



Uniting Church in Australia
SEACLIFF WEEKLY NEWS
Sunday 29 March 2020
LENT 5

Lent 5- “Love Brings Life”. The raising of Lazarus from the dead is a missional call to us all to be life givers in a world where there is so much death, both literally but also figuratively. How can we be life givers for ourselves and others?

SUSPENSION OF CHURCH SERVICES AT SEACLIFF UNITING CHURCH

After careful consideration of information, Church Council has regretfully made the decision to suspend Sunday morning worship services at Seacliff Uniting Church from March 22nd, 2020.

COMMUNICATION

In order to continue communication with the Seacliff Uniting Church community, there will be several strategies including:

Gary will provide a written piece of reflective worship, including prayers, available weekly to parishioners by email, and possible inclusion on the church website.

Gary has already provided a handout of Spiritual Resources and Prayer – this can be accessed on the Church website shortly.

Seacliff Outlook will continue to be distributed monthly.

A Seacliff Weekly News will also be distributed by email.

Church Council will make regular telephone contact with Seacliff Uniting Church community members to make sure things are OK in these changing and challenging times.

Pastoral support for individual Church members can be accessed through our Minister and/or members of Church Council.

Welcome to the Seacliff Uniting Church web site

If you are new to the area, visiting friends or family, we extend a warm welcome, and invite you to follow our on-line activities in worship and fellowship. Our Minister is Rev. Gary Stuckey.

Church Office Closure

Please be advised that the Church Office has closed for the foreseeable future. The phone will be monitored remotely so messages can be left, and emails can be sent to office@seacliffuc.org which will also be monitored remotely. Our church website will be continually updated with the current weekly newsletter and monthly Outlook which will keep us informed of our church life.

Heather Gepp

What's News

As we journey through Lent

Lent 6- "Love Brings Peace". Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is a proclamation of peace and call for those who follow him to be peace makers in our world.

Rev. Gary Stuckey

'Living life a bit differently'

We have all been urged by our Chief Medical Officer Professor Brendan Murphy to 'live life a bit differently'. During the last 14 days Mary and I have been in quarantine and had a taste of this new lifestyle, and it is not all bad. In fact, it is likely that many more of us will experience this lifestyle in the near future, for the health protection of everyone.

I have found the following practices to be helpful:

Stay connected to friends and family using the phone, email, Facebook whatever medium you like. Possibly use an App (e.g. *WhatsApp or Viber*) on your video-phone to organise a 'virtual' cuppa with a friend! I find that faces are very reassuring.

Follow a daily routine; mine includes some backyard exercise, shave, shower, morning coffee, regular meals, reflection/prayer/meditation etc.

Limit your media exposure; I go with the ABC news on my phone and on the TV at midday and 7pm. I like to have Classic FM in the background.

Take the opportunity to **do things** that you may not have had time to do; the garden, a hobby, sorting out slides, family memorabilia, 'de-cluttering', reading etc.

Relax; feel free to have a nap, sleep in, go to bed with a good book

May God continue to Bless us all,

David G



Notes from the Treasurer

1. Of course, Mary and I were both disappointed to have our trip cut short and that I did not get to visit Tarcisius in Bangladesh. Obviously, we did the absolutely right thing and are relieved to be home in quarantine, we have shown no signs of illness and are looking forward to getting 'out' next Monday. Since our return, I have been in communication with Tarcisius and Josie and we have agreed that:

- a. We will hold the educational materials here until it is safe to post them AND/OR we will try to get refunds where they were bought and send him that money.
- b. I will send the balance of his account AUD700 to help them cope with COVID which is becoming a real threat in their country.

2. I am currently getting all of the Accounts up to date for the end of month and Quarter for tax purposes. When this is done, I will be able to provide a Financial Report to Church Council which will include proposed changes to the budget in view of reduced income (especially from tenants) and some reduction in expenses.

We have obtained special permission from Synod for Paul Whetham to continue consulting in Wheatland House because he provides an 'essential service'.

Thanks to your generosity in the past, we are in a sound financial position for the foreseeable future.

Blessings, David G.

The First Wednesday Book Club

The First Wednesday Book Club meetings are suspended until further notice .

The Book that we are reading for March is "*Boy Swallows Universe*" by Trent Dalton.

The story is about brotherhood , true love and the most unlikely of friendships—a story of boyhood and destiny.

Maxine 0466 981 750

BACK PAGE

Sunday morning worship suspended see Church website

Lectionary for Today: **29 March 2020: Ez 13: 1- 14: Ps 130; Rom 8: 6 – 11; Jn 11: 1 - 45.**

Our Church., when worship returns.

Things you need to know, especially if you are a visitor.

Fire exits are marked. Please take note. In the case of an emergency evacuation please gather on the Western Lawns under the Pine Tree. **St John First Aid Kit** - on top of the pigeon holes up from the ramp. **Toilets** are available through the door front right of the Worship Area or out through the turn around point on the ramp. **Morning tea** is held after the service – we hope you will join with us. More information is available from the Steward's Table and displays scattered around "The Middle Hall".

Items for the Newsletter

Please email items to newsletter@seacliffuc.org by 6.00pm on Wednesdays. If you do not have access to email, please phone the church office and it will be forwarded for you.

Our Minister is Rev. Gary Stuckey.

Contact :

Mobile : 0488 017 187,
Home phone : 8270.2862
email : minister@seacliffuc.org

Church Office Information

Closed until further notice

☎ 8296 1517

Email: office@seacliffuc.org

Website: www.seacliffuc.org