



# BELMONT UNITING CHURCH



7th November Weekly Newsletter 2021

2021 - THE YEAR OF HOPE

THIS SUNDAY  
7TH NOVEMBER  
@ 10:00 AM  
HOLY COMMUNION

Were Back

THE  
NEWS TEAM ARE  
EXCITED,  
ARE YOU?

\*\*\*\*\*

## Pastoral Letter - Moderator Rev Denise Liersch

Vaccination and Reopening: face-to-face worship and COVID requirements

Dear Friends,

29 October 2021

Over past weeks, questions around vaccination and reopening have been on the hearts and minds of many in our communities.

In Victoria, new public health directions include responsibilities for ministry agents, authorised workers and Church Councils. In planning for reopening of worship and use of congregational buildings, Church Council responsibilities include compliance with requirements relating to vaccination. Authorised workers, both paid and volunteer, must also provide evidence of their vaccination status to their workplace. The number of people who may attend religious gatherings in any part of Victoria depends on whether everyone present is fully vaccinated, and churches are responsible for how this is implemented.

What do we need to consider, as we plan toward reopening, in light of our legal obligations and other responsibilities? How does our faith inform our questions and decisions?

There have been many opportunities to explore these questions over the last few weeks, along with resources to answer or open up our questions along the way. The COVID FAQs help keep us up-to-date with the requirements: All you need to know: answers to your frequently asked questions - Uniting Church in Australia. Synod of Victoria and Tasmania ([uca.org.au](https://uca.org.au))

The Assembly has gathered together resources from across our Church, including from VicTas, to guide us theologically and biblically: <https://uniting.church/the-question-of-reopening/>

I would like to offer another opportunity to share insights, to learn from each other and with each other – in light of our faith. I have included with this letter an invitation to join with me in exploring these questions, with biblical and theological insights to help resource us in making decisions consistent with our faith.

The story of the Good Samaritan and Jesus' call to love God and neighbour, is one guide that runs deep to our faith. It's a call to focus on the welfare of others, and to give special consideration to those most vulnerable to risk of harm — beyond our usual circles of interest or personal preferences.

*continued next page*

Throughout history, Christians have gathered together to hear scripture, break bread and pray, to be formed and shaped as a community, as the body of Christ. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be bodily present to each other in our worship and life, reflected in the deep desire of so many to return to physical gatherings. As open, welcoming and respectful communities, we have a responsibility for the safety and dignity of all especially the most vulnerable amongst us. As Paul reminds us in several of his letters, we are called to attend to the implications of our actions and choices upon others, and to be courageous in calling each other to account for this. In various ways, this means placing conditions on how we gather and relate to one another, and to consider the impact of our actions on those beyond ourselves.

As Christians, we are also called to respect and uphold the law — for the sake of the integrity and well-being of our local and wider communities.

Sometimes we find ourselves trying to choose between two good things that don't easily align. Many Church Councils are discerning the need to decide now, even though decisions are difficult, rather than waiting in hope of simpler answers which may not emerge. One aspect for Christian communities to consider, is how we might be asking others to bear certain costs on our behalf. These could include health, financial or other costs in relation to unmet legal responsibilities. And in all things, we seek a prayerful generosity of spirit as we sift and sort our way ahead together.

In the midst of this pandemic, the most vulnerable to serious illness include indigenous communities, those who are older or live with disability, have underlying health conditions or are immunocompromised. Where there are a significant number of vulnerable people in the congregation, including a Minister or other worship leaders, Church Councils may decide their safety needs to be prioritised.

This might mean providing services for those who are fully vaccinated, which also allows larger congregations to gather together, and assists toward the responsibility to provide safe workplaces for Ministers or others who lead worship. Consideration will need to be given to how to care for and support COVID Marshalls in these situations, including where an unvaccinated person wishes to be included in a service. Clearly communicating worship arrangements ahead of time will help with this. It will assist people to make more considered decisions about attending worship, rather than finding themselves 'put on the spot'.

Church Councils need to consider how to find ways to provide worship opportunities for those who are unvaccinated. Where there are known members of the congregation who are unvaccinated, pastoral conversations ahead of time will assist in finding ways of welcome and inclusion. These might be through specific pastoral care, or invitations to other ways of being included in community life and worship, including online. It might include a decision to have smaller worship services for those of unknown vaccination status, taking into account how to provide safe environments for those leading or assisting in worship and for all those present.

Church Councils and authorised workers also need to consider their significant legal obligations in complying with the directions related to vaccination, and the significant impact of not complying upon the safety and wellbeing of others, the reputation and witness of the Church in the wider community, and the financial implications of fines — not just for themselves but for others.

Over past months, we have been managing many new requirements which place conditions on how we can gather. Many of these have been challenging, yet we have found ways over time to adapt creatively and in astounding ways. And in the process, we have gained a renewed sense of what matters most in our life together.

As we continue on this journey together, may we notice the small gifts and blessings around us each day, share our thanks with God and with others, rest in prayer often, and know ourselves loved of God and called to life in Christ.

Grace and peace, Rev Denise Liersch Moderator



From biblical times we have been informed of the adage that we reap what we sow. In times of drought, the harvest may be negligible or nonexistent, when not only humans miss out on edible fruit and/or vegetables, but also insects and birds. Was it a failure to waste seed, sowing it in such an environment? No. Just because the expected harvest did not happen, the garden was still a spiritual haven, a little closer to heaven. Pruning and weeding around our plants nurtures our souls too. Gardening provides peace, healing, and happiness for those blessed with “green” thumbs. Growing food whilst growing ourselves is where the effort is more important than the outcome. Sharing our harvest with those in the community also brings great dividends.

Reflection:

“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

## MORE MONEY FOR MISSION

God calls us to be wise and generous stewards of the resources with which we have been blessed.

The UCA Vic Tas now provides a new opportunity for congregations to more fully live into this calling by transitioning real estate assets into shares in an ethical fund.

For further information visit: <https://victas.uca.org.au/resources/money-for-mission/>



Loris Barnard's funeral was held here last Wednesday November 3rd at 10:30am. Our prayers of comfort and sympathy go to Frank and his extended family at this difficult time, and we will continue to pray for them as they move forward without Loris in their lives. Love to all.

Ida Little's funeral was held here last Friday November 5th at 10:30am. Our prayers of comfort and sympathy go to Ida's five children, their partners, fifteen grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren. We pray for them all at this difficult time and into the future. Love to all.



# Worship At Home

## Acknowledgement of Country

We, the people of Belmont Uniting Church acknowledge the Wauthaurong Peoples, the first inhabitants of the land we live and worship since time beyond remembering. We acknowledge that through this land, God nurtured and sustained the First Peoples of this country, the Aboriginal and Islander peoples.

## Do your duty?

### A personal prayer

A hundred years ago this coming Thursday World War One ended. So we pray: Eternal God, you know the names of every man and woman, every child and every creature that lost their lives in the Great War. You know the names of those who are dying in conflicts around the world today. You know our names and call us to be peacemakers, generous and compassionate. Bless our time together now. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## Notes on the Bible readings

Mark 12.38-44 - 1 Kings 17.8-16 - Hebrews 9.24-28

Jesus is teaching in the Temple and uses what he can see to illustrate his points. Firstly, he observes some scribes, and in contrast to the sympathetic scribe last week, accuses them of being primarily concerned with their own visibility and status, and the respect they are due. Then he watches people paying their Temple tax, which all Jews were expected to pay once a year for the maintenance and upkeep of the Temple. It was an unpopular tax and roughly the equivalent of two days' wages for a working man.

Jesus comments on a widow dutifully making her contribution. She is often seen as a model of generosity, but she is poor and vulnerable and maybe more a victim of the greedy Temple authorities and those who parade about in long robes. Her giving is sacrificial as she has paid all that she had to live on.

In 1 Kings 17, Elijah has announced a drought as judgement on Ahab, the corrupt king of Israel. He makes his way to Zarephath (modern day Lebanon) where he demands that a starving widow feeds him. As a result of her willingness to use her meagre resources to feed this stranger, she and her son are provided for throughout the drought.

The poor widows in both stories give sacrificially and are blessed by God. Remembrance Sunday is a day on which we remember and honour those who sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom.

## A Prayer for Others

We pray for those whose duty has led them to a battlefield where they have lost their life. God of the past, bless us with your peace. We pray for those dying right now in conflicts provoked by greed and power. God of today, bless us with your peace. We pray for those entrusted with the care of our environment and its fragile resources. God of tomorrow, bless us with your peace. We pray for one another that we may live selflessly and generously for the good of all. God of eternity, bless us with your peace. Amen.

## A Personal Prayer

God of all, I am neither rich nor poor, but comfortable – may that not turn to complacency. I cannot change very much, and I challenge very little – may that not invite indifference. I do not live sacrificially, but neither am I greedy – may that not lead me to be satisfied. I do my duty, no more, no less – may I not avoid responsibility, but be your disciple in your world today – generous, compassionate and far-seeing. Amen.

## Live your faith

Research a new cause to support – one that is involved in caring for the poorest in society – and make a pledge of prayer, and either some time or money.

## Questions for reflection

- ▶ Today we remember those who gave their lives in conflict; what other forms of sacrificial giving are there?
- ▶ What form might your sacrificial giving take?



# Belmont Uniting Church November Roster 2021

→ **ROSTER BELOW IS DEPENDENT ON DOUBLE VACCINATIONS** ←

| Date   | Time    | Leader              | Leader's Steward | Readers     | Greeters & Ushers  | PowerPoint  | PA Operator | Organist  |
|--------|---------|---------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Nov 7  | 10.00am | Rev Ikani           | D. Stephens      | N. Phillips | R. Bunting         | R. Ferguson | D. Zucarro  | L. Rankin |
|        |         |                     |                  |             | B. Couper          |             |             |           |
| Nov 7  |         | <b>Communion</b>    | <b>Flowers</b>   |             | <b>Morning Tea</b> |             |             |           |
|        |         | L. Moss, R. Pearson | A. Ingles        |             | M. & M. Vaitohi    |             |             |           |
|        |         | B. & S. Jennings    |                  |             | S. Vaitohi         |             |             |           |
| Nov 14 | 10.00am | Rev Ikani           | J. Jeffers       | L. Yates    | L. Jackson         | R. Ferguson | B. Jones    | L. Rankin |
|        |         |                     |                  |             | A. Merritt         |             |             |           |
| Nov 14 |         | <b>Communion</b>    | <b>Flowers</b>   |             | <b>Morning Tea</b> |             |             |           |
|        |         | N/A                 | E. Wood          |             | R. & J. Ferguson   |             |             |           |
|        |         |                     |                  |             | F. Vaitohi         |             |             |           |
| Nov 21 | 10.00am | L. Leitch           | S. Jennings      | L. Moss     | B. Couper          | R. Ferguson | B. Vaitohi  | L. Rankin |
|        |         |                     |                  |             | R. Bunting         |             |             |           |
| Nov 21 |         | <b>Communion</b>    | <b>Flowers</b>   |             | <b>Morning Tea</b> |             |             |           |
|        |         | N/A                 | E. Wood          |             | S. & B. Jennings   |             |             |           |
|        |         |                     |                  |             | E. Wood            |             |             |           |

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

Loving God, give us the fruits of Your Spirit in our lives; love, that we may love You as You have loved us and others as You love them. Help us to show kindness to others, that we may desire to give rather than to receive, to share rather than to keep, to praise rather than criticise and to forgive rather than condemn.

On 11/11 it is Remembrance Day and we acknowledge all women and men who served their countries during war times. Dear Lord we pray for world peace and for people who are serving their country in many places around the world today.

Dear God, You are our refuge from the storms of life. No matter whether our battles are to do with health, finances, relationships, loneliness or other issues, may we know that because of Your presence in our lives we will never face these challenges alone.

*Peter Woods*

## Lectionary Readings

Nov 7 - Pentecost 24  
Ru 3: 1 - 5, 4: 13 - 17  
Psalm 127  
Heb 9: 24- 28  
Mk 12: 38 - 44

Nov 14 - Pentecost 25  
1 Sm 1: 4 - 20  
1 Sm 2: 1 - 10  
Heb 10: 11- 14, (15 - 18)  
Mk 13: 1 - 8

Nov 21 - Christ the King  
2 Sm 23: 1 - 7  
Psalm 132: 1 - 12, (13 - 18)  
Rv 1: 4b - 8  
Jn 18: 33 - 37

Nov 28 - Advent 1  
Is 64: 1 - 9  
Psalm 80: 1 - 7, 17 - 19  
1 Cor 1: 3 - 9  
Mk 13: 24 - 37

## Faith Sharing Group Restarts

The Faith Sharing Group will meet once again, starting this Tuesday, 9th November at 10 am in the Church Hall near the kitchen.

This group explores and discusses the weekly lectionary Bible readings, enjoying each other's insights and company with a cuppa beforehand.

All are warmly welcome.



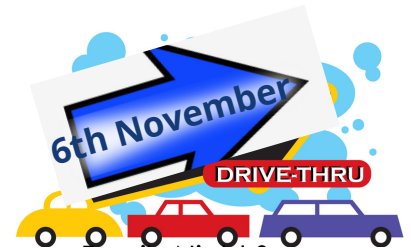
## "WATCH THIS SPACE – FUNDRAISER FOR BUSHIKORI"



THANK YOU FOR STILL WATCHING THIS SPACE! FURTHER NEWS ON OUR FORTHCOMING DRIVE-THRU.

### OCTOBER IS BUSHIKORI CHRISTIAN CENTRE & UNITING BARWON MONTH

Throughout October we hoped you were able to place a donation in your collection jar when you enjoyed your first tea or coffee for the day. We are so pleased that Members of St John's Anglican Church, Highton have joined us for this fundraiser.



### DRIVE THROUGH VIRTUAL COFFEE EVENT DETAILS

You are invited to come to the Belmont Uniting Church in your car this 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". Those who require a tax receipt please place your donation in a named envelope and write "receipt required" on the envelope. For those who are unable to come to the Church 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](mailto: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.

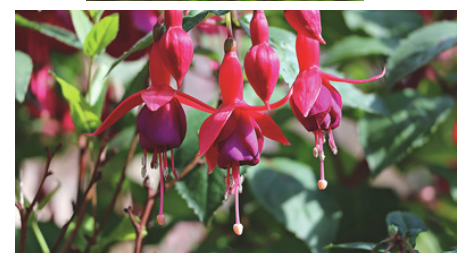


BUC members are also invited to bring non-perishable food items for Uniting Barwon. If you are unable to bring the items this Saturday you can bring them to this Sunday mornings service. These will be collected by Rosslyn Buckwell.



Uniting Care, Geelong suggests the following food donations – Staple Foods: pasta sauce, tinned fruit & vegies, tuna, long life milk, cereal, baked beans, Coles vouchers for food (not for alcohol or cigarettes) Christmas Treats: puddings & cakes, tinned ham, sweets & chocolate, juices & soft drinks.

There will also be a plant stall with tomato seedlings, fuchsias and other plants for sale.



THANK YOU to everyone for your continued interest and support.

Jean Murray (Mission and Outreach Committee) & Sue & Bill Jennings (Friends of Bushikori C'mtee).



# **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

## **Changes to COVID-19 restrictions**

You are aware of the changes to restrictions that have occurred, which were prompted by vaccination targets being met.

The changes mean that we are able to meet together in worship, and that other church activities can now start up again. We are returning to in-person worship on this Sunday **November 7**.

The number of people who may attend religious gatherings in any part of Victoria depends on whether everyone present is fully vaccinated.

### **Several things need to happen for us to return to in-person worship:**

1. Anyone attending a worship service needs to carry and show their vaccination certificate or exemption certificate. This can be held on your phone, or you can use a paper certificate. You will also need to scan in using the QR Code.
2. Numbers of people allowed in our church is currently limited to 90 fully vaccinated persons (including anyone with a medical exemption)
3. We are exploring options for in-person worship for people who are not vaccinated. These might include live broadcasting our church service, or offering a second service on a Sunday. The current restrictions state that only 30 people are permitted to attend a religious service if anyone present is unvaccinated.
4. If you perform any kind of volunteer work (on rosters) for the congregation, you must provide evidence of double-vaccination or a medical exemption. This includes: greeters, ushers, organists, readers, gardeners, morning tea servers, flower arrangers, office bearers and leaders of groups and children's activities, and Church Council members. This is because all of our church volunteers are considered to be "authorised workers".

### **What to do:**

If you are a volunteer – please send the following information to Ray Ferguson or Glen Coomber as soon as possible: Immunisation Certificate number ("Document Number"), date of 2nd immunisation, and type of vaccine received.

[someone/insert name here] will be at the church on [date] at [time] to receive this information if you are unable to email it.

If you are planning to attend worship – link your digital certificate to your Services Victoria app or Medicare Express app on your mobile phone. If you need a paper certificate, you can print one from your Medicare online account through myGov; you can contact the clinic where you were immunised and request a copy, or you can contact the Australian Immunisations Register on 1800 653 809 (Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm). If you have a medical exemption, you will need to bring this with you to worship.

If you have chosen not to be vaccinated, or are unable to be fully vaccinated at this time, please speak with Ikani as it will assist us in ensuring that everyone participate in worship. This information will be treated in confidence.

### **More information:**

**Ray Ferguson / 0423922112 / rayjulie@internode.on.net**  
**Glen Coomber / 0408175984 / glengeel@yahoo.com.au**

# COVID-19 VICTORIA FAQs

METRO MELBOURNE AND REGIONAL VICTORIA | OCT 28, 2021



**As Victoria reaches the 80% fully vaccinated target, restrictions will ease from 6pm Friday October 29 when Regional Vic and Metro Melbourne will be under the same COVID restrictions.**

**The following will apply across all Victoria as of 6pm Oct 29, 2021. Changed restrictions shown in RED.**

- **Leaving Home** – There are no longer any restrictions on leaving home.
- **Intrastate Travel** – There are no longer any restrictions on travel within Victoria, including travel between Metro Melbourne and Regional Victoria.
- **Masks (unless an exemption applies)** – Wearing face masks is now only mandatory in indoor settings. Masks must be carried at all times outside the home, but are no longer required to be worn outdoors except where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- **Visitors to the home** – up to 10 people per day, including dependants, may visit at home.
- **Public outdoor gatherings** – up to 30 people may gather outdoors. This does not include back yards or other outdoor areas of a private residence.
- **Religious gatherings and ceremonies (incl Weddings and Funerals)**
  - **If all attendees are fully vaccinated**, indoor gatherings are subject to a density quotient of one person per 4 square metres (no number caps). Up to 500 people may gather outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 square metres.
  - **If vaccination status not known for all attendees**, up to 30 people may attend subject to density quotient of one person per 4sqm.
  - **COVID check-in marshals** must ensure all attendees check-in and, if it is a service for the fully vaccinated, that all attendees over 16 have proof they are fully vaccinated or medically exempt. (see p4)

## WORSHIP SERVICES

### Religious gatherings and ceremonies

- **if all attendees are fully vaccinated**, the number of people who may attend is based on a density quotient of one person per 4 sqm indoors. Up to 500 people may attend outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 sqm
- **If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known**, up to 30 people may attend, with a density quotient of one person per 4sqm.
- **COVID check-in marshals** must ensure all attendees check-in and, if it is a service for the fully vaccinated, that all attendees over 16 have proof they are fully vaccinated or medically exempt. (see p4)

*As of 28/10/2021*

## Do face masks have to be worn at all times during worship?

Yes. Masks are currently mandatory in all settings, apart from at home, unless an individual has a valid reason for not wearing one. Ministers or other faith leaders may remove their masks whilst leading worship, as teaching/broadcasting/public speaking are valid exceptions.

## Can we gather for morning tea afterwards?

Yes, providing all attendees are fully vaccinated and density quotients are observed. All food and drink should be served, rather than available buffet style.

*As of 28/10/2021*

## Can we sing?

Singing is permitted, but facemasks must be worn at all times.

*As of 09/08/2021*

## Weddings

- **if all attendees are fully vaccinated**, the number of people who may attend an indoor wedding is determined by the density quotient of one person per 4sqm. Up to 500 people may attend an outdoor wedding subject to 1 person per 2sqm density.
- **If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known**, a cap of 30 people per wedding plus the marrying couple and those necessary to conduct the wedding. Children aged under 12 months are not included in the cap. A density quotient of one person per 4sqm applies.



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



## Giving your all

### Mark 12.38-44

Jesus has been welcomed into Jerusalem with crowds cheering and waving palm branches. Just after this he visits the Temple, and makes it clear that making a show about giving of lots of money isn't what giving is about, and that the widow who quietly gave the little that she had had given far more. The leaders don't like what they hear and try to find ways to silence Jesus.

Now read Mark 12.38-44 see p.2 for text.

### A note on the passage

Jesus gives some very clear advice about giving. Giving what we have, giving our best, and our attitude to giving are all more important than the amounts we give. How easy do we find it to give with a generous heart, and do we think about giving as being more than money?



**Ask yourself:** What does living generously mean to you?



On a sheet of paper, draw round your hand. Then draw a heart outline, so that the hand is within the heart. Think of ways you could give with a generous heart. It could be helping someone with a task; making time to chat; sharing a skill you have – e.g. baking, teaching a sports or practical skill, showing a child how to tie their shoelaces. Using different colours, write your ideas around the outside of the heart. Ask God to help you give with a generous heart. Choose one (or more) a week to do. When you have done it, draw a line from the idea to the palm of the hand.

## COUNT

How do you feel when you have given your best to something? Do you feel pleased or satisfied with yourself? On a small piece of card, draw round three coins. Write one of these words inside each coin: give my best. Cut out the coins and take them with you where you will see them from time to time during the day (e.g. in your pencil case or lunch box, handbag, purse or wallet) as a reminder to give or do your best. Don't compare yourself to others, just focus on giving/doing/being your best with the right attitude.



Do you have something you no longer need that you could donate to charity? Do you have unopened and in-date food hiding at the back of your cupboard that you don't use and could donate to the local Foodbank? Even one or two items will make a big difference to someone.



Giving doesn't always have to be money or things; it might be giving of your time to encourage someone with kind words or actions. Make or buy a card with words of encouragement and send it to someone. Or, encourage someone by doing or saying something kind to help them. Or, invite someone you know out for coffee and say words of encouragement and appreciation when you meet.



## BAKE

Make some heart biscuits – as you do this, think about who you might share them with, and pray that your biscuits will encourage others.

**You will need:** 125g butter, softened, 55g sugar, 180g plain flour, 125g icing sugar, sprinkles (or small sweets, raisins, etc.), round or heart-shaped cookie cutter, wooden spoon, bowls, rolling pin, measuring jug, baking tray and parchment.

- Heat the oven to 190C/170C fan/gas 5.
- Beat the butter and sugar together. Use a wooden spoon to stir in the flour. Roll the dough to about 1cm thick. Cut out round or heart shapes. Line the baking tray with baking parchment. Place the cut shapes onto the tray. Bake at for 15-20 mins until pale golden. Leave to cool on the tray.
- When cool, mix the icing sugar with 15ml water. Decorate the biscuits with icing and sprinkles (or similar). If the biscuits are round, do this in a heart shape.
- Give the biscuits to friends, neighbours – or anyone you know who might need encouragement.

# Children's Activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## ROOTS Activity sheet

7-13 November 2021



### Mark 12.38-44

Jesus challenges people to consider what true generosity is.



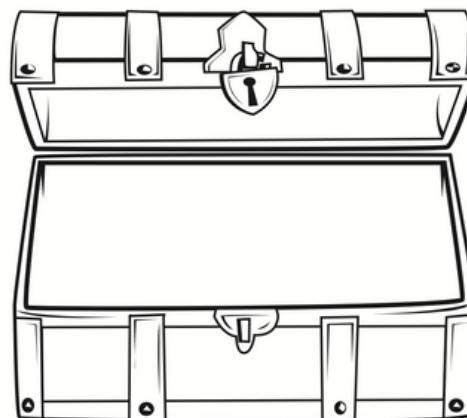
The scribe and the widow gave in different ways.



Spot the eight differences between these two bank notes.



What kind of things can we give to God? Draw them into the chest.



Can you come up with five words for describing each character in the story? Use the Bible passage and your own ideas to help you.

| Scribe | Widow |
|--------|-------|
|        |       |
|        |       |
|        |       |
|        |       |
|        |       |

Once, while he was teaching in the Temple, Jesus said, 'Watch out for some of the scribes and don't try to copy them.' His listeners looked surprised. 'You see,' he went on, 'some of them like to walk around in long robes that make them look important. They expect people to admire them and bow down to them when they're out in the marketplace. They take the best seats in the synagogues and at banquets for themselves.'

Jesus continued, 'These scribes say long prayers, and try to make everyone think that they're really holy and close to God. But instead of looking after poor widows, they steal their money and make life even more difficult for them! God will have nothing to do with people like this, for they should know better.'

Jesus sat down opposite the big treasury chests and watched people coming to put money into them. Many rich people came and put lots of coins into the chests. Then a poor woman, a widow, came along and



put in two small copper coins, which were worth about a penny. Jesus pointed her out to the disciples. 'You see this woman?' he said. 'She has put in more than all those other rich people put together, because she has nothing, and she has given everything she has to live on.'

Mark 12.38-44

### Did you know?

- Scribes were writers who made copies of the Scriptures and teachers who helped people understand them.
- The synagogue is a place of worship for Jews.
- The treasury chests were large boxes into which people were expected to put money to pay for the running of the Temple.