

# Weekly News



# High Street Uniting Church

We acknowledge the traditional custodianship of the Bunurong people in this region

**Week of 8th September: Pentecost 16 - No borders or boundaries**

## Coming up

### September

**Mon 9th:** Gardening club at 1:00pm

**Tues 10th:** COG meeting at 7:30pm

**Sat 14th:** Working Bee at 9:00am

**Tues 17th:** Elders meeting at 1:30pm

**Thurs 19th:** Baxter Communion at 2:30pm

**Fri 20th:** Material for HST due

**Fri 27th:** Grand final pub. holiday, office closed

## Contact us

**Rev. Ross Pearce**

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**Mandy Lake**

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**Church office hours:**

**Tues, Thurs & Fri**

9:00am - 1:00pm

**Wed:** 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Virtual office hours:**

**Wed & Thurs:** 3:00-5:00pm

Ph: 03 9783 3400

[frankstonuc@gmail.com](mailto:frankstonuc@gmail.com)

16 - 18 High Street

Frankston VIC 3199

[frankstonuniting.org.au](http://frankstonuniting.org.au)

[facebook.com/frankstonuc/](https://facebook.com/frankstonuc/)



## Rev. Ross Writes...

In this week's stories from Mark, we have Mark's description of Jesus' travels which looks geographically ridiculous, describing a giant loop instead of a simple return journey. He had travelled from Capernaum to Tyre, why not return the same way, instead of going north to Sidon and looping around Galilee?

Some commentators think this is a sign that Mark, writing in Rome traditionally, didn't know the geography, but what if this is Mark describing a whole journey through Gentile territory? While the text points to Jesus trying to get away from the crowds in Galilee and have a rest, the path that Mark describes points to Jesus being on mission outside Jewish territory. Indeed, these stories – the woman with a sick daughter, the man with hearing and speech difficulties, and the second feeding of the thousands – may be Gentile stories, included in the telling of Jesus ministry to help include the Gentile members of Mark's community.

The difficulties we find in these stories may stem from the fact that they are not Jewish accounts of Jesus, but Gentile ones. The details speak of a different culture with different priorities. While Jews looked down on dogs, house dogs were common in Gentile areas, allowing the woman to respond to Jesus. To avoid any misunderstanding of Jesus being a magician, he takes the man with hearing difficulties aside, away from the crowd. The different number of baskets of leftovers after the feeding – 7 instead of 12 – hint at the conventional understanding that there were 70 nations. Imagine the joy of Gentile members of early Christian communities finding 'their' stories in the written Gospels, and in their language – Greek. This new faith was not just a spin-off of Judaism, it was a new, inclusive way of walking with God. It allowed them to say, 'Jesus is God with us', as much as the Jewish members.

Some will say of scripture, "God said it, I believe it, that settles it", the more I read scripture, the more I see stories and poems and teaching that are designed to be wrestled with. Like the Old Testament story of Jacob wrestling with an angel; it's OK to have questions, to look deeper, and to not just accept the surface story. The Bible is not a simple, face value, how-to manual. It's meant to make us think.



## Presbytery Prayers

This week we ask you to join us in prayer for the Narre Warren North congregation, including Rev Sundaresan Bakhtar (Supply), and chairperson Walter Dower.

## Offering Envelopes

There are still some spare boxes of offering envelopes for anyone who would like to use them. Please see Keith Holmes.

## **Baxter Bible Study Group**

A new monthly Bible study group, led by Rev. Ross, is being organised at Baxter Village, beginning this month. It will be held in the craft room at the Clarke Centre, starting at 2:00pm.

The dates for the rest of this year are:

Thursday, 26th September

Thursday, 10th October

Thursday, 14th November

Thursday, 12th December

Please contact Erica on 0408 559 544 for more information.

## **Memorial for Vilma's brother**

A memorial for Vilma LaBrooy's brother, Derek Hepponstall, will be held next **Thursday, 12th September at 2:00pm at HSUC.**

If you are attending, please feel free to bring a plate to share, catering to your own dietary needs. If you have any questions about catering, please contact Marg S. on 0419 805 362



LEGS presents

# *A Little Bit of Country*



Fabulous afternoon tea,  
entertainment,  
dancing & much more

1-4pm

Saturday 5th October 2024  
High St Uniting Church Hall  
\$25 per person



Wear your check shirt, jeans,  
cowboy hat and boots  
- if you have them.

## **Traditional Rosters**

Sunday, 8th September

**Bible reader:** Brenda C.

**Prayers of the People:** Keith H.

**Stewards:** Robert L, Cheryle W.

**Morning tea:** Denise A, Ali V.

Sunday, 15th September

**Bible reader:** Alan M.

**Prayers of the People:** Rona R.

**Stewards:** Marilyn S, Jill C.

**Morning tea:** Joe R, Carol C.

*Further details can be found on our website or on the noticeboard in the Church*

## **More Information**

**Prayer team:** Phone 5971 2840

(Marlene) or email

[HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com](mailto:HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com)

### **Offerings:**

Account name: Frankston Uniting Church

BSB: 063 133

Account #: 00800128

Please use **OFFERING** as the description

OR

Mail Cheque to:

31 Lucerne Cres

Frankston VIC 3199

**Notices:** Please send any items to [frankstonuc@gmail.com](mailto:frankstonuc@gmail.com) by midday on Thursday.

**HST:** Please send material to

[johnannable@bigpond.com](mailto:johnannable@bigpond.com)

## **Zoom/Phone Details**

On a tablet or laptop computer

Go to:

<https://zoom.us/j/95468493260>

**Password:** 3199

(or go to <https://zoom.us/join> and use the meeting number below)

On a phone without video:

**Call:** (03) 7018 2005

**Meeting ID:** 954 6849 3260 #

**Participant ID:** #

**Password:** 3199 #