



Partnership in Print



Uniting Church in Australia - Macedon Ranges Partnership

Barfold - Gisborne - Kyneton - Lancefield - Metcalfe - Mia Mia - Mount Macedon - Riddells Creek - Romsey - Sutton Grange - Tylden - Woodend

Issue No 42 - April 2019

Seasons - Lent 5 - Easter 2

“No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”

-Nelson Mandela





Hate roars; love whispers

At a time when it seems hate is telling the dominant story, I have had to rethink and re-evaluate. The divisions in society seem stronger and sharper. The political is wracked with division and not just between parties but within. Nations are acting out of self-interest and not caring about the consequences for other countries, little own their own people. Individuals are turning to violence in order to either assert themselves or resolve their difficulties. Turkey, Israel and Palestine, the USA, road rage, aggression to bike riders, domestic violence, priests as child abusers and I haven't even mentioned the murderous attacks on worshippers in prayer.

I am sure you think I am referring to the recent attack in NZ but I am also referring to killing of Christians in the Philippines and of the murder of African-Americans at worship in a church in the US. These are but a glimpse of the hate crimes and expressions we hear of each day – an overwhelming litany of hatred of one against another. Hate that seems to shatter lives.

Yet I have to rethink this narrative which permeates our newspapers. In NZ, I see leaders, including Jacinda Aderm showing compassion, working together to bring healing. But more I see both there and here in Australia, ordinary people reaching out in shared grief. A Christian man in Brisbane stands watch outside a Mosque so that Muslims may pray in peace. Youth groups visit families in hospitals to offer support and encouragement to those sitting with their injured. And I sat with a group of ministers from different churches seeking to bring both theirs and other fellow followers from different traditions together to break bread. I hear of others in different denominations working together to provide even some basic needs to the hungry. In this I see love.

Love in the midst of hate. People working together to share love and thereby offering hope. Love offering comfort, not judging, bringing healing.

When I see this happening, the faces of those despairing seem to lift. I see energy bubble up in conversations. People smile. Courage is expressed in something new. Generosity is evident. Strangers work together.

Love is not some wishy-washy sentiment only known in Hollywood movies. It is real and life giving in the midst of struggle. It is what Jesus offered the marginalised and hated. It is how the world is transformed and healed, one practical step at a time. For when we decide that the story of love is to be our guide and life blood, rather than the stories of hate, we choose a path Jesus trod. Yes it leads to the cross. But from this comes resurrection.

Maybe each of us can take a moment to rethink and re-evaluate.

(PS I came across a great reflection in the Guardian Australian web site based on this very theme. Have a look at it. Go to: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/mar/26/the-difficult-love-of-jacinda-ardern-cannot-be-easily-emulated-not-by-white-australian-culture-loving-itself>

Lenten Symbols at Gisborne



During Lent the Gisborne congregation are using a liturgy from the Nexus Methodist Church, city of Bath, UK. The trunk of their Christmas tree was cut to form a cross and holes drilled to hold the candles. Each week a symbol is added. The first two, stones and a red ribbon, are in the photo. Further symbols will be coins, an emblem*, seeds and palm leaves.

*In the UK the 4th Sunday in Lent is Mothering Sunday and they place a Methodist Orb to represent the love of Christ reaching around the globe. I wonder what emblem Gisborne will be using for the 4th Sunday of Lent.

Concert Proteus Ensemble Sunday 19th May Tylden Church 2:30pm

The Proteus Ensemble with Malcolm Cole will be presenting a concert at the Tylden Church. The string quartet will perform quintets featuring additional soloists in each case. They will play a bassoon quintet by Edward Elgar, a clarinet composition by Charles Villiers Stanford, a Michael Haydn quintet with two violas and Two Tango Sensations by Piazzolla for piano accordion.

Everyone from the partnership is welcome to attend. There will be no charge for the concert. Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. A retiring offering will be available for the moderator's Disaster Relief Appeal.

Worship Leaders

April	Partnership service location & leader	Other Partnership Services	Notes	Other Congregational services/prayers
Sunday 7th April Lent 5	Lancefield 10:45 am Holy Communion Annette Buckley	Woodend - Mon 1st 11am Riddell - Wed 3rd 9am Woodend - Mon 8th 11am Riddell - Wed 10th 9am Kyneton - Fri 12th 6:30pm HC		7th Tylden 9am - Bronwyn Hewitt 7th Gisborne 9:30am - Janet Wood 7th Kyneton 9:30am - Doug McIver 7th Mt Macedon 10:30am - Rob Coulson
Sunday 14th April Palm/Passion Sunday	Northern (Mia Mia) 10:00 am (Cuppa 9:40am) Holy Communion Peter Cannon	Woodend - Mon 15th 11am Riddell - Wed 17th 9am Maunder Thursday and Good Friday Services see opposite page		14th Romsey 9am - Carol Toy 14th Tylden 9am - Shirley Bowen 14th Gisborne 9:30am - Paul Gilbertson 14th Mt Macedon 10:30am - Jay Brooks 14th Lancefield 10:45am - Carol Toy
Sunday 21st April Easter Day	Riddells Creek 4 pm Holy Communion Annette Buckley including Garden Party to farewell Wendy Elson	Woodend - Mon 22nd 11am Riddell - Wed 23rd 9am Kyneton - Fri 26th 6:30pm HC	Wendy Elson's last day	21st Tylden at Kyneton 9:30am 21st Romsey at Lancefield at 10:45am 21st Gisborne 9:30am - Rev D'Arcy Wood 21st Kyneton 9:30am - Pip Elston 21st Metcalfe 10am - TBA 21st Mt Macedon 10:30am - Adele Mapperson 21st Lancefield 10:45am - Peter Cannon
Sunday 28th April Easter 2	Mt Macedon 10:30 am Holy Communion Peter Cannon	Woodend - Mon 29th 11am RM Begg - Mon 29th 3:30pm Riddell - Wed 1st May 9am		28th Romsey 9am - Trevor Turnham 28th Tylden 9am - Robyn Zumstein 28th Gisborne HC 9:30am - Keith Hallett 28th Sutton Grange 10am - TBA 28th Lancefield 10:45am - Trevor Turnham

Easter Events

Maundy Thursday Services

Thursday 18th April

- **Gisborne** - 7:30pm - Annette Buckley
- **Metcalfe** - 7:30pm - Peter Cannon
- **Woodend** - 6:30-7:30pm - Wendy Elson

Good Friday Events

Friday 19th April

- **Romsey** - 9am - Peter Cannon - followed by ecumenical walk commencing at 10:15am from Romsey UC.
- **Tylden** - 9am - Wendy Elson
- **Mt Macedon** - 9am - Rev Valerie Johnson
- **Gisborne** - 9:30am - Annette Buckley
- **Kyneton** - 10:30am - Ecumenical 'We Remember' Walk to Botanic Gardens, commencing at the Baptist Church - Annette Buckley
- **Woodend** - 1pm - Ecumenical Easter Gathering at Woodend Children's Park

Learning Opportunities

Theology for Dummies

On the first Monday of each month members of the Northern congregations meet at 10am at the Rural Cafe in Redesdale to discuss matters theological. No prior knowledge is expected, no question too silly.

Next gathering is Monday, 1st April.

Lenten Studies

Lenten Studies will be continue at Mt Macedon UC at 11am on Fridays 5th & 12th April. We are discussing *Lent for Everyone, Luke Year C* by NT Wright. Twelve people, from 3 congregations, attended the first session. Anyone can still join in these studies.

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Prayer & Worship

Weekly Prayer & Meditation

There are a number of weekday opportunities to be involved in worship, prayer or meditation within the Partnership. You are welcome to attend any of these occasionally or regularly.

Prayer for Peace every Monday morning at 11am at Woodend. Followed by lunch. The community are warmly welcomed to this but we really encourage Partnership members to be involved.

The Lancefield Church is open for private Prayer and Meditation every Wednesday 11am - 3pm.

An Ecumenical Meditation Group meets by arrangement. Contact Wendy for details.

Labyrinth walk at Riddells Creek is available at any time if you wish to walk on your own.

Prayer Meetings are held at Gisborne Church at 2pm on Tuesdays and 10am on Fridays. **Note - No gathering on Good Friday, 19th April.**



No statement about God is simply, literally true. God is far more than can be measured, described, defined in ordinary language, or pinned down to any particular happening.

David Jenkins

I have lived to thank God that all my prayers have not been answered.

Jean Ingelow

quotes from Editor's Clip Sheets

Meetings

CoCo

The Partnership Co-ordinating Council will be at Mt Macedon on **Saturday 5th March** at 9:30am. This is an open meeting. All Partnership members are welcome to attend.

Romsey Church Council

The Romsey Church Council meet at the home of David and Sandra Strack on **Wednesday 3rd April** commencing at 6pm with a meal.

Op-Shop Committee

The Woodend-Tylden Opportunity Shop Committee meet at 10am on **Wednesday 10th April** at the Woodend UC Hall

Mia Mia/Kyneton Church Council

Mia Mia/Kyneton Church Council AGM & Ordinary Meeting originally planned for March has been rescheduled to **Wednesday 3rd April**, 7:30pm at Metcalfe.

Worship Team

The Romsey Lancefield Worship team meet at 7:30pm on **Thursday 11th April** at Romsey to plan worship roster.

Romsey Congregation AGM

The Romsey Congregation will hold their AGM after worship on **Sunday 28th April**.

Clubs and Groups

White Goose Book Exchange

The White Goose Book Exchange is open each **Wednesday** 9:30am - 1:30pm at Riddells Creek. Come for a book, to read the papers, a cuppa or just for a chat with our friendly volunteers.

Stitches in Rhyme

We are sewing Boomerang Bags for the Riddells Creek Community on **Wednesdays**, at The White Goose at 1pm, now being called Stitches in Rhyme - sewing and poems & stories.



Cuppa @ Romsey

Each Monday – 2pm



Coffee get together at Romsey is now at the church. First to arrive please put the kettle on.

Mt Macedon Men's Group

The men's group meet at Mt Macedon church at 10am on **Tuesday, 2nd April**.

Tylden UCAF

Tylden UCAF meet at the church at 2pm on **Tuesday 2nd April**.

Brunch

Northern Congregations gather for Brunch at Redsdale Rural cafe on 2nd Tuesday of the month. Next gathering **Tuesday, 9th April** at 10am.

Muffins'n More

Remember singing 'Hear the pennies dropping'? If you do then you'll enjoy the next Muffin 'n More morning at Gisborne UC on **Tuesday 9th April** when we'll be reminiscing about those Sunday School days.

Dr Keith Hallett will speak on his research into the Sunday School movement and we'll sing some of the rollicking choruses of those happy days. Remember 'Wide, wide as the ocean' or 'Build on the rock'? And who can forget 'Our Sunday School is over, and we are going home'. So don't stay at home on April 9. Join us for Muffins'n More, much more, between 10-12.

Romsey UCAF

Romsey UCAF meet on **Wednesday 10th April** at 1:30pm at the church.

Delightful Diners

The April dinner for the Delightful Diners for 2019 is on **Thursday, 18th April** at Castello's Victorian Tavern, 22 Aitken Street, Gisborne, at 6pm sharp. The earlier time is to allow those who wish to attend the Maundy Day Service at Gisborne at 7:30pm, time to do so.

If you wish to attend the service contact Bronwyn Hewitt for a menu so you can pre-order otherwise arrive extra early to order.

See page 17 for future Dinner locations.

Mt Macedon Thistle Club

April's gathering is on **Wednesday 24th April**, 2pm at the church. We will watch a video about the 'Last Post Ceremony' and Lynette Bucknall will tell us more about this special ceremony.

Devotions: Lorraine Tweddle

Items for Lentara Asylum Seekers – Pkts of Lentils, Dried Beans etc.

Afternoon Tea – Maya, Valda, Mary.

Tylden History Club

The Tylden History Club hosted by the Tylden congregation meets on **Wednesday, 24th April** at 7:30pm.

Kyneton Chat'n'Chew

Kyneton Congregation's monthly Chat N' Chew, on the fourth Friday of the month, continues at Kaddy's Cafe & Eatery, High Street between midday-1.30pm.



The April gathering date is **Friday, 26th April @ midday!** All welcome! No need for bookings. Inquiries: Jenny Elston

Film Club

Film club met in February to watch the film, "Sweet Country", which tells the story of an Aboriginal stockman tried for the murder of a Northern Territory white station owner in the 1920s. It was confronting at times and stimulated quite a bit of discussion.

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Film for March is Hidden Figures another film about racial issues.

As the fourth Thursday of April is Anzac Day, film club has been moved a week later. Now meeting on **Thursday 2nd May**.

There are three answers to prayer:
Yes, no, and wait a while. It must be recognised that no is an answer.

Ruth Stafford Peale

A young man was arrested for stealing a car, had the year's most novel excuse. He's found the automobile in front of a cemetery, he explained, and thought the owner was dead.

We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount.

JR Lowell

A reporter came to a fire one day where a house was steadily burning down to the ground. He noticed that there was a little boy standing by with his mum and dad. The reporter said, "Son, it looks like you don't have a home anymore." The little boy answered courageously, "We have a home - we just don't have a house to put it in."

quotes from Editor's Clip Sheets

New Music for the 5th Sunday Partnership Service

Over the past few weeks a small group from Gisborne have been practising a new hymn to introduce at the April 5th Sunday Partnership Service at Woodend this weekend. The hymn based on 1 Corinthians 13 was written by Helen Wiltshire, Adelaide, SA, and won an International Hymn Competition a few years ago.

The words are an excellent antidote to the extremism we saw in Christchurch, NZ, recently.

1. Love may not sing an anthem
with angel voice and air;
love may not boast of riches
with gold and jewels rare.
Love speaks with gentle accents
unlike a cymbal's noise;
love breathes with hope and patience:
its fruits are lasting joys.
2. Though faith may move a mountain
or still a raging sea;
though minds may hold all knowledge
and speak of mystery,
yet these are fleeting wonders
that swiftly fade away.
Love mirrors deep compassion:
its kindness lights each day.
3. Love nurtures faith and courage
and bears life's deepest pain;
love shares the gift of healing
and offers life again.
Love honours truth and beauty
and sings when goodness grows;
love works for peace and justice;
its truth forever flows.
4. Love stands when all has fallen;
it holds and will prevail;
love shines with sacred presence
as puzzling shadows pale.
When all we know is ended,
faith, hope and love will live,
with love the greatest treasure:
the gift we all may give.

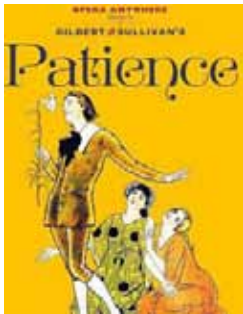
Another song will be 'You are a note in God's own melody' by Kurt Mikula

Refrain You are a note in God's own melody,
A note of beauty in his symphony.
and whether major, minor, quiet or
loud,
just get acquainted with his heavenly
sound!

1. Here is where you're welcome,
no one is left out.
Everybody matters,

so we sing and shout!

2. Let your voices ring out
as you sing his song,
harmonise together,
come and sing along!
3. Sing about his goodness,
sing about his might,
keep us safe, dear Father,
every day and night.



Patience



The Romsey Uniting Church

Invites you to join us for an afternoon of music, fun and laughter
from Gilbert & Sullivan's "Patience"
performed by the Singularity Choir
Sunday, 5th May, 2019 at 1.30pm in the
Romsey Uniting Church Hall, 25 Pohlman Street Romsey
followed by afternoon tea
Cost: \$20.00 Concession \$15.00



The Story... All of the maidens in the village are besotted with Reginald Bunthorne, a moody and handsome poet, but he has eyes only for the simple milkmaid, Patience. The problem? Bunthorne's artistic ways are all just an act to attract women to him--he doesn't even like poetry! Besides, Patience is in love with her childhood sweetheart, who happens to be a real poet named Archibald Grosvenor, but feels she cannot marry him because he is just too perfect.....

RSVP. Before 28th April, 2019

Jeni Clampit 5429 5480 Email: jeniferclampit@bigpond.com
Or mail to P.O. Box 264, Romsey. 3434.

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
<h1>April 2019</h1>	1 10am - 'Theology for Dummies' at Redesdale 10am - Woodend OpShop sorting 11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend 12noon - Woodend lunch 2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'	2 10am - Mt Macedon Men's Group 2pm - Tylden UCAF 2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
7 Lent 5 10:45am - Partnership Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am) 9am - Worship at Tylden 9:30am - Worship at Gisborne 9:30am - Worship at Kyneton 10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon	8 10am - Woodend OpShop sorting 11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend 12noon - Woodend lunch 2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'	9 10am - Brunch at Redesdale 10am - Muffin'n More at Gisborne 2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
14 Passion/Palm Sunday 10am - Partnership Worship at Mia Mia (cuppa at 9:40am) 9am - Worship at Tylden & Romsey 9:30am - Worship at Gisborne 10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon 10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am)	15 Holy Week 10am - Woodend OpShop sorting 11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend 12noon - Woodend lunch 2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey'	16 Holy Week 2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
21 Easter Day 4pm - Partnership Inter-generational Worship at Riddells Creek & Farewell to Wendy 9:30am - Worship at Gisborne & Kyneton 10am - Worship at Metcalfe (cuppa at 9:40am) 10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon 10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am) Items for PiP due	22 Easter Monday ?	23 1st Day Term 2 2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
28 Easter 2 10:30am - Partnership Worship at Mt Macedon 9am - Worship at Tylden & Romsey 9:30am - Worship at Gisborne 10am - Worship at Sutton Grange (cuppa at 9:40am) 10am - Romsey Congregation AGM 10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (cuppa at 10:15am) Printed copies of PiP available	29 10am - Woodend OpShop sorting 11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend 12noon - Woodend lunch 2pm - 'Cuppa@Romsey' 3pm - Service at RM Begg	30 2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
3 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 6pm - Romsey Church Council 7:30pm - Mia Mia/Kyneton Church Council meeting & AGM	4	5 Last Day Term 1 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 11am - Lenten Study at Mt Macedon	6 End of Daylight Saving tonight 9:30am - CoCo at Mt Macedon
10 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 10am - Woodend Op-Shop Committee 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 1:30pm - Romsey UCAF 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open	11 7:30pm - Romsey/ Lancefield Worship Team Meeting	12 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 11am - Lenten Study at Mt Macedon 6:30pm - Meal & HC at Kyneton	13
17 Holy Week 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open	18 Holy Thurs -> 5:30pm - Woodend Op-shop late opening 6:15pm - Delightful Din- ers at Castello's 6:30pm - Woodend 7:30pm Services at Gisborne & Metcalfe	19 Good Friday 9am - Services at Romsey, Tylden & Mt Macedon 9:30am Service at Gisborne 10:15am Walk at Romsey 10:30am Walk at Kyneton 1pm - Ecumenical event at Woodend	20 Holy Sat
24 9am - Prayer at Riddell 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 1pm - Stitches in Rhyme 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 2pm - Mt Macedon Thistle Club 7:30pm - Tylden History Club	25 Anzac Day	26 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 12noon - Chat'n'Chew at Kyneton 6:30pm - Meal & HC at Kyneton	27

Experience is a hard teacher.

She gives the test first and the lesson afterward.

English Proverb



A Listening Recommendation

Festivals, camps, road trips, conversations with first peoples and second generations, culture, identity and faith... these are some of the things I've been hearing about in the last few days. Having never been game to try a 'podcast' before, this week I have been binging!



Last weekend, my family and I once again joined the Synod Social Justice Family Camp at Adekate, near Creswick. We welcomed back US guest Mark Scandrette (and his wife Lisa) who provided us with some informative sessions on the Beatitudes and the Enneagram. Braden French, the Synod's Youth Ministry Coordinator also joined us at the camp to share with our teens and tweens. Braden is the host of "Work Experience Podcast" (or WXPC), the first podcast I have listened or indeed subscribed to. And I am now encouraging you to do the same!

The podcast began mid last year and already has an international following. A wide variety of issues are explored weekly with warmth and humour. The target audience is not just young people but those involved or interested

in ministry with and alongside young people. There are library book reviews, interviews with young people and 'old' people – including Sharon Hollis, footballer Joe Williams, and Dr Deidre Palmer, and information about different aspects of church life across the country. If you listen carefully, Darcy Wood

gets a mention too!

Some of my favourite episodes so far: Crackin Coconuts (Part 1); Week 2, Day5; Work experience with the President (you'll have to scroll way back to the beginning of 'Full Episode History' and 'load more episodes' for these ones).

So get involved, have a listen! Subscribe even! Be entertained, inspired and challenged from the comfort of your own living room; find out what else is happening in the church outside the Macedon Ranges and enjoy! You can listen via your computer or smart phone on the train, while driving or while doing the dishes. Simply google "Work Experience Podcast" on any podcast listening app or go directly to <https://workxpc.com>

Robyn Zumstein - Woodend/Tylden

Reflections on the Tenth Peter Bartram Lecture

The talk at Gisborne by Claire Boyd McCrae was on Prayer and Meditation. Amusingly, she related how she would climb up high into a cupboard to achieve some quiet and privacy.

Claire described her lifetime journey to find faith and a meaningful prayer life and meditation.

For my own part, I recall times when I sat silently and alone in the Australian bush at Spring Hill near Kyneton. I found these experiences so healing and calming, just sitting by myself and

absorbing the sounds and scents of the forest. After being there for an hour, came away feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. I am sure I was close to God.

Another experience which I've had was on the coast at McCrae.

On black but moonlit nights when the sea was calm, pathways of silver light would emanate from the moon right to the door of my tent.

cont. on next page

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Would you like to train to become a volunteer with VCC Emergencies Ministry?

Emergencies, like fire or flood, can create chaos in our lives. Those affected may be traumatized, grieving, or in shock. Our volunteers are trained to provide a calm, caring and compassionate presence. We have the time to talk with, listen to and support these affected people.

VCC EM is authorised by Government to coordinate an integrated faith communities' response when disaster occurs, and has been providing support to Victorian Communities since 1977.

To find out more visit www.vccem.org.au or watch our promo video at <https://youtu.be/QAjb3jAvvbA>

Training is available for members of all faith communities who would like to volunteer.

A training date has been set for Saturday May 25th at St Mary's Anglican Woodend for this training in - *Psychological First Aid and Emotional Spiritual Care*

The training has 2 stages -

- Self-paced learning and completion of workbook (approx 7hrs)
- Face to face training day.

Please advise early booking to allow plenty of time for pre-work completion (at least 3 days prior to training day)

Book by visiting www.vccem.org.au/training/

On the training calendar - register for Woodend and pre-work manual will be sent to you. Hard copies are available.

Alternatively phone VCC EM on 9412 8481

Please contact Rosie Baker with any queries 0417730978

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These, too, were a magic moments. This hasn't got much to do with prayer, but these 'special' moments, I feel, were spiritual.

Have you ever been left breathless by the majesty of Creation? The silence of the Grand Canyon was awesome with only the cry of a bird flying over.

Australia's own comparisons are the Blue Mountains and Mt Buffalo.

When you feel re-charged and invigorated, it is a great experience to be alive and to realise that these experiences bring God so much closer.

Wendy Hebbard



Some of the action and worshippers at the Inter-generational Service at Riddells Creek in March.

From Assembly

President's Disaster Relief Appeal - President of the Assembly, Dr Deidre Palmer, has urged Uniting Church members to give generously to the National Disaster Relief Fund. This supports disaster relief work in every state and territory through UCA congregations, presbyteries and ministries.

The recent summer has seen fires devastate large areas in Tasmania, Victoria and NSW. In the wake of Cyclone Oma, monsoonal rain caused extensive flooding in the Townsville region, causing losses to stock numbers already depleted by drought.

"In times of disaster, local communities pull together to support one another other," Dr Palmer said. "I invite those who are able to make a donation as a practical expression of your care and compassion for our neighbours.

More information - <https://assembly.uca.org.au/resources/disaster/item/1317-national-disaster-relief-fund>

From the Synod

Walk for 'Justice for Refugees - For a fair & welcoming society', Palm Sunday, 14th April, 2pm at the State Library, cnr Swanston and Latrobe Sts, Melbourne.

Sacred Edge - Spirituality in Diversity, Queenscliff 3-5 May, 2019. Sacrededge is the festival of arts, music and ideas held each year at the Uniting Church in Queenscliff. There will be over 30 presenters, artists and performers, with representation of Indigenous, refugee, LGBTIQ people, environmental perspectives. They are the voices from the edge who are not normally heard.

Children's Home Reunion - Uniting Church agencies have been providing out-of-home care services for children for over a century. The Uniting Heritage Service supports individuals who (along with their families) are seeking records and other information about their time in care.

The Heritage Service is planning a reunion for past residents of the Methodist Children's Home and Orana on 25 April. Any past residents or family members interested in attending the reunion, or anyone seeking more information should contact Uniting Heritage Service Manager Catriona Milne on (03) 8644 1531 or catriona.milne@vt.uniting.org.

Introducing U Ethical - In April UCA Funds Management is changing its name to U Ethical and rolling out an accompanying new logo and website. The changes are being made to attract new investors which will allow the not-for-profit social enterprise to grow its annual grant back to the Synod and increase its ethical investing impact. You can read more about the changes here.

This is just the first step in broadcasting the Uniting Church's ethical investment values to the Australian market. From April you can visit UEthical.com. If you'd like to talk to someone about investing ethically, please call 1800 996 888.

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

*Mahatma Gandhi, quoted in Zen Soup
from Editor's Clip Sheets*

Unexpected Death, Unexpected Life

I have a good friend who lived with diabetes for most of her life. Most of those years you would not have known this unless you happened to catch her discreetly checking her blood sugar, or trying to stealthfully jab herself in the leg with an insulin-filled syringe at a moment where she was unavoidably caught in a public situation. She never wanted the fact of her diabetes to be the defining characteristic of her life.

For the last few years the possibility of remaining an anonymous diabetic became more and more remote. Related complications continually surfaced. Then the inevitable move to dialysis. With each step a certain decline in health. Toward the end, my friend did just four things - work, eat, dialysis, sleep. there was time for nothing else. But for the grace of God and the constant support and inspiration provided by her teenage daughter, even these four things might have been impossible. One had to wonder how long this could go on before her life would end - if not from diabetes and its complications, perhaps from sheer exhaustion.

It was on a Monday morning when the call came from the hospital. Death had come to call. Not to my friend, but to an unknown other.

A kidney and a pancreas had become available from a cadaver donor. An unexpected death

offered the opportunity for unexpected life. My friend was urgently summoned to the hospital because these organs were a match for her. After 5 years of waiting she was suddenly only hours away from the hoped for event - a life changing transplant.

Within 24 hours of that call my friend had a new kidney and pancreas. Within 48 hours she was off insulin. In less than 2 weeks she left hospital no longer a diabetic, no longer in need of dialysis, an infant reborn to a new life. It had to be the closest thing to a Lazarus experience that a person can have without actually being in the tomb first.

This turn of events in my friend's life, fabulous as it may be, is but a small sign of the turn around that happened for us all at Easter. In her case, the unexpected death of one led to the hope of new life for one. As we celebrate Easter, the unexpected death and resurrection of One has led to the unexpected offer of new life, even eternal life, for all. "For Christ died for sins, once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God." (1 Peter 3:18 NIV) Look for the little signs. Rejoice in Christ, the author of all resurrection stories both big and small.

*Pete Velder is the President of Logos Productions Inc.
from Editor's Clip Sheets*



There is something wonderful about a beaten-up heavily marked, tattered bible. Madeleine Delbrel, the French Catholic activist who lived a little more than a generation ago, stuffed her Bible with snapshots, clippings, ticket stubs, postcards and other detritus to remind her that she was praying in the world of people and events. She called these scraps 'icons of humanity' that prompted one to celebrate the 'liturgy of life'.

from Editor's Clip Sheets

Lectionary Readings Year C

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.

Date	Day/Season	Col	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Sunday 5th April	Lent 5	P	Isaiah 43:16-21	126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
Sunday 14th April	Palm Sunday	P	Isaiah 50:4-9a	118:1-2, 19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 19:28-40
Sunday 14th April	Passion Sunday	P	Isaiah 50:4-9a	31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14 to 23:56 or Luke 23:1-49
Monday 15th April	Monday in HW	P	Isaiah 42:1-9	36: 5-11	Hebrews 9: 11-15	John 12:1-11
Tuesday 16th April	Tuesday in HW	P	Isaiah 49:1-7	71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
Wed 17th April	Wednesday in HW	P	Isaiah 50:5-9a	70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
Thursday 18th April	Holy 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
Friday 19th April	Good Friday	B	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
Saturday 20th April	Holy Saturday	B	Job 14:1-14 or Lam 3:1-9, 19-24	31:1-4, 15-16	1 Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

Easter

The great fifty days of Easter includes eight Sundays beginning with the Easter vigil and concluding on the day of Pentecost. The season celebrates the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Date	Day/Season	Col	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Sunday 21st April	Easter Day	W	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25	118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12
Sunday 28th April	Easter 2	W	Acts 5:27-32	118:14-29 or 150	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-31
Sunday 5th May	Easter 3	W	Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)	30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
Sunday 12th May	Easter 4	W	Acts 9:36-43	23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
Sunday 19th May	Easter 5	W	Acts 11:1-18	148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
Sunday 26th May	Easter 6	W	Acts 16:9-15	67	Revelation 21:10, 22 to 22:5	John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9
Sunday 30th May			Acts 1:1-11	47 or 93	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53

Directory removed
for privacy

N - Northern, SG - Sutton Grange, B - Barfold, MM - Mia Mia, M - Metcalfe, K - Kyneton, L - Lancefield, R - Romsey,
T - Tylden, W - Woodend, MtM - Mount Macedon, RC - Riddells Creek, G - Gisborne , P - Presbytery

Delightful Diners 2019 Calendar

At the last dinner a discussion was held to plan the dinners for the rest of the year. Here is the proposed calendar for the rest of 2019. We hope you can join with us. New faces are always welcome.

- Thursday 18th April 2019 (Maundy Thursday) -: A Gisborne eatery, if Diners wish the opportunity shall also be available to attend a Maundy Thursday Church Service at the Gisborne Uniting Church.
- Thursday 16th May 2019 -: Double Eight Chinese Restaurant, 78 High Street, Woodend.
- Thursday 20th June 2019 -: Tylden Junction, 43 Trentham Road, Tylden. (corners Trentham - Kyneton Road & Woodend Road.)
- Thursday 18th July 2019 -: Khao Jaow Thai Restaurant, 17 Templeton Street, Woodend.
- Thursday 15th August 2019 -: Trinh's Kitchen, (Vietnamese Restaurant), Shop 4 / 29 Hamilton Street, Gisborne.
- Thursday 19th September 2019 -: Sizzler Restobar, (Indian Restaurant), 80 High Street, Woodend.
- Thursday 17th October 2019 -: Schatzi's Cafe & Restaurant, 104 High Street, Woodend.
- Thursday 21st November 2019 -: Woodfire Pizza & Christmas Breakup, Dawn & Giles home, 20 Trentham Road, Tylden, (next to the Tylden Church).

Directory removed
for privacy

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, Sandra Strack 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, Jean Lucas	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole
<u>WOODEND</u>		
<u>MT MACEDON</u>	<u>Elders</u> Fiona Armour, Anne Fyfield David Liebich, Neil Tweddle <u>Men's Group</u> - John Cross	<u>Thistle Club</u> President - Shirley Cross Secretary - Anne Fyfield <u>Organist</u> - George Fyfield
<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> - Wendy Hebbard <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> - Fiona Armour <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, & George Roberts
	<u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> - Jay Brooks	

Address Label

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 Sunday evening 21st April 2019

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MIA MIA - Matheson Rd						Joan Mills (Chair) Pip Elston (Kyn) Marge Townrow (N)	
BARFOLD - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd							
METCALFE - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd							
KYNETON - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)		Rita Vandervalk		Ian Kennedy		Peter Fraser	
LANCERFIELD - 9 High St		Noel Shaw		Jeni Clampit		Roger Baker	
ROMSEY - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)		Max Hinneberg		Janet Cole		Dawn Hinneberg	
TYLDEN - Trentham Rd (c/o Tyden General Store, Tylden, 3444)		Neil Tweddle		Fiona Armour		Lyn Almond	
WOODEND - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)							
Mt MACEDON - 682 Mt Macedon Rd							
GISBORNE - 23 Brantome St		Bav Gilbertson		Colin Chapman		Paul Gilbertson	
		Neil Moorhouse Rob Durstan		Neil Moorhouse Rob Durstan		Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett Paul Gilbertson	