



Partnership in Print

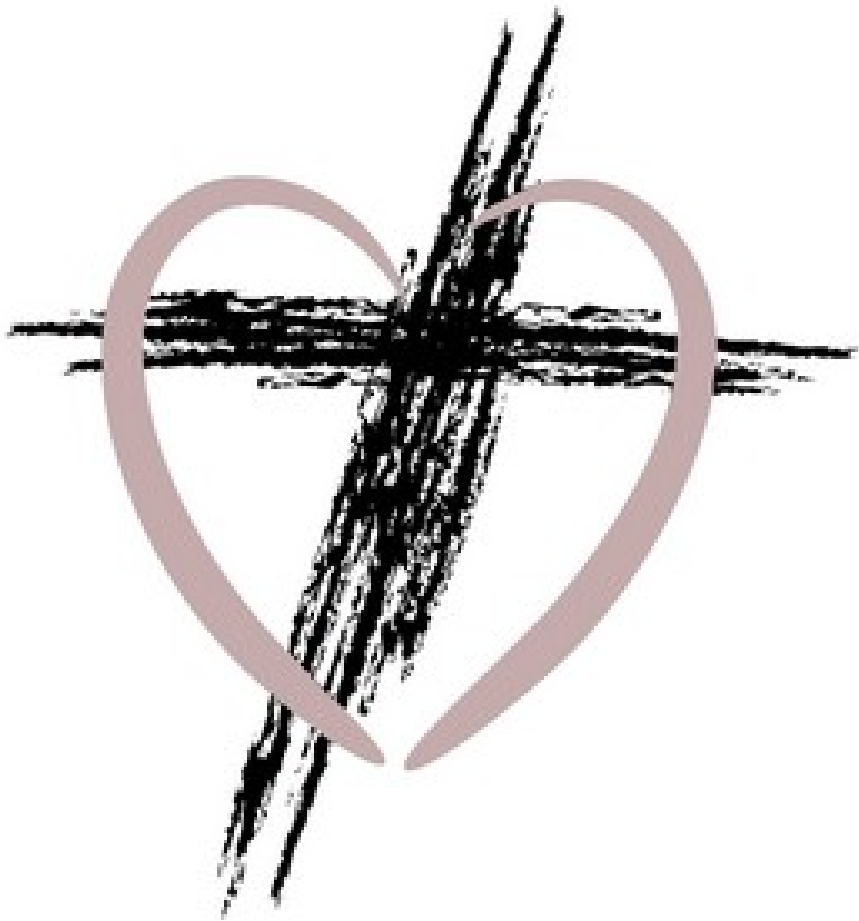


Uniting Church in Australia - Macedon Ranges Partnership

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

Issue No 29 - February 2018

Seasons - Epiphany 5 - Lent 2





I have been doing a bit of work in my garden and guess what? That old bit of wood I had kept just in case I needed it has come in handy! I have had that bit of wood for over 5 years. I have quite a bit of other stuff in my shed as well – just might come in handy too... Takes up quite a bit of space but I struggle with the thought of cleaning out. Yet if I did, the clutter would be

less, accessibility to needed items would be available and life would be easier.

Sometimes we hang onto things just in case they might be useful. We find a use once every so often – just often enough to say, “see! It was better to keep it.” I wonder though...

I heard of a family who always did their roast chickens by cutting them in half and then roasting it. This was passed on from one generation to the next. It was how great-grandma always did it, so had to be the best way. Eventually one of the great-grandchildren decided to ask her why she did it that way. She answered, when she was first married, the oven she had was so small they couldn't do a full roast in it so they had to cut it in half...

Sometimes the reasons for keeping our traditions have nothing to do with theology, pastoral care or even good practice. Sometimes our traditions are developed because of the needs of the time that pass. But they remain as sacred items that cannot be challenged. We can't bear to let them go. We are at risk of keeping that which is not needed and forget what is needful.

Have a read through Mark's gospel. Try and read it through in one or two sittings and you may be surprised by the bigger picture provided. Take a look at the development of the story of Jesus as told by Mark and you will start to see that Jesus is providing a radical challenge to the establishment of the time. The challenge is just as strong today.

The Sabbath, its regulation, systems and operation is questioned. A framework is proposed that turns the systems of the Sabbath, religious sensibilities and practices on their heads. Mark is unapologetic. “The Sabbath is to serve”; “the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath”; “is it better to harm or heal on the Sabbath?”; “to show that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins...”.

When you as congregations and communities explored and then decided to come together as a partnership, you developed a new vision and paradigm for your life and ministry. Sometimes however we forget that living out that paradigm also means leaving behind the old way. Mark makes it clear right at the start of his gospel that to follow Jesus requires us to repent – to turn around completely and go in a new direction.

That means leaving behind those things that may appear to be useful in order to take hold of something new. You cannot embrace something new if your arms are full of the old. Let's be clear, this is not to say the old is bad or evil. It is to say that anything that stops us fulfilling the vision and goal you set is harmful to your life as a people of God on this journey together as a partnership. The risk

is that we will emulate the escapees of the Exodus – at each difficulty complain and hanker back for the old life. In so doing we forget the problems – of the past, the decline, failures and reality that the world has changed.

I wonder about that bit in Mark where Jesus says you can't put new wine in old wine skins. Maybe there is something for us in that?

Our vision invites to be embraced, even if it is unsettling or disturbing. It is a vision based in listening to the Spirit of God. It is a vision grounded in allowing God to work in and through us. It is a vision that finds strength in the support of one another as the people called by God.

Have a read of it. See what it stirs in you. Consider what difference it calls you to.

“...a new vision has emerged of co-operation. This is not for the purposes of rationalisation or survival. This is a new vision for change and development. It is based on the belief that more can be achieved in partnership than alone with limited resources. It is based on a shared commitment to and a vision of exploring new models of church, new models of worship and mission, and a range of worship times. There is also a commitment to reviewing resources and buildings with a view to ensuring that property retained or new property sought is the most appropriate for the new approaches to being church. This will not occur because of duress but as the Spirit leads over time, and as new missional visions emerge.”

Peter Cannon

Special Announcements

Farewell

Mt Macedon congregation farewelled Barb and Cliff Talbot on Sunday 7 January. They were long term members having joined the Mount Macedon congregation in February 1983. Cliff and Barb led the service, with Cliff giving an inspiring address on the need to look forward with hope in doing God's work, while learning from the past. We then enjoyed wonderful fellowship over lunch. Tokens of our appreciation were presented for their enormous contributions to the congregation and wider church over that time. There was quite a lot of reminiscing about “ugly sisters” and other concert happenings as well as many other events over the time. They will be much missed at Mt Macedon. We wish them well in their new home in Strathdale (Bendigo).

50th Wedding Anniversary Thank You

Heather and Trevor Turnham and Val and Noel Shaw wish to thank the Romsey Congregation for their love and best wishes on the occasion of our Anniversaries.

We are grateful for the beautiful cards that contained your heartfelt congratulations.

Partnership Camp Booked

We have booked the weekend of July 13th to 15th. The camp is fully catered and will be at Doxa Malmesbury, 1000 Vaughan Springs Rd., Drummond North. Our special guest for the weekend is Rev David Withers, from Synod's Major Strategic Review Implementation Task Group and from our Presbytery's Mission Strategy and Education Committee.

Costs (i.e. recommended donation) and other details to be published in the March edition of PIP.

Worship Leaders

	Service time	Sunday 4th February	Sunday 11th February	Sunday 18th February	Sunday 25th February
Northern Congregations	10am	<u>BARFOLD</u> Annette Buckley	<u>MIA MIA</u> TBA	<u>METCALFE</u> Wendy Elson - Baptism	<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> TBA
Kyneton	9:30am	Andrea Strack	Supply TBA	Annette Buckley - HC	Pip Elston
RM Begg	3:30pm				Monday 26th
Lancefield	10:45am	TBA	Peter Weeks* - HC	TBA	Annette Buckley
Romsey	9am	Jay Brooks Harvest Thanksgiving - HC	Peter Weeks* - HC	Congregation Members	Annette Buckley
Tylden	9am	Peter Cannon HC	Alison Killoh	No Service at Tylden - Attending Metcalf Baptism	TBA
Woodend	11am	Mondays			
Mt Macedon	10:30am	Brian Charter	Wendy Elson - HC	Supply TBA	D'Arcy Wood
Riddells Creek	9am	Wednesdays (Devotions)			
	4pm Intergen			Annette Buckley	
Gisborne	9:30am	Janet Wood	D'Arcy Wood	Margaret Woolner	Wendy Elson - HC

**Peter Weeks is the Minister at Graigieburn/Wallan. Annette Buckley and Peter are doing a pulpit swap on Sunday 11th February.*

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.

- Prayer and Meditation every Wednesday morning. For the next few weeks these gatherings will be held at different locations around the Partnership. Keep your ears open for venues. Peter will include locations in his weekly missive.
- The Lancefield Church is open for private Prayer and Meditation every Wednesday 11am - 3pm.
- An Ecumenical Meditation Group meets

by arrangement with participants not a set time. 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.

Learning Opportunities

Here is a Challenge for 2018

The Church is criticised more and more these days. Sexual abuse is an obvious reason but there are others. People outside the Church still seem to see the Church as a kind of moral policeman - an idea well out of date. And then there is the ideology of secularism, which either eliminates God altogether or pushes God to the margins.

Our Peter Barcham Lecturer for 2018, Barney Zwartz, will address the topic "The Challenge of Secularism". What is secularism and what, if anything, can the Church do about it?

Barney is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity, a sort of think tank on the place of Christianity in today's society. For 32 years Barney wrote on religion and classical music for "The Age". For 12 of these years he was Religion Editor. He continues to research and write on religion, music, politics and social issues. His lecture should interest anyone who sees spirituality as important, whether they are Christian or not. The lecture is at Gisborne Uniting Church on Monday 19th February at 7:30pm. There will be opportunity for questions, also discussion with Barney over supper.

Further information is available from Janet or D'Arcy Wood on 5428-6700. Please phone if you would like a handful of leaflets to distribute to friends or neighbours.

Lenten Bible Studies

Lenten Bible Studies at Mt Macedon commence at 11am on Friday 23rd February for 5 weeks. Study Book by Adam Hamilton on John's Gospel focus on Easter events.

AGM's

Tylden UCAF AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Tylden UCAF will be at the Tylden church at 10am on Tuesday 6th February.

Woodend/Tylden Op Shop AGM

The Op Shop Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 14th February at 10am at the Woodend church.

Tylden Congregation AGM

The Tylden Congregation AGM will be held at the Tylden church following morning worship on Sunday 25th February.

Woodend/Tylden Cluster AGM

The Woodend/Tylden Cluster AGM is on at 7:30pm on Wednesday 21st March at the Tylden Church

Meetings

CoCo

The first CoCo meeting for 2018 will be on Saturday 3rd February at 9:30am at Mt Macedon. This will be an open meeting. All Partnership members are invited to attend.

Romsey Church Council

The first meeting for 2018 will be on Wednesday 7th February at 6pm at the home of Sandra and David Strack.

Clubs and Groups



Cuppa at Cookies

Each Monday – 2pm

Coffee get together at

Cookies Cafe in Main St, Romsey.



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.

Friends Group

Friends Group meet at the Wood's Home on Friday 2nd February at 28 Blue Gum Circuit Riddells Creek at 6pm. All welcome please ring for catering purposes if attending. Phone 54286700.

Lancefield Music

Lancefield Music is on fortnightly...the first and third Tuesdays 2pm til 4pm.

6th & 20th February

Men's Group

Mount Macedon Men's Group resumes at 10am on Tuesday 6th February at the Church. George Fyfield will be providing the topic. All men welcome.

Muffin'n More

Tuesday 13th February at 10am Muffin'n More commences at Gisborne.

Romsey UCAF

Will meet on Wednesday, 14th February at 1:30pm and will include an Ash Wednesday Service.

Days for Girls

A community mission sewing group meets at Gisborne from 10am - 4pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Tuesday 20th February.

Film Club

Film Club met on Thursday 18th January and watched 'Bridge of Spies'. Due to the high temperature we gave up the comfy chairs and enjoyed the air conditioner in the office. Next gathering will be at **Romsey** at 7:30pm on Thursday 22nd February, when we will enjoy 'Paper Planes'.

Kyneton Chat'n'Chew

Meet at Kaddy's Cafe, 8 High St, Kyneton on Friday 23rd February at 12 noon. All are welcome, just turn up. Any questions to Jenny Elston.



Mt Macedon Thistle Club

Our first meeting for 2018 will be on Wednesday 28th February at 2pm at the Church for our Commitment Service & Catch-Up. Items for Shoeboxes - Soap.

Special Events

Pancake Day at Gisborne

Once again the Church will toss pancakes in the Shopping Complex outside the IGA Supermarket on Saturday, 10th February, between 9:30am and 12:30pm. Proceeds to UnitingCare. Do come along and support the cause and have some fun!

Pancake Tea - Romsey

Come and join a social pancake tea 6pm on Tuesday 13th February. Bring a small amount of a savoury or sweet pancake topping to share. Batter supplied (and gluten free). Donation

Car Boot Sale

A date for your diaries - "Car Boot Sale" at Gisborne on Saturday 17th March from 9am.

Coco Report for Meeting held on Saturday 2nd December 2017 at Gisborne

Colin Chapman welcomed us all and chaired the meeting.

Devotions were led by Paul Gilbertson who focussed on 1 Corinthians Ch1, V 3-9. At the beginning of Advent, this passage reminds us that God blesses us with Grace and Peace, also of the work of God in us, and in the world. We are called to fellowship with God, then with our brothers and sisters.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

It was decided that Coco would elect Office Bearers next year as some congregations had not yet met to elect their representatives.

The Ministry Team Report was presented by Annette, and a copy of this report is available at each of the Partnership Churches for you to read.

- Community use of our properties is increasing at Woodend and Riddells Creek, as a result of many conversations, and there is a possibility that the Men's Shed in Riddells Creek will install a watering system for the Riddells Creek garden. Lettuce and Bok Choy are thriving in the garden at the moment so you are welcome to share in these delights.

- There is concern about the number of people throughout the Partnership with significant health issues, please keep them, and the people who support them, in your prayers.

- There has been a meeting with Uniting Age Well Loddon Mallee who are keen for our support in their work with providing government-funded aged care to people in our communities. This support will be in the form of information about people who may benefit from this type of care.

Wendy (who was on leave) sent us information about conversations being held with members of the Muslim community about potential future

use of the Woodend property, and with Coco's agreement, a community lunch was held on 10th December at Woodend, so that discussions could be started about bringing the community together.

Peter updated us on the Partnership Family Camp which is planned to be held at DOXA Malmsbury, next year. *(Since CoCo date changed to the 2nd weekend of July.)* The guest speaker will be Rev David Withers, Mission and Development Minister at Lentara Uniting Care. Please keep this date in your diaries, more information later.

Reports

Finance - Most quarterly reports have been received and finances are pretty close to the budget.

Property - Woodend was again the focus of discussion, both the Manse and the Church and Hall. There are water drainage issues in all buildings and discussion was held about the urgency of proceeding to fix this issue at the Manse in the first instance. The Property committee will look at whether a a Pro-ject manager is needed for both Woodend and Riddells Creek projects, as the BOMAR application for funds for Riddells Creek improvement has been approved. It was noted that the whole block of shops in Woodend, of which the OP Shop is one, is going to be auctioned on 14th December.

Community Engagement - Wendy would love to have at least one representative from each Church attend this meeting, as it is by talking with the 'locals' that a feel for what each community needs, can be the guide for where the church can be most active. This does not need to be your Coco rep, but anyone is wel-

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Community Information

Macedon Ranges Draft Localised Planning Statement

The Victorian Government has introduced new legislation into Parliament that will allow the Macedon Ranges region to be declared a distinctive area with strengthened planning controls and state level planning protection from inappropriate development. This includes designating long-term settlement boundaries for townships in the region expected to grow, to better protect and enhance valued natural and rural landscapes.

The settlement boundaries will apply to the townships of Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey, Riddells Creek, Lancefield and Woodend. They will be subject to the same rigorous protections of Melbourne's permanent Urban Growth Boundary – and will require parliamentary approval to amend them.

The Government is now seeking views from members of the community on the Macedon Ranges Draft Localised Planning Statement. Feedback will inform the final statement, which will be released in mid-2018.

Information sessions will be held at the following locations (drop in any time during the session):

Town	Venue	Date and Time
Kyneton	Kyneton Mechanics Institute 81 Mollison St, Kyneton VIC 3444	Tuesday 30 January 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Gisborne	Gisborne Community Centre (Hall) 8a Hamilton Street, Gisborne 3437	Thursday 1 February 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Romsey	Romsey Community Centre (Monegeetta Room) 96-100 Main Road, Romsey 3434	Thursday 8 February 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Woodend	Woodend Community Centre (Hall, near library) Corner of Forest and High Streets, Woodend 3442	Tuesday 6 February 2018 4.00pm – 7.30pm

What contribution can we make to the plans for the future of our communities?

More information can be found on the website:

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-localised-planning-statement>

Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House

WHOLE TOWN GARAGE SALE

Saturday 17th February

\$5 to register a garage sale

Maps available for \$3

from the Neighbourhood House
and at the Primary School

(The Farmer's market will also be on)



Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House
5428 7836 | rcnh@westnet.com.au



Whole Town Garage Sale

Riddells Creek

17th February 2018

9am till sold out!!

White Goose will have books
BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Also Op Shop goodies

Come and Buy

(Volunteers needed to assist please)

Do You Need a Handyman?

My husband Stephen has started his handyman business recently after 35 years working as a Mechanical Engineer.

He is happy to fix anything, paint, garden, mow, or do any maintenance that is required.

His business is called Macedon Ranges Home Maintenance and he can be contacted on 0417028673.

He is happy to travel to anywhere in the Macedon Ranges.

Bronwyn Tacey (Gisborne)

Tai Chi and Qigong

Beginners classes in Tai Chi and Qigong will be held at the Gisborne Uniting Church, starting on **Saturday 3rd February**.

Classes will run from 4-5pm on Saturdays, at the cost of \$12 per session.

If you have any queries, contact Patricia Kent (Lilac Moon Tai Chi) on 5424 1123 (or at lilacmoontaichi@gmail.com).

Otherwise, just turn up on the first Saturday and give it a go!

Gisborne Chaplaincy Report for 2017

Happy new year and once again thank you for your tremendous support last year. At the end of December the amounts raised were as follows:- Churches \$16,397.30, General Donations \$21,057.80, Committee \$15,171.17 = \$52,626.27. The school contributed \$6,000 & our Regional Support Manager \$4,0000. Therefore the total raised was \$62,626.27. As our amount was \$78,488 there was a deficit of \$15,861.73

which came out of our Term Deposit.

The amount to raise for 2018 is again \$78,488. I am pleased to report that the School is contributing \$19,000 this year so hopefully at year end our deficit will only be \$6,000.

We look forward to your support again this year.

Kind regards

Bronwyn

National Weekend of Prayer for School Chaplaincy

Friday 9th February 2018 to Sunday 11th February 2018

Show your support for School Chaplaincy:

- Pray for Chaplaincy in our schools to continue.
- Send a letter of support for School Chaplaincy to:
 - The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Prime Minister, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600
 - The Hon Scott Morrison MP, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia, PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600
 - The Hon Simon Birmingham MP, Federal Education Minister, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600



On Tuesday 8th May 2018 the Federal Government will announce whether it will uphold the current funding provided for the National School Chaplaincy Programme (NSCP).

Last minute news

- There will be Services at Woodend and Riddells Creek on **Ash Wednesday**. Times TBA.
- Port Phillip West Lay Preacher Network has organised a workshop for **Saturday 24th February** at Hoppers Crossing UC, 9:30am-1pm. Guest Speaker is Rev Dr Sean Winter. RSVP by 19 February to Rob Coulson at rsnpc@bigpond.com

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

February 2018

4 Epiphany 5

9am - Worship at Tylden, Harvest Thanksgiving at Romsey
9:30am - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton
10am - Worship at Barfold (*cuppa at 9:40am*)
10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon
10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (*cuppa at 10:15am*)

5

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend
2pm - 'Cuppa at Cookies' Romsey

6

10am - Tylden UCAF AGM
10am - Mt Macedon Men's Group
2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
2pm - Lancefield Music

11 Transfiguration

9am - Worship at Tylden, Romsey
9:30am - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton
10am - Worship at Mia Mia (*cuppa at 9:40am*)
10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon
10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (*cuppa at 10:15am*)

12

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend
2pm - 'Cuppa at Cookies' Romsey

13

10am - Muffin'n More at Gisborne
2pm - Prayer at Gisborne
6pm - Pancake Tea at Romsey

18 Lent 1

9am - Worship at Romsey
9:30am - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton
10am - Worship at Metcalfe (*Baptism*)
10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon
10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (*cuppa at 10:15am*)
4pm - Intergenerational Worship at Riddells Creek
Items for PIP due in today

19

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend
2pm - 'Cuppa at Cookies' Romsey
7:30pm - Peter Barcham Lecture at Gisborne

20

10am-4pm - Days for Girls Gisborne
2pm - Lancefield Music
2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

25 Lent 2

9am - Worship at Tylden, Romsey
9:30am - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton
10am - Tylden Congregation AGM
10am - Worship at Sutton Grange (*cuppa at 9:40am*)
10:30am - Worship at Mt Macedon
10:45am - Worship at Lancefield (*cuppa at 10:15am*)

26

11am - Prayers for Peace at Woodend
2pm - 'Cuppa at Cookies' Romsey
3:30pm - Worship at RM Begg

27

2pm - Prayer at Gisborne

In 2018, two dates important to Christians will fall on widely-celebrated secular holidays. In 2018, Easter Sunday lands on April 1, which is also famously known as April Fools Day, when people play pranks on relatives, friends, co-workers, and the world at large. Ash Wednesday therefore falls on February 14, which is also observed as Valentine's Day (or Saint Valentine's Day), originally a Christian feast day honouring one or more

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 6pm - Gisborne Friends	3 9:30am - CoCo at Mt Macedon
7 9am - Worship at ? 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 6pm - Romsey Church Council	8	9 10am - Prayer at Gisborne	10 9:30am-12:30pm - Pancake Day at Gisborne
14 Ash Wednesday Services at Woodend and Riddells Creek 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 10am - Woodend OpShop AGM 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 1:30pm - Romsey UCAF	15	16 10am - Prayer at Gisborne	17 9am - Riddells Creek Whole Town Garage Sale - White Goose selling books
21 9am - Worship at ? 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open	22 7pm - Film Club at Romsey	23 10am - Prayer at Gisborne 11am - Lenten Bible Study at Mt Macedon 12noon - Chat'n Chew at Kyneton	24 9:30am - PPW Lay Leader Workshop
28 9am - Worship at ? 9:30-1:30pm - The White Goose 11-3 - Lancefield Church Open 2pm - Mt Macedon Thistle club	Ash Wednesday is on St Valentine's Day and Easter is on April Fool's Day. 2018 is going to be a weird year for Christians.		

early saints and now a secular occasion for lovers to express their affection for each other (particularly by exchanging greeting cards).

This confluence of religious and secular days hasn't occurred since 1956, but we won't have to wait another 62 years to experience it again: Easter Sunday will next fall on April 1st in 2029, and then again in 2040.



Community lunch on Sunday, 10th December 2017, with members from the Partnership and representatives from Victoria's Muslim Community to start a conversation about a community hub and multi-faith space at the Woodend Church.



'Follow the Star' participants stop in the Lions Park, Romsey, to sing a carol. About 100 people, many in costume, were involved on Thursday evening 21st December.

Romsey Congregation's Community Street Christmas Tree located in the main street with the trees from the Historical Society and Candlebark School.



Summer community involvement



On Wednesday 6th December at 10am a group of Singapore tourists (14) were departing from Kyneton UC hall after an overnight farm stay organised by Down Under Farm Stays. It was a cold day and they were heading for Phillip Island and to watch the penguins.

The co-ordinator from Down Under noted they were in very light clothes. She rang me and asked if we (the Op Shop) had any jackets in our shed. I went up and was able to find jackets/coats for all including several children.

They were delighted trying them on to see what fitted whom. They offered to pay or donate but I refused. Saying these are donated, we sell and then donate back to the community this is our gift to you all. They were so thrilled, I got hugs and kisses all around and was even told to join them for their group photos. How good it felt to be able to help these strangers and I am sure they will remember the kindness of Kyneton UC Op Shop.

Flo Watson



What we do

Emergencies can create chaos in our lives. People may be traumatised, grieving, or in shock.

Our volunteers are trained to be a calm and compassionate presence. We have the time to talk with and support affected people.

PERSONAL SUPPORT

Our volunteers provide practical assistance to people affected by emergencies including but not limited to assisting people to complete forms, liaising with agencies and government departments and reconnecting with loved ones.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID

Just as first aid treats physical wounds, psychological first aid treats psychological and emotional wounds. It includes listening to people's stories, showing empathy and communicating safety and compassion. It also involves working with affected people to connect with any internal and external resources available to them.

EMOTIONAL & SPIRITUAL CARE

Our volunteers create calm, quiet spaces within the chaos. They are trained in sitting with people experiencing deep and strong emotions, supporting and accompanying them in the darkest moments of their life.

Where we do it

EMERGENCY RELIEF CENTRES

We are there when emergencies force people to flee their homes, local governments set up relief centres where people can access shelter, food, and other practical assistance.

RECOVERY CENTRES

We are there as communities begin recovering from the impact of emergencies, assistance is provided by local and state government through recovery centres.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH VISITS

We are there going into the community or going door-to-door to check people are okay during

and after emergencies

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS & MEETINGS

Where community meetings have been arranged to provide information to people about an emergency, we are there.

Often the only opportunity to provide Personal Support to some of the affected people.

ON SITE OF AN EMERGENCY EVENT

There are occasions when it is appropriate to attend the location where the emergency has taken place to provide immediate support to those directly affected and witnesses to the event.

MELBOURNE AIRPORT

Our team of multilingual and multifaith chaplains play a critical role in emergencies at Melbourne Airport.

When we do it

Our volunteers are only called out when requested by state or local governments.

Since 1977 we have been supporting people through emergencies that include:

- Bush, industrial and house fires
- Floods
- Storms & other weather events
- Fatal car accidents & motor vehicle accidents
- Terrorist attacks
- Criminal violence
- Emergency evacuations
- Siege or other police operations

Who we are

VCC Emergencies Ministry is a multifaith, multicultural organisation.

Our volunteers come from Christian, Buddhist, Islamic, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, Koori or Maori faith communities. Our volunteers include both ordained faith leaders and laypeople.

Our volunteers show compassion, maturity, and good listening skills.

To become a volunteer with VCC Emergencies

Ministry you must:

- Be nominated and referred by your faith community leader
- Successfully complete a Police Check & Working With Childrens Check
- Successfully complete our training
- Agree to undergo on site supervision during deployment

To join us, register for training online at www.vccem.org.au/training/

Our Code of Conduct requires that our volunteers provide support to all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identification, belief, or culture. We also forbid volunteers from trying to convert people to any religion.

Psychological First Aid/Personal Support Training

VCC EM training is a comprehensive training package designed to equip members of faith communities to support affected residents through their participation in VCC EM deployments.

The training course is a 2 stage process involving

Self paced learning and completion of the workbook. This material must be completed prior to attending the training day.

Face to face training day. This day utilizes multi learning opportunities including teaching, discussion, personal reflection and role playing / scenarios to enable the trainee to assimilate the information and understand the context, roles, responsibilities and processes involved.

WHERE: St Kilian's Church, 161 McCrae Street, Bendigo

WHEN: Saturday 3rd March 2018 (8.45am – 5.00pm)

COST: \$80 waged or \$40 concession/Refresher training ((Covers all catering, training materials and registration costs. Please inform us of any dietary requirements)

REGISTRATION: register online at: www.vccem.org.au/training or by phoning 9650 4511

Completion of the workbook and attendance at the training are essential prerequisites for application for registration with VCC Emergencies Ministry. Successful registration will require the completion of safety checks and referee reports and will occur after the training has been completed.

FURTHER INFORMATION: please call the VCCEM state office on (03) 9650 4511
or email emergencies@vcc.org.au -

This training is essential for all in the faith community intending to respond to emergencies and disasters in Victoria. The Victorian State and Local Governments are continually increasing the requirements for people to enter disaster areas. The VCC is authorized by Government to coordinate and integrate faith communities' response when disaster occurs.

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come. Watch the PIP calendar for the next meeting in the New Year.

Pastoral Care - Once again, concern was raised for the number of people throughout the Partnership who are in need of our love and care.

Resources - The last day for training for the Safe Church program and Working With Children's Check was held on Saturday 9th December. There is a deadline from Synod for all this training to be completed by the end of February, so please let Peter know if you have been unable to attend any of the sessions so far, as he will make more options available shortly.

Congregational Reports - There are lots of activities happening around the Partnership as part of the lead up to Christmas: Watery Advent, Samaritan Purse shoeboxes, Toy donations, Christmas hampers, Follow the Star, Advent Bible studies, Riddells Creek Festival, Foodworks in Gisborne Christmas trolleys, Target Christmas Appeal, Carol Services, hopefully you were able to participate in some of these.

Coco have decided that they will only meet every 2 months in 2018 with any necessary interim decisions to be made by email, together with the Executive.

Our next meeting will be held at Woodend Mt Macedon on 3rd February, 2018.

Lectionary Readings Year B

After Epiphany

A period in which the church reflects on the manifestation of Christ to all people. The Baptism of the Lord is the first Sunday of this period. On the last Sunday, we hear the readings for the Transfiguration of the Lord. The length of this period varies depending on the date of Easter.

Date	Day/Season	Col	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
	Epiphany 5	G	Isaiah 40:21-31	147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
	Epiphany 6	G	2 Kings 5:1-14	30	1 Corinthians 9:24-27	Mark 1:40-45
	Epiphany 7	G	Isaiah 43:18-25	41	2 Corinthians 1:18-22	Mark 2:1-12
	Epiphany 8	G	Hosea 2:14-20	103:1-13, 22	2 Corinthians 3:1-6	Mark 2:13-22
	Epiphany 9	G	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	81:1-10	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Mark 2:23 to 3:6
	Transfiguration Sunday	W	2 Kings 2:1-12	50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9

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
	Ash Wednesday	P	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
	Lent 1	P	Genesis 9:8-17	25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
	Lent 2	P	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

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

In God's Hands: The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle enables us to journey in prayer through every region of the world and through every week of the year affirming our solidarity with Christians all over the world, brothers and sisters living in diverse situations, experiencing diverse problems and sharing diverse gifts. See website for weekly prayers.

https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle/ecumenical-prayer-cycle/#*

28th Jan - 3rd Feb | Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Tunisia

At the time of printing no further February dates were available on the website.

Macedon Ranges Partnership Prayer Cycle

Day	Congregation/s	Topic	Day	Congregation/s	Topic
Sun	Northern Congregations	Friends	Thu	Riddells Creek, Office & Staff	MR Partnership
Mon	Kyneton	Family	Fri	Mt Macedon	Homeless
Tue	Lancefield & Romsey	Concerns	Sat	Gisborne	Current Affairs
Wed	Tylden & Woodend	World Events			

Directory removed for privacy

Contacts Other Groups

<u>SUTTON GRANGE</u> <u>MIA MIA</u> <u>BARFOLD</u> <u>METCALFE</u>	<u>Elders - North</u> Dot Smith Marge Townrow	<u>Elders- Kyneton</u> Pip Elston Helen Aldridge Joan Mills Peter Stone Doug McIver Andrea Strack
<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>Elders</u> Noel Shaw, David Strack Jeni Clampit, Sandra Strack Jenny Elliott, Jay Brooks	<u>UCAF</u> Pres - Hazel Allen Sec - Jeni Clampit
<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> Brian Charter, Anne Fyfield Shirley Cross, Neil Tweddle	<u>Thistle Club</u> President - Judy Charter 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	

Your life is composed of two dates and a dash
 Make the most of the dash.

Address Label

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 Sunday evening 18th February 2018

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SUTTON GRANGE - Church Access Rd MIA MIA - Matheson Rd BARFOLD - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd METCALFE - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd KYNETON - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)	Joan Mills	Dot Smith	Finance Committee
LANEFIELD - 9 High St		Ian Kennedy	Peter Fraser
ROMSEY - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)	Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampitt Property - David Strack	Roger Baker
TYLDEN - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)	Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole Property - Max Hinneberg	Dawn Hinneberg
WOODEND - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)	Ursina Smale	Ruth Hodgson	George Roberts
MT MACEDON - 684 Mt Macedon Rd	Neil Tweddle	Fiona Armour	Lyn Ward
GISBORNE - 23 Brantome St	D'Arcy Wood	Colin Chapman Property - Neil Moorhouse, Rob Dunstan	Paul Gilbertson
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			Helen Aldridge, Pip Elston
			Ian Kennedy, Rita Vandervalk
			Noel Shaw, Jay Brooks Jeni Clampitt
			Bronwyn Hewitt, Janet Cole Dawn Hinneberg
			Sina Smale, George Roberts
			Anne Fryfield, Lyn Ward Neil Tweddle
			Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett Paul Gilbertson
			PIP REP
			Fiona Armour
			Michael Woolner