



TRANSCEND

OCTOBER
2018

Ascot Vale Uniting Church Newsletter

60 Maribyrnong Road, Moonee Ponds

Services: Sundays at 10am

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS SUNDAY OCTOBER 7 - TURN CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR AND CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERY

MINISTERS TAKING SERVICES: OCTOBER

Oct 7th Bertram Mather.
Oct 14th Matt Julius
Oct 21st Carlyne Nunchucks
Oct 28th Eileen Ray

Other dates to be announced

FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday Oct 13 - Asylum Seeker Benefit Concert
Sunday Oct 14 - CONGREGATION MEETING
Sunday Oct 21- Kid's Uniting Exhibition
Saturday Oct 27 - Family Fun Night
Sunday Oct 28 - Garden Swap
Saturday Nov 24 - State Election - Sausage sizzle

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday October 14th following the service

We encourage everyone to attend this important meeting. Our Joint Nominating Committee has been working through the difficult and lengthy process to obtain a new minister for our church.

At this meeting they will provide the name and details of their recommendation.

There will be time for questions and discussion which will be followed by a vote to confirm the proposed appointment.

(More information - page 3)

Thank you to all those who have been working to improve the garden. It is now starting to look lovely. There's still more to do and every bit helps. It's been mainly weeding and raking. Now that the weather is warming we will need to do some regular watering. If you can spare some time, please have a talk to Candace. She will be preparing a watering roster.

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	

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

Have you checked your smoke alarm recently?

Research by the C.F.A suggests that only 45 per cent of properties attended by fire services had smoke alarms and, of those, 31 per cent were not working.

You can ensure your smoke alarm is constantly protecting your family by keeping it in good working order.

- Test it monthly by pushing the test button to make sure it beeps
- Dust the alarm with a vacuum cleaner brush
- Change the battery at least once a year.
- If your smoke alarm is more than 10 years old, change your smoke alarm to a new unit with a lithium battery with a 10 year lifespan. Smoke alarms don't last forever

If you have a hard-wired smoke alarm, these still have a battery as a back-up and the battery needs to be changed as well.

Most smoke alarms have a use-by date printed on them. If your alarm is still beeping after you have changed its battery, it should be replaced.

New photoelectric smoke alarms with a long lasting lithium battery have a 10 year lifespan to ensure you and your family can have the highest level of safety.

CALLING A MINISTER

The Uniting Church has a 20 step process to be followed when filling a Ministerial vacancy (A Call) in a church. The Joint Nominating Committee (Which includes our representatives) has been involved in the first 15 steps.

The Special Meeting of the Congregation on October 14th is step 16.

The remaining steps are as follows:

STEP 16

When the JNC, the Minister and the Presbytery agree to proceed to Call, the JNC recommends to a meeting of the congregation that a Call be issued. The decision should be by written ballot (2/3rds majority preferred).

STEP 17

Within three days of the decision to issue a Call, a letter of Call is sent by the body issuing the Call.

STEP 18

The Minister responds in writing within fourteen days and informs his/her current presbytery. The Minister signs agreement to the Terms of Placement and returns that to the congregation with a copy to the Secretary of the Placements Committee.

STEP 19

The Presbytery Chairperson, in consultation with the Minister and the congregation, sets the date of the Induction service.

STEP 20

The Minister takes up responsibilities in the new placement by the 15th day of the month

HERE AGAIN FOR THE SHOW.

Pictured below are the group of students, teachers and parents from Nagle College Bairnsdale. The students are doing Animal Husbandry, a subject combining TAFE and Year 12. They come to see the judging of their calves. They eat and shower at the show, and breakfast and sleep at the church in their swags. Its safe, cheap lodging for them and we get a little bit of rent. So everyone wins. They have been coming about nine years.





Earlier this year our Federal member Peter Khalil PM invited constituents of the Wills Electorate to a town hall meeting. I was not able to make that meeting but I wrote in response:

“I plead with you to change Labour policy and close the detention centres on Manus and Nauru. Bring them here and show some Aussie decency to allow legal Asylum Seekers to have a new beginning. Please let’s stop punishing and damaging them for the sake of a failed and inhumane policy. My church community at Coburg Uniting is committed to see this change.”

This led to an exchange of correspondence and eventually to a one hour meeting recently. Two colleagues joined me: Rev Ron Rosinsky (Coburg Uniting Minister) and Stephanie Gesling (Coburg Uniting Mission and Outreach Worker) and we shared in a meaningful and hopeful dialogue. Mr Khalil said

“I have taken a very strong stand on asylum seekers and refugees and the issue is very close to my heart. As the son of migrants who fled Egypt to escape a region engulfed by war, I appreciate the yearning for a life of peace, security and opportunity. I have a strong and emotional investment in these issues. It is a blight on our society that we have failed to find appropriate resettlement arrangements for the refugees languishing on Manus and Nauru. I argue for an end to indefinite detention in Manus and Nauru. In my first speech to Parliament on 12th September 2016, I spoke expansively on Asylum Seeker policy and stated that I firmly believed Australia has a moral, ethical and legal obligation to care for those refugees that have been physically, emotionally and mentally harmed by the conditions of detention they have experienced. The Government have been woefully incompetent in their management of the offshore processing arrangements.”

They have sunk to a new low by purposefully making these people destitute and homeless. In doing so, the Government can only be exacerbating the health conditions which asylum seekers were originally transferred to Australia to be treated for. It’s just completely unacceptable.”

As the meeting concluded, Mr Khalil said:
“I’d like to thank you for your passion, compassion and activism and for contacting me with your views. I will do my best to represent those views in our internal policy discussions and debates. Rest assured, I will always advocate for the rights of asylum seekers and refugees. Australia must accept that we can and should do better.”

We left the PM’s office feeling encouraged that change is possible and that we certainly have a part to play in empowering much needed change for the betterment of our sisters and brothers seeking a safe and secure future.

Mark Dunn



We welcome Joanna Bish and her twin sister Rebecca who have become regular attenders at our church.

Joanna is an artist and has produced a large range of beautiful cards illustrated with Australian fauna and flora.

She also has Christmas cards available for purchase in the church gathering space.



The Golden Path

The golden path of the sun
Dapples like liquid pearl
The lilies
Licking their throats
And swallowing the drink
Baubles of dew
Shining like rainbow jewels
Catching colour
As you walk by

Foxgloves
Wearing their gloves
With furling patterns
And lime green wall
In sunshine
Sublime

From Quirky Verse by Becky Bish



Have you noticed that as soon as there are signs of Spring some of your retired friends return from a holiday 'up north' while others leave to go 'overseas'?

Have you noticed the amount of preparation that goes into an overseas holiday? One such friend of mine delivered her 11 page overseas itinerary to me recently so that I might follow her journey from Melbourne to Singapore, Amsterdam, Iceland, London, Dorset, Ireland, Dubai and home again.

As she leaves Australia for this adventure I can only wish her 'Journeying Mercies'!

William Barclay called the story which appears in Luke 24 "another of the immortal short stories of the world". It can also be described as one containing 'journeying mercies'.

Two men were returning from Jerusalem to their home in Emmaus, full of sorrow and disappointment after witnessing the crucifixion of Jesus and the mystery of the empty tomb.

They were joined by a person who appeared to them as a stranger and, on hearing their story, told them many things about himself in all the scriptures.

When they came near to their village, they invited this stranger to stay with them as the day was nearly over. When they sat at a meal, the stranger blessed bread and broke it. It was then that they recognised Jesus and he disappeared from their sight.

These two then returned to Jerusalem, joined the eleven disciples and their companions, and once again Jesus appeared and "opened their minds to understand the scriptures."

Reflection:

Take hold of journeying mercies.

It could be through them that heaven's morning breaks!

AVUC ROSTER

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

	LEADER / COMMUNION	DUTY ELDER DOOR DUTY	MUSIC	COUNTING	READER	WELCOMER	MORNING TEA
7 th October	Bertram Mather	Candace	Candace	Candace Jean	Cally	Judy	Barbara Chris
14 th October	Matt Julius			Robin Chris	Angelika	Robin	Angelika MaryCon
21 st October	Carlyn Nunchucks			Dorothy Francois	Barbara	Michael	Judy Barbara
28 th October 	Eileen Ray			Jean Judy	Anneke	Cally	Francois Anneke
4 th November	Bertram Mather			Candace Barbara	MaryCon	Chris	MaryCon Judy
11 th November	Matt Julius			Dorothy	Melita	Michael	Hamid Marjan
18 th November	Carlyn Nunchucks			Robin Jean	Chris	Robin	Chris Ruth
24th November	Saturday Election	Cake Stall - Please let Candace know if you can bake something; cook sausages, or can come along and serve for an hour or so.					
25 th November 	Eileen Ray			Jean Candace	Cally	Cally	Francois Anneke
2 nd December				Chris Robin	Angelika	Robin	Judy Angelika
9 th December	Keith Howden			Dorothy Judy	Barbara	Peter	Barbara MaryCon
16 th December				Michael Candace	Melita	Michael	Chris Angelika
23 rd December School Holi- days	Mark Dunn			Barbara Jean	Chris	Judy	Hamid Marjan
25 th December. Tuesday 9.30	Keith Howden			Dorothy Michael	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				Candace Jean	Cally	Cally	
20 th January				Judy Barbara	MaryCon	Michael	Angelika MaryCon
27 th January 				Dorothy Michael	Angelika	Ken	Ken Jenny
Term 1 Begins Tuesday 29th							

AVUC ROSTER October 2018 - January 2019. Please make your own arrangements for any necessary exchange of dates.

Chris can be contacted 0431205327 waltrowicz@gmail.com

 **Garden Swap Stall**