



REACHING OUT

Sunday February 11, 2024

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

Uniting tradition led by Rhonda Kissick

11:15 a.m. at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Bible Readings for Sunday February 11

Transfiguration Sunday

2 Kings 2: 1-12; Psalm 50: 1-6; 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6; Mark 9: 2-9

The Transfiguration



Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from

the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

The Coming of Elijah

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Mark 9:2-9

Bible Readings for Sunday February 18

Lent 1

Genesis 9: 8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3: 18-22; Mark 1: 9-15

Praying For One Another 2024

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 congregation of **Corryong** commencing Sunday February 11.

Rev. Leonie

Leonie has enjoyed the visits and phone conversations she has had with people this past week. She is making excellent progress and she mentioned Wednesday afternoon that she expects to be going home on Friday. As expected, she's very much looking forward to that. So, this will be my last update for you.

We give thanks for her recovery to this point, but of course there still is a long road ahead. Our prayers for her and all those who are dealing with illness and difficulty are sought and appreciated.

Lenten Study Options

At St. Stephen's

Meeting Jesus at the table, by Cynthia M. Campbell & Christine, Coy Fohr, 8 studies, Wednesday mornings, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. beginning on Feb. 7 at St. Stephens and led by Judy Bedford.

On Zoom

Grounded: Finding God in the World – a Spiritual revolution, by Diana Butler Bass; 8 studies, Thursday evenings 8:00 – 9:30 pm, beginning on February 8 and led by Ian Bedford. Zoom link available from Ian or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84918137081>

At St. John's

Safety net discipleship, by Bishop Peter Stuart, quite likely Wednesday mornings, beginning Feb. 14, though final date and time will be determined by consensus of those expressing an interest by signing up at St. John's narthex on the list, or notifying St. John's of interest. It will be led by Rev. Cathy Carden. Cost of the study book will be \$15 and will be available at the Parish Office.

At Emmanuel

God's Own Country, First Nations voices speak to the Church, edited by Stephen Daughtry and published by the Anglican Board of Mission, 6 studies beginning on Tuesday, February 13, 2:30 – 4:00 pm and led by LouAnne Stabb. Books cost \$12, and will be available from LouAnne

Lectionary Comment – Mark 9:2-9

Jesus has foretold his death and resurrection, and that God's kingdom will begin soon. "... the Son of Man must ... be rejected ... and be killed, and ... rise again. He said this quite openly" (8:31-32). Then: if any want to follow him, let them renounce their self-centeredness. Those who play it safe will perish; those who give their lives for him and the gospel will be saved (8:34-35).

Now "six days" (v. 2) after Peter's recognition of Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus takes the inner circle of disciples ("Peter and James and John") up a mountain. There he is "transfigured", changed in form, metamorphosed. He appears in "dazzling white" (v. 3), a sign of God's presence (as did Moses when he had been "talking with God", Exodus 34:29). "Elijah" (v. 4) was taken up into heaven. Moses' burial place was unknown (see Deuteronomy 34:6); in late Judaism, he was also thought to be taken up. (Others point out that Elijah represents the prophets and Moses the law, the basic authority in Judaism.) Peter rejoices in this experience ("good", v. 5): it is a preview of Jesus' glorification as God's Son. He wishes to prolong the event by making "dwellings", temporary shelters as erected at the Feast of Tabernacles, a joyous festival of God's presence. V. 6 may say that he was so dumbfounded by the experience that what he said was irrational. The "cloud" (v. 7) is a symbol of God's presence. The proclamation spoken by the divine voice is like that at Jesus' baptism (see 1:11). The Son of Man is revealed to be Son of God. The vision ends "suddenly" (v. 8). Then v. 9: only when Jesus has risen will the vision make sense to others. *Chris Haslam of the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton*

Emmanuel Roster

February 11

Elder on Duty: Carol Harris
Reader: Karen Robinson
Prayers: David Robinson
Early Word: Carol Harris

TV Screen: Harold Cover
Usher: Ted Stabb
Pianist: LouAnne Stabb

February 18

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb
Reader: Carol Harris
Prayers: LouAnne Stabb
Early Word: LouAnne Stabb

TV Screen: Harold Cover
Usher: Carolyn Renfrey
Pianist: LouAnne Stabb

Coming Events

Tue February 13, 2:30pm	Lenten Studies commence at Emmanuel
Wed February 14	Ash Wednesday
Wed February 14, 8:30 am	Grounds and Maintenance
10:30 am	Morning Tea and Fellowship at Emmanuel
Fri February 17, 9:30am	Craft Group meet at Emmanuel
Sun February 25, 10:30am	Emmanuel Congregation AGM after Worship

Ministers of the Word & Other Contacts

UCA: Rev. Leonie Findlay
(currently unavailable)

Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies
02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069
stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au
[weekly RDO: Friday]

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
Office Phone: Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com
or LouAnne Stabb 0419 644 769 stabb@iinet.net.au by Wednesday.

AGM of Emmanuel Congregation



Church Committees

The Annual General Meeting of the Emmanuel Church will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2024, commencing at 10:30am after worship. The AGM Report is now being prepared and reports from respective coordinators of church activities are now being accepted. **Reports can be submitted to Harold Cover by Monday February 12** (hcover@bigpond.com) to allow time to complete editing and publishing prior to the AGM. Nominations will be called for in coming weeks for Member of Church Council, Treasurer, Uniting Church Elder and Uniting Church representative to Presbytery. Please give prayerful consideration to an invitation to be nominated.

Your Weekly Offering



If you wish to use direct deposit for your offering, account details are: BSB 033-264, account 960276, account name Emmanuel Congregation. Thank you, everyone, for your giving. LouAnne

Prayer of the Week

World Council of Churches

Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland



25 June 2023, Geneva, Switzerland: Procession enters the church as the World Council of Churches central committee – gathered in Geneva on 21-27 June 2023 for its first full meeting following the WCC 11th Assembly in Karlsruhe in 2022 – joins local congregants at the St Pierre Cathedral in central Geneva to celebrate the 75th anniversary since the founding of the Council in 1948.

Photo: Albin Hillert/WCC

We are thankful for:

- the quality of life that many in these countries enjoy and their commitment to provide for those in the world who are in need
- the organizations located here that seek to increase ecumenical and interfaith understanding and work together for the common good of all people and creation
- political and economic transparency in these countries
- those who reach out to migrants and counter attitudes and practices that oppose them.

We pray for:

- environmental practices that preserve the natural environment, especially the Alps' melting glaciers
- the work for justice, reconciliation and peace pursued by the people and organizations here, seeking to shape globalization so that it benefits all
- religious freedom, also for those from non-Christian traditions
- overcoming the fear of, and welcoming the embrace of, those who are outsiders to the countries' historic, ethnic traditions.

BUILDING BLOCKS

By Bill Pugh

The words of Jesus to Peter and his friends was that on their profession of faith the worldwide Church would be built.

So everywhere around the world churches carry on that commission, and are built and maintained by people of faith.

It is a privilege to tour the countryside and witness very recognisable churches, with service times displayed.

In my country parish we witnessed a remarkable miracle.

We needed a hall for many activities, and a plan was formulated and a local bricklayer engaged to do the work.

He was an excellent craftsman but sadly an alcoholic, but we wanted to give him a chance.

He had a loyal wife, AA friends and church members who believed in him and, after a few lapses, he finished the job.

The hall was built and stands today as a monument to craftsmanship, testament to the faith of the many who believed in the man who built it.

Reflection:

As the Lord challenges each of us, *"heaven is my throne and the earth the footstool of my feet, but what manner of house will you build for me?"*

Isaiah 66:1

Give thanks for your church building and those who built it.

www.victas.uca.org.au/resources | Photo by freepik.com | February 2024