



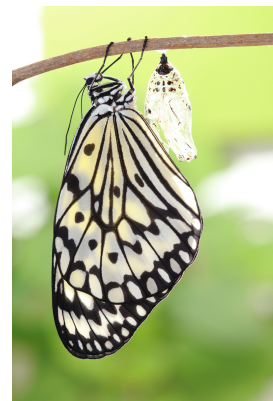
# BELMONT UNITING CHURCH

14th February Weekly Newsletter 2021

## 2021 - THE YEAR OF HOPE

### Change!

How do you get on with changes in your life: a new doctor, a new routine, new carer... and so on. A learned person once suggested that any changes involve a process of disorientation and reorientation - a movement from the old to the new, from one space to the next. It is often hard yet rewarding at the same time because change begins with you and me. Change starts with an openness to embrace the exciting possibility that a new experience will bring.



Today, on Transfiguration Sunday, we celebrate a remarkable and pivotal moment in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Jesus goes up onto the mountain and has a moment of encounter. Jesus uses these moments of encounter to inspire change in the attitude of his disciples. They wanted to protect and preserve while Jesus called for an engagement with where real changes takes place - in the midst of life. That is where the real 'encounter with the divine' takes place!

As you enter the activities of this new week, where are you hoping to encounter the divine? Where do you expect to witness transformation? To be Transfigured? Jesus reminded his disciples that real change, and true encounter with the transforming glory of the divine does not happen on isolated mountain tops, but among his people.

As we prepare for the Lenten journey ahead, may you witness God's transforming presence in your life and those around you this week.

Rev Ikani Vaitohi

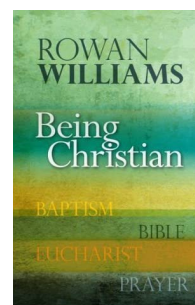
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This year's Lenten Study will be held at 5 pm on Sunday afternoons in the Church hall, in safely distanced seating, on the four Sundays Feb 28, March 7, March 14 and March 21. The study book is Rowan Williams' Being Christian and it is about strengthening the practices that underlie our lives as Christians. It has been borrowed for free from the Otira library so there are no costs for participants. We will look at one of its four chapters each week. They are on Baptism, Bible, Eucharist (communion), and Prayer.



### Lenten Bible Study

We propose that you bring a sandwich for yourself and that we stay on for this self-supplied light meal after the study session. Tea and coffee will be served in paper cups in a Covid-safe way.



*Please let Ikani or Cherry (phone: 5245 8225) know if you would like to take part in this Study.*



## Belmont Uniting Church February Roster 2021



Date	Time	Leader	Minister's Stewards	Readers	Porch Stewards	PowerPoint	PA Operator	Organist
Feb 21	10.00am	Rev. Ikani Vaitohi	G & J Schneider	E. Richards R. Pearson	B. Coomber J. Oman	Ben Vaitohi	B. Jennings	L. Rankin
Feb 28	10.00am	Rev. Ikani Vaitohi	S & B Jennings	K. Hass L. Leitch	P & N Woods	Ben Vaitohi	R. Bunting	L. Rankin

*If for any reason you are unable to attend your rostered duty, please endeavour to swap with anyone & contact the worship leader*



Tuesday 16th February - Zak (10 years)  
 Tuesday 16th February - Sue Rossiter  
 Wednesday 17th February - Noah (7 years)  
 Sunday 21st February Anna Wood (9 years)

### PLEASE NOTE

Council Meeting - Tuesday 2nd March @ 7:30  
 (Fellowship Room)  
 Annual General Meeting - Sunday 14th March  
 Annual Reports to Secretary required by 2nd March

### WALKERS

A small group of BUC members walk along the river every Tuesday at 8.30am. Are you looking for some exercise and fresh air? Join in!!

Gather at the Barwon Valley Fun Park, off Barrabool Rd, and join in the walk and discuss topics such as: Sunday's sermon, the sick list, recipes, remedies, family, Mr Morrison/Mr Albanese, Covid 19, refugees etc.

Walk options. 45 minutes along river, over McIntyre bridge and along the north bank and across Shannon Ave. bridge.

30 Minutes along river to Princess bridge and return.

A coffee van is usually at the car park.

*Please contact Raye Pearson for more information.*



## Prayer Points For the Week

Dear Father God, Thank You for Your unfailing love for us, Your blessings and goodness.

Thank You for Your faithfulness to guide us and see us through times of uncertainty, for lifting us up and setting us on high. Thank You for Scripture that comforts and reminds us of Your promises, plan and provision.

Thank you for taking away our fears and worries, the what-ifs, and reminding us that our help comes from You.

Help us be a good steward and to sow wisely.

In Christ's Name, Amen.



### From the Treasurer

Offering via Direct Debit—Our bank details are: Account Name: Belmont Uniting Church  
 BSB: 063-504, Account No: 00902634.

### Presbytery Pastoral Care Seminars

18 Feb - Thursday 6:30pm - 9:30pm  
 24 Feb - Wednesday 9:30am-12:30pm  
 4 Mar - Thursday 6:30pm - 9:30pm  
 11 Mar - Thursday 6:30pm - 9:30pm  
 19 Mar - Friday 9:30am-12:30pm  
 16 Apr - Friday 9:30am-12:30pm  
 22 Apr - Thursday 6:30pm - 9:30pm  
*Speak with Ikani for details*

## Lectionary Reading

February 14 - Transfiguration of Jesus

2 Kgs 2: 1 - 12

Psalm 50: 1 - 6

2 Cor 4: 3 - 6

Mk 9: 2 - 9

February 17 - Ash Wednesday

Jl 2: 1 - 2, 12 - 17 or Is 58: 1 - 12

Psalm 51: 1 - 17

2 Cor 5: 20b - 6: 10

Mt 6: 1 - 6, 16 - 21

February 21 - Lent 1

Gn 9: 8 - 17

Psalm 25: 1 - 10

1 Pt 3: 18 - 22

Mt 1: 9 - 15

The Australian Support Committee of Bushikori suggested that a donation towards the cost of Anne's funeral service and catering would be gratefully received at Bushikori.

The BUC church executive have decided to have a retiring offering after the 10 am. Morning Service on February 14th. to assist with this request.

### **Memorial Service: Anne Wandendeya**

To celebrate Anne's incredible life and to give thanks to God for the deep, abiding Christian faith that enabled her Ministry, all are personally invited to attend a Memorial Service of praise and thanksgiving which will be held on Saturday, **20th February, 2021 at 10.30 a.m. at St. John's Anglican Church, 269 Roslyn Road, Highton.**

This Service will also be available online using Zoom live stream [https://zoom.us/j/97782128016?](https://zoom.us/j/97782128016?pwd=d0hnMkh1VXMwZ2E0MENUYUZzNGdsZz09)  
[pwd=d0hnMkh1VXMwZ2E0MENUYUZzNGdsZz09](#)  
Meeting ID: 977 8212 8016, Passcode: bushikori



I write on behalf of Samson, Grace, Mary, and Mathew to thank you all for the support, the prayers and friendship to mummy Anne and the entire Bushikori family. Mum's faith was high a few days before her passing. She was grateful that the friends in Australia stood by her side- enabling her to continue the work of the ministry touching the lives in this part of the world.

We, members of her household experienced first-hand her selfless daily life. Mum was strong on the inside but clothed with a gentleness we were all privileged to learn from.

I visited Geelong with her in 2018 and it was, in a sense, a journey the Lord himself arranged. It was as if the Lord had permitted her to meet physically one last time with her friends here on earth. I thank the ASC for going to great lengths to arrange for many of these meetings

I am glad that we all share in the hope that one day we will meet together at home- heaven. We think there is a great re-union in heaven-Margery, Anne, Liane and Sam and the whole body of Christ.

The last time I spoke to mum, she wanted me to say to everyone from Australia how grateful she was that you all stood by her, you stood with Bushikori and all the children through all the challenges. Even though she knew she was weak in her body, she felt everything possible within the context of her ability- she said she had emptied herself and hoped that we could all look to God and not to fear but move on by faith.

We have all been living at mum's home for the last week and have experienced the warmth of the Allumni who often come by and would spend nights (we know mum would think of her home as a mission house welcoming everyone). We miss mum being here and the arguments, the laughter and prayer.

Thank you all for coming out to us with encouragement  
Blessings Dr Wanendeya David