

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

Colin Cargill, Editor and Helena Begg, Publisher

Around 55 of us worshipped in “the real” last Sunday while others continued to worship live, but at home.

In this edition we bring you a short obituary for Dorothy Mills. You can read a longer history of Dorothy and Ron in the Library – written by Carole Lyons.

Vision in the Wilderness will continue while the future is being decided. Meanwhile, your contributions, photos and articles are always welcome – less than 300 words is ideal and hand written pieces are fine. Cut off dates for what may be the next “VitW” is **August 28**.

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

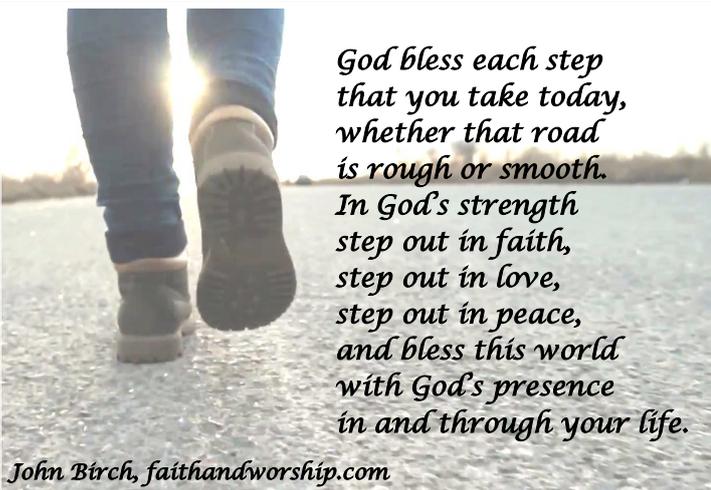
Go well and stay safe!

Vision – we’d love to hear your views.

Several have already replied and most favour the shorter version more often. For those of you who have not responded, there are several options:

- Continue with the shorter format (4 pages) every 2, 3 or 4 weeks;
- Return to the longer format (12 or 16 pages) every 2 months;
- Stop producing Vision and look at other ways to spread news and information.

So please respond if you would like Vision to continue. If you do not respond we will assume you feel Vision is beyond its use-by date, or you just don’t read it.



*God bless each step
that you take today,
whether that road
is rough or smooth.
In God's strength
step out in faith,
step out in love,
step out in peace,
and bless this world
with God's presence
in and through your life.*

John Birch, faithandworship.com

Season of Creation 2020 Theme - Jubilee for the Earth



Many see the “Climate Crisis” as a result of the intersection of greed, inequality and destruction of God’s earth. The theme of Jubilee reflects these three interlocking themes.

Jubilee is a time to renounce overconsumption and economic systems based on constant economic growth at the cost of the Earth and those who are poor.

Jubilee is a time when those who have consumed the most must make restitution to those who have suffered the most.

Jubilee is a time of rest for the land from constant exploitation, to restore ecosystems and people.

The concept is rooted in the holy wisdom that a just and sustainable balance must exist between social, economic and ecological realities. When one variable is exploited to maximize growth of another, the whole system will suffer. When one part of the earth community is stressed, every part is affected. The coronavirus pandemic demonstrated this reality on a global scale.

The theme of Jubilee affirms the need for equality, justice and sustainability, and a transition to sustainable economies.

Season of Creation is a time to acknowledge that tipping points are being reached, threatening the lives of the most vulnerable and putting the lives of future generations in jeopardy.

As people of faith we are called to sound a voice of hope, like the Jubilee. While we lament, we can also provide hope as we know that God has promised the renewal of this earth.

For the sake of the earth and all creatures, we have no choice but to pursue justice (Micah 6:8).

Season of Creation 2020 is an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Jubilee today and to consider how we will, as individuals and as the church:

- Recognise God’s ownership of the whole earth, and all our ‘possessions’;
- Release what we have to give back to creation, both spiritually and practically;
- Recognise our total dependency on the creation;
- Receive creation’s provision in patience and trust;

Season of Creation runs from Sunday 1st September until Sunday 4th October – More at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ARDojjURVRIYzj8EHLx4tlogeaDo-bfh/view>

More on Hope

From Jenny Swanbury

I heard a number of Bethlehemites say in a recent webcast seminar, "We might feel hopeless, but Easter gives hope for a better future. Hope grows when we come together." Easter is not a festival that comes and goes once a year, but is the life-giving mystery at the heart of what it is to be human, at the heart of what it is to be a creature and part of this beautiful Earth.

Mike Mineter is a Roman Catholic, a member of the Iona Community; passionate about connecting with wilderness, as a grounded sea kayaker (during Covid-19 lockdown) he has been giving overdue attention to his garden. He works as an expert in computing for climate research at the University of Edinburgh.

From the Library

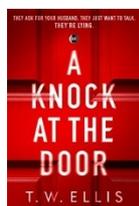
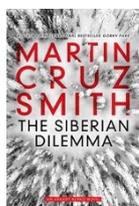
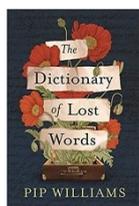
Warm greetings from our life-giving Library, especially to those who continue to borrow books. The church office continues to be open on Tuesdays between 10 and 2 to provide an opportunity to return and borrow books.

The Library Team has met each Friday during these times to keep the library computer records up to date and deal with returns.

We have moved the small number of Large Print books from a lower, less accessible place, to a higher shelf on the right as you enter the Library. These include Tim Winton's 'Cloudstreet', three of Alexander McCall Smith's books, plus others for those who prefer large print.

We have received gifts of new books from Burnside Library, and from Dymock's Book Store, via Hilary our contact from Lunch on Chapel. These are proof copies, not for sale, but are very 2020's and the very latest. New books include 'The Dictionary of Lost Words' by Pip Williams, 'The Siberian Dilemma' by Martin Cruz Smith, 'The Night Swim' by Megan Goldin, 'A Knock at the Door' by TW Ellis and more.

With blessings,
Miranda, Jill and Joan



On line author talk with Bruce Pascoe – Monday 24th August

In VitW edition 7 we published a book review of 'Dark Emu' by Bruce Pascoe. Those of you who have enjoyed the book maybe interested in an Online Author Talk – Southern Deadly Yarns – by Pascoe. The talk is sponsored by Neporendi Aboriginal Forum Inc and Onkaparinga Libraries.

Details at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/southern-deadly-yarns-bruce-pascoe-online-author-talk-tickets-114499944416>

Hot cross buns – a morning teat tradition

From Cynthia Story

A few years ago, Margaret Johnston and I were responsible for arranging a morning tea of hot cross buns after the Easter Day service. Year after year, Margaret would buy the mini hot cross buns, a better size to cut, spread and serve.



This involved careful calculation of the number of packets to buy – how many people would come? When to turn the oven on, cut the buns with a large bread knife and place on oven trays. As I said – careful calculation, and one or two of us would sneak out of the service part way through the sermon, to make sure all buns were retrieved from the oven, spread with margarine, and caringly put onto plates and taken into the hall as the congregation spilled out into the foyer and drifted into the hall, following the tantalising odour of spiced buns.

Several odd things happened over the years – buns were extracted from the oven too early and the margarine (why was it never butter?) would not spread evenly, the congregation were faced with hunks of bun topped with lumps ... Or, conversely, precious buns became too hot – appearing somewhat burnt and the margarine ran in oily rivers down the crevices, swimming around the plate ... not an ideal result either.

And then there were times when everything went to perfection, and we produced plates of hot, fragrant spicy buns, spread with the right amount of margarine – not too much – not too little! Plates were emptied in no time at all, and the congregation sipped their tea and coffee with happy murmurs of deep satisfaction.

Margaret and I did not achieve this goal on our own – there were always willing helpers around ready to slice and spread and serve.

One Easter when I slept through two alarms and woke, horrified, well into service time – members of the congregation, observing a lack of helpers in the kitchen, stepped in to assist Margaret, ensuring that the whole procedure took place in the time-honoured tradition.

Changing the world one cup of coffee at a time

Celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight 7 – 20 August



We're extremely excited to announce due to the ongoing roasting partnership with Bean Alliance Group for over 10 years, customers can continue to purchase Oxfam Fair Coffee and Drinking Chocolate right here at Fair Coffee.

The Oxfam fair range is sourced using frameworks that ensure farmers are paid a fair and stable price for their raw ingredients. Additional premiums are paid to empower communities to build better lives for themselves.

Monies raised flow back to Oxfam Australia to invest in programs to help tackle poverty around the world.

Thank you for your continued support by empowering lives to tackle poverty. Remember - same coffee - same taste - same Impact. You can help change the world!



Dorothy Mills (1927 – 2020)

Dorothy Mills (nee Newbold) was born in Rose Park and her early years were spent at Monteith until she moved to Kensington. Dorothy attended Marryatville Primary and Norwood High Schools and “grew up in the Knightsbridge Baptist Church.” School was followed by Teacher’s College and after graduating in 1946, Dorothy taught at Lyndoch Primary and later at Kings College and Girton Girls School (now Pembroke School). While at Teachers’ College she met and befriended Gene Mills and every morning they would meet at a tram stop on Kensington Rd to travel to the city. Eventually Gene invited Dorothy to her home for dinner and there was brother Ron. The rest as they say, “is history”.

Dorothy and Ron were married in Scots Church on the 8th of January 1949 and after marriage, they worshipped together at Magill Methodist (now MUC). They lived in a flat behind Ron’s parents’ home and during this time son Ron and daughter Helen arrived. After 10 years flatting, they built a home in Rosslyn Park – Ron did the electrical work, carpentry and tiling, Dorothy the painting. It was their home for more than 50 years.

Once married Dorothy had to give up her teaching career so she became a dedicated volunteer for many years. She taught Religious Education at Magill Primary school for 10 years, worked in school canteens and became a volunteer at the kiosk in the Children’s Hospital for over 20 years. Here she served as president, secretary, buyer and finally supervisor of up to 300 volunteers. Dorothy felt strongly that everyone should give a little of their time to help those in need. Her 20 years at the hospital were the happiest of her life.

Her main passions were her children, and grandchildren Shannon, Alan, Mark, James and Simon.

Other passions were cooking, sewing, gardening, and knitting. Cooking gave her much pleasure and many enjoyed her delicious baked apples at Coffee Corner (Lunch on Chapel) over many years. Dorothy was also a very keen gardener and her first income came from selling her flowers to a florist on Kensington Road. She was a great provider to the plant stall at the Mighty Magill Market.

When asked if there was one thing in life that she would have loved to have done but was unable, Dorothy said with much emphasis “SING”.

Vale Dorothy! We will remember her every Christmas when we see the magnificent red ceramic bowl that she crafted and donated for the Christmas Bowl donations.

A must-watch video:

We fell asleep in one world, and woke up in another.

“You are my guests, not my masters.” – The World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILmo6CD9Ed8>

Creators Creation

By Steven Watson

The whisper of a gentle breeze makes me stand still and feel at ease

The call of a morning bird music to my ears it may sound absurd

The rays of a setting sun is when I know my day is done

The beam of the lunar light is all part of His Heavenly delight

The ever insurging waves from the motion of the sea and all this He created for little old me

The colossal clouds in the heavens above this He commands is an act of my love

The whisper, the call, the ray, the beam it's reality in our earthly dream

The Father speaks in so many ways you've only got to look to see what He says

This is the wonder that He created water, land, and mountain tops jagged, and serrated

He is in everything we see and all this ... for you and for me



Earth
Overshoot
Day 2020

What is Earth Overshoot Day?

Earth Overshoot Day is the day when our demands for resources (such as water, fish, other food, forests and soil), exceeds what the earth can renew in a year. This is driven by our attitudes and disconnect towards the earth, our common home that God created and entrusted to our care. Our overconsuming has upset the delicate balances and recovery processes that keep creation renewed.

Even our changed behaviour during the current pandemic has only pushed back the date of Earth Overshoot Day by about three weeks. The mass extinction of species and breakdown of the integrity of our common home continues apace.

Why do we need to change our attitudes and behaviour?

The unfolding climate and ecological changes are warning signs of our broken relationship with God’s creation and our failure to understand our interrelationship with all living things and the physical environment that enables life.

If everyone consumed as much as an average Australian, humanity would consume more than 4 earths each year!

As Christians, we can mark Earth Overshoot Day by raising it in the public consciousness and creating a call for transformation of our attitudes and actions. Ultimately, we need an individual and collective “ecological conversion”. *That will enable us to repair our relationship with God and with creation.* It will also enable us to repair our relationship with the life-support systems on earth so that they can repair and renew and life as we know it can continue.



COVID-19 A World Perspective



From Micah Australia

- The World Bank estimates that COVID-19 will push 71 million people into extreme poverty and the number of people requiring lifesaving food assistance could double to 265 million people.
- The Lancet predicts reduced access to nutritious food could lead to an additional 1.15 million child deaths.
- For the first time in 2 decades, annual net global poverty levels will increase and global human development could decline for the first time since 1990.
- 80 million babies under a year old are at risk of missing routine immunisations and almost 10 million children may never return to school following COVID-19 lockdown.
- Deaths due to HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria could increase by up to 10%, 20%, and 36%, respectively, over the next 5 years.
- Our neighbour Indonesia has only 4 doctors and 12 hospital beds for every 10,000 people, and only 3 ICU beds per 100,000 people. Australia has 39 hospital beds and around 35 GPs per 10,000 people (44 in cities) and 9 ICU beds per 100 000 people.
- Ten African countries have no ventilators at all. In Uganda, there are only 55 intensive care beds for 43 million citizens.

Micah Australia reminds us that the COVID crisis is not going to end for anyone, until it ends for everyone.

Many of our neighbours around the world are ill-equipped to deal with a pandemic and Micah argues that it's time we offered a helping hand.

Why? Because we take care of our neighbours and even though our borders are shut, our hearts will never be.

If you wish to join the Micah Australia campaign to encourage the Australian Government to do more for our neighbours – go to www.micahaustralia.org

On the lighter side....



Mona Lisa
after lockdown



Vagabonds

By Stuart Townend, Mark Edwards & Phil Baggaley

Come all you vagabonds,
Come all you 'don't belongs'
Winners and losers,
Come, people like me.
Come all you travellers
Tired from the journey,
Come wait a while, stay a while,
Welcomed you'll be.

Come all you questioners,
Looking for answers
And searching for reasons
And sense in it all;
Come all you fallen,
And come all you broken,
Find strength for your body
And food for your soul.

Come to the feast,
There is room at the table.
Come let us meet in this place
With the King of all kindness
Who welcomes us in
With the wonder of love,
And the power of grace,
The wonder of the love,
And the power of grace.

Come those who worry
'Bout houses and money,
And all those who don't have
A care in the world;
From every station
And orientation,
The helpless, the hopeless,
The young and the old.

Come all believers
And dreamers and schemers,
And come all you restless
Just searching for home;
Movers and shakers
And givers and takers,
The happy, the sad
And the lost and alone.

Come self-sufficient
With wearied ambition,
And come those who feel
At the end of the road.
Fiery debaters
And religion haters,
Accusers, abusers,
The hurt and ignored.

Stuart Townend, Mark Edwards and Phil Baggaley are among today's leading worship songwriters.

<https://www.stuarttownend.co.uk/song/vagabonds/>

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