



**“Church in the Trees” -Morisset Uniting**

## ***RUSTLING LEAVES***

***20TH MAY 2020***

COVID 19 EDITION 5

**SUNDAY REFLECTIONS BY RON LOOM**

Be Filled with the Spirit.( Ephesians ch5.18)

Birthdays are great times. We enjoy the fun and celebrate each other. Pentecost is when we celebrate the birth of the Christian church.

It is from now that the disciples moved from reliance on the earthly presence of Jesus to receiving Gods presence in the Comforter called the Holy Spirit. This change is so transformative that the disciples are now called apostles, which means "sent ones".

As we read the book of Acts and follow the movement and growth of the Christian fellowship we find the group at times facing opposition but meeting it by prayer to God and receiving an infilling of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2.2,4.31)God's renewed presence enabled them to feel complete and equipped to carry on the task of sharing the good news about Jesus.

In Paul's letters we find a development of this idea of the church being 'the body of Christ. So Christ is the living Lord present with us in the holy Spirit and gifting us for differing ministries within and beyond our fellowship.(Ephesians ch 4.)In a beautiful passage in Galatians 5 Paul develops the idea of the fruit of the Spirit on a personal and individual level ie 'love, joy, peace etc.

It is Gods provision for us to have the Holy Spirit and we are encouraged to ask for it in prayer(.Lu11.13)God is at work in us and through us to both begin and complete his great work of Salvation.



# Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May      Day of Pentecost

Lectionary Readings Acts 2; 1-21, Ps 104; 21-34, 35b, 1 Cor 12:3b-13

## Scripture in Schools Update

We have gone viral. The organisation, Christian SRE, has negotiated with the NSW Department of Education to offer SRE (Special Religious Education) online for our students. Praise God!

All of our schools that offer SRE have been sent a link to put onto their websites for access by parents and students. There are programs for both Primary and Secondary schools.

While we cannot communicate with students directly, we pray that many parents will use this program at home in lieu of a scripture lesson in the classroom.

The link is: <https://www.christiansre.com.au/learningfromhome>

Click on the box **Combined Christian SRE** then click on Love Out Loud OZ for the Primary lessons and **Think Faith** for the High School lessons. Feel free to share this with anyone you know with school-aged children (grandchildren, neighbours, family members, friends) and pray for the resumption of lessons in the classroom.

Information to date indicates that we won't be teaching again until the start of Term 3.



- Pray that volunteer teachers are keeping motivated and inspired to return to classrooms
- Pray that schools will be willing to re-establish SRE lessons as soon as possible
- Pray for SLCEA as it continues to support the work of SRE in the schools
- Pray for Marc Erbsleben, the High School SRE Teacher.

## Prayer Points for this fortnight

- People living in nursing homes, their families and friends, who need to keep safe but are experiencing the loss of regular connection. Pray for the staff looking after their residents
- Pray for students, teachers and families in all forms of education but especially now as there is a return to school and new routines are needed.
- The other churches here in Morisset and elsewhere, keeping in touch with their people and upholding them, and striving to find new ways of ministering to each other.

## Pastoral Care

### One Definition is.....

“Pastoral Care is the faithful ministry of a religious community to the needs of people in face-to-face relationships. This ministry comes from a genuine concern for each person, caring about (them) as a person of unique worth, and caring as a mutual responsibility “

*(Paul Johnson, A Theology of Pastoral Care)*

Holistic pastoral care is difficult to put into practice in the current situation.

However, this will be the aim moving forward when we can once again have face-to-face contact. Meanwhile we can continue to support each other in these difficult circumstances and uphold each other in prayer. You can contact Rev Joan Horgan if you are in need of prayer support Phone: 0488 764 698

We have been endeavouring to reach all members of our church community in one way or another.

---

The worst feeling isn't being lonely.....

It's being FORGOTTEN

*(Aussie Vets PTSD Group)*

---

*Betty Small*

*Coordinator*

*Phone: 49 733 181*

## When will our Church Services start again?

Just like when we went into lockdown, coming back out might seem a bit confusing with changing and conflicting advice. Restrictions are easing and we are waiting for further guidance from the NSW Government. We are also being advised by the NSW Church Synod. As at the time we put the newsletter together, the Synod recommendations were ...

.....  
*“that we should not be meeting in person for services of worship or face to face meeting in our churches.*

*It is anticipated that the effects of COVID-19 will continue to impact our lives for the foreseeable future. In the coming months we will be asked to make difficult choices between conflicting needs and imperatives. We must avoid framing our situation in terms of a false choice between reviving the economy — or our churches — and saving lives. Our commitment to supporting the safety and well-being of people must remain our priority. Reopening our buildings and resuming gatherings prematurely, even with the practice of social distancing, could unfairly force the choice between personal health and the desire to re-join the beloved congregation.”*

.....  
The Planning Committee of Church Council met with our new Church Administrator, Peter Robinson to discuss what to anticipate.

We agreed to hold off face to face meetings of all church groups and Sunday Services at least for another few weeks.

However the Church will be open this Thursday 21st between 9 am and 11 am if you want to spend some time in quiet reflection.

## Forum

Congratulations to all those who wrangled answers from our Find a words in our last edition. There were a few minor issues in production. We have a new one at the end of Rustling Leaves sent in by Gordon Robertson on the topic of Ezekiel and the Dry Bones

If you have something you want to say for the next issue, or found something relevant in the media, email me or write it down so I can pick it up and share your thoughts with others. Entries in by 29th May

[bob@starling.id.au](mailto:bob@starling.id.au) or leave a message 0409 921916

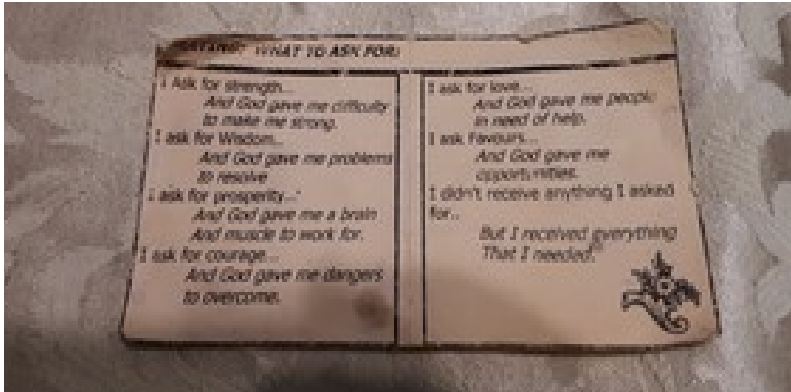
## CLIMATE CHANGE QUIZ

The Uniting Church has decided to support action to reduce climate change, including school children protest rallies. How much do you, as a member of the Uniting Church, know about climate change? Take this short quiz to determine your level of understanding. The answers are on to the back page of this Rustling Leaves.

<p>Question 1      How many polar bears live in Antarctica?</p> <p>A) 0 B) 50 C) 200 D) 1000</p>	<p>Question 6      Which of these does <b><u>NOT</u></b> produce greenhouse gases?</p> <p>A) volcanoes B) motor vehicles C) plants D) cows</p>
<p>Question 2      When natural gas burns it produces ....</p> <p>A) only water B) carbon dioxide and water C) only carbon dioxide D) no products</p>	<p>Question 7      Which of these is <b><u>not</u></b> a greenhouse gas?</p> <p>A) nitrous oxide (laughing gas) B) nitrogen C) methane D) ozone</p>
<p>Question 3      The three most common gases in the air (by percentage values) are ...</p> <p>A) carbon dioxide, oxygen, argon B) nitrogen, carbon dioxide, oxygen C) carbon dioxide, argon, oxygen D) nitrogen, oxygen, argon</p>	<p>Question 8      Which of these stores carbon dioxide?</p> <p>A) motor vehicles B) oceans C) sand D) volcanoes</p>
<p>Question 4      Which of these gases is <b><u>not</u></b> essential for life?</p> <p>A) carbon dioxide B) ozone C) methane D) nitrogen</p>	<p>Question 9      Which of these statements is <b>true</b>?</p> <p>A) Our average air temperature is the highest it has ever been. B) Volcanoes do not emit greenhouse gases C) Continent drift causes oceans to rise D) Global warming assists food production</p>
<p>Question 5      The percentage of carbon dioxide in the air is ...</p> <p>A) 0.03% B) 0.3% C) 3% D) 30%</p>	<p>Question 10      Which of these statements is <b>false</b>?</p> <p>A) Oceans are alkaline B) Coal is used because it is the cheapest chemical fuel C) Burning natural gas produces no greenhouse gases D) Water vapour is a greenhouse gas</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>

## Fun Time

Leanne Koenan has done the trifecta; 3 injuries in one year Broken collarbone, broken wrist and now a broken ankle. She tells me all is well only stay clear when talking to her or you might get in the way of a way-wood moon boot. She sends these words of advice which she keeps near at hand.



### Covid-19 New Words

"Car Owner Virus" - the urge to go for a spin even though there's nowhere to go

"Newslessness" - the embarrassment that kicks in when a friend asks what you have been doing

"Comb-morbidity" - depression caused by lack of access to hairdressers.

Q If there is a baby boom in 9 months from now, what will happen in 2033? A There will be a whole bunch of quaranteens.

Ants;

While we have been absent from the church, a colony of small ants inhabited the photocopy cupboard in the office. Several people spent several hours emptying and dismantling the cupboard. Look what they found. Thousands and thousands of ants and eggs.



H	X	Y	B	B	R	E	A	T	H	E	L	I	F	E
V	D	E	M	L	J	R	L	C	G	M	P	W	F	B
Q	A	H	N	Y	E	E	A	A	J	L	V	L	K	Y
O	G	C	L	W	I	A	S	T	E	J	E	T	B	Z
O	A	A	O	K	E	S	C	A	T	S	S	K	J	D
P	I	P	E	M	E	L	R	H	H	L	O	R	E	N
U	N	Z	M	M	E	S	B	I	E	Q	I	I	B	G
D	E	D	V	U	I	T	Q	D	S	D	S	N	W	R
O	R	N	I	K	S	B	O	N	N	E	R	Z	G	U
O	K	Y	Y	L	X	C	O	L	H	I	L	O	X	S
T	G	M	B	E	J	D	L	P	I	D	W	B	L	T
S	R	X	F	O	N	J	O	E	O	F	J	F	P	L
A	E	W	S	E	N	R	R	G	S	V	E	C	R	I
K	I	G	T	A	P	E	V	A	L	L	E	Y	G	N
O	P	W	O	T	Y	C	S	N	C	V	S	R	U	G

Ezekiel and the Dry Bones

VALLEY | TENDONS | BREATH LIFE | AGAIN

DRYBONES | FLESH | WIND BLEW | ISRAEL

BLEACHED | SKIN | STOOD UP | LORD

GOD | PROPHESED | ARMY

EZEKIEL | RUSTLING | RATTLING

MESSAGE | MUSCLES | COME TO LIFE

copyright ©2006 Warner Press Inc

Can you find these words in the puzzle above?

Do they unjumble to make a sentence?



For those who like colouring/ painting/doodling, here's something for you on Pentecost.

### Answers to Owen's Climate Change Quiz.

1. A   2. B   3. D   4. C   5. A   6. C   7. B   8. B   9. D   10. C

#### Analysis

Score

Comment

10 , 9, 8

You have a good understanding of the issues surrounding climate change

7, 6

You have some knowledge of the climate change issues

5 or less

You have qualified to join a climate change protest march as a way of finding more information on climate change