



Keeping connected — between members of Gloucester Uniting Church on a weekly basis

Covid-19 crisis *Messenger*

Then I heard the Lord say, "Whom shall I send? Who will be my messenger?" I answered, "I will go, send me!"

A trial for Zoom this Sunday

Your Gloucester Church Council has discussed the various communications methods that are currently used to keep the congregation in touch and while the feedback has been positive we are looking at ways to enhance the experience by providing additional methods. We are therefore "trailing" a couple of new communications – your feedback would be appreciated.

Do you miss the morning tea chat after worship?

Make a cuppa and get a biscuit or a slice of cake and join into a "Zoom" meeting next Sunday at 10:30am by clicking on the link below. This will give you chance to see and chat to people that you might not have seen for weeks.

Topic: Church Morning Tea

Time: Apr 26, 2020 10:30 AM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75531216001>

Meeting ID: 755 3121 6001

If is your first time using Zoom then you may be required to download the free application. It is relatively simple, just follow the prompts on the screen. (Remember the device that you use needs a webcam & microphone)

Sunday Reflection "Online"

The Rev John Hoskin is investigating a method of delivering his reflection online (as well as still providing a printed copy) on Sunday 3rd May. More information next week.

Sunday's reflections, prepared by Shirley Smith, will be sent as a separate email on Friday.



"With everyone in isolation and unable to meet together, it would be good to share some photos of the happy times we have shared in the past. Email your photos to hazell@tpg.com.au for inclusion in our Coronavirus Messenger. To get the ball rolling, here is a photo of a YOY trip to the Barrington Tops in 1995 featuring Tom, Leah, Colleen, Bruce and Col." — Kerry Chisholm

Some snippets of news from our church people:

Contributed by Sue Thomas

Happy birthday to Fay for last Sunday.

Sorry to hear that Norma and Lola had sad news their sister Beverley had passed away in Brisbane recently. Johanna's sister Jsaan has died in The Netherlands after a long illness. Our sympathy and thoughts are with them.

Several of our members are facing tests and specialist appointments this week, We pray for comforting results, peace and safe travel.

"Hope" by Emily Dickson: Hope is the thing with feathers and which perches on the soul and sings in tune without the words and never stops at all.

Several people are available to run errands, do shopping, change light bulbs, etc as needed, just let Sue Thomas know and she can arrange for it to happen. Ring 6558 4132.

And to the Beesley family good news: Born to Kerry and Tim Fox, a baby boy, Lucas John Fox, 2.94kg and 48cm. Mum and bub doing well, and Brian and Heather praise God for his safe arrival.

GLOUCESTER UNITING CHURCH

**Ministers: Every member of the congregation
Phone Secretary Kerry Chisholm 6558 4206**

Project Reconnect

The sermons from Project Reconnect are now available free of charge on their Facebook page or website each week. Just go to projectreconnect.uca.org.au and click on "Sunday Messages for the COVID 19 Emergency" and you can view them.



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Something to read while waiting for the virus to go

There is a book review which may be of interest to some members particularly those interested in social justice.

Bob Tebbet said he recently read a book by John Pascoe "Dark Emu" (non fiction, social history) which was recommended to him by Rev Dr. Rhonda White.

The book has no theological content, or Christian references, Bob said.

The Author, through research of historic records and visits to natural sights portrays, an entirely different picture of Australian Aboriginal society, contrary to what we were taught at school.

His research dispels the opinion that aborigines were primitive nomadic hunter gathers. Rather he advocates

they sowed crops, harvested, irrigated, stored food, built dams, changed the course of rivers and had a system of pan-continental government.

The book is a bit "textbook" and a bit tedious to read. But worth the effort, particularly the latter chapters.

This book may change the opinion of many about our indigenous peoples and help us to understand why and how things are at present.

Bob said the book is available from Dymocks on-line book shop, I am sure the Gloucester Book Shop would be able to get it in "I have a copy of the book. I have loaned it to Jeff Kite when Jeff is finished with the book anyone is welcome to borrow it."



CHURCH ELDERS

- **Chairperson:** John Williamson
- **Secretary:** Kerry Chisholm
- **Treasurer:** Jenny Shaw
- **Elders:**
 - Sue Thomas
 - Colin Charles
 - Collister Reynolds
 - Bob Tebbet
 - Jeff Kite
 - Allan Cornish
 - Megan de Witte
 - David Collett



Using your free days wisely can make an eternal difference: *Remember the story of the little boy in the Sweet Shop who wandered from case to case and when urged to 'hurry up', answered 'but I only have one penny, so I have to spend it wisely' — from Claire.*

THE worship committee recommends the Lectionary Reflections for the next three months in the Autumn Insights from page 41.

Jeff Kite recommends the article about Aboriginal Spirituality on page 30.

If church members have not picked up their copy of Insights from the church, they will be delivered to your mail boxes soon.

CONGREGATION

- Congregational Chairperson: Sam de Witte
- Congregational Secretary: Shirley Hazell
- Hall Bookings: Helen Parsons 6558 1546

Adult Fellowship: President: Jill Carson, Secretary: Sandy Tebbet, Treasurer: Margaret Cornish

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