



WHITEHORSE UNITING CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER—MARCH 2023.



HELLO ALL WHITEHORSE UCA PEOPLE -

HERE WE ARE, BACK FOR EDITION 2, MARCH 2023. DURING THE MONTH I HAVE DISCUSSED WHAT PEOPLE SEE AS THE CONTENT FOR THIS PUBLICATION. SOME WOULD LIKE TO READ ABOUT THE WORK OF THE VARIOUS UCA AGENCIES IN AUSTRALIA AND BEYOND, SOME WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AT VARIOUS VENUES WITHIN THIS CHURCH, (AND I HAVE SEVERAL PEOPLE LINED UP FOR THIS), FOR WHICH I AM MOST GRATEFUL. OTHERS LIKE LIGHTNESS AND HUMOUR. ONE WAY YOU CAN ASSIST WITH THIS IS TO ACTUALLY SEND ME SOMETHING TO INCLUDE. AT PRESENT **FOREST HILL VENUE** IS STARRING WITH TWO ARTICLES CONTRIBUTED THIS MONTH, AND BOTH VERY INTERESTING, TOO. I HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH OLD **NUNAWADING UCA** MAGAZINES TO FIND OUT WHAT PEOPLE DID WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG AND FOOLISH, BUT I NEED OTHERS FROM **MITCHAM** AND **FOREST HILL** WHO HAVE HOARDED SUCH MATERIAL TO CONTRIBUTE IT. I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE AND PRINT SUCH STUFF! THANKS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH.

A BEAUTIFUL ACT.

Recently in the **Forest Hill Op shop** a wonderful gesture of kindness was seen. Although not the first time such things have been witnessed, this moved those who heard to tears. A lady wandering around the shop collecting several things she wished to purchase and brought them to the desk. They amounted to \$14, however she then asked whether we took credit, and when told that we cannot at the moment, she tried to work out how to pay, as she didn't carry cash. The assistant agreed to take her name, and put the goods aside until she could return with the money.

A very scruffy, unshaven, poorly dressed, not so clean looking man came to the desk, holding out a \$20 note. He had heard the conversation, and offered to pay. The lady was stunned, and said she couldn't possibly accept, but he insisted, and again she said "No, thank you!" He repeated his offer, and the lady said she would bring the cash to his home, to which he replied that he lived in St. Kilda and it was too far, then he stated "I have lung cancer, and I really want to do something good for someone!" There was no choice but to accept the money as it meant so much to him. Everyone was overwhelmed by his action, and as he quietly left the lady wondered how on earth she could thank him, and it was suggested that she simply pass the kindness onto another person.

The Op shop always welcomes new volunteers to help in this wonderful outreach which is valuable for those who work there, those who buy goods and to the many groups and organizations who receive the funds donated.

The shop is open Monday-Saturday from 9.30am until 1.00pm.

Shifts can be weekly, monthly or what ever suits the volunteer

Please contact **Don Sinclair** on 0411 490 365 or adco@westnet.com.au for enquiries or offers of assistance.



HEATHER BREMNER

NEWS FROM THE WHITEHORSE CHURCH COUNCIL.

The following are the main points from the February meeting and some later news.

1. A Retreat/Training session on the Code of Conduct for Lay leaders is planned for March 25th, with Mel Perkins, Lay Leadership Development Co ordinator.
2. The position of Administrative Assistant is being advertised widely, but no applications received to date.
3. A meeting with Phil McCredden from Ecclesia will be held to discuss a possible proposal for the next stage of our Shared Future. It is envisioned that a Planning Day, including the whole congregation will be held soon. We would consider our identity as a congregation, where we see our congregation in the future, along with our mission and purpose.
4. Membership Rolls of the three former congregations will be merged. The total membership number will determine the number of representatives Whitehorse will have at Presbytery.
5. Pastoral Care—co ordinators for each location and Rev. Tina will meet to form a Pastoral Care Ministry group. Barbara Wandoch has taken the role of co ordinator at Nunawading, following the retirement of Cherril Randles and John Baker.
6. Lent. Rev. Tina will lead an Ash Wednesday evening service; Rev. Julie Ross will lead the mid week service; Lenten studies will be held on Sundays at 4.00pm at Forest Hill.
7. Supply Minister, while Rev. Peter Cannon is on Sick leave. Occasional supply by Rev. Julie Ross was approved.

She will assist in February, and be available in April.

8. Worship services in March will continue with rotation of Together at 10 services across the three locations. It was felt that these services had encouraged congregation interaction. The leadership skills shown in lay led worship was seen as positive.
9. All Ministry groups have not met yet and membership of groups is being sought. The Mission and Justice group was formed from representatives of each former congregation and has been working together since before amalgamation. A planning day was held on February 28th.
10. The Treasurer is bringing together the three reporting systems under one system. A Whitehorse bank a/c is not able to be opened because all Tax Office information is not yet available. Loose change offerings in February and March will go to the Turkiye/Syria Relief Appeal.

Following the resignation of Michael Plumridge in February Lynne Rosenthal has agreed to become a Council member. Her membership will be accepted at the March meeting.

The CC is grateful to Jacinta Selvaratnam, who acts as Minute Secretary for each meeting.

The next meeting will be held on March 8th.

JULIE HAWKEY. CHAIR. WCC.

EVEN THOUGH **JAN SEARLE FROM FOREST HILL**, AFTER MANY YEARS SERVICE HAS RETIRED FROM ACTIVE DUTY IN THE **UCA SAMMY STAMP** COLLECTION ORGANIZATION, SHE STILL COLLECTS USED STAMPS, (WHICH YOU CAN GIVE TO HER AT CHURCH) AND PASSES THEM ON TO A CURRENT MEMBER OF THE GROUP. THE MONEY RAISED FROM THE SALE OF THESE STAMPS GOES TO MANY UCA ORGANIZATIONS AND JAN IS GOING TO PASS ON FURTHER INFORMATION WHEN SOME NEWS BECOMES AVAILABLE. *-LIKE NOW!!!*



LAST YEAR WAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE U.C.A.F. SAMMY STAMP FUND WITH SALES TOTALLING \$46,840 AND FOURTEEN PROJECTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THE PROJECTS WHICH RECEIVED SUPPORT WERE

VANUATU SECONDARY SCHOOL, ASSISTANCE TO ESTABLISH DESIGN AND ART WORKSHOP	\$3,000
UCA— TONGA TSUNAMI APPEAL	\$5,000
UNITING HERITAGE CENTE—GATHERING OF FORMER HOMES RESIDENTS	\$2,500
DADIRRI MELTON COUNSELLING SERVICES INC.—FOCUS ON FAMILIES IN STRESS	\$2,700
UCA NATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF FUND—EAST COAST FLOOD APPEAL	\$5,000
VANUATU PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS PROJECT	\$2,000
MISSION LIAISON GROUP (TWO GRANTS) HELP TO SEND CHARITABLE GOODS TO PACIFIC NEIGHBOURS	\$5,000
KONDANANI, ZAMBIA— FOR VOLUNTEER TEACHER TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP	\$5,000
FRONTIER SERVICES—SUPPORTING BUSH CHAPLAINS IN OUTBACK AUSTRALIA	\$5,000
MODERATOR'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND—FLOOD RELIEF IN VICTORIA AND TASMANIA	\$5,000
HIGH STREET UCA—WOMEN AND CHILDREN COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT,NTH INDIA	\$3,000
UNITING VIC/TAS—RELIEF SERVICES AT BARWON ER COORDINATION CENTRE	\$3,000
UNITING VIC/TAS— HELP REPLACE GOODS STOLEN FROM BROADMEADOWS RELIEF CENTRE	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$49,200

SINCE 1977 GRANTS MONIES HAVE TOTALLED \$1,119,893.

THE FUND LOOKS FORWARD TO A GOOD YEAR AHEAD. LET'S SEE IF EVERYONE IN THE WHITEHORSE UCA CAN SUPPORT "SAMMY STAMP" BY SAVING THEIR STAMPS, BOTH AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS—THROUGHOUT 2023.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED.

THANK YOU. JAN SEARLE.

**THE SUNSHINE CLUB.
ONE COMMUNITY. 184 SURREY
RD, BLACKBURN**

**THIS PRODUCTION HAS BEEN
RECOMMENDED TO REV. TINA
BY DIEDRE FROM FOREST HILL.**



Written and Directed by Wesley Enoch
Music by John Rodgers

A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND ROMANCES BLOOM

Set in 1946, the joyful and acclaimed musical *The Sunshine Club*, tells the story of Aboriginal soldier Frank Doyle, who is just returning home to Brisbane after serving in WW2, to find that, while the world may have changed, the same attitudes and prejudices still exist at home. But this only fills Frank with a strong desire to change things for the better by setting up *The Sunshine Club*.

A place where all people are welcome to come together, laugh, romance and dance the night away as Frank sets out to win the heart of Rose, the girl from next door.

THIS PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE IS PART OF
THE

**WHITEHORSE COMMUNITY ARTS
PROGRAMME ,**

AND WILL BE ON

FRI. 7TH JULY AT 7.30PM, AND

SAT. 8TH JULY AT 2.00PM.

COSTS ARE

\$55.00,F.P, \$52.00,CON.

SUBSCRIPTIONS \$47.00,

WHICH INCLUDE THE CHOICE OF SEVERAL OTHER
SHOWS AS WELL.

MORE INFORMATION AT 92626555 OR

tickets@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Elaine Hewson is the central link in the prayer chain operating from the Nunawading venue, and she can be contacted on 0425709089



Corry Skilbeck is undertaking the final details for the Kids Hope programme, which begins in early March, and regular anecdotes will be printed thereafter.

A Prayer for Lenten Simplicity

Free me, Lord Jesus, from anything that obstructs my way to you. Clear away the clutter of petty grudges. Remove smudges of resentment and bitterness. Cleanse me of thoughts filled with anger envy, or self-pity.

Create space in my life for more kindness and less spitefulness, greater generosity and stronger compassion.

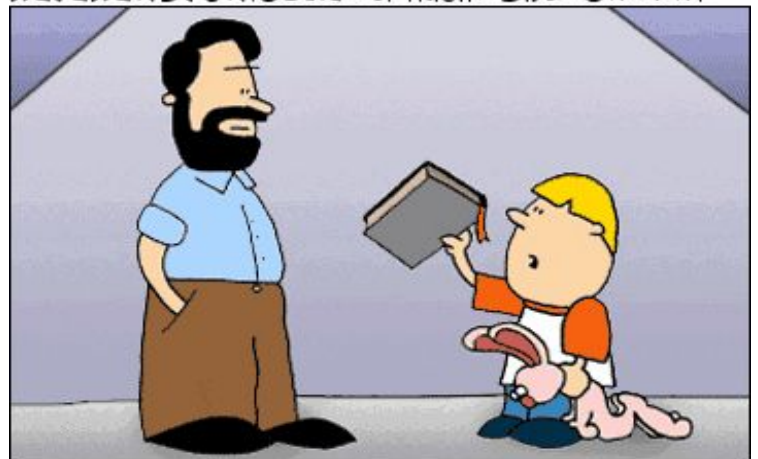
Enlarge my heart with a spirit of gratitude this Lent, so that I recognize the simple gifts that lay in abundance all around me.

In your sacred name, I pray. Amen.



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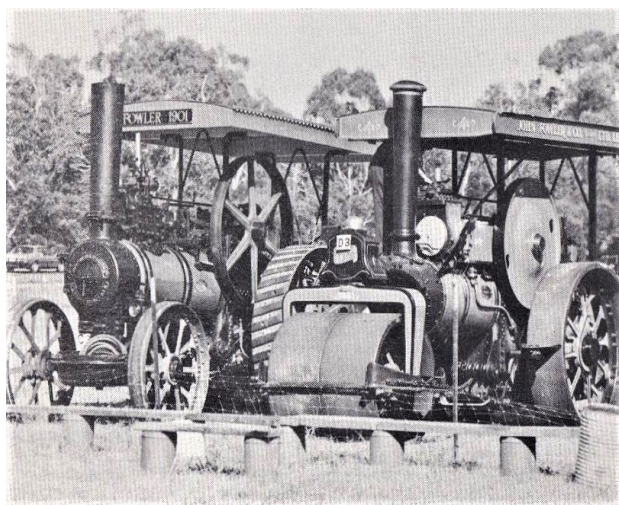


04-13-2006

DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY IN THE BIBLE

In a heap of old church magazines I found a programme for the Melbourne Engine club's 17th Steam and Vintage Engine club, from 1985! We don't know where it came from, and it was years prior to Niel's interest in engines, and even they are different and smaller than these.

Derek Moore from Mitcham was the group secretary and an exhibitor of a Marshall Portable steam engine, the cylinder of which was built in 1908, first registered in 1948, last steamed 1950, prior to its 1978 restoration. It was used for many years to steam eucalyptus leaves for extraction and manufacture of eucalyptus oil. He also exhibited a Fowler Steam Traction engine, built in 1903,



and used in Shepparton between the two world wars for



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK ABOUT JULIE HAWKEY!



Julie grew up in a beautiful north west Tasmanian valley and came to Melbourne after her marriage. She was part of the Methodist church from an early age as her parents and siblings all were active in the local congregation.

In 1971 Julie and Daryl moved to their first home in Vermont and joined the former Mt. Pleasant Methodist/ Forest Hill UCA.

Prior to retirement Julie's career was in education, particularly teaching English as a second language to adults. After working in primary schools in Tasmania and Victoria, she was employed by AMES, teaching in community programmes, then factories and company training sites. As a coordinator in the industry scheme she was involved in setting up training programmes, supporting field staff and liaising with companies.

Retirement has proven busy with not enough time to pursue all of the items on her 'things to do in retirement' list. Having more time to spend with family is rewarding, although now with two grandchildren, having busy lives of their own, meeting up with them can be tricky.

For more than twenty years weekly Tai Chi has been an important part of keeping fit and active. Gardening is both a great love and a lot of work, as she and Daryl have a large garden to care for.

Julie considers herself fortunate to have been able to travel to many parts of the world, enabling a wide range of experiences from kayaking in Antarctica, ziplining in Guatemala, following the Silk Road, and seeing many wonders of human creativity and awe inspiring landscapes, as well as the opportunity to meet and observe diverse people and hear their stories.

Julie finds being **Chairperson of the Church Council** at this early time in the life of our new congregation, as being a challenging role, but as council members work together to vision and plan, the load and responsibility is shared.

ITEMS FROM THE OLDEN DAYS.

How times change!

The number of engagements, marriages, P platers and *license* getters , and so many of them were our klds!

IN 1985 VAL GALAGHER WON A TELECOM MERIT AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF HER OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY WORK, THE BRAIN FAMILY WON THE CLEANEST DAY CAMPERS AWARD, AS THEY WERE THE ONLY GROUP TO TAKE THEIR OWN VACUUM CLEANER (ACTUALLY TAKEN TO BLOW UP THE GIANT EARTH BALL!) JOHN BAKER ORGANISED A CHURCH CONCERT, RAISING \$584.00, WHEN TOLD THAT SHE WAS TO APPEAR IN THE NEXT NEWS NANCY HUTCHINSON AND THE COUPLE SHE WAS WITH ALL SHRIEKED "NOT THE WET T SHIRT!" *.

* we never heard what the 'wet t-shirt story was!'

in 1998 apparently there was a gas crisis, and Jan and Allan Searle opened their shower (electric) to all and sundry, a lady who owned a 20 litre wool dyeing machine loaned it to her neighbours, the sporty amongst us showered at their club-rooms, as did the workers with showers at work. For a while the congregation was divided into the 'haves and have-nots',

.in 1991 Cherril and Jeff Randles celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary, and on the day Jeff at work received a gift wrapped basket of chockies from his dear wife. Amongst the staff spread the rumour of his great embarrassment, as he had totally forgotten the occasion. In the next issue Jeff said those rumours were completely untrue, but even though he said he did remember, he couldn't recall what they did or what he bought Cherril to celebrate the occasion!



FROM 2006 WE ALL KNOW WHEN LORNA SWYER AND BEV BROWN'S SISTER JOYCE COMES TO TOWN. WHEN SISTERS GET TOGETHER THEY FINISH EACH OTHERS' SENTENCES, TALK OVER ONE ANOTHER, LAUGH AND GIGGLE A LOT, AND HOW JOYCE MANAGES WHEN SHE RETURNS ALONE TO QUEENSLAND NO ONE KNOWS. AT LEAST HERE LORNA AND BEV HAVE EACH OTHER.

IN 2005 NANCY CRESSWELL WAS HEARD DISPENSING PAIN RELIEF ADVICE TO THE MINISTER , WHO COLLAPSED WITH SCIATICA DURING THE SERMON. IT MUST WORK, BECAUSE SHE RECEIVED A PHONE CALL THANKING HER FOR THAT ADVICE FROM A MAN SHE MET IN FIJI!

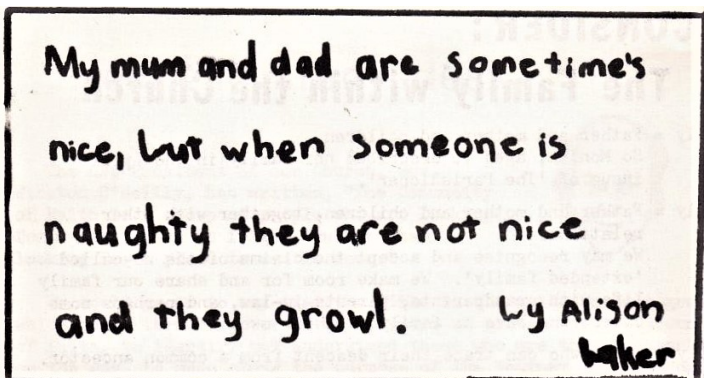
Also in 2005 Sri Lankan Maeve Martinus reported on the devastation of the tsunami in her home country, and the efforts of a group of fellow Sri Lankans here who raised a large sum of money to assist in rebuilding..

IF YOU HAVE ACCESS TO CHURCH MAGAZINES FROM THE OLDEN DAYS (ANYTHING PRIOR TO NOW) PLEASE PERUSE THEM AND SEE WHAT YOUR FELLOW OLD, WRINKLY FELLOW PARISHIONERS WERE DOING, (AND LOOKING LIKE) A FEW YEARS AGO, THEN SEND THE PARAGRAPH OR PHOTOGRAPH TO ME PLEASE.

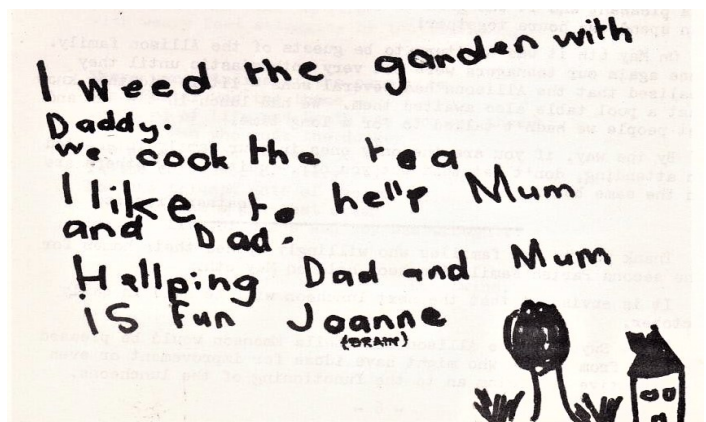
Apologies if you weren't featured; next time maybe.



From the April 1990 edition we are regaled with the details of Alex Adam and Moira (nee Minter)s marriage, and told how great it was to catch up with so many people not seen for ages. It would appear that the highlight of the occasion was the fact that all the young waitstaff had aprons, cummerbunds, bow ties and ribbons of the exact shade of the bride's aqua dress.



ABOVE IS FROM ALISON, JOHN'S DAUGHTER AND THE ONE BELOW IS FROM JOANNE, DAUGHTER OF HEATHER AND NIEL.



In 1983 Heather Francis hopped into her car, not noticing that the steering lock was on the wheel and off she drove, only to bang into the car in front, as she couldn't stop or steer!

UCA WHITEHORSE.

Mission and Justice group.

This group commenced meeting together in late 2021, coming to an agreement that future meetings of the three groups in 2022 would be under the UCA Whitehorse banner. The commitment, passion and enthusiasm of all in the group has proven uplifting and energizing.

The following are the members of the M and J group.

Nunawading.— John Craddick, Elaine Hewson, Jeff Randles, Bev Brown.

Forest Hill—Alex Adam, Wendy Correlje, Shiran Nagarajah, Corry Skilbeck, Joy Williams.

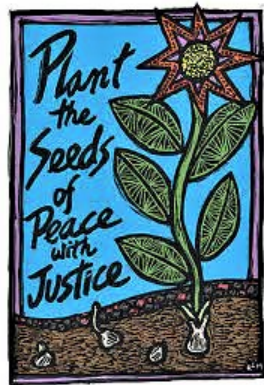
Mitcham—Jenny Balshaw, Rob Jackson, Jill Kidd.

Ministry team—Rev. Peter Cannon, Rev. Tina Lyndon Ng.

The group is on the start of a journey with a strong focus on working to advocate and support communities and people who at various times struggling. An amazing and cohesive group who are prepared to look at how we need to work in the future of our local and other communities.

Regular updates will be placed in the monthly newsletter to keep the congregation up to date.

oxoxoxoxoxoxo



The group held a planning day on February 28th,

leading the group to some concrete action plans to meet our M and J goals for 2023.

We looked at this under three main areas. We want our Church Community to

- *be aware of
- *to become involved in
- *to take action on with us in 2023.

A Mission ladder was used to acknowledge that we cannot do everything we might like to do. The three established programs in the A space are—Centre 81, Kids Hope, and Op Shop. By the end of the day two more were added in the B space—Homeless /Disadvantaged and Environment Climate. The three A programmes already do much in the B space. Small groups also workshopped and brainstormed ideas to implement our agreed priorities for 2023 in line with our agreed M & J strategies.

These are

***Education and Advocacy** (what? How?) Some ideas being regular announcements, information, on current active ties, in Sunday services, (including online) and newsletters.

- *using expertise from congregational members.

- *training for volunteers (Centre 81, Women's Refuge.
- *letter writing-ensure all members are aware of issues and letters are available for signing.
- *building relationships with state and federal politicians and local government councilors to discuss concerns and issues particularly related to our programme.

Donations (in support of what?how?when?)

- *Open plate- with visibility in power point, newsletters and announcements. Of time-work in Centre 81 and Op shop in promoting issues, become a Kids Hope mentor.
- *filling jars with \$1 or \$2 coins.
- *collection/donations of non perishable food, or money to Centre 81 food bank and Uniting East burwood each Sunday.

Programs(addressing what is needed. Demonstrating Justice for? Partnering with others?)

*develop a coffee space/shop near Op shop and maybe Centre 81 to provide opportunity to connect with local community.

*targeted fund raising for a current cause. Eg. floods.

These are just a snap shot of some of the discussions and ideas put forward from the groups.

At each monthly meeting the discussion will continue and future strategies firmed up.

The final component of the day was looking at how we relate, interact and respond within the broader church. These included the Church Council, Ministry team, UVCT, Whitehorse Churches Care and our own congregation.

We are hoping to develop a calendar displayed at each church to take into account Social Justice dates and other commitments we may have.

JOY WILLIAMS.



LENTEN STUDIES 2023.

THIS YEAR'S LENTEN STUDIES INCLUDE MOVIES WITH THE THEME OF SALT AND LIGHT. THEY ARE ABOUT COMMUNITIES AND PEOPLE WHO EMBODY AND INSPIRE HOPE FOR OTHERS AND FOR US.

**THE STUDY WILL BE HELD AT FOREST HILL UCA,
333A CANTERBURY ROAD, FOREST HILL,
AND WILL BEGIN EACH SUNDAY OF LENT.**

COME AND JOIN US FOR A MOST ENJOYABLE STUDY.

LAST YEAR'S LENTEN AND ADVENT STUDIES WERE POPULAR WITH A GREAT RESPONSE, FUN AND DISCUSSIONS. ONCE AGAIN WE WILL HAVE DISCUSSIONS AND PIZZA AFTER THE MOVIE.

PLEASE BRING A PLATE IF YOU CAN FOR SALAD OR DESSERT.

OUR MOVIES ARE

LENT 1. 26.2.23 RED DOG.

(BY NOW WATCHED AND APPRECIATED)

LENT 2. 5.3.23 THE HELP

(ALSO WATCHED AND APPRECIATED)

LENT 3 12.3.23 A STREET CAT CALLED BOB.

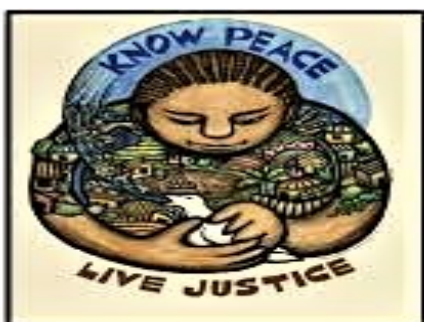
LENT 4 19.3.23 SCHINDLER'S LIST 1993.

(THIS MOVIE IS LONG, SO WE MAY BEGIN AT 3.30PM.)

LENT 5 26.3.23 SWEET COUNTRY.

I wonder how present day workers would feel if at the end of the week they were handed a [bag of salt for their labours](#). Not so pleased, I imagine! Yet, the soldiers of the Roman legions were paid partly in salt and the word 'salary' comes from 'salarium' meaning 'soldier's salt money.' Wars have been fought over salt. One of the reasons the Romans came to Britain was that they had been told the country was rich in salt. Some of the first known roads were built to transport salt, and bars of salt were once used as currency in Ethiopia. Yes, salt is one of the commonest, but most important minerals in the world. This gem was found in a [1996 issue of a Nunawading](#)

UC magazine, and printed due to Tina's using "Salt and Light" as her Lenten theme.



REVIEWS OF "THE RED DOG"

All who attended the first film and study appeared to enjoy this lovely film, highlighting the arrival of a stray dog at the Hammersley Mining community in the 1970s.

We saw Red Dog befriend a couple of lonely miners on his own terms before the arrival of John, who drove the buses transporting miners between their accommodation and the mine.

Red Dog adopts John, and John adopts Red Dog. John falls in love with Nancy, and Red Dog accepts her too, as do all the miners.

We see several instances of a wonderful community spirit between the characters and each other in everyday circumstances, particularly in times of need. We also see instance of both the humans and Red Dog going beyond the call of duty in their responses.

At times the film is humorous, and at other times very sad, as in real life, giving rise to a comparison with Jesus' example to his followers, and in turn passing down to us as Christians today. We spent time considering our responses in comparison to the community, and also to the complete, unwavering faithfulness of Red Dog.

This film and ensuing study relating to it sent many of us home with food for thought for the following week, so thank you Tina, study leaders, and all who attended found this time worthwhile.

BARBARA COWARD.

'There is a statue on the outskirts of the Pilbarra town of Dampier in the north of WA. This is Red Dog, an adventurer who relied on friendly care as he wandered far and wide. He had belonged to bus driver, John, and travelled with him around the area and as far south as Perth. Then, after John's death he continued to travel alone affectionately assisted by many in the area.

Several books have been written about him, one of which was adapted for this film which filled in a background of the time in an isolated outback mining area— wild, dry and redder than the dog, male dominated, often lonely.

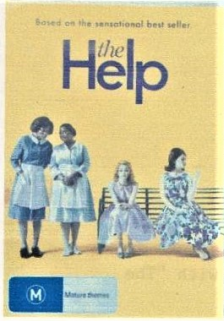
We saw how important developing community was, to provide release in social activities and to provide support in times of grief or hardship. We compared this with the usual, fly in, fly out miners of today, with difficulties for both individuals and the townships in which they temporarily reside, always remaining outsiders. The attitudes shown in the film, macho and sexist, hopefully have changed today (or they are less openly expressed?)

We also saw the importance of the padre when John's funeral somberly brought the town, even Red Dog together. Could this have been a bush chaplain from our UC Frontier Services? It is surely a valued role in such communities, especially when tragedy befalls. We left with the understanding that developing community takes everyone's input, each with their gifts and talents, surely a message as we come together as one congregation.

Have any others seen the Red Dog's statue?

ANNE SMITH.

THANK YOU TO OUR GUEST REVIEWERS, ON THIS PAGE AND THE NEXT.



FROM REV. TINA

This week twenty one of us gathered for our second week of the Lenten studies to watch the movie “The Help” For those of us who share a passion for Justice, the movie proved to be heartfelt, challenging and it stirred our emotions. It is based on a true story about the deep south of the USA during the 1960s, where

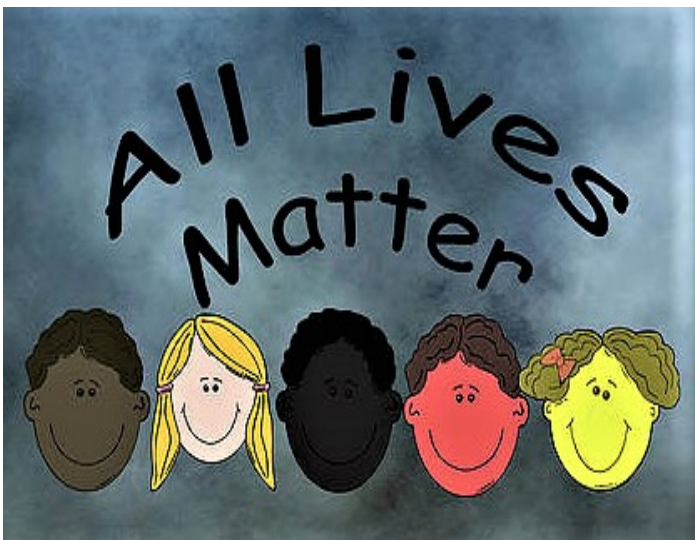
most maids were treated in a shabby, unjust way in a system that allowed whites to have more power. That is until Skeeter, a young white woman and budding journalist arrives back home after four years at college. Initially she sought a story from Aibileen, one of the maids, but this changed when her publisher put pressure on her to gain more stories and two maids, Aibileen and Milly teamed up to write their stories, their way. A series of injustices and moments in history encourages other maids in the area to write a book about their stories. Skeeter, her mother, Aibileen and Milly’s lives were changed by the power of the womens’ stories and courage to share them and the woman’s book led to an unjust being changed.

The women who were the ‘help’ were portrayed as women of deep faith, and the women who mistreated them as shallow, where at some stage Aibileen, who had grown in courage calls Hilly, the main protagonist godless, and challenges her to re-think her life.

The movie’s message is that there comes a time for all of us, when we have to choose to speak out against unjust behavior and systems, and not only speak out, but act. Staying silent promotes suffering and hardship for those who are oppressed.

Micah 6.8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?



TREVOR THOMAS

attended this movie and endorsed Tina’s views. He included the following prayer, which was used during the Lenten study.



Help us to speak out for justice with a special desire by a power greater than surface comforts and outdated systems.

Let me be a troublemaker to champion those I love and care for, and for those I don’t know intimately who need my help.

Hire me to be a powerful voice for the change that heals, reconciles, forgives and improves.

Help me create time and space to lend support where it is needed. Transmit to me the passion to be bothered by others’ violations of another’s right to life, liberty, happiness and their voice.

Find me faithful and in service, riding shotgun to heart-led movements and leading the charge when it is up to me to do so.

Remove my feeling of hopelessness in what I perceive to be the opposition Align me with the action and channel my energy for others. Bind me to the medicine of love. Let me affect the transformation that leads to needed change. Light the torch of revolution in my heart.

Stand me upright on a foundation of faith while I take the next steps. Build my voice as an instrument for defending freedoms which provide equality. Keep my motivations clean.

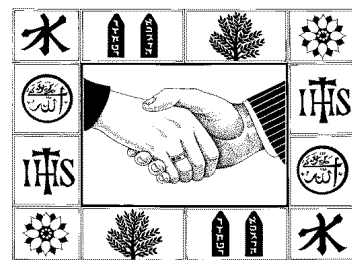
Grant me the tools to see near and far, and find me adjusting the lens often.

Help me to give a leg up to the underdog: to root for the one who doesn’t stand a chance. Help me to accept being unliked and misunderstood for positioning myself behind what I believe in.

Bolster my confidence and give me the understanding and empathy required for maintaining existence. Make tolerance my priority and give me the words and actions to fight violence with the sword of peace.

Orient me to inclusivity. Help me to stop putting individuals into dualistic opposition, rather focus me on repairing broken systems, and my participation in them. Dissolve my tendencies for cliques, partisanship, judgement, righteousness, bandwagons and the damning or idolizing of those I perceive to have more than me.

Help me to do my part to clang the bells of freedom. When ten thousand are whispering, make me one who is listening.



Author, poet, and spiritual teacher, Pixie Lighthouse is an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. With her prayer, we ask the Divine to give us all that we need to advocate for others.

Apologies to all.

I had intended to print the report which Corry Skilbeck spoke of in church on Sunday, but when she sent it to me I was amazed at its size, while being sure it would be good reading. So rather than send it to all, if you would like a copy please contact Corry.

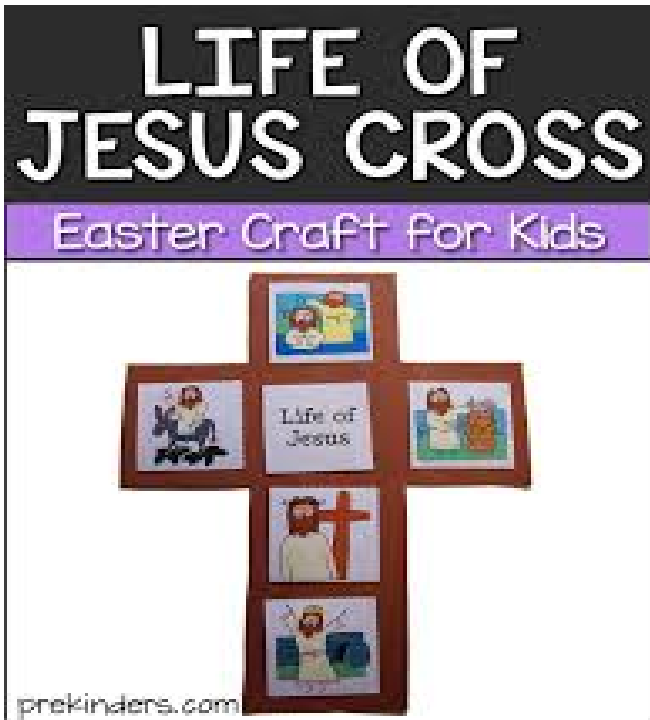
SOME WORDS OF THANKS TO PAUL HUMPHRIES.

Paul has designed, manufactured and installed a new letterbox at our Forest Hill venue.

The project has taken some time, but Paul had to lay a concrete foundation, design and build the structure capable of holding A4 envelopes, paint it and fix a lock

The Property and Finance Ministry Group was moved to express a vote of thanks to Paul for his efforts.

Attached is one of the first letters to be received in the new letterbox.



Frontier Services
Standing with people in the bush

PO BOX 2424, Parramatta, NSW 2124
E: info@frontierservices.org
P: 1300 787 247
F: 02 97 231 384 646

Tax Receipt

10/2/2023
Secretary Treasurer
Forest Hill Uniting Church
333A Canterbury Road
FOREST HILL VIC 3131

"Thank you for being there for people like us!" - Marj

Dear Secretary Treasurer,

We have received the wonderful Christmas gift you sent and I want to thank you for your generosity. We will put your gift straight towards much-needed services that directly help people in the bush like Marj and Ray.

Your gift has come at the perfect time. Like so many others, Marj and Ray are facing yet more natural disasters in 2023. But now, thanks to your kindness and generosity, they and many more people will be able to get the physical, emotional and spiritual support they need to face the tough times ahead.

If you'd ever like to know more about the impact of your support, please don't hesitate to contact us on fsfundraising@frontierservices.org or 1300 787 247. We would love to talk to you about the difference you make!

Until next time, and thank you again for all that you do.

Thank you,

Rob Floyd

Rob Floyd
Acting National Director

Receipt No.	Date	Item	Amount
0000110499	10/02/2023	Donation	1,000.00 AUD

Donations to the value of \$2.00 and more are tax deductible.
Frontier Services is an agency of Uniting Church in Australia.

1818 Arden Street, Melbourne VIC 3046
Tel: 03 9594 1111
www.cfs.com.au/annual-reports
Thank you





Date Sundays unless stated	Venue: ForestHill	Venue: Mitcham	Venue: Nunawading	Day + Colour	
5 th Feb			Together @ 10 ^c	Epiphany 5	W
12 th Feb	Together @ 10			Epiphany 6	W
19 th Feb		Together @ 10		Transfiguration	W
22 nd Feb (Wed)	Together @ 7			Ash Wednesday	P
23 rd Feb (Thu)	Together @ 2 ^{cs}				P
26 th Feb			Together @ 10	Lent 1	P
5 th Mar	Together @ 10 ^c			Lent 2	P
12 th Mar		Together @ 10		Lent 3	P
19 th Mar			Together @ 10	Lent 4	P
26 th Mar	Together @ 10			Lent 5	P

Venues:

- F 333A Canterbury Road, Forest Hill
Carpark access via Canterbury Road or Will Street
- M 559 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham
Carpark access via Yarrbat Beek Lane; plus park in Whitehorse Road Service Road
- N 355 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading
Carpark access via O'Shannessy Street; plus park in Whitehorse Road Service Road

Legend:

- c** Indicates a Communion service, conditional upon being a fully clergy led service.
- R** Indicates sermon recording is available for use on SWAY and for any Local lay led arrangements.
- S** Indicates worship likely to be led by a supply person (clergy or lay, depending upon availability).
- CHIPS** The next 'Church In a Public Space' is anticipated to be Sunday 30th April.
- Live or Local** Indicates multiple options exist for local lay leaders, from receiving a livestream of a clergy-led service, to local lay leading using a variety of resources (and supported by the ministry team).
- Colour** One of possible colours suitable for the season. May be used for colour theme of worship display slides.

Info:

- Together @ 10 AM** – Venue: alternating.
Sunday morning worship service of the Whitehorse congregation. Holy Communion on 1st Sunday of month.
- Together @ 2 PM** – Venue: F on 4th Thursday of month.
A monthly "mid-week afternoon" communion worship, for those unable to attend morning services.
- Unavailability of preachers (including extension of leave) requires continuation of 'Together @ 10' for all March 2023.
Preaching Plan may be subject to last minute rearrangements, for any unforeseen circumstances, etc.

Whitehorse Uniting Church Ministry Team

Minister On Call: 0403 225 257

Rev Tina Lyndon Ng: tinaalyndon@gmail.com, 0423 715 590 [Sun, Tue-Thu]

Rev Peter Cannon: revpeterc@gmail.com, 0434 310 862 [Sun-Thu]
(not contactable before 14th March 2023)



Whitehorse Uniting Church Council

- Chair: Julie Hawkey, 0488 460 875, juliesh1879@gmail.com
- Secretary: Trevor Thomas, 0438 592 092, trevordt2@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Rob Jackson, 0413 599 047, robhelenj@optusnet.com.au

Contacts for Publications

Weekly News: Margaret Cosstick, 9884 9704, notices@mountview.unitingchurch.org.au
Please use this email address as we don't have a Whitehorse one yet.
(By 6pm Thursdays please)

Monthly News: Heather Brain, 9878 7929, nhbrain@tpg.com.au
(By the end of each month please)

A new postal address has been arranged for our Whitehorse Uniting Church. Correspondence should be addressed as follows.

The Secretary
UCA-Whitehorse
PO Box 463
Brentwood Square Vic 3131.