

ST. STEPHENS CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastoral Care: Rev. Juliette Maua'i 0456 690 291

Church Announcements: Contact Heather Russell 9397 6405

Property Hire: Elaine Peck 9391 1109

Diary: Deadline for **OCTOBER** Diary is Sunday 26th September 2021

Next Church Council meeting: Thursday 16th September noon

If lockdown continues Church Council will try to meet on zoom

Your weekly offering to the Church

can be made on-line to BSB 633-000 A/C NO. 125234211

Add your name or envelope no. as reference

OR MAILED TO Tom Russell, 14 Anile Place Williamstown 3016

Emergency Relief: If you, your neighbour, friend or family member is in need of assistance during these difficult times please get in touch with your St. Stephens Contact Person who will be able to direct you to avenues of assistance.

Anglicare/Williamstown Emergency Relief is operating at Electra Street UCA, 34 Electra Street Williamstown

The Lunch Program is operating again at **Holy Trinity** Nelson Place every Friday: Tea & Coffee from 10am Lunch from 12 noon.



Wednesday Walkers

Wednesday walkers have been shut down along with so many of our activities. It is hoped that you have been able to get out and about for exercise and renewal with one friend or family member, or a dog for company.

We are so fortunate in the Hobsons Bay area to have so many waterfront paths, parks etc. to explore and enjoy.

Hopefully we will soon be out of lockdown and be able to meet together again to walk and chat.

New walkers always welcome (bring your mask)

Wednesday, 9.30am: meet at Pizza Shop or top of Bunbury Street.

Jodie Williams



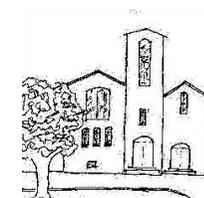
STEPHEN'S DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2021

NO.177

MINISTER: Rev. Juliette Maua'i

PHONE: 0456 690 291 email: asojl@bigpond.com



*179 Melbourne Road
Williamstown*

Phone 0468 365 434

Preaching Plan for SEPTEMBER

During continued lockdown worship material will be forwarded to all members by email or hand-delivered.

Zoom gatherings will be organised for 9.30am each Sunday

Worship Leaders

5th Rev. Juliette Maua'i Welfare to Williamstown Emergency Relief
12th Rev. Juliette Maua'i Welfare to Williamstown Emergency Relief
19th Rev. Juliette Maua'i- Holy Communion
26th Leaders Service Welfare to Asylum Seekers Resource Centre

Our Vision: St. Stephens Uniting Church is a growing, active Christian influence in our community and welcoming to all people.

Our Mission: Led by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to empower people to love one another, and be a visible Christian presence within the community

COMING EVENTS

Plant & Garage Sale to be announced.

Wednesday workshops will resume again when possible.

We will try for an **“Outback Barbecue” to support Frontier Services** when able to do so.

Sunday School Report

Jodie started the month of August as leader along with Mylene and Destry and the Story of Jesus feeding the five thousand inspired a time for making food – namely rockies which were then available for our morning tea. Good job team and thanks to the junior cooks for their efforts. For those of you who asked here is the recipe:

Rockies: 2 cups SR flour, 2/3 cup sugar, 1 ½ cups sultanas, 125 gm margarine, 2 eggs, vanilla & milk to mix. Mixed spice.

Rub margarine into flour, add all other ingredients and stir well.

Put dessertspoonsful on greased tray or lined with baking paper. Bake 180° 20 mins.

What a joy it was to see the Whitcher and Gill families along with so many other familiar faces on our Zoom gathering last Sunday morning. A joy to have Dylan and Damon taking part in our dramatized bible readings. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

We are so blest that our Sunday School Leaders have encouraged our young families to learn to play ukuleles and to learn songs to sing and also to write their own words.

In response to my challenge from last week’s Intergenerational Worship Destry & Dylan Whitcher have come up with this great song (sung to ‘Happy Birthday to you’.

‘Our theme is about Forgiveness’ write Dylan & Destry

1. When you made others sad
You will feel very bad
So you pray and admit it
Ask forgiveness, fix it!
2. When someone made you sad
You'll cry and be mad
But you still need to forgive
Ask the Lord to share love
3. When you don't do the best

In despair you will rest
Just come back to the Lord
He will make you restored!

CAR PARK WORKING BEE

A hasty working bee was advertised after drainage workers had completed the job on our sewer. The rear carpark at St. Stephens was left out of sorts and covered with soil, clay and gravel that was in danger of turning into a quagmire once the rain came.

A lively turnout of 8 workers arrived with wheel barrows, shovels, rakes and enthusiasm to level off the area, remove rocks and restore some order. Unfortunately the clay on the surface still had a way of sticking to our shoes and caused a bit of consternation on Sunday morning when it was walked in on the carpet.

We will need to have a load of screenings delivered, to cover the



B Grade crushed rock, so another working will happen when we are free to do so. Thanks to all the happy workers. It was a good mornings work.

Ted Peck

Happy workers. Job done & refreshed by morning tea.

HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



to all celebrating this month including:
Denise Kerss, Heather Russell, Peter Tee,
Enid Jowett, Ian Rae, Ron Bowman, John
Robbins, Paul Young, Aaron Bratby,

Tate Bratby-Williams, Raf Peck,
Jennifer Robbins, Mark Young,
Beth Robbins

St Stephens Ukulele Group



The Ukulele Group are thrilled that an application made to the Presbytery Simpson Fund for a Grant of \$2450 was successful. The Presbytery

Standing Committee acknowledged the Ukulele Program as a significant missional initiative of St. Stephens congregation and agreed to our request for funds to cover the cost of a One Music Copyright & Performance Licence (one year subscription), a Laptop Computer and a Digital Projector.

The Laptop and Projector will greatly assist our Ukulele program, and also opportunities for "Community Singing" events in the future. Worship services and other activities of the church will also benefit by the availability of up to date technical equipment.

Our Ukulele gatherings are zoomed each week to members who are unable to attend.

Unfortunately another lockdown has put us all back onto zoom but it is good to meet and practice our songs even though distanced.

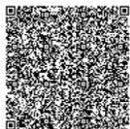
Anyone wishing to join us can contact Elaine to be added to the zoom email list. 10.30-11.30 for those able to attend.

QUINCE JELLY FOR SALE

We still have some jars of Heather Love's beautiful preserves available for sale to raise money for World Vision Sponsorship.

Local deliveries can be made. Ring Elaine 9391 1109 to order.
1 Lemon Butter left, 2 Quince Jelly, 1 Marmalade. \$3 per jar.

USE OF ELECTRONIC CHECK-IN



A reminder that we are all required to check-in when at St. Stephens attending worship and other activities-using the St. Stephens QR Code. You will find the posters on display on doors around the building. If you are unable to

use a mobile phone to complete check-in please ask someone else to check-in on your behalf.

Lockdown Activites

Iris writes: "Found this while searching for "lost photos". I don't know where I found it but it was in a collection of "bits" from the 1980's which I collected in a little book."

"The music of our lives"

In our whole life melody the music is broken off here and there by rests, and we foolishly think we have come to the end of time. God sends a time of forced leisure, a time of sickness and disappointed plans, and makes a sudden pause in the hymns of our lives, and we lament that our voice must be silent and our part missing in the music which ever goes up to the ear of our creator.

Not without design does God write the music of our lives. Be it ours to learn the time and not be dismayed at the rests. If we look up, God will beat the time for us.

John Ruskin

Bereavements

Members of St. Stephens Congregation were saddened to hear of the recent deaths of two Uniting Church Identities:

Val Aumann, wife of Rev. Peter who was our Minister during the late 80's early 90's. Val, mother of two, and deaconess in her own right, was a vibrant source of support for Peter in his ministry with us and excelled as a fiercely competitive and able tennis player. She loved singing and performance and contributed many other skills to the wider church community for many years.

Lorenzo (Laurie) Frederick Leigh A great character, skilled drummer, and a greatly loved member at Electra Street. Two months short of his 100th Birthday, Laurie led a very active and resourceful life, well known as the best barber in Williamstown for many years. He and his late wife Heather very generously used their musical skills to entertain a wide range of people.



Covid-safe cleaning will still be necessary when we return to worship and other activities in our church buildings. Janet is co-ordinating volunteers on Sunday. Please help out if you can.

What about the future?

Church Council is eager to receive your contributions.

St. Stephens Church Council has had discussions regarding the future of our congregation, and the Uniting Church in general, on its agenda in recent months, and at our recent Congregational AGM the congregation were alerted to the fact that members would very soon be included in these discussions.

Rev. Juliette, after completing 3 years in supply ministry with us is also seeking feedback and suggestions pertinent to her ministry with us.

As not everyone is comfortable with face to face discussion, Church Council would like to offer members an opportunity to contribute to the conversation re the future of the congregation and future ministry by email to elainepeck412@gmail.com or on the following slip:

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 **NAME**.....

Things I appreciate about St. Stephens:.....

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Ideas for growth:.....

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Reflections on Juliette's ministry with us:

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Changes I would like to see:

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Ideas for Balancing the Budget:

Uniting Winter Share Appeal

You can help transform lives this winter.

After the shocks and struggles of 2020, we are seeing many more people coming to us for support.

The recent reduction in the JobSeeker payment, combined with the end of JobKeeper, will see more people slipping further into crisis.

Facing job insecurity, financial vulnerability and poor mental health, more and more people are feeling 'left out in the cold' and unsure of the future.

We invite you to make a difference by donating to our Winter Share Appeal.

Envelopes are available in the Church foyer.

or donate online: <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/donate/>

Down Memory Lane – A prayer relevant to “Lockdown times”

written by the late Jean Webb (Iris' mother)
- Jean was a very prolific poet and songwriter.

My Prayers ✓

20.

God grant me the courage to cope with daily living
And strength to do my chores
Tough ears to deal with the noise of happy children
A wholesome mind to appreciate
That other people are allowed their point of view
That I may speak only good of other people
and may see the beauty in all living things
And appreciate all things that sustain me
through each day.