 4:26-34
20 Jun	Pent 4 (12)	G	1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 or 1 Samuel 17:57 to 18:5, 10-16	9:9-20 or 133	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41
22 Jun	UC Anniversary	R	2 Chronicles 30:1-9	127	Ephesians 2:19-22	John 17:1-11
27 Jun	Pent 5 (13)	G	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27	130	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Mark 5:21-43
4 Jul	Pent 6 (14)	G	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10	48	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13

Colours: P – Purple W – White G – Green R – Red B – Black



The Mikado



The Romsey Uniting Church
Invites you to join us for an afternoon of
music, fun and laughter
from Gilbert & Sullivan's
'The Mikado'

NB: New Date
4th July 1.30pm

performed by the Singularity Choir
Sunday, ~~30th May~~, 2021 at 1.30pm
in the Romsey Uniting Church Hall,
25 Pohlman Street Romsey
Cost: \$20.00 Concession \$15.00

More details coming soon or from Jeni Clampit as per RSVP below

RSVP. Before ~~15th May~~, 2021
Jeni Clampit 5429 5480 Email: jeniferclampit@bigpond.com
Or mail to P.O. Box 264, Romsey. 3434.

- “What can we **do**...?” invites us into action. It asks us to be God's feet and hands and eyes and ears and heart in the communities in which we live.
- “...**to serve the gospel**...” asks us to consider what the Good News of Jesus means to ourselves and to those around us
- “...**in the community**...” invites us to consider what the real needs of the community are as our starting point.
- “What can we do... **today**?” asks us what it is we can do right here and now, not in some distant future, not what we were capable of in the past, but in this present moment.

Now, there are some further things I'd like to say about some possible answers to this question. Above all, the fact that it asks “what can we do...?” does not mean that it is a call to feverish action. Sometimes the best thing we can do to serve the gospel is to pray, or to listen, or to have a cup of tea, put on some music and lie down. Sometimes it's to balance the budget, or plan for the future, or gather information. We might wonder about the definition of “the community”; is it our household, our neighbourhood, our town...the world? Sometimes serving one of those communities also serves the others. The question might be asking how you can spend your whole day “today” or it might be asking you to consider just one thing you can do, or one moment you can spend in service to the gospel in the community. Or “today” might have that wider meaning of “in this present time.” And finally, the way it is phrased might be asking about how to go into the community and serve the gospel, or how to serve the Good News that is already happening in the community around us.

So what do you think? I'd be interested in your thoughts about this question as a guiding light for ourselves and/or our faith communities. Do you have other suggestions for ideas that help you, and might help us all, to live into the life to which we are called?

Annette Buckley
June 2021

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Woodend Faith Community is meeting weekly at 2.30pm at the Woodend Church (weather permitting – under the trees)

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

Kyneton Fish & 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 1st and 3rd Sunday in the month – this month on 11th and 25th June at 6.30pm

Other Worship times Usual Sunday service times for churches across the partnership currently are:

- Tylden is at 9am
- Gisborne is at 9:30am
- Mt Macedon is at 10:30am
- Kyneton is at 9.30am on 1st & 3rd Sundays
- Romsey is at 9am
- Lancefield is at 10:45am

If there are events or meetings not listed here that you know should be included for June, please contact Robyn before 20th June via zumstein@mmnet.com.au or 0401 917 741 to get your events and meetings into the next edition of PiP. Do keep an eye on the emails that come from the ministry team for further news and updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
			7pm Worship & Preaching Training		10am Prayers at Gisborne	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend		7pm Worship & Preaching Training		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship at Kyneton	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend		7pm Worship & Preaching Training	6pm Delightful Diners At Sultan Pepper Romsey	10am Prayers at Gisborne	PIP items due tomorrow!
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	2.30pm Faith Community Woodend 6.30pm Movie Fundraiser GSC Chaplaincy		10am Minister's munch at the Redesdale General Store		10am Prayers at Gisborne 6.30pm Fish & Chips Worship at Kyneton	
27	28	29	30	<h1>June 2021</h1>		
	2.30pm Woodend Faith Community 3.30pm RM Begg Worship					

Excerpts from Barney Schwartz's recent 'The Age' article on Faith —**Prayer and Music.**

Prayer and music have something profoundly important in common because both deal with the inevitable, the inexpressible --matters those words cannot fully capture. Both can bypass the rational centre of the mind. and reach deep into the soul. Prayer is an effort to communicate with the spiritual world, while music is an attempt to materialise something which unlike all other art forms, has no material substance. All it has is score. But a score in itself is not real. It's no more than a password bequeathed by composers. And when these two efforts merge, when prayer is expressed through music and the genius of the greatest composer, the power generated is extraordinarily highly charged.

The Apostle Paul wrote, 'We do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words'. Music too draws out emotions we cannot always express especially the strange link between beauty and pain longing.

The great Protestant reformer, Martin Luther, declared categorically that 'next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.'

Music and prayer can each reinforce the other's potency. That is one reason why so many Christian denominations have a sung liturgy. Listen to the sublime setting by Schubert of "Ave Maria" or the communion Chorus in Wagner's opera, "Parsifal."

And you will see what this means.

A Book review

PHOSPHORESCENCE

from Wendy

This is a book which I really enjoyed reading. It is not a novel and it's very thoughtful. The title is "Phosphorescence." Written by Julia Baird, an ABC tv presenter. Comments by other reviewers are: "About all Wonder, and things that sustain you when the world goes dark."

And the relevance of the phosphorescence is quoted by Annabel Crabb, who wrote these words. "How do we glow when the lights turn out? All we can do is keep placing one foot on the earth and then the other, to seek out ancient paths and forests, certain in the knowledge that others have endured before us. We must love. And we must look outwards and upwards at all times, caring for others, seeking wonder and stalking awe every day to find the magic that will sustain us and fuel the light within -- Our own phosphorescence.

This book is literary, curious and glinting with insights - A boundlessly generous book, full of little luminous treasures."

I hope you get hold of it and read it, as I have done. It was published last year by Harper Collins. Available from Woodend library.

Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee

Movie night fundraiser



Monday 21st June 2021

Readings Cinema Sunbury

6.30pm for 6.45pm Start

~~**Supper provided after the Movie**~~

\$20 per ticket

Available from Snapshot Photos

Shop 2 / 18 Brantome st Gisborne

(beside Priceline)

Cash only please

**If you are unable to visit the shop please Contact
Ann-Maree 0415 773 402 or Bronwyn on 0417 028 605**

Please bring your ticket on the night

No supper this
time sorry folks
however snacks
will be provided

Rev. Bruce Watson has been the Chair of the Presbytery of Port Phillip West for more than four years. As he approaches retirement, he has resigned his place as Chair of the Presbytery. At the May meeting of Presbytery, Bruce tendered this final report, which provides some sobering information and asks some serious questions.

Chairperson's Report 8th May 2021.

After more than four years in the role of Chairperson I would like to leave you with some observations on the life of the Presbytery.

Culture

There were concerns in 2018 about the way the Presbytery conducted its business and shortcomings were noted in areas such as communication and decision-making. Last year Presbytery Committees and presbytery staff responded to the needs of congregations as well as they were able. The clearer we are about priority setting and the related sharing of resources the better the response. It is up to the Councils of the church working in a cooperative manner that will determine the future of congregations and our ministry and mission. I encourage you to work with others in partnership rather than as competitors, at a local, presbytery, and synod level.

Here for Good

This is a Synod project to address an ongoing budget shortfall which aims to find \$200 million through the sale of unwanted church property. I have represented the Presbytery at monthly meetings, where it is becoming clearer that there will need to be more cost cutting to achieve a balanced Synod budget. The proposal is that \$200m in property sale proceeds be realised by December 2022 and deposited into the Money for Mission Fund. It needs to be noted that this would not achieve financial sustainability in the long term. The Presbytery Standing Committee will have difficult decisions to make as further funding cuts to Presbyteries appear inevitable.

Presbytery Strategy

As you will be aware the future of the Uniting Church is uncertain in many areas because of social irrelevance, declining membership, ageing buildings, fewer people and financial resources and lack of community connections. The demands on the presbytery to work with congregations in exploring future realities will only increase. I would ask, "How realistic are your expectations in the light of diminishing resources?"

Conclusion

I believe that the future of the Uniting Church is to be found in exploring identity, mission and context. Who are we, what does God want us to do, and who is our neighbour? We cannot return to yesterday because so much has changed. God's Spirit is present and active in our world and is calling us to love one another in our relationships, in our families, in our churches, and in our communities.

Let us answer God's call and together follow in the way of Jesus.

Come and join the "Delightful Diners"

Dinners are as follows: June 17th Soltan Pepper Restaurant, 118 Main Street, Romsey;

July 15th Kyneton RSL 37 - 39 Mollison Street, Kyneton;

August 19th Vespas Pizzeria, 115 High Street, Woodend.

WOODEND-TYLDEN OP SHOP

Last month I asked Janet for a note on how the relocated Op Shop is going; this is her response. Thanks Janet! Robyn(ed)

The Op Shop has now been at its new location at Woodend Uniting Church since last October. If you haven't yet dropped in to have a look, we would love to see you.

We are open Monday and Saturday from 9am till 1pm and Thursday and Friday from 9am till 3pm. We have a wonderful team of volunteers who are carrying out all the necessary duties and we continue to receive a generous amount of donations. Graeme and Peter have built extensive shelving and racks and our customers are really happy to be in a more open space.

We have been delighted by the large number of new customers who have come along and all those returning customers who have finally "found" us again.

Our prices have remained the same and we continue to provide a much-needed service to the community. City shoppers are surprised by our bargains!

Come on in and see what you can find, bring in those things you no longer need and of course we are always happy to welcome new volunteers. Janet Cole.

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, Brian Lauder
<u>KYNETON</u>	<u>Church Council</u> Roy Gibbs, Helen Carey, Susan Campbell	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston <u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs
<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>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 & Bronwyn Hewitt

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

Continuing on **June 2nd**, the Synod-wide **Worship and Preaching Training** will be taking place online. With guests from across the Synod from Tasmania to Loddon Mallee to eLM, it is a great time of learning and discussion. Fantastic resources are available in the online learning platform as well.

Registrations are still open. For full flyer see page 6.

You will find more information on the Synod events pages here -

<https://victas.uca.org.au/event/worship-and-preaching-online-workshop-worship/>

and here -

<https://victas.uca.org.au/event/worship-and-preaching-online-workshop-preaching/>

(or see May edition of PiP)



ACCESS 3 POINTS OF TRAINING:

- ▶ **Online delivery across the Synod – 2 hours per week**
Join others in Zoom delivery of Worship and Preaching workshops, combining a tutorial based on the online units, and input from a variety of church leaders.
- ▶ **Access to online Worship and Preaching units**
Access online units written around the Assembly W&P competencies for Lay Preachers and Ministry of Pastor.
- ▶ **Local assessment**
For those who opt for assessment, this will occur within their Congregation/ Faith Community/Hub or Presbytery.

WORSHIP AND PREACHING TRAINING FOR COMMUNITIES AND LAY LEADERS

The world has and is changing and we are seeking new ways of leadership and being in church, including worship and proclaiming God's Word.

Join us for multiple options of engaging with 6 Worship Units and 6 Preaching Units.

Participants can choose their level of input and connection. Have a conversation with your faith community, congregation or Presbytery about what would be good for you and them.

Units are engaging and creative. Assessment is both theoretical and practical.

WORSHIP May 5, 12, 19 & June 2, 9, 16

PREACHING September 1, 8, 15 & October 6, 13, 20

TIME 7-9pm each night (will also be recorded and made available for learning)

See over for more information on sessions.

Register at:

[Worship and Preaching Online Workshop - WORSHIP](#)

[Worship and Preaching Online Workshop - PREACHING](#)

For more information, contact your Presbytery or: **Mel Perkins**, Lay Leadership Development, eLM
mel.perkins@victas.uca.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>MINISTERS</u> Pastor Annette Buckley Ph 5429 5351 or 0457 608 539 annettebuckley@ucaromsey.com	Rev Deacon Meg Evans Ph 0439 492 245 marevans@bigpond.com
--	---

<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
---------------------------------------	--	--

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	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
<u>KYNETON</u> - 54 Ebden St (PO Box 892)					Pip Elston, Susan Campbell, 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	Bronwyn Hewitt, Janet Cole Dawn Hinneberg
<u>WOODEND</u> - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)					George Roberts
<u>GISBORNE</u> - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett, Paul Gilbertson

Next Partnership in Print Please share something of yours or your congregations' life or faith journey, a thought, prayer, favourite scripture or reflections thereon. You can send an email to zumstein@mmnet.com.au or hand something to one of the ministers for the next edition. Please send all corrections/events/stories/photos/tidbits to me **by Sunday 20th June**. 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 😊)

Printing donated by

