

Keeping in touch ... Sunday 22nd September 2024

Welcome to our Worship Service. If you're visiting, please join us in the hall afterwards for tea/coffee and a chat!

Monthly 2pm Service is today and will include Communion. All welcome!

Quiet Day reflections Our focus on our last Quiet Day on the 14th September, apart from the wombat (featured on our flyer), was about being awake to the presence of God in all things. We started with "What is the purpose of wombats in this world of ours?" To answer that – they are actually incredible eco warriors – ask me later if you are wondering 'how'.



Practicing meditation or contemplation is simply being present to God. It takes us out of our head and into our heart. My experience with practicing contemplation is that it enables us to wake up to the world around us, to our place in it, and to the sacredness that is in all things and all people (including ourselves), being awake to God's presence now, here, and in whatever I am doing in this moment. Part of our day was spent confirming that everything is sacred, including the eco warrior wombats.

Celebration Service This is an opportunity to invite a friend and/or family member along to our special occasion on **Sunday 6th October**. The day will look something like this:

- **Bbq breakfast** – the time for this is to be confirmed. It will be held prior to the Worship Service.
- **Service of Worship** – the theme will be celebrating our diversity. Try to wear traditional clothing that is particular to your cultural background. We will have readings in various languages and hymns/songs that are in *Together in Song*, by writers from various countries as well as from other sources.
- **A concert during lunch** – you are encouraged to be creative and daring and bring an item to perform, either on your own or with others. This could be a song, a dance, a piece of music, a reading of any kind.
- **Please bring food** sufficient for a shared lunch from your cultural background.

For further information contact Rev. Faama, Dianne Moon or Peter Canning.

Baptism on **Sunday 13th October** – of Phoebe, the daughter of Ian and Natalie Toki, will be held during the morning Service. Please hold the family in your prayers as they prepare for this important moment in their child's life.

... continued overleaf

September Birthdays



5 Annette Bereshnyj 16 Elaine Michaelidis
17 Bev Simonsen 23 Margaret Beer
29 Taega Leota



Minister

Rev. Fa'amata'u Leota 0401 592 359
minister@sunburyunitingchurch.org.au

The Minister's days off are:

- every Mon and Sat
- every 3rd Fri and 3rd Sun
- 5th Sun when it occurs

Church Council Chairperson

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KYB (Know Your Bible) meets at Pat Hay's home every Thursday at 10am for a cuppa, chat and Bible Study, until approximately 12pm. *If you'd like to join, or just visit now and then, please speak to Pat.*

Contemplative Prayer Group We gather from 9 to 10am on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at Barb's home (Unit 1, 5 Timins Street) for a time of quiet prayer for our church family. *Enquiries to Barb Ashley.*

The Drop-in Centre is open every Friday from 10am to 2.30pm. Drop in for a free cuppa and chat, and browse our many good quality books – for sale from 50c to \$2. *Enquiries to Jan Semmens on 0400 404 901.*

Men's Group meets monthly on first Saturdays from 10am-12pm in the Drop-in Centre over coffee and toast to relax and chat – about anything! *Enquiries to Peter Canning 0478 777 400.*

Rosters for Sunday 29th September

Door: P. Baulch, N. Prewer **Morning Tea:** C. Morgan (substitute), C. Marlow

Readings for Sunday 29th September – Queen Esther

Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22 **Psalm** 124 **James** 5: 13-20 **Mark** 9: 38-50

News ... Notes ... Advance Diary Dates ... Community Events

Emergency management petition Many of you will know that Judy Unwin's family suffered a tragedy 6½ years ago when her son Boyd's daughter Katie was brutally murdered by her partner. Boyd's family was notified in May that Katie's killer had received a reduction of 427 days off his sentence, just for being locked up in prison during covid. Many people are unaware that this legislation exists, it is from the 1990s, intended for emergencies and industrial disputes in prisons. As covid was considered an emergency by the state, all prisoners in Victoria were entitled to up to 4 days off their sentences for every day or part day they were inconvenienced. Over 1000 years has been taken off prison sentences over the covid period in Victoria.

Boyd, along with his daughter Bianca, have a parliamentary petition running to have this legislation revoked and debated in parliament as they feel it is utterly ridiculous, and once again has a huge impact on victims and their families. They are asking for your support by signing this petition.

Petition forms will be available to sign after the Service each Sunday.

Bereavement and note from the Editor: Regrettably, even though I knew of her illness, I heard only very recently about the passing of Lorraine McLaren's sister, Lyn Holman. I asked Lorraine for some details:

"On Monday 5th August my sister Lyn was 'Promoted to Glory' (as the Salvation Army calls it). Lyn was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease in 2020 and moved from Brisbane to Adelaide in Dec 2021 to be near our brother Dean (a pharmacist) and his wife Wendy (a nurse). She bought a beautiful unit in Brighton Dunes, overlooking Brighton Beach. Gradually her MND deteriorated and she needed more assistance to lead her life. For the last year of her life she was unable to walk or move without help. She had wonderful carers who looked after her, along with Dean and Wendy. Despite all the challenges, she remained positive and grateful to God for her life with all its blessings.

Lyn's funeral was held in Adelaide on 22nd August (Ivan Butler Funerals). It was a typical Salvation Army Service with a band playing the hymns, good singing and loving tributes." **Please pray for Lorraine and her family.**

The livestream is available here: <https://ivanbutlerfunerals.com.au/livestreaming/client/?nid=8f2a353c-dfba-4b2e-98d2-27896ef63819>.

Recycling Corner

Use the recycling trolley or boxes in photocopy room for:

- old biros and textas
- medication blisters
- milk bottle lids
- x-ray transparencies
- bread bag tags – plastic only (no tea bag tags or ring pulls please)
- old glasses (spectacles)
- CDs and DVDs (and plastic cases)
- all coffee/Slurpee cups, plastic straws and lids – *or take to 7-Eleven in Gap Road*
- used postage stamps – Joycelyn and Reg collect for Sammy Stamp
- toner/ink cartridges, batteries, small electrical devices
- mobile phones and chargers, to support Melbourne Zoo's 'Gorilla Doctors' program in East Africa



Use the big plastic container for:

- 10c containers such as:



– see flyers on the recycling trolley.

The other side of the story is to BUY recycled:

The other side of recycling is to try to buy products made from recycled materials, in order to create a relevant market. Without a market, the recycled material has to go to landfill.

Check out these websites:

<https://littleecoshop.com.au>

www.onyalife.com/products

www.cleanup.org.au/buy-recycled

