



# ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 4th October 2020

Volume 26 Issue 36

Dear Friends,

This week a number of leaders got together to discuss the future of worship and fellowship under lockdown and into the *new norm*. Daniel Andrews has been speaking about a *new normal* Christmas; who knows what that will look like. Anyway, I hope to share the future possibilities of fellowship and worship with you next week. The sun is shining, mostly, so maybe we will see each other in the well-tended green spaces around the church building soon.

This week you are all being invited to have a say in who makes up the Interim Ministry Transition Team. Please put forward four names of people you consider to be spiritually mature to work closely with me over the coming year. Some will wonder why the Church Council is not given this role. I think it's important to emphasise that the Church Council is a leadership group that has the task of ongoing good governance and that task is separate from the tasks of the Transition Team. I'm looking forward to hearing your views.

Oh and apologies to all those who have been trying to call me, I advertised the wrong number. The one below is now correct.

Yours in Christ, Kerry

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## News from Samaritans Purse operation Christmas Child

This year has been a challenge for all of us, but we want to tell you about an exciting opportunity to help you continue packing shoebox gifts and sharing God's love with children around the world. The Operation Christmas Child team has created a convenient and personal way for you to give shoebox gifts without leaving home – with Pack a Shoebox Online!



Welcome to Pack A Shoebox Online! You can still help share God's love with children around the world even if you can't shop for and pack an Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift. With a few clicks of your mouse or swipes on your touchscreen, you can pack a shoebox online. Make it your own by adding a personal letter.

**We'll pack your shoebox and send it for you, for just \$30.\***

\*The donation of \$30 includes the cost of shoebox packing, processing, shipping and distribution.

For more information or simply to make a donation contact [isamaritanspurse.org.au](http://isamaritanspurse.org.au)



Traralgon District Uniting Church  
Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home  
ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 4th October 2020

**Songs:**

[Shine Jesus Shine](#) (DarleneBAZ)

[Come Now is the Time to Worship](#) (Maranatha Music)

**Call to Worship:**

LORD, God,  
Creating, Delivering, Nourishing One,  
give us your rules, your regulations, your guiding,  
so that we may follow the way of Christ.

God of Life, speak to us.  
As You spoke Ten Precious Words  
to guide Your people on the way.

God of Grace, fill us through inspiration.  
As You filled Paul with Passion  
for neighbourly love.

LORD, God,  
Creating, Delivering, Nourishing One,  
give us your grace, your freedom, your covenant,  
so that we may follow the way of Christ.

As we gather to worship, we acknowledge the First  
Peoples of the lands and waters of this place, the  
GunaiKurnai Peoples. We offer respect to all Elders,  
past, present and emerging.

**Hymn:** [All Creatures of Our God and King](#) (TiS 100, Grace Community Church)



**Did You Know;**

Simon W Trebilcock

Not so long ago Simon graduated with a Masters Degree in (*Sustainable*) Urban Horticulture. Simon has been applying his skills, along with a number of our well experienced Property Committee and other gardeners for the overall benefit of the design and rejuvenation of our church gardens (of which there is a lot – of garden & of work !); for which we give thanks.

Something of which you may not be aware is that as well as graduating from this two-year course Simon also won the (First) Marginson Prize supporting students with the highest marks in the final year of the Master of Urban Horticulture, with particular reference to subjects relating to the management of urban parks.

So; Congratulations Simon, we are blessed.

(If you would like to know more of the origin of this prize just google Raymond David Marginson who was both Vice Principal of the University of Melbourne (22 years) and, among a number of community voluntary appointments, was Chairman of the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works / Melbourne Water for some 10 years.)

**Prayers of Adoration & Confession:** (Based on Psalm 19)

Your glory, O God is declared in the holy silence of the heavens,  
and told in the silent succession of day and night.

*No speech, or word or voice is heard;  
yet they speak to all the world,  
and their words reach to the ends of the earth.*

The sun joyfully leaps across the sky, from one end of the heavens to the farthest reaches,  
and nothing is hidden from its heat or light.

*So nothing that we do or say or whisper in our hearts is hidden from you, Lord God.*

Release us from wickedness we hide deep within our lives.

*Let our lives be radiant with holy fear;  
delighting in your teaching,  
receiving insight from your commandments and wisdom from your encouraging.*

Enliven our desire for your everlasting judgements over wealth or fame:

*to enjoy the sweet drippings of the honeycomb, that are to be found  
in right relationship with those around us, and with you. Amen.*

**Declaration of Forgiveness:**

God is gracious and just, forgiving beyond our wildest imaginings.

Christ's word of grace is for all:

**'We are forgiven and free.'**

Thanks be to God.

**Doxology:** [Amazing Grace](#) (Gurrumul & Paul Kelly)

God's grace had brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.  
(John Newton 1725-1807)

**Scripture Reading:**

**Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Matthew 21:33-46;

Philippians 3:4b-14

In this we hear the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** [Praise and Thanksgiving](#) (TiS 627, Malmesbury URC)

**Sermon:** [Fruitful Freedom](#)

**Offering Hymn:** [We plough the Fields, and Scatter](#) (TiS 130 Chet Valley Churches)



The disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

- Acts 13:52

**Prayers of the People:** Gordon Arthur

This week we bring our concerns for our most pressing issues.

Loving Father we consider those most nearest and dearest, our families, friends and people we know who are suffering as a result of the crisis we find ourselves in with COVID-19. Give the afflicted strength to endure their suffering and enable the staff to administer their needs with diligence and compassion.

*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

Help those recovering, particularly if chronic symptoms are persisting which can severely tax their emotional, mental and spiritual reserve. Be with their relatives, friends and professional carers to ensure a full and wholesome recovery.

*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

Encourage the wide range of scientific thought and expertise to develop an effective vaccine to be administered widely with genuine concern for the most needy. Touch the consciences of administrators and politicians to seek equitable distribution rather than short term profit.

*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

Be with our politicians and public servants as they seek to mitigate the economic calamity for so many people particularly those on casualized work or students visas made worse by the welfare cuts being enacted.

*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

The situation in America gives us and the world great concern. Some commentators are predicting a possible failed democracy with no guarantee of an orderly transfer of power if voting affirms a change is in order. We pray that America with its foundational Christian heritage will carefully consider their values of integrity, compassion and civil responsibility.

*Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.*

And lastly let us conclude singly or doubly but collectively with the Prayer our Lord taught us

*Our Father who art in heaven.....*

**Benediction & Word of mission:**

Go now in the uprightness of faith and live by God's just demands.

Let nothing claim your devotion above the Lord,  
and count nothing of value above knowing Christ.

Press on towards the ultimate prize, of being One with Him.

And may God's perfect Word revive your soul;

May Christ Jesus be your saviour and your rock;

And may the Holy Spirit strengthen you to press ever onward.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

**Hymn:** [Will you come and follow me](#) ( The Summons, John Bell)

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