



St Leonard's Uniting Church April 2023

2 Wolseley Grove
Brighton Beach 3186
Tel: 9592 9333
contactstleonards@gmail.com
www.stleonards.org.au
Minister: Rev Kim Cain

Ministerial Meandering

A long low ridge sloped down to a gully; a wallaby lifted its head towards me above the yellow grasses of summer. I lifted my rifle to shoot. Paused. Then lifted it higher and fired into the blue sky deliberately missing the animal who hopped benignly away to some gum trees for protection. It was the last time I ever fired a gun.

These memories of my teenage decision to reject wanton killing for some kind of bloody pleasure have stayed with me.

I understand the need for military and police defence. I do not understand the need for violence for pleasure. The use of power through weapons of aggression is a displacement of our human capacity for peace.

Whatever we make of the Easter story, there is an element of weaponised force used against Jesus – as it was against any kind of rebel or agitator at that time.

So, our faith is borne in the struggle for power, instituted violently. But this reality will probably not even cross our minds as we go through the Easter story.

To remember the whole of the story is to see an alternative power on show at Calvary. The use of violence in the hands of political, social or religious powers could not in the end shut Jesus' way out.

So, we rejoice in new life, a promise of a renewed hope in the ways of Christ. The cross is emptied of its bitterness. We may see pictures of butterflies, we will unwrap colourful eggs and bunnies; munch on cross decorated buns. All Good.

In our quieter moments, however, this Easter maybe we could also give thought to the consequences of our peace being found in opposition to weaponised violence in the world.

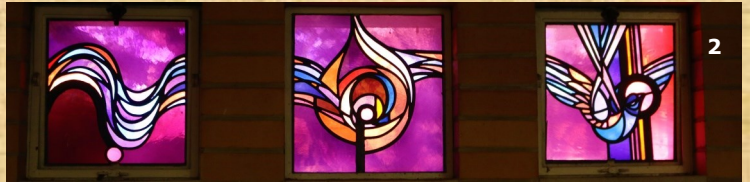
Talk of war, nuclear submarines and gun violence surrounds us – normalising weaponry. How then are we to see the image of the cross, reminding the world of the consequences of the misuse of power and the alternative ways of God?

One answer is to add another 'normal': normalise the worship of God, that our hearts, souls and minds become lifted to reflect the dignity of humanity – and of all creation, even the odd wallaby peaceably munching away in the yellow grasses of our ancient land.

Easter peace to you,

Kim





**UPDATED
TIMES**

We continue our CO-CREATORS series

E A S T E R *Leaning Into Life*

HOLY WEEK

Daily - Monday to Thursday:
10am 'Daily Office' Reflections via Facebook

PALM SUNDAY - 2 April 10am
NEW WAVE 5.00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY 6 April 7.30pm
Service of Light - in the round
including Communion.

GOOD FRIDAY - 7 April
9.30am

EASTER DAY - 9 APRIL

6.30am EASTER DAY DAWN SERVICE
Brighton Beach opposite South Road
With baked fish

10am EASTER DAY
FAMILY CELEBRATION
In the Church



St Leonard's MESSAGE



A Christian Response to Climate Change

Recently, three members of our (St Leonard's UC) congregation attended a three-part series hosted by Ormond Uniting Church on the topic of "A Christian Response to Climate Change". It was a wonderful chance to dig a bit deeper into the topic looking not only at the science, but also how theological thinking has shaped the Christian response to the earth, plants and animals over history.

The first week we had a facilitator trained through Glen Eira council to host climate conversations. The presentation included a video about the changes happening to earth because of climate change and some of its causes.

Week two was of particular interest, because that is where we discovered that theology influences our approach as Christians to how we view creation and our place in it. (This is something we would love to expand upon and be able to share with you all further).

The third week there included discussion and brainstorming as people shared ideas about how we as individuals, churches and communities can respond to the crisis. We were also challenged to listen to the voices of those not always represented in climate change discussions but often most disadvantaged by the results of it.

Here are some of the ideas suggested for individual action. Perhaps you will find some ideas that appeal to you:

- Eat less meat
- Switch to renewable energy
- Talk to your local MP
- Reduce flight travel
- Compost, Worm farm, or use council food waste collections correctly
- Use public transport more
- Fix things
- Don't buy new clothes for a whole year (op shops allowed)
- Consume less
- Conscious and patient replacement of items
- Solar panels
- Switching from gas to electric when replacing appliances
- Plant more trees
- Cut down on plastic
- Use re-usables, instead of single use items



The LEAF group this year would like to hold more conversations with the St Leonard's congregation to be able to explore topics like this, and other relevant environment related themes in a way that gives more people a chance to participate. We have decided to host some occasional conversations before church. The idea is to invite you to come at 8.45am for a light breakfast (eg tea and toast), then join in a presentation or conversation and be finished in time to get ready for church or other activities. **So stay tuned! We'll be letting you know as we finalise topics and guests. We're planning the first of these for June 4th.**

Lorraine Baker

St Leonard's MESSAGE



February 2023 Church Council report

Hi all, your Church Council has been very active and has had some long meetings over the past few months. There is much to discuss, and work through and resolve, both at the meetings and much additional follow up and work is required between meetings, to address the key issues involved in running the St Leonard's community of which we are all part. The following notes provide a summary of some of the activities that are currently underway.

- **Tennis Courts** - By the time you read this the tennis courts will have finally been completed. They have been in use since January, but some minor items have had to be finished off to complete the work. The courts look great, and the tennis club and coaches are very happy with the outcome, even though it has taken so long to finalise due to weather, holidays, health and equipment issues.
- **New Playgroup Coordinator** - As you should all be aware by now; we have a new Playgroup Coordinator. Andrea started earlier this year and from all accounts the Playgroup is thriving!!! We have established a volunteer roster to support Andrea, so please see Wendy if you are interested in being part of the fun.
- **Facility Usage has grown** - The use of our church facilities has grown in recent times with several new groups using the hall on a regular basis and other regular events as well. See the notice board in the corridor near the hall for further details. The diagram below shows how much activity we currently have in the main hall. This year we have welcomed GymbaROO, NIA and Bayside Bridge Club as well as other occasional users. Other groups are using the Meeting Room and the Church space is regularly used for concerts. Another one is coming up in April. Not only is it good to see our facilities being used throughout the week, it is also very pleasing for our income stream.
- **Ministry and Mission Strategy** - Our Ministry and Mission Strategy developed by Council over the past 18 months has been through a final review to make sure it remains current. It is now being prepared for printing and release in mid-April. Please look out for this important document that is intended to guide our current and future mission activities.
- **Annual General Meeting on 7 May 2023** - The AGM is to be held on Sunday 7 May 2023, straight after church. Please make yourself available for this important meeting. Nominations are open so please consider if you or someone you know would be able to join Council and assist in this important role.

Peter Hunkin

Church Council Chair

MAIN HALL						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUE SDAY	WEDNE SDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:00 am						
9:00 am			FIRST & THIRD WEEKS			
10:00 am	Church and Sunday School activities 10:00am to 12:00pm		Brighton Antique Club 8:00am-1:30pm			Ready Steady Go Kids 8.45am to 12:15pm
11:00 am		Pre-School Playgroup 10.00am to 12:00pm	PLUS KITCHEN	GymbaROO 8:30am to 3:30pm	GymbaROO 8:30am to 3:30pm	
12:00 pm						
1:00 pm						
2:00 pm						
3:00 pm						NIA 2:30pm to 4:30pm
4:00 pm						
5:00 pm	Reserved for possible church use					
6:00 pm			SwordFighters Fencing classes 5:00-8:00pm	Skipz 5:00pm to 7:00pm		
7:00 pm				Potential expansion		
8:00 pm		Bayside Bridge Club 7:30pm to 9:30pm (if mtg room busy)				
9:00 pm						

St Leonard's MESSAGE



Update on St Leonard's Development Project

Several people have been asking about the status of the development project and we apologise for the lack of information over the past 18 months or so. There has been a lot going on over this period, but nothing of substance to report, but we are now ready to provide an update for you on all these matters.

We are proposing to hold an Information Session after church on 16 April 2023 to provide further details. In the meantime, here is a short summary.

- The Project Control Group (PCG), consisting of representatives from St Leonard's Church (Judy, Rick, Kim and Peter), Presbytery and Property Services of Synod, has continued to meet regularly and develop details of the building project.
- We have worked through various building compliance matters related to fire, engineering and building surveyor requirements.
- We have also investigated roof restoration needs, electrical and drainage upgrade requirements; and worked carefully within the various UCA processes.
- The planned scope of works and the available budget has been a key focus and an updated draft cost plan has recently been produced by the Quantity Surveyor incorporating the updated building compliance requirements, to better understand the current costs of individual components to assess project components against budget.
- This has allowed the PCG to review the project elements and make sure we can deliver the planned scope within our available budget.
- A summary of the updated costs including areas for further refinement was presented to Church Council in February 2023.

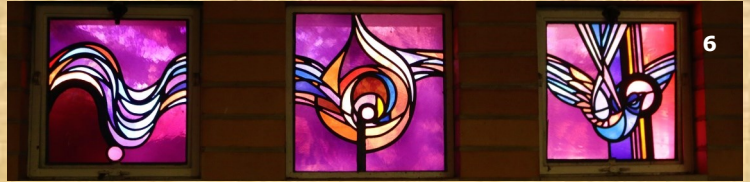
We will provide more information after church on Sunday 16 April 2023, so we hope you can be there for the Information Session and the Q&A. Look out for further details in coming weeks.

St Leonard's Strategic Development Committee

*Peter Hunkin – Chair
Rev Kim Cain
Judy Schofield
Rick Lang*



St Leonard's MESSAGE

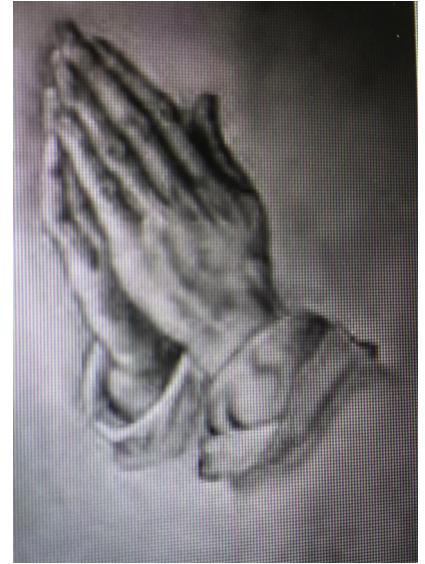


Caritas

We began 2023 with coffee and chat at Sebastian's courtyard in Hampton. Our first home gathering was another opportunity to share ideas about prayer, guided by Biblical references.

The remaining meetings for Term 1 were Lenten studies from Luke's Gospel, and Term 2 will commence on Thursday morning 27th April, with details in St Leonard's weekly notice sheet.

Lyn Greenall



Australia Day Awards



The following article appeared in the UCA National Assembly Newsletter:

<https://uniting.church/australia-day-honours-2023>

David Greenall OAM

Accomplished professional accountant **David Greenall OAM** received his honour for service to the community through a range of organisations. David has offered gifts and skills in finance and auditing to serve both the Uniting Church and broader community.

David was a member of the Uniting Church Assembly's Finance, Audit and Risk Committee for 25 years. He also served on the Audit Committee in the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania from 1997-2007 and

was its Chair from 2012-2014. From 1994-2016 David was a Financial Advisor to the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga.

He is a Fellow of CPA Australia and was a Foundation Member of the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board in 1980s. He is currently a member of the Selection Committee for the Australian Accounting Hall of Fame.

"I am most grateful to my friends for nominating me for this award," said David this week. "I hope it will encourage UCA members to become involved in the community. One of my daughters, who is also involved in the community made a good point when she said it provided a great encouragement to our grandchildren."

Beyond the Uniting Church, David was a Member of the Audit and Risk Committee for Red Cross Australia for 15 years, from 1999-2014. He is a Former Member of Camberwell and Horsham Rotary Clubs and is a former Director and President of the Rotary Club of Beaumaris.

David joins John King, Janeanne Lee and Jenny Raper who also have the medal.

We congratulate David on receiving this honour in recognition of his significant contribution to the community.

St Leonard's MESSAGE



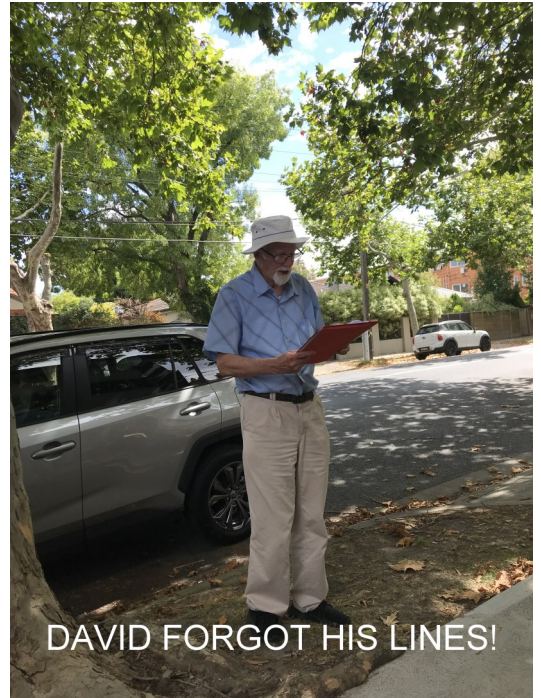
Walkers March 2023

We enjoyed our lovely poet's walk on Sunday 5th March. Although the weather was hot, all the walks were along tree-lined streets of Elwood.

We stopped on the way and listened as our walkers recited Keats' *Ode to Autumn* (very appropriate for the time of year): Shelly's *To a Skylark*: Byron's *She walks in Beauty*: Milton's *Paradise Lost* (a few lines - one of our members still has her schoolbook with the whole 10,000 lines!) Plus excerpts from Browning's *Pied Piper of Hamelin* and Tennyson's *The Lady of Shalott*.

These (mostly) Romantic poets were introduced to us by former English teacher Ennis, who also gave some commentaries on the storylines on which some of the poems were based.

The twelve of us then proceeded to Elwood's "King of Tonga" for afternoon tea complete with commentary on Tonga by Lyn who has been visiting there regularly for over 30 years and has had a book published on the Kingdom. During our afternoon tea, we enjoyed Tongan Hymns in the background!



DAVID FORGOT HIS LINES!



For your diaries:- the next walks will be Sunday afternoons 2nd April, 7th May, and all are welcome.

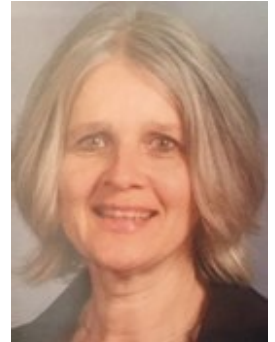
David Greenall, Co-ordinator

St Leonard's MESSAGE



Playgroup at St Leonard's

It is fabulous to see parents, grandparents and carers in our hall on a Tuesday morning with their little ones. At the beginning of the year Church Council advertised and appointed Andrea McLennan to the paid position of Leader of the Playgroup. Andrea brings to the position extensive experience with young children - she is currently employed by a local kindergarten as a co-educator in a 4-year-old group but fortunately has time on a Tuesday morning for our Playgroup. Her enthusiasm and commitment to making the playgroup a vibrant and exciting place, together with her warmth for young children and interest in their development, have been evident this term.



Each week a member of the congregation works alongside Andrea, interacting with both the children and their carers. We provide tea and coffee and have many resources for the children to play with. Andrea also supplements these with some of her own equipment, depending on her particular focus for the session. (We are looking for an additional art easel as painting is a current highlight – messy for under 2s but fun!)

A roster of helpers from the congregation has been created so there are always two people present. If you would like to know more about Playgroup, talk with one of this term's volunteers – Nancy Duncan, Margaret Griffiths, Viv Mountain, Brenda Kennedy, Lyn Greenall, Ennis Macleod, Amanda Fraser or myself. If you would like to be on the roster, please get in touch. It is a wonderful outreach into the community, providing care and support for those who are new to Bayside, parenting or minding their grandchildren.

Wendy Adams



St Leonard's MESSAGE



Messy Church News

Children and Adults come together on the 4th Sunday at 5pm in the hall to join Church time with a difference.

We gain safe skills together and make fun projects. Children and adults become adept at using glue guns, cordless drills, jigsaws and hand tools to make a variety of projects. In February we made model biplanes and painted them in different colours. We all join in.



After our projects are built we move to the church building for a Bible story and song and then back to the hall to share a meal together.

We have a team of volunteers who dream up the activities and make it all happen and we are thankful for their support.

Messy Church really is Church in action. If you haven't been before why not drop in to check it out!

All ages are welcome. Come yourself or invite others to this great program. You may even learn a new skill.



Messy Church is held in the hall on the 4th Sunday of each month. It is a fun time for both young and old, if you would like to be involved contact Frank Griffiths

0413 720 602

St Leonard's MESSAGE



OUTSTANDING EMPLOYMENT POSSIBILITY

Children's Ministry Lead: Community-family position

St. Leonard's Uniting Church, Brighton Beach is looking for a qualified and enthusiastic person for a lead ministry position with children and families in both the church and community settings.

The position is a unique opportunity to offer skilled leadership in children's focussed ministry.

The person will explore the needs and opportunities for ministry with children and their families in the church and local community, and to coordinate an engaging children's ministry response.

Applicants will have an active Christian faith, experience in children's ministry, ongoing faith formation and experience or capacity in developing connections in the community.

It is suitable for an ordained or lay person wishing to engage with an active and creative congregation in a team ministry setting.

The position is part-time between 0.6 and 0.8 FTE, negotiated with the successful applicant.

- Further information on this exciting position and full PD contact Rev Kim Cain kimcain101@gmail.com



Please bring this position to the attention of your friends and share on your networks. We would love to find the right person.

Palm Sunday Walk

Justice for Refugees

> Permanent Visas for ALL Refugees
> Fair Process, Work Rights and Income Support for all People Seeking Asylum
> End Offshore Processing

Sunday 2 April 2023, 1.30pm
State Library
cnr Swanston and La Trobe Streets, Melbourne

[#justice4refugees](https://twitter.com/justice4refugees) [#PermanentVisas](https://twitter.com/PermanentVisas)
Organised by the Refugee Advocacy Network.
Enquiries: info@refugeeadvocacynetwork.org.au

ensemble_liber

NICK MICELLI | KYE YIM LOH | HARAM KIM | JEANNIE KIM

Ensemble Liber

AUTUMN CONCERT

W. A. MOZART
 Divertimento F Major

A. GLAZUNOV
 5 Novelettes

MOVIE SOUND TRACKS
 James Bond, Avengers, and more...

5pm Sat 22nd April 2023
 St Leonard's Uniting Church
 (2 Wolseley Grove Brighton)

Ticket: Adult \$30 | Under 15 years \$20
 Tickets at the door, cash only

PROGRAM

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)
 Divertimento in F Major, K. 138, for strings
 I. Allegro
 II. Andante
 III. Presto

ALEXANDER GLAZUNOV (1865-1936)
 5 Novelettes, Op. 15 for string quartet
 I. Alla Spagnuola. Allegretto
 II. Orientale. Allegro con brio
 III. Interludium in modo antico. Andante
 IV. Valse. Allegretto
 V. All' Ungherese. Allegretto

Interval

MOVIE SOUND TRACKS
 Chop Chop Chopsticks!
 West Side Story 'Tonight'
 James Bond theme
 Up 'Married Life'
 Les Miserables
 La boum 'Reality'
 Avengers theme
 Wonder Woman theme

St Leonard's
MESSAGE



Brighton Covenant of Churches
Pilgrim Walk of Witness
Good Friday, 7 April 2023

We invite you to walk with our fellow Christians on Good Friday in prayer and visible unity among the congregations of the Brighton Covenant Churches.

Meet at **10.30am at St Andrew's Brighton**. We process stopping for readings and prayers. We conclude at St Andrew's Brighton for refreshments.



St. Leonard's
Uniting Church
2 Wolseley Grove
Brighton Beach
Victoria 3186
Tel: 9592 9333
Email:
contactstleonards@gmail.com



Our **webpage** is www.stleonards.org.au

Our **YouTube** channel is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9CcPZAoAYjj_VCsZEexlg

Our **Facebook** group is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/113607279517/>

Our public **Facebook** page is <https://www.facebook.com/St.LeonardsUCA/>

Our **Instagram** page is <https://www.instagram.com/stleonardsuca/> You will need to request to follow this page.

St. Leonard's Uniting Church Monthly Worship Cycle 2023 RESUMING FROM SUNDAY THE 16TH OF APRIL

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: WorshipOne 10.00am - organ/music + variety

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH :

Modern Liturgical, Holy Communion 10.00am - organ music
New Wave Evening, 5.00pm - band music

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH:

New Wave Classic 10.00 am - band music

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH:

Modern Liturgical 10.00am - featuring music, art, vision
Messy Church, 5.00pm- children's craft, food, song

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH:

Contemporary worship 10.00am - something different!

Items for the next edition of *The Message* should be submitted to
contactstleonards@gmail.com by **Sunday 14th May 2023**,
clearly marked "For the Message".