WELCOME BELMONT UNITING CHURCH

26th September Weekly Newsletter 2021



'Season of Creation 2021-Church for a Changing Time

In the period just before Covid-19 hit at the beginning of 2020, if someone had suggested that we were about to enter a world of 'social distancing', 'lockdown', 'self-isolation' and mass vaccination, we probably would have thought it was the plot of a new dystopian novel or TV drama. The majority of our worship services have been online, and we have been in lockdown far longer than we're able to gather for worship face to face. Life as we know it is but a figment of our distant memory.

As we have witnessed throughout this time of the pandemic, seismic changes have taken place, affecting every fabric of society, including our congregation. Changes that continue to unfold at a pace we never imagined or, at times, are ill-prepared to deal with. We see signs of those changes pushed through our tv screens and iPhones, and iPads every single minute of the day. We are witnessing violent and unruly demonstrations on our city streets. We can almost feel the palpable divisions and hatred in our community between vaccinated and those who are not. These are visible signs of much more significant and hidden issues.

Both our individual and communal lives are not immune from these fast-moving changes - my family included. In the Church Council report from its September meeting, you will find that my family will move back to the family home in Melton West by the end of November. It was not an easy decision but one we had to make to enable Moana to offer support for her dad's failing health. Although my family will miss living close to you, I anticipate that this decision will not adversely affect our ministry in any way. I will commute to work during the week and on Sundays, but if I get stuck in Geelong and needed an overnight bed, I hope you could put me up in one of your spare rooms. That way, I could show you the secret breakfast recipe that Moana fell for all those years ago.

This ever-changing context, my friends, is where we are called to be the sign and instruments of God's mission. This ever-changing, dynamic and fast-moving landscape is the context in which God has called his Church to anchor its life. Theologian Miroslav Volf rightly pointed out that the Church must wrestle with the key question around how it can authentically live out the changeless Gospel of Jesus Christ in such an ever-changing culture?' That is to say, that the changeless Gospel of Jesus Christ finds its most authentic expression amid all the uncertain and challenging undercurrent of society.

The example of being that Church is given in the passage from James' letter. (Jas 5: 13 - 20) Here we see people being encouraged to pray with those who suffer, sing with those who are cheerful, and anoint those who are sick. A call to live as Jesus lived –sharing and caring, treating and valuing everyone equally, and all the time trusting and having faith in God. These are the values of the kingdom, which are so important that life without them is no life at all – or not life as God intends it to be.

Is this possible for us today? James refers to the story of Elijah. Elijah prayed for something that seemed impossible – specifically for the rain to stop and then start again; you can read the full story in 1 Kings 17 – as it happened. It may seem impossible to us that, given the way the world and our community is now. The task is surely overwhelming. Elijah thought the same. But that didn't stop him or put him off.

We may, at times, feel overwhelmed, especially when we are confronted with the heartache of saying goodbye to so many of our loved ones recently. But, like James, encouraging words would remind us, let's not be put off easily. Instead, let's pray for the impossible. Let us pray that we will continue to be a community of Jesus followers where the sick are cared for, the bereaved are comforted, where the marginalised are protected, where the gift of healing is exercised, where the world will see and witness a foretaste of the fullness of God's Kingdom to come.

Latest on our Sunday Worship Services - more details on page 3

Sunday 26th September - 10.00 am Online worship

September 2021

Worship At Home

Acknowledgement of Country

Today, as we gather together, we acknowledge the Wauthaurong Peoples, the first inhabitants of this place from time beyond remembering. We acknowledge that through this land, God nurtured and sustained the First Peoples of this country, the Aboriginal and Islander peoples.

Prayer of Approach

God, we come to you in the name of Christ, seeking understanding, desiring wisdom, longing for a renewed sense of your presence with us, in every iota of our lives. Help us put aside all the things that cause us to stumble, that we may follow you with sincere and open hearts. Amen.

A prayer of thanksgiving

Lord, thank you for all you provide for us, and all you do for us. Thank you that you listen to us, and love us as your children. Thank you for the way you support and encourage us, and how you enable us to support others, too. We are so grateful for your love in our lives and for your Spirit equipping us every day. Thank you. Amen.

Notes on the Bible readings Numbers 11.4-6,10-16,24-29 James 5.13-20 Mark 9.38-50

In Mark's Gospel, the disciples report an unauthorised man for casting out demons, assuming they have an exclusive right to exercise Jesus' healing power. They hope that Jesus will stop the man acting in his name, and are surprised when Jesus encourages him. 'Whoever is not against us is for us' (cf. Matthew 12.30) suggests that no one can stay neutral after acting in Christ's name. It seems there is no limit to God's action in the world, and any act of compassion will be rewarded in God's kingdom, regardless of who carries it out. By contrast, evil acts will be punished. The millstone was a genuine punishment in Roman society. Jesus teaches that self-denial, even if painful, is preferable to losing eternal life. Salt is used both as a warning against this (v.49) and as a metaphor for eternal preservation.

In Numbers, the Israelites are moaning about their limited diet. Moses also moans, in desperation, to God about having to look after such a difficult bunch of people. When someone reports to Moses that two uncommissioned men are prophesying, he, like Jesus, does not condemn them, but gives his approval. We don't have a monopoly on the grace of God, and shouldn't stop others from doing his work.

James says that prayer should be the natural response to all situations: to praise, ask for healing, or forgiveness of sins, and that 'the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective'.

A personal prayer

Lord, open my eyes, that I may recognise the things in my life that distract me from living the life to which you call me. Give me the courage to identify and address these things, and to ask for help when I need it. Every day, draw me closer to you. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Live your faith

As you listen to or read the news, look for examples of God at work in unexpected places and give thanks that God is unlimited.

Questions for reflection

- ► How big is your God?
- ▶ How do we limit God?
- How open and daring are your prayers?



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September 2021



Date	Time	Leader	Leader's Steward	Readers	Greeters & Ushers	PowerPoint	PA Operator	<u>Organist</u>
<u>Sep 26</u>	10.00ar	n Rev. Ikani	L. Moss	G. Allen	J. Ferguson	B. Vaitohi	M. Richards	L. Rankin
					L. Jackson			
<u>Sep 26</u>	Communion		Flowers		Morning Tea			
	N/A		K. Haas		G. Coomber			
					E. Wood			
					M. Bullock			
Date	Time	Leader	Leader's Steward	Readers	Greeters & Ushers	PowerPoint	PA Operator	<u>Organist</u>
Oct 3	10.00ar	n Rev. Ikani	H. McCann	C. Rankin	R. Bunting	L. McCann	B. Jones	C. Collins
					R. Pearson			
Oct 3	Com	munion	Flowers		Morning Tea			
	R. & J.	Ferguson	B. Coomber		L. & C. Rankin			
	T. Yates				A. Merritt			
H. McCann								
Date	Time	Leader	Leader's Steward	Readers	Greeters & Ushers	PowerPoint	PA Operator	<u>Organist</u>
Oct 10	10.00an	n Rev. Ikani	A. Merritt	R. Pearson	R. & R. Buckwell	L. McCann	D. Zucarro	L. Rankin
Oct 10	Com	nmunion	Flowers		Morning Tea			
	1	N/A	B. Coomber		N. & P. Woods			
					B. Pink			
							_	_

Thank you to these willing people for keeping our Church services going. If you need to swap please endeavour to do so or if finding it difficult phone Julie 0418996592

Prayer Points For the Week

Dear Heavenly Father, help us to be ready to be moved by the power of Your Holy Spirit. May we be responsive to Your leading, trusting day by day when You give us an opportunity to share with others the good news of who You are and what You have done.

Dear Lord Jesus, we know our world changes but You are unchanging. When we face challenges that leave us discouraged or fearful may we turn to You for strength and assurance. Let our trust in You, like your love for us, be unchanging and everlasting.

Dear God, we love You and thank You for the abundance of Your goodness in our lives. We remember the many ways You have blessed us over the years and are grateful for Your words of life, strength and encouragement.

Peter Woods

Lectionary Readings

Oct 3 - Pentecost 19	Oct 10 - Pentecost 20	Oct 17 - Pentecost 21
Jb 1: 1: 2: 1 - 10	Jb 23: 1 - 9, 16 - 17	Jb 38: 1 - 7, (34 - 41)
Psalm 26	Psalm 22: 1 - 15	Psalm 104: 1 - 9, 24 - 35
Heb 1: 1 - 4, 2: 5 - 12	Heb 4: 12- 16	Heb 5: 1- 10
Mark 8: 27 - 38	Mark 10: 17 - 31	Mark 10: 35 - 45
	Jb 1: 1: 2: 1 - 10 Psalm 26 Heb 1: 1 - 4, 2: 5 - 12	Jb 1: 1: 2: 1 - 10

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There will be an online worship service for this Sunday September 26th. You are welcome to join together at the same time of 10.00 am and afterwards for a chat if you wish using this zoom link:

https://zoom.us/j/99984774012?pwd=Ky85NGtwbnZqblh2YzFGNDdDZEM1QT09 Meeting ID: 999 8477 4012 - Passcode: 1234

Online worship services will be available to be viewed via our website by 10.00am each Sunday. https://buc.unitingchurch.org.au



John Stephens - To Doreen and their sons Adam and Bruce and families we continue to pray for you all on the passing of John. We pray the peace of God surrounds you now and into the future. Especially we pray for you all on Tuesday September 28th at 2pm as you celebrate the life of John and as you say farewell to your loving husband, father and grandfather. Love to all.



CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council met on 21 September using Zoom. Among the matters considered were:

- An application by Rev Ikani Vaitohi to move from the manse to Melton. The purpose of the move is to allow the Vaitohi family to provide care for a family member. Ikani will commute to Geelong and be based in the church office. Church Council endorsed the application, and will review the arrangement in June 2022.
- Rev Ikani Vaitohi will take annual and long service leave from 15 November 2021 to 29 November 2021 and from 28 December 2021 to 28 January 2022.
- To receive funding from Synod to employ a pastoral worker (7.6 hours per week) to support the congregation for the period that Rev Ikani Vaitohi is the Synod's Mission & Ministry Chairperson.
- Engaging Serenity Bookkeeping Services to provide bookkeeping services to the congregation.
- · Approving COVID-safe Worship guidelines to assist with responding to changes in COVID restrictions.
- · Appointing a building surveyor to conduct an Essential Safety Measures Survey of the church building, former church and kindergarten building.
- \cdot $\,$ To thank the Missen family for a donation made in recognition of the support provided by the congregation to David Missen.

To all Knitters - A Thank You from the Manager of the Life Style Team and residents of P.B.L. (Percy Baxter Lodge (McKellar Centre)

Dear Knitters.

We extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to all of you for your wonderful donation of four handmade blankets to the residents of Percy Baxter lodges at Barwon Health McKellar Centre.

You've brought colour, warmth and cheer to their knees and their hearts through this challenging winter lockdown! Warm wishes and stay safe.

OCTOBER IS BUSHIKORI CHRISTIAN CENTRE & UNITING BARWON MONTH





Again, because of COVID restrictions throughout 2021 the Geelong Bushikori Committee has been unable to hold any fundraising activities. The Mission & Outreach and Sue and Bill Jennings (Friends of Bushikori Committee) have decided to hold another "Coffee Jar" Appeal.

Throughout October you may wish to place a donation in your collection jar when you enjoy your first tea or coffee for the day. You are invited to place your jar in a conspicuous position in your home e.g. kitchen bench. You may be surprised by the amount of money you collect in a month! We are so pleased that Members of St John's Anglican Church, Highton are joining with us for this fundraiser.





DRIVE THROUGH VIRTUAL COFFEE EVENT

Obviously we cannot serve food or drink from the Church kitchen because of restrictions BUT you are invited to come to the Belmont Uniting Church in your car on Saturday 6th November between 10 and 11am and drive through the Church driveway, be greeted with a friendly smile (social distancing) and leave your "Coffee" donation for Bushikori. If it is easier for you to write a cheque for your donation please make your cheque payable to "Bushikori Christian Centre" For those who are unable to come to the Church on that day you can make a direct deposit to Bushikori's Account BSB 603858 Acc. No. 10077253 and then please send an email to sponsorship@bushikori.org.au with details of your deposit. For those needing assistance with delivering your donation to Church please contact Bill & Sue Jennings 0429544436 or Rosslyn Buckwell 0407326023.

BUC members are also invited to bring non-perishable food items for Uniting Barwon. We have been unable to bring such items to Church services for quite some time due to restrictions. These will be collected by Rosslyn Buckwell.

THE LEITCH CHRONICLES

Bon Appetit

Eating is one of life's great pleasures. You can create a special event just by making a personal feast. Try an elaborate recipe for a souffle or another dish you've always wanted to make. Of course, the icing on the cake is the dessert. Make an extravagant tiramisu, or just go all out on a 12-topping ice-cream sundae. Maybe it's time to plan to try a new restaurant or invite your favourite friends over for an intimate dinner party(once out of restrictions).

Make every meal a celebration by taking time to smell, see, and taste your food. Think about where it came from, what it took to grow and what thoughts and activities it will fuel for you. Bon appetit! *Your list*

Make a list of things you celebrate about life. Include your favourite foods, places, people, activities, and sensations. Add the quirky things you've only done once as well as the ordinary things that make life worthwhile. You'll get some great ideas and inspire your community by asking friends to write their own lists, too. When you can get together, have everyone write each item of their list on a seperate piece of paper. Take turns pulling an item out of a hat and read it aloud to each other. Then put all the scraps back in the hat and pick one out again each day just to remind yourself.

P.S. I have planned a full menu with the food all red & blue, (Melbourne FC colours) or maybe you would like red, white & blue (Bulldogs FC colours) to eat prior to the AFL Grand Final.





Season of Creation

Reflection and Focus • September 26, 2021

Reflecting on the Word

Adapt and use for youth and adult studies, sermon seeds, lay worship teams.

Connecting with life

If possible go to http://vimeo.com/22439234 to see Terje Sorgjerd's time lapse movie of El Teide, Spain's highest mountain. Sorgjerd says: "The goal was to capture the beautiful Milky Way galaxy along with one of the most amazing mountains I know, El Teide...A large sandstorm hit the Sahara Desert on the 9th April and at approximately 3 am in the night the sandstorm hit me, making it nearly impossible to see the sky with my own eyes..."I was sure my whole scene was ruined. To my surprise, my camera had managed to capture the sandstorm which was backlit by Grand Canary Island making it look like golden clouds. The Milky Way was shining through the clouds, making the stars sparkle in an interesting way."

Describe a time when you were on a mountain or hill, what did you sense at that time/moment?

Scripture

Isaiah 65:17 and **24** describe the actions God will take to create new skies and land.

- What needs to be transformed/re-created in response to the climate crisis? How might this be accomplished? How would Planet Earth like to be rebuilt?
- Today, people are returning to their homes after being displaced by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, and floods. What stories of people working together to rebuild give you hope?

Materials laptop computer or tablet and access to the Internet

- What "former things" (if any) need to be forgotten for God's creation to thrive in the future? What new ways do we need to learn?
- In what ways do the verses in Isaiah point to a God who creates not only at the beginning of time but continually through history?
- As the grassroots church, what action might we ask our church leaders to take in response to the climate crisis? How might the church use its voice to leverage change? How can we hold politicians and leaders accountable?

Psalm 48:1–11 is a beautiful poetic description of God's presence, power, and love springing from Mount Zion.

Recall your experience of a mountain. To what extent and in what way is God's presence experienced on and in a mountain?

Connecting scripture and life

Woven throughout both the psalm and the reading from Isaiah, is a sense of strength. On God's holy mountain, God delights in transforming Creation into something that will continually bless humanity and others in the created order.

- What parts of the passage invite you to a sense of delight or a vision of possibility?
- How might you, individually and as a faith community be a part of God's new vision of possibility?

Focus for Worship, Learning, and Serving

The Season of Creation comes to a close with a vision of God's holy mountain: a place where we recognize God's ongoing relationship with Creation, and a call for Creation to live out the spirit of shalom. Living in the midst of the climate crisis and COVID-19 pandemic, we have an even greater desire to find hope for the future. To help create the vision that God puts forth, we must step forward, care for one another, and care for Planet Earth. How do Isaiah's words offer us a blueprint for what is possible? In what

ways are we called to be part of God's story, creating hope, renewal and rebirth in these times?

Most people have experienced the grandeur, mystery, challenge, invitation, awe of mountains. Even for those who have experienced painful or difficult things on mountains – or who find mountains oppressive – still the sense of them can be powerful.

In worship, learning and serving this week, the image of the mountain helps us recall key elements of faith: mystery, strength, and a larger perspective.

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Transform the Broken

Isaiah shared God's wonderful dream for the world and God's hope that we will love one another and take care of the things God has given us. This picture shows how broken things can look when something terrible happens or when things are not cared for. Decorate the picture so it shows what it would like if things were fixed, cared for, and growing again.



Dream and Create

If possible, go outside and look at the clouds. See what shapes and images you can make out of the clouds.

God's dream is for a loving world, a world filled with peace and harmony. Daydream about how you can see that coming about.

As a family, design your dream house. Go wild; put in it everything you imagine would make your home peaceful and harmonious. Make sure each family member contributes.

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Barwon Valley School-Bongo Music Project



Friends you will recall that before the Covid 19 pandemic hit, our congregation supported the local Barwon Valley School by purchasing 12 bongos to kick start the bongo class project. I have recently caught up with the chaplain, Alyssa Mercer, Scripture Union Victoria chaplain who shared with us an update of the project copied hereunder:

- Chaplaincy program at BVS has been government funded until the end of 2022
- The drums generously gifted to BVS by Belmont Uniting Church have been utilized in a Rhythm 2 Recovery program, a fun drumming club during lunchtime, and music classes.

Areas where you can be praying for this ministry include:

- Students, parents and staff during current lockdown restrictions. Please pray for wisdom, patience, understanding, peace, and hope. Also, pray for the ability for our students to return to school safely in the near future.
- The drumming group (once it recommences post lockdown). Please pray that the momentum that was built prior to lockdown will remain and the relationships within that group continue to strengthen. Also, pray for an openness to share and trust amongst the students as we start to press into the therapeutic side of the program.
- Community engagement opportunities. Please pray for creativity and wisdom on how to navigate and engage with the local churches and community organisations during this tricky season.

Mental Health Mattery

REV. FI BOTCHER (DEACON AT SUNSHINE MENTAL HEALTH)

In the Sunshine Adult Acute Psychiatric Unit, each morning begins with a community meeting in which an "ice breaker" question is asked. Last Tuesday, the question was: "Can you share a positive experience of being alone?"

One after another people responded: "Walking along the beach" said one, "Sitting in the sun with my eyes closed", said another as people nodded enthusiastically in response. "Sitting under a tree in my mum's garden, listening to the birds", "Walking in the bush", "Surfing", "Watching my dog run in the park".

As I listened, my mind went back to a beach track I'd walked along earlier in the year. I had stopped to watch some tiny wrens chirping and darting amongst the bushes. Then, as I turned around slowly to take in the loveliness of that place, I realised - with a giddy squeal - that I was almost face to face with a koala (pictured)! "Ah, praise be to God!" I whispered.

The poet Mary Oliver wrote: "I could not be a poet without the natural world. Someone else could. But not me. For me the door to the woods is the door to the temple."

God's heavenly, sacred Kingdom on Earth. Amen.



Article appeared in the Port Phillip West Newsletter - The Westerly 16 Sep 2021

The Mansfield Earthquake - 22nd September 2021

In the words of Jerry Lee Lewis - "Whole Lotta Shakin" & Bill Haley & His Comets - "Shake, Rattle & Roll" On Wednesday at approx. 9:15am both of those songs came to mind most vividly. Can you remember what you were doing? washing-up, making the bed, hanging the clothes out or sitting reading the paper. I happened to be at Vision Radio recording my Friday Arts show and I was talking about the musical "Brigadoon" which has a storyline of a magical village that only appears every 100 years. When the desk and the microphone started shaking my thought was that the magical village was on the way!!!! The panel operator and I then realised it was an earthquake.

Ray Ferguson

The dramatic tremors which rocked homes and buildings in Melbourne, Geelong and further afield was likely caused by Australia's continent edging north and crunching into Asia Pacific nations.

<u>Curtin University's structural geologist, Professor Chris Elders</u>, said Australia is moving away from Antarctica at 7cm a year — rapid speed in geology terms — unsettling plates surrounding the nation and forcing the earth under our feet to move at regular intervals.

"The Indian Ocean is getting bigger and we're colliding with Indonesia, Timor and New Guinea to the north,"

"So all those boundaries produce stresses that get transmitted through the crust and then when they hit a weak fault, the fault moves and causes the earthquake."

What are Earthquakes?

The scientific study of earthquakes is comparatively new. Until the 18th century, few factual descriptions of earthquakes were recorded, and the natural cause of earthquakes was little understood. Those who did look for natural causes often reached conclusions that seem fanciful today; one popular theory was that earthquakes were caused by air rushing out of caverns deep in the Earth's interior.

The earliest earthquake for which we have descriptive information occurred in China in 1177 B.C. The Chinese earthquake catalog describes several dozen large earthquakes in China during the next few thousand years. Earthquakes in Europe are mentioned as early as 580 B.C., but the earliest for which we have some descriptive information occurred in the mid-16th century. The earliest known earthquakes in the Americas were in Mexico in the late 14th century and in Peru in 1471, but descriptions of the effects were not well documented. By the 17th century, descriptions of the effects of earthquakes were being published around the world - although these accounts were often exaggerated or distorted.

The Earth is formed of several layers that have very different physical and chemical properties. The outer layer, which averages about 70 kilometers in thickness, consists of about a dozen large, irregularly shaped plates that slide over, under and past each other on top of the partly molten inner layer. Most earthquakes occur at the boundaries where the plates meet. In fact, the locations of earthquakes and the kinds of ruptures they produce help scientists define the plate boundaries.

There are three types of plate boundaries: spreading zones, transform faults, and subduction zones.

<u>Spreading zones</u> - molten rock rises, pushing two plates apart and adding new material at their edges. Most spreading zones are found in oceans; for example, the North American and Eurasian plates are spreading apart along the mid-Atlantic ridge. Spreading zones usually have earthquakes at shallow depths (within 30 kilometers of the surface).

<u>Transform faults</u> - are found where plates slide past one another. An example of a transform-fault plate boundary is the San Andreas fault, along the coast of California and northwestern Mexico. Earthquakes at transform faults tend to occur at shallow depths and form fairly straight linear patterns.

<u>Subduction zones</u> - are found where one plate overrides, or subducts, another, pushing it downward into the mantle where it melts. An example of a subduction-zone plate boundary is found along the northwest coast of the United States, western Canada, and southern Alaska and the Aleutian Islands. Subduction zones are characterized by deep-ocean trenches, shallow to deep earthquakes, and mountain ranges containing active volcanoes.

Earthquakes can also occur within plates, although plate-boundary earthquakes are much more common. Less than 10 percent of all earthquakes occur within plate interiors. As plates continue to move and plate boundaries change over geologic time, weakened boundary regions become part of the interiors of the plates. These zones of weakness within the continents can cause earthquakes in response to stresses that originate at the edges of the plate or in the deeper crust.



These COVID restrictions and guidelines apply to Regional Victoria, excluding those regions currently under lockdown orders.

Any regional areas which are in lockdown must refer to the Metro Melbourne FAQs for current COVID-safe guidance.

The following COVID-safe restrictions apply in Regional Victoria (except in LGAs under lockdown):

- Stay at Home requirements have been lifted, but residents of Regional Victoria must not travel to metropolitan Melbourne or any regional area which is in lockdown other than for permitted reasons (eg permitted work, to visit an intimate partner, for care or compassionate reasons, to obtain goods/ services provided they are from the nearest facility to your home). Travel to Metro Melb or other lockdown regions for a COVID vaccination is not permitted (even if you have a pre-existing booking). Businesses in Regional Victoria must conduct an ID check to ensure patrons are not from metro Melbourne or other lockdown regions.
- Masks must be carried at all times and must be worn at all times indoors and outdoors by Victorians aged 12 years or over unless at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence, or if an exemption applies. Face masks are recommended for primary school aged children indoors or outdoors unless at home or if an exemption applies. Face masks may only be removed to eat and to drink non-alcoholic beverages.
- Visitors to the home are not permitted. Intimate partner visits or single person bubble permitted.
- Public outdoor gatherings are limited to 10 people only. This does not include back yards or other areas of a private residence.
- Religious gatherings and ceremonies are permitted with up to 20 persons per venue, plus those workers necessary to conduct the ceremony. COVID Check-in marshals must ensure all attendees check-in.
- Funerals (indoors or outdoors) maximum of 20 people (or 5 if held at a private home) plus those required to conduct the funeral, providing all

- persons in attendance are from Regional Victoria. Children under 12 months are not counted in the cap. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure all attendees check-in
- Weddings (indoors or outdoors) maximum of 10 people at a venue, including the couple and two witnesses. The celebrant and one photographer are additional to the cap. Children under 12 months are not counted in the cap. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure all attendees check-in. Dancefloors not permitted.
- Work: if you can work from home you should work from home. Offices may return with 25% or up to 10 people if the total workplace is 40 persons or less. Density quotient of 1 person per 4sqm applies. Permitted worker permits are now only required for people who live and/or work in Metropolitan Melbourne or other lockdown areas.

Schools

- Open for Prep to Grade 2, and for Year 12 only.
 Remote learning for all other levels.
- Open to children of metropolitan Melbourne authorised workers and vulnerable children
- Twice-weekly PCR testing for teachers moving between metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria.
- Density quotient of 1 person per 4 sqm applies in non-student areas.
- Face Mask requirements apply to everyone 12 years and over.
- Adult/Higher Education: Closed. Remote learning only unless permitted study.
- Childcare and Early Learning: Open for regional Victorian children; open for children of metropolitan Melbourne authorised workers, single parents and for vulnerable children. Twiceweekly PCR testing for teachers moving between metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria.
- Restaurants/Cafes: Open for seated service only with maximum of 20 outdoors and 10 indoors subject to density limits.
- Hairdressing & Beauty Services Open with a cap of 10 people. Masks must remain on during the service.
- Community Facilities Open with a maximum of 20 people per facility.

Continued P2

