



TRANSCEND

NOVEMBER
2018

Ascot Vale Uniting Church Newsletter

60 Maribyrnong Road, Moonee Ponds
Services: Sundays at 10am

OUR CONGREGATION MET ON OCTOBER 14th AND VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CALL REV. GORDON BANNON TO BE OUR MINISTER



The Joint Nomination Committee at the Congregational Meeting

We sincerely thank the JNC for the many hours of time they put into the selection process. They, and the congregation are delighted that Gordon has accepted the Call. He will be working .7 of the week and will commence from January 1st.

Dorothy Howes
Congregational secretary
Ascot Vale uniting church

18/10/2018

Dear Dorothy

It was with great delight that I received the invitation from Ascot Vale UCA to minister with you. The two conversations that I shared with the Joint Nominating committee both left me feeling that there are many ways in which our vision of church, spirituality and ministry connect. As the conversations progressed I felt an increasing sense of call to minister with you and real excitement about the possibilities that await as we explore ideas for gardening and reaching out into the wider community.

I look forward to getting to know the congregation and the Ascot Vale community as we serve God together in the area.

I am pleased to accept the call to minister with you beginning January 1st 2019.

Yours sincerely

Rev Gordon Bannon

9 Chapel st
Campbells Creek
Vic 3451

MINISTERS TAKING SERVICES: NOVEMBER DECEMBER

- Sunday Nov 4 : Rev. Bertram Mather (C)
- Sunday Nov 11: Carlynn Nunn
- Sunday Nov 18: Matthew Julius
- Sunday Nov 25: Rev. Eileen Ray (Baptism)
- Sunday Dec 2: Rev. Bertram Mather (C)
- Sunday Dec 9: Rev. Keith Howden
- Sunday Dec 16: Mathew Julius
- Sunday Dec 23: Rev. Mark Dunn
- Sunday Dec 30: T.B.A.

CHRISTMAS DAY -Tuesday Dec 25: Rev. Keith Howden - (9.30 am)

Communion Service (C)

* Carlynn is in her third and final year candidating to be a minister, and is really looking forward to being out in the field soon. She loves reading, hosts a monthly storytelling night and absolutely loves studying theology and preaching.

OUR NEW MINISTER REV. GORDON BANNON WILL BE VISITING AT THE SERVICE ON NOV. 11th

Church contact phone numbers and emails

Church Council Chairperson, Michael Long:	0406 028 508	michaelphotoman@gmail.com
Church Council Secretary, Dorothy Howes:	0432 397 359	dorothyshowes@hotmail.com
Church Officer/Property Manager, Candace Elliott:	0434 491 271	mloqueen@hotmail.com
Church email	avuniting@gmail.com	
Church Office Phone	9370 3181	

From the Church Officer - Candace

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Unfortunately I can no longer keep regular fixed hours at the church as I have taken on some part-time work out at Bundoora. I will continue working as church officer but my hours will be spread out throughout the week. If you would like to help me out at any time, please contact me by telephone or email and I can make a point to meet with you when it is convenient for both of us.

GARDEN WATERING

If anyone is willing to take turns watering the key plants in the garden during this summer, please contact me. At this stage, I think Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays would spread out the watering nicely.

HARD RUBBISH COLLECTION

We will be putting items out for hard rubbish collection on Sunday November 25th. Please help me after church to put some things out on the curb.

ADDITIONAL SOLAR PANELS COMING SOON!

We have an installation date of Tuesday November 27th 7am to 5pm.

SOCIAL NIGHTS

November Social Night is cancelled due to the state election. Our next gathering, and final one for 2018 will be for a social night of carols on either December 8th or the 15th. Stay tuned for final arrangements.

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Ian will be working in the Ascot Vale Church/Area on Tuesdays (Except Cup Day)
To contact him:

Mobile: 0411 771 853

Email: enps@iinet.net.au

REV. IAN PEARSE WILL BE PROVIDING PASTORAL CARE UNTIL OUR NEW MINISTER COMMENCES ON JANUARY 1st



Rev Ian Pearse: A short bio.

Bev and I shifted to Victoria just over 4 years ago (July 2014). Our two sons have already decided to live in Melbourne, so we followed them to this wonderful state. My ministry was with the Bacchus Marsh Parish which was originally three congregations but by the time we arrived in Victoria, one congregation had amalgamated with Bacchus Marsh; so I had two congregations to care for, until I retired in July this year.

I had previously worked in a couple of parishes in WA and in two chaplaincy roles; one with the Cancer Council Hospice and with Royal Perth Hospital (Rehab & Perth campuses). The parishes I worked with were very diverse. A country Parish in the Great Southern wheatbelt. This parish consisted of 4 congregations (the furthest being 70 km from the Manse). The other Parish was in Mandurah (70km south of Perth) and one of the fastest growing communities in Australia.

We live in our own home in Bacchus Marsh. This was a new home and so have spend many hours creating and caring for a new garden and vegi patch. We also have a boisterous 5-year-old Chocolate Labrador.

I look forward to sharing our journey together. As you prepare for the arrival of a new minister and as Bev and I settle into retirement life. May our time together be a time of mutual support and a time when we experience God's grace, mercy and love.

SOME OF
THE KID'S
UNITING
WORK
EXHIBITED
ON SUNDAY
OCTOBER
21st



Kid's Uniting

We have a modern Sunday school program held during the service. Our teachers provide a program featuring yoga and guided meditation, and learning about key Biblical stories in a supportive and creative environment.

Election Day Sausage Sizzle and Cake Stall

Saturday November 24th in the church garden
Sausage sizzle: 9am until sold out
Cake stall: 8am until 1pm (or sold out)

Volunteers are required for both the sausage sizzle and for the cake stall
BBQ duty, Taking orders and handling cash, Drink selling, Cake stall selling and baking.
Please contact Michael Long for helping the sausage sizzle, and Candace Elliott for the cake stall.

Donations of water, soft drinks or juices to sell would be gratefully received.

Funds raised for this year's stall will go to the Deng Family. James and Deborah are the eldest surviving members of their extended family and are expected to be responsible for paying for his brother's education. Please help James and Deborah to enable their brother to attend university to train to become a pharmacist.

Harvest Swap

The next Harvest Swap will be on Sunday November 25th following the service.

For further information speak to Eileen Ray.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO GARDEN SWAPS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Cheer up, the world is better than you think!

If you didn't see this article in the Sunday Age some months ago, read on!

A Swedish researcher has found that a large majority of people, of all walks of life and in many different countries, believe things are worse than they really are.

One of his questions asked whether the percentage of the world's people who live in poverty had almost doubled, remained the same or almost halved over the past 20 years. Staggeringly, only 7% of people guessed correctly that poverty had almost halved. Similarly, we tend to over-estimate things like unemployment rates, and believe the homicide rate is rising or unchanged, though it has, over a number of years, consistently declined.

Why is this? We seem to prefer to hear bad news – perhaps it's more exciting, or makes us feel fortunate by comparison with the victims of crime or misfortune. I believe many attempts to produce "good news" newspapers have been a financial flop (or am I getting it wrong?!) And we focus more on the bad news we hear than on the good.

Of course there is plenty to be concerned about in the state of the world, and our own nation. But if we can get our facts right, we can stop feeling depressed about what is really getting better, and not worse, as we'd thought. Then we will have more emotional energy and enthusiasm for tackling the real problems - domestic violence, childhood disadvantage, climate change and so on - that really do need to be solved.

Cheer up – things are better than we thought, and they can get better still!

Ascot Vale Uniting is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of age, race, creed, gender, cultural background, or sexual orientation



In the Church I attended every Sunday a long time ago, the seats were numbered. Grandfather made sure we all sat there as a family. He guarded the entrance. Did he pay for it? Our seats were numbered 57.

I wondered if the seats in heaven were numbered. Maybe, my brother and I would be a fair way back if we made it at all!

The other thing I remember was the large choir every Sunday, leading the singing and rendering an anthem. The choir sang Amen at the end of prayers, and led the threefold Amen after the Benediction. Sometimes there was a sevenfold Amen for special occasions.

The Bible mentions Amen at very important times. After worship and dedications. It is the people's Amen. A reverent response to the truth of the Word. We agree, that is true, is its meaning. Sometimes the word is Verily, which means, in truth.

And in the New Testament, Jesus is called the Amen. The true, faithful and trusty one. Every word is God's Word, which can be trusted. He is the true and faithful messenger.

In his Second Letter to Corinth, Paul says to Timothy and Silvanus: "For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you was not YES and NO: but in him it is always YES. For in him every one of God's promises is a YES. For this reason it is through him that we say the AMEN to the glory of God." (2 Corinthians 1: 19, 20)

Reflection:

Amen is a special word, a sacred response in worship to the Word, not to be spoken lightly. And in these troubled times for the world, John's word in the Book of Revelation is a resounding prayer:

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come Lord, Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen. (Revelation 22: 20, 21)

Bill Pugh - UCAV Pew Sheets

GREETINGS FROM THE GONG - Dina

Wollongong, known as The Gong, is a small town. The greater Gong area has a population of around 500,000.

It's a very diverse town. The rich and famous live on the ocean side.

The lesser population lives 5 minutes away, under the mountains.

Mount Keira is where I live.

The small village of Keiraville has a huge population of hippies. And beaut coffee shops, hand made cushions and yummy homemade cakes.

Location: 2 minutes from the UOW. University of Wollongong.

For many years, the UOW has been recognized as the best uni in Australia.

The town was always divided.

On one side were the Port Kembla Steelworks, on the other, the University.

Years ago, the steelworks aspect always won.

Twenty-four hours work, good pay, with the red light district just around the corner.

I was a Lifeline counselor for almost a decade.

And Trouble Team member for best part of it.

Trouble Team is a rescue team. Consists of two people, male and a female. As a member of this team, I attended many cases in the Port Kembla district.

Prostitution in Australia is forbidden.

It's unlawful.

Week ago, I drove those same streets.

I didn't recognize any of the girls.

The ones I saw could have been their daughters.

Gong is a beautiful place. It was my home for over 30 years. I love it.

I love the mountains and I love the sea.

But there is so much more to life.

So much more to see, and even more that's hidden.

I truly miss you guys. I miss the unity, the generosity, the sharing, the goals...and I so miss the fun... the birthday celebrations, the signing, washing dishes, gardening.

I'll never find another place like AVUC.

I'll never meet people like you.

Pointless to try.

Stay well and healthy. And take care of each other.

With much love, Hvezda Monaghan
Dina

RIDING 50k TO FUNDRAISE

On Sunday October 7th, we rose at 5am to catch the 6:10 train to Flinders Street Station, bikes in tow, to begin our big ride. We had a 4 km ride just to get to the starting line. Our objective for the day was to ride 50 km from Albert Park Lake, across the Westgate bridge, to Williamstown and back again. Why? To raise money for the Smith Family by participating in the Bicycle Victoria-sponsored "Around the Bay in a Day" event.



Clara's impressions: Road safety was very good and the snacks provided at Williamstown were great! I was surprised there were so many people giving good directions and it was very safe.

Mum: Was it hard?

Clara: Yes, going up the bridge was really hard.

Mum: Did you ever think you wouldn't make it?

Clara: No. I was having so much fun I forgot to be tired.

Mum: Would you do it again?

Clara: Yes

Rachel: Yes but I would start off slower.

We took just over three and a half hours to ride and we raised \$857, the majority of which came from AVUC!

Candace

CONCERT@STJOHN'S

Sunday Dec 2nd

2.30pm

*Carols from
around the world*

Come to the launch of the

Christmas Bowl Appeal

For more info ring

9370 9263

Children in Detention.

At last it seems that children are being brought to Australia from Nauru. This time last year roughly 150 children were in detention on Nauru. While the government is not quoting exact figures, observers believe there may now be fewer than 50.

This has not happened because of any change of heart on the part of the government. Just this week it was announced that seriously ill children are being brought to Australia not because they need urgent medical treatment, but because detaining them is too costly. (Many of us were already aware that offshore detention has cost taxpayers over \$1 billion per year for many years)

In reality, of course, the move is the result of sustained and increased pressure from groups like the Refugee Action Collective, Grandmothers against Detention of Refugee Children, the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project, professional medical and psychiatric doctors' organisations, teachers' unions and so on, added to the many, many individuals who have written letters, called politicians, signed petitions and rallied at protest marches. Crucially, some Liberal members have had the courage, integrity and compassion to speak out against their own party's cruel treatment of refugee children.

An election is coming up, and politicians are taking more notice of what voters are saying. We must continue to put pressure on both Liberal and Labor parties to formulate and announce a policy which will result in all asylum seekers being brought to Australia for resettlement (whether elsewhere or, preferably, here). Thank you for your support in the past; I will keep you posted!

Your friend in Christ, Dorothy

SEEN ON CHURCH SIGNS IN USA

WHAT IS HELL LIKE? COME HEAR OUR PREACHER

THE FACT THAT THERE'S HIGHWAY TO HELL AND ONLY A STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN SAYS A LOT ABOUT ANTICIPATED TRAFFIC NUMBERS

DON'T GIVE UP! MOSES WAS ONCE A BASKET CASE!

WE ARE STILL OPEN BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND EASTER

GOD DIDN'T CREATE ANYTHING WITHOUT A PURPOSE BUT MOSQUITOES COME CLOSE

The Great Pen Contest

The other day I found what I thought was just some more junk mail in our church letterbox, but what I found just made my day. Inside the envelope was a pen with our church named printed on the side (see photo). Not only is it a nice writing pen, it also has a soft ball on the end which can be used on phone or tablet screens as a stylus.



I would like to share my job with you and will order a minimum of 100 of these pens to share but we need to decide on a slogan. Please send me your ideas by Friday November 16th and if you'd like to arrange a batch of pens for yourself, let me know and I'll order more.

Constraints are 2 lines, 40 characters each. Here are my ideas:

Ascot Vale Uniting Church (Moonee Ponds) Come grow with us in the Spirit
Ascot Vale Uniting, the Garden Church Come grow with us
Or Come walk with us in the Spirit Or Hand-in-hand with our neighbours

Candace

UNITING CARE CHRISTMAS CARDS

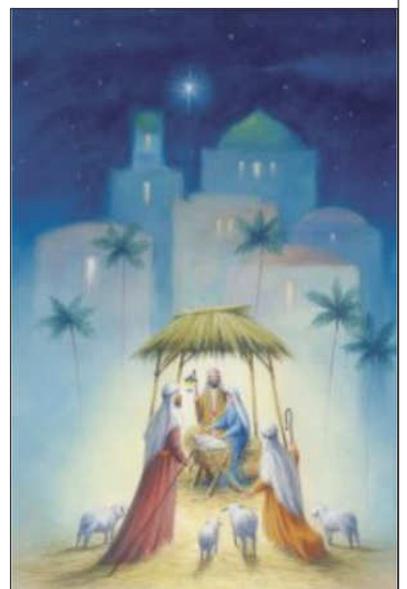
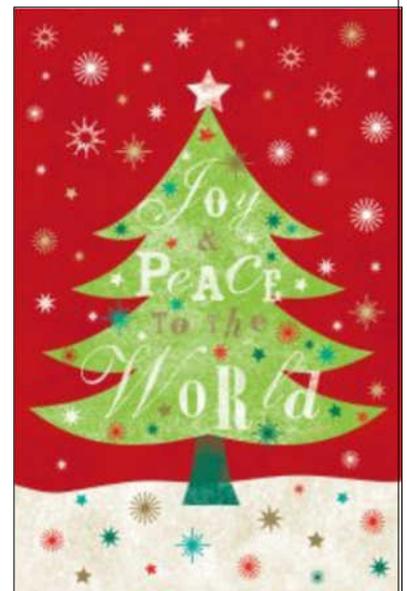
The beautifully designed range of 2018 Christmas cards are now on sale. All proceeds from the sale of the Christmas cards will support individuals, families and communities in crisis.

Order : - <https://christmas.unitingvictas.org/charity-christmas-cards/>

10 cards for \$9

Order forms on the table with nametags

To avoid disappointment, order soon to ensure your delivery arrives in time for Christmas.



AVUC ROSTER - November – January 2019

Please make your own arrangements for any necessary exchange of dates.

	LEADER / COMMUNION	MUSIC	COUNTING	READER	WELCOM- ER	MORNING TEA
4 th November	Bertram Mather	Candace	Candace Barbara	MaryCon	Chris	MaryCon Judy
11 th November	Carlynn Nunn	Julian	Dorothy	Melita	Michael	Hamid Marjan
18 th November	Matt Julius	Dorothy	Robin Jean	Chris	Robin	Chris Ruth
25 th November Garden Swap Baptism	Eileen Ray	Candace	Jean Candace	Cally	Cally	Francois Anneke
2 nd December	Bertram Mather	Rob	Peter	Angelika	Peter	Judy Angelika
9 th December	Keith Howden	Dorothy	Dorothy Judy	Melita	Michael	Barbara MaryCon
16 th December	Matt Julius	Julian	Candace Robin	Barbara	Fiona	Chris Angelika
23 rd December School Holi- days	Mark Dunn	Candace	Barbara Jean	Chris	Judy	Hamid Marjan
25 th December. Tuesday 9.30	Keith Howden	Candace	Dorothy	Angelika	Everyone	No Morning Tea
30 th December			Ken Angelika	Barbara	Peter	Angelika Judy
6 th January 2019			Robin Chen	Chris	Robin	Chris Barbara
13 th January			Jean	Cally	Cally	Hamid Marjan
20 th January			Judy Barbara	MaryCon	Peter	Angelika MaryCon
27 th January			Dorothy Michael	Angelika	Ken	Ken Jenny
Term 1 Begins Tuesday 29th						

COMBINED CHARITIES CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP

North Essendon Uniting Church

131 Keilor Rd

Will be open Thursdays and Fridays from 9.30am - 4pm

Saturdays from 9.30am—12.30pm

Commencing Thursday November 8 until mid-December

Details: 9379 3326