



"We're (still not) Back at Black Rock"

Still no prizes for guessing where we won't be on Sunday



All in God's own time ...



Numerous varieties of acacia with new growth

Last week we were talking about the many ways in which God speaks to us, through words, through actions and even through dreams. As we go for our walk every morning, especially around the back roads of Bunyip, we never cease to be amazed at God's wonder expressed through nature.

As we pass by the picturesque St Thomas Anglican church, from our elevated position we look to the south across 'the flats' towards the Strezlecki Ranges (*If the air is still may hear a cow mooing*) and to the north we see the edge of the Dandenongs and the beginnings of the Baw Baws. In between every possible example of God's creations.

Whilst we're all concerned about the dreadful effects of coronavirus, the lockdowns, not seeing our families, having to worship on Zoom etc, nature goes on it's merry way apparently oblivious to the problems of the world. Dogs and cats still run around without masks and birds still fly and sing merrily in the trees.

It's still July and yet the trees are sprouting new growth. Don't they know that it's technically mid winter? Haven't they checked their calendar lately? The amazing truth about God's creation is that it doesn't follow any man made season or calendar - it creates its own. Everything happens in nature "in God's own time".



For today's lunch I had a delicious meat pie, 'home made' from the Bunyip Bakery (*they do award winning vanilla slices*) garnished with lettuce and other herbs and vegetables straight from our new vegie patch (which only came about as something to do in lockdown). And that's something else we've discovered here - plants grow 'in God's time'. In soil which is basically clay and builders' rubble, things we plant may sit there for years looking at us and we wonder if they will ever grow. Then suddenly 'ping', they burst into life - all in God's time.

It can be very frustrating as we wait and wonder "when on earth will this coronavirus thing go away?" "when will our building project get started?" No one knows the answers to these questions, but if they are to happen it will be -
IN GOD'S OWN TIME

Left: Nature creates its own shapes as a eucalypt sways beneath a tall acacia.

Right: Pittostorums, native to Eastern Australia grow prolifically around the Bunyip area. July and new growth is already appearing



Your Weekly Offering

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Thanks to everyone who have continued to make their weekly offering.

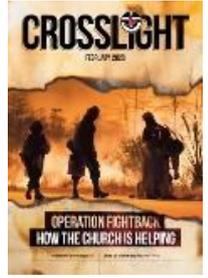
Envelopes: You may do this by putting your pledge in the envelopes and bring them to church.



Bible Readings for 1st August Pentecost 10 *(the readings used in our service may differ slightly)*
 2 Samuel 11:26–12:13a Psalm 51:1-12 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35

CROSSLIGHT is available on the internet - click on the following link or the **CROSSLIGHT** image to view online. www.crosslight.org.au

Print copies of **CROSSLIGHT** now available at the entrance of the Black Rock Uniting Church (NOT from the Manse verandah) latest **CROSSLIGHT** now available from David Vine, 4 Jemma Ct. Cheltenham 9583 7373.



Prayers of the People

We pray especially for -

Kai - 11 y/o grand grand nephew of Margaret Walker
 Rob Trickett and family (Jo-ann's cousins)
 Val and Peter
 Meg Thompson
 Robert (Joan Wright's brother)
 Bruce, Valda & Margaret (friends of Jo-ann & David)
 Anita and Rod

Andrew (Joan Lum's relative)
 Jenny, Janine, Cec and June Bartholomeusz
 Audrey Fewster
 Margaret's neighbour Joan
 Gloria Sampson & Family
 Grace Fairbank
 Barb Loosemore

Rebecca, Greg, Judy and family at the passing of Ken
 Gemma and Teresa
 Heather (daughter of close friend of Graeme & Joan)
 Tina and her two teenage sons (also friends of Graeme & Joan)
 Susan Bartell
 Bronwyn



Church on the Internet - Sunday 10am (doors open 9:45 am)

If you don't have Zoom on your computer/laptop/iPad/Smartphone, click on <https://zoom.us/support/download>

Then click on this link below or the "Sunday Church" image to join our Service -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85247373230?pwd=WIM2UHJEemFWS3RScnNqM3puaGdZdz09>



Otherwise open Zoom and enter the following - **Meeting ID: 852 4737 3230** **Passcode: 836844**
 You can also join us on your phone by dialling **03 7018 2005** and entering the above meeting details.



Videos on the Internet

We now have our own YouTube Channel. Click on the YouTube logo or <https://youtube.com/channel/UCPNMmOZclZG12hSd9-HijCQ> to view selected sermons and service preludes



Social Collection Department

BayCISS - collection of goods by Graeme & Joan Wood has recommenced. Leave goods with them at 66 Bernard St. Cheltenham, or call them on 9555 0463

From BayCISS "Many thanks to all those who continue to drop off food parcels".

Emerge - Financial help is the best way to help - Cheques to - GPO Box 420 Melbourne VIC 3001 or donate via the website www.emergesupport.org.au Emerge welcomes vouchers for supermarkets or art materials which children could use at home - materials, pencils, colouring books etc. Margaret Bode is happy to take items to the Moorabbin office if you leave them at her home, 16 Monaco Street Parkdale.

Things people do in lockdown ...

I never cease to be amazed at some of the things people do in lockdown.

Whilst many see 'lockdown' as 'locked up', others take lockdown as a time to be creative.

I've seen many 'flashmob' versions of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus", but this one *takes the cake*.

To view, click on this link or the top right photo.

<https://youtu.be/79DUxeCbik4>

Thanks Nan McArthur for bringing this to our attention

