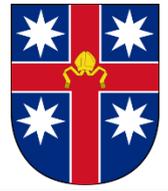




REACHING OUT

Weekly Newsletter of Emmanuel and Kergunyah Churches



Sunday August 10, 2025

9:00a.m. at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

Uniting tradition led by LouAnne Stabb

11:15a.m. at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Bible Readings for Sunday August 10

Pentecost 9

Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20; Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23; Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16; Luke 12: 32-40



“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Watchful Slaves

“Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the marriage feast, so that they may open to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes; truly, I say to you, he will gird himself and have them sit at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them so, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he[a] would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Luke 12: 32-40

Bible Readings for Sunday August 17

Pentecost 10

Isaiah 5: 1-7; Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-1; Hebrews 11: 29-12: 2; Luke 12: 49-56

Praying For One Another 2025

In the Uniting Church Presbytery of North East Victoria.

Congregations in the Presbytery are called to pray for one another each time they meet. By naming each other in prayer we enhance our pastoral support with each other, in God’s company. This invitation builds our faith linkages every year. This week we pray for the congregations Benalla Parish, consisting of **Benalla, Devenish, Goorambat and Swanpool** beginning Sunday, August 10.

Coming Events

Wed. Aug. 13, 9:00 a.m.	Grounds and Maintenance
10:30 a.m.	Morning Tea and Fellowship
Fri. Aug. 15, 9:30 a.m.	Craft Group

WHEN WE ARE FEELING UP AGAINST IT

Rev Leonie Findlay

PRAYER

Lord, teach us the importance of living in the moment, along with the value of each new step.

Help us to wake each day with a heartfelt gratitude for your many mercies and a deep desire to please you above all others.

Grow courtesy, warmth and gentleness in us Lord, so that your spirit can be shared among all we meet.

When fidelity to you demands a dangerous, unpopular or unfamiliar path, help us to tread it with gracious courage.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

AMEN

SOME THOUGHTS

All of us have certain needs which we feel intensely. Sometimes we need assurance in the face of deep loss, or affirmation because of a sense of self- condemnation.

There are times when we are overwhelmed by a sense of meaninglessness.

When we seem to be at the mercy of fate and death, when it is a battle to survive,

What can we say?

When we feel like that, the good news is that, in Christ, we have all we need to recognise and deal with the anxiety expressed in our insecurity and powerlessness. When we feel threatened by guilt and self-condemnation, when life seems to be too demanding, when we struggle to justify ourselves what can we do?

Some may throw caution to the wind and dispense with any moral standards.

Others may cling to the rules and regulations legalistically.

When we feel ruled by purposelessness and emptiness, when life appears to be going nowhere, when we wonder what life is all about Is there any other option?

When we feel like this, the good news is that, '**the Spirit...comes to help us, weak as we are.**'

We can meet the challenge of non- being and non-meaning with the answer of the apostle Paul.

'In all things God works for good with those who love him.'

Believing in God opens exciting possibilities. It brings us everlasting life, affirming forgiveness and meaningful purpose. Believing in Jesus Christ puts us in contact with the one by whom, through whom and for whom all things exist. In the words of Paul, '**The gospel.... Is**

God's power to save all who believe.' In this we find strength to cope when we are feeling up against it. While the promise is there, we as solitary creatures with our own fears, grief and guilt, joy and sorrow, anxiety and anger, we forever struggle with a deep age-old hunger which the bread of this world cannot satisfy. And a thirst which the waters of this world cannot quench.

SELAH

A BENEDICTION



Depart now in the fellowship of God, the Father, and as you go, remember in the goodness of God, you were born into this world. By the grace of God, you have been kept all day long, even unto this hour, and by the love of God, fully revealed in the face of Jesus you are being redeemed.

AMEN

Emmanuel Roster

August 10

Elder on Duty: Rod Clutterbuck
Reader: Ted Stabb
Prayers: Rod Clutterbuck

Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck
TV Screen: Harold Cover
Music: LouAnne Stabb

August 17

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb
Reader: Carol Harris
Prayers: Carol Harris

Early Word: LouAnne Stabb
TV Screen: Carolyn Renfrey
Music: LouAnne Stabb

Emmanuel Contacts

Emmanuel Pastoral Care: speak with an Elder or Warden
Emmanuel Prayer Chain: give requests to Betty Saggars on 0427 761 044
Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com by Wednesday.

Prayer of the Week

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea



CAR refugee Moussa Inoussa helps to dismantle a building in the Ngam refugee camp. Deemed unsafe for use after days of strong wind, the building must be torn down and rebuilt in order to serve again as a distribution for food and other materials to the refugees. Supported by the Lutheran World Federation, the Ngam refugee camp, located in the Meiganga municipality, Adamaoua region of Cameroon, hosts 7,228 refugees from the Central African Republic.

Photo: Albin Hillert/LWF

We are thankful for:

- the natural resources and diverse gifts that come from these countries, such as the distinctive music and dance of Cameroon
- those who minister to victims of sexual violence, trafficking and other human rights abuses
- Christians and people of other faiths who courageously have pursued reconciliation and peace among those in conflict
- individuals and organizations who have provided for health clinics and schools in Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

We pray for:

- just resolutions to the conflicts and violence among diverse groups and their leaders
- refugees who flee to other countries, and for those who host them
- economic developments that make it possible for all to rise out of poverty
- stable democratic governments that effectively serve the common good.



Pick up your copy from the foyer table!

The August edition is out now. Read about the upcoming Victoria/Tasmania Synod 2025, (August 30 – Sept. 2) and the to be installed Moderator, Rev. Salesi Faupula.

A close-up photograph of footprints in sand, with the title 'A DAY AWAY' overlaid in large white letters.

A DAY AWAY

By Geoff Serpell

The 2025 'Friendship Book' recently referred to a prayer on Buddhism which asks that every creature abounds in wellbeing and peace.

It talks about "every living being", "the mean and the great", "seen and unseen", those living both far away and nearby, those born and those waiting to be born. And it wishes them all "inward peace".

We grow up hearing that God loves us. We believe we have a special place in

the heart of the almighty. But how small would that heart be if it only had space for us and those like us?

A divine being worthy of our adoration would have a heart for all his creation, the parts we know and the parts we don't know, those before us and those who come after us.

Reflection:

Selfish? Perhaps, and not easy. But think how much better we will deal with those cares when we return refreshed.

www.victasuca.org.au/resources | Photo by freepik.com | August 2025

An advertisement for the Moderator's Emergency Response Fund. It features a photograph of a man in a white t-shirt holding a dog. The text describes the fund's purpose and provides a website for donations.

**Moderator's
Emergency Response Fund**

The new Moderator's Emergency Response Fund helps Victorian and Tasmanian communities with assistance in times of emergencies. Donations can be made at any time, not just in response to a specific emergency. To donate, visit www.victas.uca.org.au

 United Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA