



“Church in the Trees” -Morisset Uniting

RUSTLING LEAVES

3RD JUNE 2020

COVID 19 EDITION 5

SUNDAY REFLECTIONS BY JOAN HORGAN

“In our time there is a seeking, an anxious groping and searching for divine things. A great loneliness has come over our time, a loneliness that is found only where God forsakenness reigns. In the midst of our large cities, in the greatest, most frantic activity of untold masses of people, we see the greatest amount of loneliness and homelessness.

But the longing grows that the time will nonetheless come again when God dwells among people, when God lets himself be found.

In the middle of this frantic activity and vociferous extolling of new ways and means stands the one word of Jesus Christ: ‘I am with you.....’ (Matt. 28:20)

He does not prescribe ways in which we can reach him. Rather he says quite simply: “I am with you.”

From “WONDER OF WONDERS” BY Dietrich Bonhoffer

RISEN ONE, JOURNEYING WITH US, BE PRESENT

Risen One, journeying with us, be present with grace as we meet in fellowship

It is you who gave to us the world and our life, our freedom and our relationships.

It is you who taught us truth by being in our inner core. Even when we lost touch with you.

You became human, lived as man with us . And gave newness of life for humankind.

It is you who underwent death and so defeated it; Over death you brought life.

Now you break the bread and pour wine that our inner eye may be opened, that we may be united with you.

(A Tamal lyric from LITURGY: “To Recognise the Risen One”

Lectionary Readings for the next 2 weeks.

Jun 7 Trinity Sunday Gn 1:1 – 2:4a Ps 8 2 Cor 13:11-13 Mt 28:16-20

Jun 14 Pent 2 [11] Gn 18:1-15, Ps 116:1-2, 12-19 Rom 5:1-8 Mt 9:35-10:8,

Pastoral Care

Information for Carers

CARERS GATEWAY: (Services for Carers ie. unpaid caregivers)

A new initiative has been introduced by the Federal Government called “Carers Gateway” to assist those people who are caring for a family member or friend who is living with a long term medical condition, mental illness, a disability, drug and alcohol dependency or someone who is frail due to age. Services include;

Support and Planning

Information and advice

Support Packages

Access to Emergency Support and

Assistance with navigating various services

If you care for, or know of someone who is a “carer”, the following phone number may be helpful -

Carers Gateway 1800 422737

Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm

There are 2.7 million unpaid Carers in Australia. There are avenues for help. You may be directed to a Service Provider in your region.

Betty Small

Coordinator

Phone 49 733181

**SUPPOSE YOU KNEW SOMEONE BORN IN 1900! SOME
PERSPECTIVE!**

Sent in by Margaret Arbon

When this person was 14, World War I started, and ended near their 18th birthday, with 22 million people killed. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hit the planet and ran until they were 20. Fifty million people died from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million When they were 29, the Great Depression began. Unemployment hit 25%, and global GDP drops 27%. That ran until they were 33. The country nearly collapsed along with the world economy. When your acquaintance turned 39, World War II started. They weren't even over the hill yet.

When they were 41, the United States was fully pulled into WWII. Between their 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war. At 50, the Korean War started, and five million perish

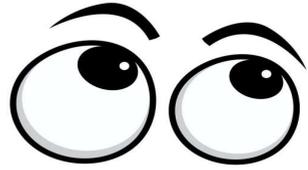
At 65, the Vietnam War begins, and it doesn't end for many years. Estimates are as high as four million people died in the total conflict. Approaching their 62nd birthday they had the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, could well have ended. When they turned 75, the Vietnam War finally ended

Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How do you survive all of that? A kid in 1985 didn't think their 85-year-old grandparent, understood how hard school was. Yet those grandparents (and now great, and great-great grandparents) survived through everything listed above.

Perspective is an amazing art. Let's try and keep things in perspective. In the history of the world, there has never been a storm that lasted. This too shall pass.

The eyes have it.

What better way to spend the downtime when a pandemic hits than get your eyes fixed.



- Anne Hart had cataracts removed recently from both eyes and so did Joe Sloey. So that's one way to have a brighter outlook when things get back to normal!
- Mike Connell has been undergoing regular dialysis in Gosford Hospital for the past three weeks and is looking forward to being back home.
- Barbara adopted a fox terrier cross dog this week. He's about 12 months old and his name is Archie.

A message from Marie Day and Elaine Kingston.

A "Special" Brother

The sisters **Marie** and **Elaine** went to Newcastle recently to attend the service at Beresfield Crematorium to honour their much loved brother **John Stevenson** who passed away aged 92 years.

Only twelve closest family were allowed to attend but another eighteen met in the Mayfield Uniting Church, where John had been an active member continually from the age of 6 years.

His friends gathered spontaneously at the Mayfield Church to give thanks for a life well spent and they rang the Church Bell.

oooOOOooo

I am sure all the members of our Church Family would like me to pass on their love and concern for Marie and Elaine.

Once again we see the human impact of the Corona virus where grieving family members and friends can't all farewell a dear friend and loved one.

I spoke to Doug Stewart recently and asked what he had been up to. He told me he had been doing some reading and wanted to share the following with us. Last issue we had a climate change quiz. This is another aspect of the climate change debate.

BOOK REVIEW - We are The Weather by Jonathan Safran Foer

It is highly unlikely that anyone will ever persuade the rest of us to all adopt a totally plant based diet. There are too many powerful forces against this, especially the fact that most of us really enjoy eating meat. However, if many of us reduced the amount of meat we consumed, it would make a substantial contribution to towards reducing our Greenhouse Gas emissions. This is the main message of the book called 'We Are The Weather' by Jonathan Safran Foer. His subtitle is 'Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast.'

The author draws attention to the widely differing estimates of the amount of greenhouse gases due to livestock agriculture. These range from 14.5% to 51% and he devotes a lengthy appendix attempting to explain this wide variation. This writer is greatly concerned about climate change and warns us that if action is not taken soon, there is a real danger that it will be too late to 'save the planet.' Let's conclude with a direct quote. 'The four highest-impact things an individual can do to tackle climate change are eat a plant based diet, avoid air travel, live car-free, and have fewer children.' Challenging? Yes, but what if he's right?

Douglas Stewart.

Contributions for next issue to bob @starling.id.au by 12/6/20

Little Steps.



The Church and easing of Restrictions.

Once again we note that everyone wants to return to normal as soon as possible. Schools are back, the football is returning and many businesses are starting up again. Pubs, clubs and restaurants are all joining the charge to accept our money and thus employ more staff. Several principles remain the same. Social distancing needs to be maintained and the more vulnerable in the population, which includes the over 65's, need to be extra vigilant. So what are we doing?

Once again we take our lead from the State Government who are calling the shots, and the Uniting Church Synod, who are interpreting that advice and making recommendations to the wider Church.

As of last weekend, 30, 31st May, the State Government has suggested up to 50 people can worship in church providing all the other precautions are adhered to. Two committees of the Church Council, the Worship Committee and the Planning Committee will be meeting this week to discuss the how and when as well as the who and what. We will need to consider how people can move safely around the premises what precautions we need to put in place and what we can and can't do at this point in time. My hope is that we will find a way to worship in our building by the next issue of Rustling Leaves in 2 weeks but always keep in mind that you need to be happy about your own health and safety before joining us moving forward.

One thing we have implemented is that the church building will be open every Thursday morning between 9 and 11 when our administrator , Peter Robinson, or someone else will be in attendance. People can come and go during that time.

Fun Time

Q What do you call the man who replies “I’ll look into it” ?

A Mirrorman.

Yesterday I saw a guy spill all his Scrabble letters on the road. I asked him, "What's the word on the street?"

Did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers?

He'll stop at nothing to avoid them.



Why are chemists great at solving problems?
Because they have all of the solutions!

I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places.
He told me to stop going to those places.

Q: At what time do most people go to the dentist?

A At tooth-hurty (2.30)

Our champion find a word maker, Rob Currey, has been at it again with a find a word based on people’s names from the Bible. As you work through it, reflect on why we remember these people and why they are in one of the oldest books in the world.

This will be the last find a word for the present.

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

Aaron	Eli	Jacob		Paul
Abel	Elijah	James	Malachi	Pharaoh
Adam	Esau	Jesus Christ	Mark	Pilate
Amos	Esther	Job	Mary	
Angel	Eve	Joel	Matthew	Reuben
Anna		John	Moses	Ruth
	Ham	Joseph		
Cain	Herod	Joshua		Samson
			Naomi	Sarah
		Levi	Nathaniel	Saul
Daniel	Isaac	Lot		Shem
David		Luke		Simeon
Delilah				
				Titus