

Morialta Vision ...in the Wilderness

– by the gift of the spirit we have not lost the way!

A Publication of Morialta Uniting Church

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Welcome to Vision in the Wilderness 14

– by the gift of the spirit we have not lost the way.

Colin Cargill, Editor and Helena Begg, Publisher

As we will stay with the name Vision until at least 2021, we decided to revisit its meanings. While “vision” can mean “the ability to see”, “sight or even eyesight”, it can also mean “something that you imagine”, “a picture that you see in your mind”, or “something that you see or dream especially as part of a religious or supernatural experience”. So, what is your dream or vision for Morialta in 2021? If you are willing to share it in a few sentences we would love to print them on our pages between now and Christmas.

All contributions, photos and articles are welcome – less than 300 words is ideal and hand-written pieces are fine. Cut off date for the next “VitW” is 9th October followed by 23rd October for the following edition.

My address for a letter box drop is 34A Moules Rd Magill or call me on 0427 122 106 or email me at snout-n-about@bigpond.com.au

Go well and stay safe.

Bob the Builder?



Bob Lloyd has made over 100 wooden toys during lockdown and here is Bob with a sample of his work.

Fellowship News

Margaret Clogg

On Thursday 19th September, 14 members met and enjoyed a ‘distanced’ morning tea together after the main meeting.

We enjoyed a very interesting Travel Quiz that evoked many memories of destinations once visited that may never be visited again! Bev Tredrea was the winner of the quiz.

Our next meeting is on Thursday October 15th at 10.00am, when Gaynor will speak to us about being a volunteer in prison.

All are welcome to attend.



Praise life that makes us change and grow
Praise love that makes compassion flow
Praise peace that ends all strife and fear
Praise hands that work for justice here

Praise ears that hear the children’s cries
Praise truth that counters cruel lies
Praise hearts that value human worth
Praise lives that build a better earth

Praise eyes that see all human need
Praise minds that cast out selfish greed
Praise lips that challenge those in power
Praise those who struggle every hour

Praise faith that keeps us ever strong
Praise hope that triumphs over wrong
Praise dreams that make our spirits rise
Praise voices raised in joyful cries

Music: Old Hundredth / “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” © 2013 Kurt Struckmeyer

A reflection inspired by the native peoples of the world

From Anne Wilson Schaefer PhD

For the people of many cultures every day is beautiful because it is a gift from the Creator. When we live in relationship with nature, we inherently know that the change of seasons and all kinds of weather are necessary for our continuation and that of the planet.

Sadly, when our culture is based upon judgment, perfectionism, and the illusion of control, we come to believe that we should be able to control nature and that some days are better than others. We forget that we did not create this life we are living. It is a gift from the Creator, and we have the possibility – the possibility – of living it.

The earth sustains us and however much we pillage and pollute Her, Grandmother Earth still feeds us. We cannot afford to poison our Grandmother.

Let us pray: Let us give thanks for this beautiful day. Let us give thanks for this life. Let us give thanks for the water without which life would not be possible. Let us give thanks for Grandmother Earth who protects and nourishes us.

(A Lakota American Indian Prayer.)

Update: Rosters and more!

Please read this ...

Greetings everyone, in this very variable Spring weather. Hope you are keeping warm and well!

Rosters for October to December have now been sent out, and our thanks to all who have responded to our emails and survey requests to support the preparation process. You may have experienced some surprises this time, as you perused the roster report – lots of us are rostered very frequently! But fear not, if you would like changes made, just contact either me or John Secombe with the details, and changes will be made.

Why has this situation with worship rosters arisen? It's all to do with COVID-19 and our two priorities: keeping everyone safe at Chapel St and making worship available every week online to those at home. That means some new rosters, and some needing to be filled more frequently than before.

Some roster lists are in particular need of more volunteers – Tea and Coffee (Temporary) and Hall Pack-down, to support our post-worship hospitality time; and Projection, Camera Operator and Vision Director/Vision Switcher (with excellent training provided!). It would also be very helpful if more people could volunteer to do the SA government-provided online training for COVID Marshal and volunteer for that roster. For the link to the training, contact me or Nicole in the office.

Warm thanks to everyone for your support and co-operation as we work together to be the church at Morialta in these tricky times!

Grace and peace,

Margaret Cargill, Congregation Chairperson
0439 954814



Batavia Madrigal Singers

The Batavia Singers is one of the leading vocal ensembles in Indonesia. It has many prestigious achievements in the world of international and Indonesian music. The range of compositions presented by BMS is very diverse from classical to contemporary, as well as genres from Baroque to modern pop. Singers come from all faiths (Christian, Moslem, Hindu and Buddhist) to make beautiful music for people to experience.

Listen to them sing John Rutter's "The Lord bless you and keep you..."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akT3zE83zjl>

Our thanks to Margaret Whibley and Steve Thompson for sharing this with us.

Purchases made on behalf of Morialta UC

From Carole Lyons

At the September meeting of the Church Council, the following was adopted:

“Church Council adopts the advice received from the Congregational Bookkeeping Unit in relation to claiming a GST refund from the Australian Taxation Office”. If you have any queries, please see Treasurer Carole.

To ensure our church can claim a GST refund on purchases, reimbursement for purchases made on behalf of Morialta UC, a Tax Invoice with the following information is required.

For amounts under \$1000, a Tax Invoice must clearly show:

- The seller's identity (name of company)
- The date the invoice was issued
- A brief description of the items purchased
- The seller's Australian Business Number (ABN)
- The amount of the GST (if charged) either as a separate amount or the words 'Total price includes GST'.

For amounts over \$1000, a Tax Invoice must be in the name of Morialta Uniting Church and clearly show:

- The seller's identity (name of company)
- The date the invoice was issued
- A brief description of the items purchased
- The seller's Australian Business Number (ABN)
- The amount of the GST (if charged) either as a separate amount or the words 'Total price includes GST'.



Amazing Grace – John Newton

Amazing Grace was written by a former slave trader, John Newton, born in London in 1725. During a voyage home from West Africa, his ship was caught in a horrendous storm off the coast of Ireland and almost sank. Newton prayed to God and the cargo miraculously shifted to fill a hole in the ship's hull and the vessel drifted to safety. Newton took this as a sign from God and marked it as his conversion to Christianity.

However, Newton captained three more slaving voyages before he suffered a stroke in 1754 and retired, but continued to invest in the business. In 1764, he was ordained as an Anglican priest. He wrote the words for "Amazing Grace" in 1772. It was not until 1788, 34 years after leaving it, that he renounced his former slaving profession by publishing a blazing pamphlet called "Thoughts Upon the Slave Trade." He wrote: "It will always be a subject of humiliating reflection to me, that I was once an active instrument in a business at which my heart now shudders." Slavery was banned in Great Britain in 1807 and Newton lived to see this, dying in December of that year. The words were put to the popular tune "New Britain" by William Walker in 1835.

A Riverland incident

From Jenny Swanbury

The great River Murray flood and a weakening sand-bagged levy threatened to swamp our little Ramco School. As a young primary student, along with thirty-something other kids and the one teacher, we ran from the school for the safety of high ground while doing our own part in the crisis as adults raced to secure the moving bank.

I shared this memory at the beginning of a recent sermon. Well, the story goes on. Two weekends ago I encountered again the 1956 flood story, this time in the Loxton Historical Village Institute building. Along the walls of photographs I found Records and Rosters of men for checking the fragile Ramco flood bank. The details were fascinating and I was alone in the hall so I pulled out a chair and sat looking quietly up at the display with my back to the entrance.

Next thing a screech and a commotion came from the doorway. I looked around. A young family stood there looking at me in shock with the mother clutching at her chest and the children clutching at her dress. "We thought you were part of the display" the mother stammered. "Then you moved". I was full of apologies assuring them that I was real as I removed my yellow sun hat.

Later as I sat outside another display a couple came up to me and said, "At first we thought you were part of the display sitting there on the bench". I took off the yellow hat again and kept moving!



During this year, the arts have warmed us and connected us in ways we have never before experienced. Writers have given words to experience and named the wisdom in our midst. We have been truly blessed by the community of the Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts and so many other artists as we supported one another and walked together through this time.

The Centre had planned to celebrate 10 years of shared ministry together and what an amazing 10 years this has been. This month, MiniM choir would have been sharing a concert celebrating the 10th anniversary of ministry in music, but like so many events, these celebrations have been postponed until 2021.

But you can listen to MiniM singing *Jubilate Deo* (Rejoice in God, all the earth) at a physically-distanced rehearsal by clicking on this link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pESTVthHhOg&feature=youtu.be&mc_cid=3d54b4877f&mc_eid=f706011a6e

The Centre is funded through donations and grants. All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and will ensure that we are able to continue to support our artistic and worshipping communities.

Donations to be made to: The Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts – BSB: 704-095 – Account: 200712. If you require a Tax Receipt, please email the office at admin@cmla.org.au with your name, donation amount and date so we can email you a receipt.

Wifi access at Chapel Street

For those wanting to connect to wifi as a guest anywhere on the Chapel Street site, here is the information you need: username: Morialta password: mucguest

Thanks to Matthew for setting this up for us!

Two more things we can consider to help the world

From Reset – Digital for Good

Sharing is caring!

We can save resources if we own less and use more things collectively - sharing cars, exchanging clothes, lending and borrowing tools, and so on.

Shrink your digital footprint

Every search query we type, every email we send or receive, and every song we stream causes CO2 emissions. Streaming videos are the hungriest. Better to download than stream videos anew each time. Avoid purchasing electronic devices that you don't need, and even just cleaning up your email inbox.

To Sing or Not to Sing

The Conversation – 19th September 2020

While infection control guidelines assume respiratory droplets settle rapidly within 1-2 metres of source, controlled observations demonstrate that most droplets produced by singing appeared not to settle rapidly but tended to follow the ambient airflow. Interestingly notes such as "do" and "fa" generate more aerosols than others and the direction of emissions changes with different consonants.

Options to make group singing safer include:

- **singing outside or in a well-ventilated room**
- **physical distancing** – at least 2 metres while singing
- **short performances** to minimise exposure
- **humming** rather than singing
- **singing softly** as this is likely to emit fewer aerosols
- **singing in a mask²** could be an option, as it reduces particle leakage. While not suitable for professional choirs, tests with face masks revealed that singing with surgical masks filters out the large droplets completely and the aerosols partially. A portion of the aerosols are emitted in a jet-like fashion slightly upwards and to the sides. It is suggested that church and other non-professional choirs sing with masks for the preventive effect.

It is important that people at high risk of complications from COVID-19 avoid group singing while there is community transmission.

This-video-shows-just-how-easily droplets spread:

healthcare-in-europe.com/en/news/singing-in-times-of-covid-19.html

Lens on Creation: A martyr's legacy In the Amazon

Adapted from *EarthBeat* –
stories of Climate, Crisis, Faith and Action

Sr. Dorothy Stang believed that the people who live in the Amazon are its best defenders. Rather than a wilderness without human inhabitants, the jungle was an interconnected web in which humans could live in a sustainable manner.

When we first travelled to the region, I was welcomed by the poor folks with whom Stang had worked, including Yulimara's family (see photo). As they showed me around their simple homes and farm plots, it was obvious that they saw themselves as an integral part of creation. They were the jungle, and thus were prepared to defend it with their lives.

Those who see the Amazon and other great forest lands as merely a commodity to be exploited were threatened by Stang and the poor farmers she accompanied. So, they arranged for her murder in 2005. But her killing wasn't an

anomaly. In 2019, according to Global Witness, an average of 4 environmental defenders were murdered each week.

For many of us, the word "nature" conjures images of a holiday at the beach or mountains. Yet for many of the world's poor, nature is their home. Stewardship is what they do to defend their livelihoods. Healing the Earth is not a slogan, it is survival, for them and for all of us who share a common planet.



Yulimara Machin da Silva, an 8 year old girl, runs through the rain.

For reflection and action: Where is the place with which you identify most closely, where you feel most "at home"? What would you feel if it were threatened with destruction? How would you respond? How can we and our faith community stand in solidarity with people whose lives are in danger because they defend the places where they live?

From the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg

"If you want to be a true professional, you will do something outside yourself, something to repair tears in your community, something to make life a little better for people less fortunate than you.

That's what I think a meaningful life is - living not for oneself, but for one's community."

Good news story

From *Justice for Refugees SA Management Committee*

Members of J4RSA have been involved in a food drive to support refugees and those seeking asylum living in the community who may otherwise have fallen through the cracks since they'd lost their jobs and didn't qualify for government support.

The group is assisting 150 people seeking asylum (including 50 young children) in 38 Adelaide metro areas and in Bordertown, with food hampers while they have no employment. They are also assisting with prescriptions, doctor's visits and a few mobile and car registration bills.

If you want to support this group go to
<https://www.givenow.com.au/circle-of-friends>

J4RSA also met with Peter Malinauskas, who earlier this year spoke with a woman seeking asylum on ABC Adelaide Radio and as a result, members of the public donated \$20,000 to rent assistance and the food drive.

Morialta Social Justice Team are members of J4RSA.

Fairness and Social Justice

Since this is an era when many people are concerned about 'fairness' and 'social justice' what is your 'fair share' of what someone else has worked for?

Thomas Sowell

What comes first: the free-range chicken or the free-range egg?

Adapted from an article published in the *Conversation* by Professor Ankeny, Professor of History, and Heather Bray, Senior Research Associate, University of Adelaide.

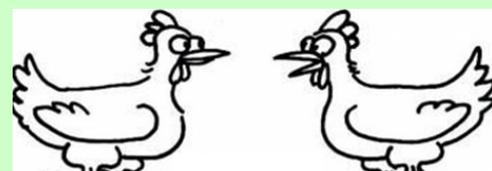
When shoppers were asked what they look for in terms of products that promote animal welfare, the most common answers involved free-range or cage-free eggs.

When asked why they chose these products, many shoppers viewed them as higher quality, with better taste and colour, and safer than eggs produced using other methods.

Free-range egg production was considered "more natural", and that hens had access to a "natural diet". This type of diet led to what they described as more nutritious and safer products.

Regardless of whether these claims are true, the results are consistent with other research data. That is, that food labelled with humane production methods prompts people to imbue it with certain characteristics, such as better taste and higher nutritional value.

A recent report on *Landline* also pointed to the fact when most people see the sign "free-range eggs", they picture a small batch of hens pecking away in a small green pasture, when in reality it means thousands of birds confined together and not much green. To produce the number of eggs consumed by Australians, it requires large flocks of birds housed in barns with access an outdoor area often more brown than green.



Just once I would like to cross the road without my motives being questioned!