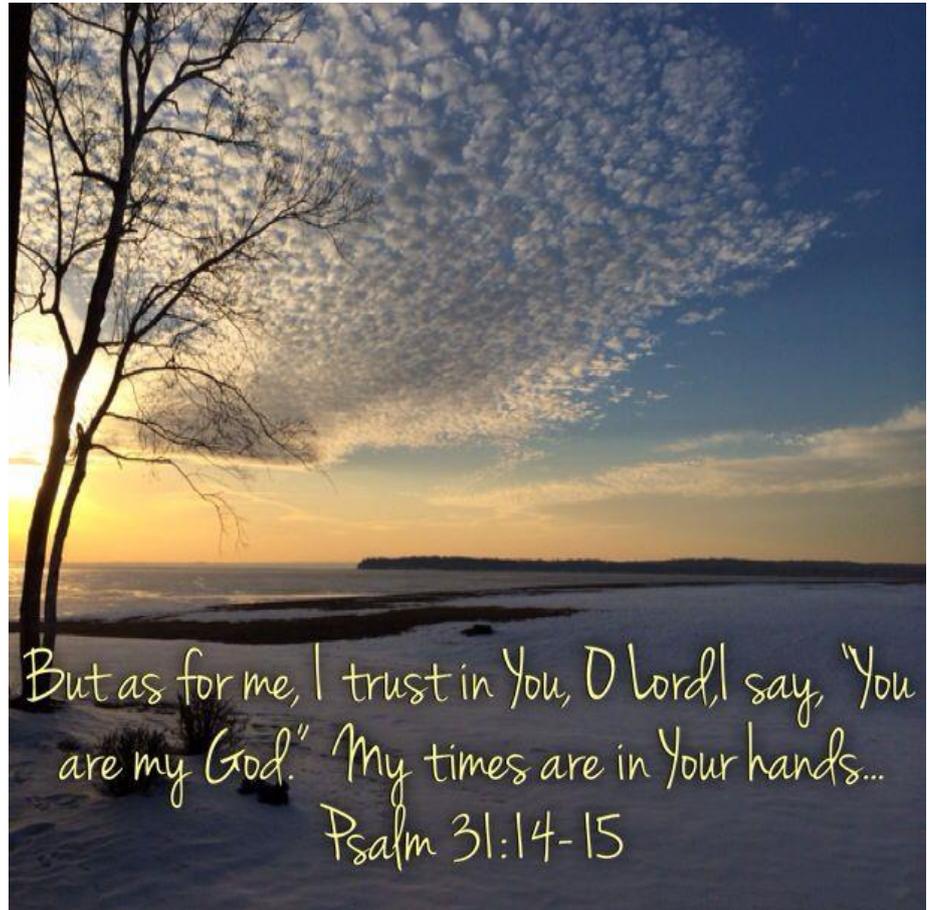




THE UNITING CHURCH
in Australia

ORMOND



*But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord, I say, 'You
are my God.' My times are in Your hands...
Psalm 31:14-15*

THE

PATHFINDER

OCTOBER 2021

MINISTER'S LETTER:

The end of an era.....

In shortly over a month all of the buildings of Ormond Uniting Church, apart from the church itself, will be demolished. I am conscious as Cathy and I have rattled around in these buildings during COVID what a sad space this is, with all the life gone from it.

I grew up in a Presbyterian, then Uniting, church which had a similar array of buildings to Ormond: substantial church, old, rather tired, pre-war hall, and then a new suite of buildings opened in the early 1960s, with netball and tennis courts out the back. My family was part of all the activities that took place in these buildings: Sunday School, PFA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Tennis Club, women's and men's groups through the week. I recall the groups of men and women who collaborated and rallied to build and maintain and clean buildings and to tend the garden; how the place was cared for and deliberated over! I remember the two builders in the congregation who always seemed to be at the church, building or repairing something and consulting with others. I recall how sensitive decisions about whether to have a cross in the former Presbyterian church and where it would be placed seemed to take forever. Whether the flags had a place in the church. It was a place where community life was focussed and took place.

As I prepared to write this, I dipped into a stewardship brochure from another church from the same era. There are copious photos of booming families, lots of Sunday School classes, committees of men and women focused on the task of a stewardship program to raise money for new buildings. I am conscious of how that generation contributed to a vision of the church which has now passed away. In this time, it is a challenge to live into a new vision of the church; that 1960s vision casts a long shadow. It also casts a strong legacy.

The contributions that each family made in both their lives and their finances is a rich inheritance of dedication and faithfulness. The call to congregational life and mission runs throughout the pages of the history of this and so many other churches. It is so important to not lose touch with that vision and the commitment which undergirded it.

Continued on page 3

PEOPLE PAGE

Some generous householders have planted at least 100 bright tulip bulbs on the park - side of their back fence for the enjoyment of lockdown walkers in Hawthorn East. It is a beautiful act of generosity in a weary world . These gorgeous exotic flowers sit in a park planted with natives . There is room for both .



FRONTIER SERVICES BBQ – This Saturday (2/10), 12.30 p.m.



This will be an online event. We have arranged for **Frontier Services chaplain, Marian Bisset** to come online with us at 1.30 p.m. and talk about her work so we hope you will be able to join us.

The demand for the work of Frontier Services continues to grow. Parts of Australia have been facing the longest drought since European settlement, areas have been overrun with colossal mouse plagues and effects of the 2019-2020 bushfires continue to be felt. The traumatic impact of these events continues to be felt for years, if not decades. It is with people in these circumstances that Frontier Services chaplains work. This year they plan to recruit a further six chaplains to meet the needs of remote Australians. Help support and value this ongoing work founded by the Methodist and Presbyterian churches.

Donations to Frontier Services work can be made online at:

<https://greatoutbackbbq.com.au/donate-to-a-bbq/>

In the **Search** field type in “Ormond Uniting Church” to contribute to our joint effort.

You can participate in one of two ways on the day:

- Join in for lunch at **12.30** – we will create breakout rooms so you can join us and be allocated to a virtual space to chat with a few others while you have lunch.
Join us at **1.30** to hear from Marian.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84063082160?pwd=cUd3Z2l5OFFGSk41dTU1MIU3TDVWQT09>

Meeting ID: **840 6308 2160** Passcode: **180887** Dial in on: **7018 2005**

Continued from page 1

Nevertheless, there is a deep sadness about what is going. We shouldn't ignore the grief that we feel and the possibility of new life and inspiration which will arise out of our grief. It has been a courageous decision to undertake a rebuilding project and it has and still will require energy to sustain your life and push through the ensuing two years of disruption. In spite of COVID, I sense that the congregation is in good heart and people long to be back together again, to be in the church and each other's company again; to worship together.

The ghastly, protracted uncertainty of COVID is drawing to a close, we trust, and things will be able to return to normal. Look out for each other, attend to your own and each other's feelings of uncertainty and grief, tend to the Body of Christ. Out of this will come resurrection.

Grace and peace,

Andrew

Remembering and Celebrating our Halls.....

Dotted through this edition of Pathfinder you'll find people's memories of how our halls have been used. Thank you to everyone who has contributed articles (Warwick, Heather, David, Elizabeth, Dot, Jan) and to Lorraine for several of the photos– we hope you enjoy them. May they inspire you to reflect on your own memories and perhaps send something for next month – written articles and photos welcome. We will also be including material on the website.

If you'd prefer to tell someone your story so we can write it down for you, please contact Dianne Richter (0413 750 089).

We have also set up an online option "Ormond Uniting Video Memories" where you can record your memories so we can create a video record. Here is the link:

<https://app.memento.com/ormond-uniting-video-memories/bo5dlK8Ap/record>

If you require assistance to record your memory, please contact Gary (0411116415) or garyrichter@yahoolcom.au. You don't need sophisticated recording equipment, just a smart phone or laptop with camera.



THE BIG STORIES OF OUR FAITH

Sometimes reading the scriptures can be strange and confusing. When a story seems a bit strange to us, we can rightly ask: Why this story? Where does it fit? Across the ark of both the Old and New Testaments there are some big stories into which much of the scriptures fit. Understanding these important stories and themes can make sense of a particular passage's meaning.

In this third course for 2021 we will explore the big themes of the scriptures. Some of these will include:

- Bondage and Liberation, Exile and Return and Sin and Forgiveness.
- We will explore the question: Does the violence of the crucifixion really redeem us?
- What does the event of the resurrection mean?

We will draw our material from the series *Living the Questions* and allow generous time for small group conversation.

When: **Thursdays 21st, 28th October & 4th November, 7.30pm.**

Where: Online by Zoom (if we are able to meet face to face, we will advise at the time)

Cost: \$30 for the course

Who: Led by Rev. Andrew Boyle

Enquiries and booking to: learninghub@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

GRAPHICS from: Cover: <https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/45458277463779284/>

Bayside Nursery: <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/bayside-community-nursery-currently-closed>,

GreenLink Logo: <http://www.greenlinksandbelt.org.au/>,

Great Outback BBQ logo: <https://greatoutbackbbq.com.au>,

Meet First peoples: <https://victas.uca.org.au/event/meet-the-first-peoples-of-gondwana/>,

Back Cover: <https://pbs.twimg.com/media/Ee1zNUSXYBIORVe.jpg>

Other photos submitted by congregation members

Moments in the Life of the North Road Hall...

Centenary Celebrations – October 2003

Many of you may well remember some grand moments of activities in the North Road Hall, during the Centenary Celebrations of Ormond Uniting Church in October 2003.

I had inherited the 'hotseat' role of chairman of the Centenary Planning Committee, with a host of enthusiastic and willing members and a tight timeline to boot. Several occasions stood out in the whole month-long activities and services. The first was a very well attended children's activity



afternoon for kinder and primary aged children. Working with Margaret Griffiths (Children & Family Worker), Lorraine Denniston and many others, the hall became a fun filled playground, with children's games, craft activities, a jumping castle and of course the usually splendid afternoon tea. I'm not sure my ears ever recovered from the bubbling level of shrill excitement that day!

A fortnight later, on Saturday the 18th of October we held a bush dance in the hall with some 60 to 70 people present. The Muck Rakers music group sang and called the moves to energetic dancers of all ages and dress. Hay bales added to the decoration, along with streamers, balloons and colourful clothing. It was a great night's lively entertainment, with a lovely supper to finish the occasion.



Then following the final Centenary Service, led by the Rev Sue Gorman (Moderator of UC) and Reverend John Lamont, with many of the former Ministers of Ormond present, the huge congregation went to the hall. Here 150 people enjoyed some entertainment, a few speeches and a light box luncheon. Muriel Pollock and several others had arranged for the delivery of these boxes early that morning and they quietly thawed in the back room, hopefully in time for lunch. I remember some of the bottom boxes that we handed out were still a bit cold and moist! But no one suffered any indigestion. After the



formalities were over and a magnificent Power Point screening of moments and people from the churches 100-year life, the level of conversation, laughter and engagement was truly amazing. People chatted for hours catching up with folk they hadn't seen in years.

The North Road Hall was bursting at the seams that day with the joyful life of Ormond people past and present, a fitting end to Centenary celebrations and a great spur to the future.

Warwick



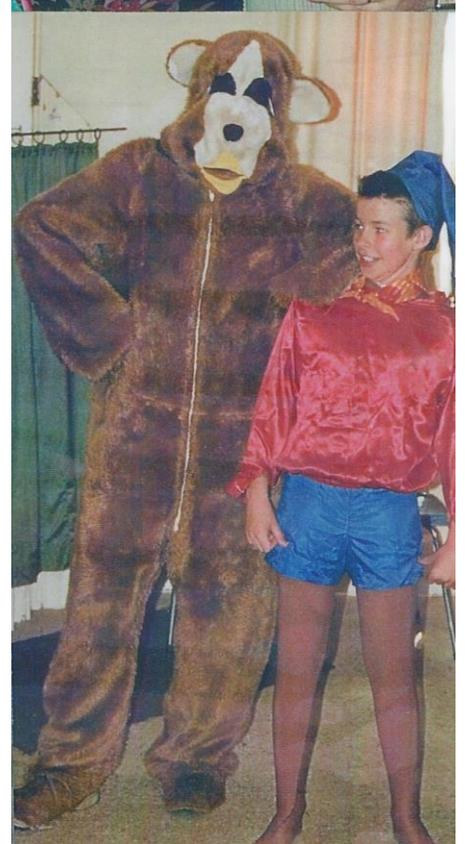
North Road Hall Memories.....

It was good when **GEALC** had their **annual multi-cultural day** in the North Rd hall and on the tennis courts. It was nice mowing the tennis courts in readiness knowing that a large group of people would enjoy the day on that space as well as in the North Roud hall

The North Rd Hall was the space that some of us set up for **Playgroup**. With minimal resources of pencils, crayons, home-made playdough and donated puzzles the group grew to include many families of the surrounding area.

Sunday School used the area extensively over many years, with **Christmas pantomimes performed by Adelphi Players** and icecream to follow being a highlight for the little ones.

KUCA Club used the North Road Hall and **KUCA Plus** the Booran Road Hall. Here kids from the local primary school formed connections to each other and the adults who had the courage to take on the high activity of children. Story, singing, games and activities and noise, noise, noise. I am thankful for all the adults that assisted in this terrifying adventure.



Stewardship dinners and presentations pulled different sections of the congregation together.

Musicals created by Jane Baxter and produced by her father John were well received.

and some Booran Rd Hall Memories

My memory of the Booran Rd Hall was when we had a period where we couldn't use the church for worship. It was a very nice albeit temporary arrangement.

I always enjoyed the evening services. It was a very cosy and friendly environment.

Love Heather & David

**Lorraine has supplied many of the photos used this month.
Here are a couple more**



TOWARDS ZERO:

10 things that can reduce emissions in your household

By Rev Dr Ji Zhang (<https://uniting.church/ji-zhang/>) who works for the UCA Assembly and is helping us with the design of our new buildings.

1. Don't waste hot water • Hot water uses up to 50% of household energy. • Switch old shower heads to new efficient ones for free. • Take shorter showers. • Switch washing machine from hot washes to a cold cycle. • Our household has installed a hot water unit through the government rebate programs (also available for heat pump units). It has saved us a lot of money each year.
2. Avoid dryer, use sunshine • A clothes dryer uses a large amount of energy. • Australia has so much sunshine, even in winter we have ways to dry our clothes.
3. Don't lose warm and cool air • 25% of energy usage in Australia household is caused by air draughts and improper seal. • We have stopped the leaks through a 6-star energy design.
4. Switch to evaporative cooling or reverse cycle air conditioning units • Cooling could use more than 70% of household energy in summer. • We switched to evaporative cooling in Melbourne. • If you live in areas which cannot use evaporative cooling, switch to reverse cycle air conditioning units, and set the temperature at 24 degrees in summer and 20 in winter.
5. Less roast beef in oven, more slow-cooked pork in a pressure cooker • An electric oven uses a lot of energy. One roast meal could use a month's worth of electricity for all your LED lights. • We eat more pork than beef. We use a pressure cooker and steamer more often than oven because they are far more efficient.
6. Switch to LED lights for free • There are various government funded programs for switching to LED lights. • We have LED lights throughout the household.
7. Turn off the lights • There is no reason to waste electricity. • We teach our children to turn off the lights, don't forget the outdoor lights.
8. Don't leave appliances on Stand-By. • Up to 10% of household energy is wasted through Stand-By when our appliances are not being used. We have gradually updated our appliances that have built-in smart power supplier units.
9. Better garden • Trees and vegetable gardens can create a better living environment and reduce heat in summer. We compost kitchen waste and green waste for our vegetable garden and reduce landfill.
10. Don't buy bottled water, use reusable bottles.

https://mk0unitingchurcq6akw.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/10-THINGS-CAN-REDUCE-WASTE-AND-EMISSIONS_Final.pdf

See also <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/race-to-zero-campaign>. For wider perspective. GR

Did you know there are Indigenous Nurseries in our area?

1. Greenlink Sandbelt Indigenous Nursery

587 Heatherton Road

CLAYTON

<http://www.greenlinksandbelt.org.au/>



2. Bayside Indigenous Plant Nursery

315-317 Reserve Road

CHELTENHAM

<https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/bayside-community-nursery-currently-closed>

Both nurseries are not-for-profit organisations committed to educating and advising the community on the value of Indigenous flora and fauna. Enjoy visiting the links to the websites and visiting in person when they reopen.

Marg Phyland is a volunteer at Greenlinks and recommends the book 'INDIGENOUS PLANTS OF THE SANDBELT; A GARDENING GUIDE FOR SOUTH EASTERN MELBOURNE' by Rob Scott. The book is published by Earthcare St Kilda. It is also held by Glen Eira, Bayside and Monash Public Libraries. Marg tells me the book is great for working out which Indigenous plants grew in our area. It also contains many photos.

Lorraine Denniston

For ORMOND UNITING INDIGENOUS ACTION GROUP



SOME OF MY MEMORIES OF NORTH ROAD HALL:

- Way, way back teaching Sunday School through to my time as Administrator.
- Busy times with hall always alive with dance groups. play groups, people calling in seeking food vouchers, etc.
- Other busy times included the regular blood bank sessions and fete days with lots of indoor stalls as well as outside.



- One event I always enjoyed was the luncheons. Members worked in pairs. Jill Barr and I shared a table setting up with best tablecloth, cutlery, crockery from our homes and flower arrangement and served our guests our favourite casseroles. Beryl Craig provided the desserts, a task later taken on by my sisters, Dot and Jan. People were invited from neighbouring churches – a busy but very enjoyable day.



Elizabeth Inglis

Lectionary Readings

October 3	Pentecost 19	Job 1:1, 2:1-10, Psalm 26, Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16
October 10	Pentecost 20	Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Psalm 22:1-15, Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31
October 17	Pentecost 21	Job 38:1-7, (34-41), Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c, Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45
October 24	Pentecost 22	Job 42:1-6, 10-17, Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22), Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52
October 31	Pentecost 23	Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34
November 1	All Saints Day	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 or <i>Isaiah</i> 25:6-9, Psalm 24, Revelation 21:1-6a, John 11:32-44
November 7	Pentecost 24	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

Important Contact Info:

Rev. Andrew Boyle: Mobile: [0409 869 009](tel:0409869009)
 Email: ajmboyle@outlook.com

Rev Deacon Pam White: Mobile: [0434 378 099](tel:0434378099)
 Email: pamdwhite@optusnet.com.au

Church Office: Tues, Friday (9.00 am - 3.30 pm)
 Phone: [0411 958 127](tel:0411958127)

Email: office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

Rosters

	Prayers	Communion	Early Word	Reading	Resource Delivery
3 rd October	Marg D	Mardie T Heather B		Marg D	Brenda G
10 th October	David N			Lisa S Karen O	Marg D
17 th October	Dianne R			Frank O	Warwick B
24 th October	Mardie T		Heather B	Robyn M	Heather B
31 st October	Warwick B			David N	Ron T
7 th November	Ron T	Warwick B Marg D		Lisa S	Mardie T

MEMORIES of BLOOD BANK in NORTH ROAD HALL

An outreach to the community was provided over many years with the use of the hall by the Blood Bank Service. Members of our congregation were rostered to serve tea, coffee, biscuits and cheese to the donors. This duty provided a great time to get to know your teammate and also the donors who came on a regular basis to the sessions.

An extra duty on very hot days was to keep watch over those who fainted!

Dot & Jan Rose



	Door	Counting	Sound	Flowers
03 10	Warwick B Russell H	Dennis T Jan D	Nev P	Jan R Dot R
10 10	Graeme D Marg D	Joan C Dot R	Gary R	
17 10	Lorraine D Brenda G	Marg D Gary R	Graeme D	
24 10	Frank O Gary R	Graeme D Ruth M	Nev P	
31 10	Lisa S Hans T Lynne P	Dot R Jan R	Robyn M	
07 11	Mardie T Elizabeth N	Hans T Dennis T	Gary R	Heather B Michelle K



[Meet the Peoples of Gondwana](#)

As previously advertised, this Zoom seminar is on 12th October from 9am to 12.30pm. Zoom link will be given on registration – link below, cost \$20 (incl. Eventbrite fees).

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/meet-the-first-peoples-of-gondwana-tickets-167694624135>

Led by Rev. Dr. Garry Deverell a Trawlolway man from northern Lutrawita (Tasmania), we will be guided through the identity, history, resulting situation and aspirations of Indigenous peoples and how we can work with them to achieve something resembling justice.



Diary Dates

Saturday 2nd October 12.30 p.m. Big Day Out
Sunday 10th October 11.00 a.m. Monthly After-Worship Chat
Tuesday 19th October 7.45 p.m. Church Council
Thursday 21st October 7.30 p.m. The Big Stories of our Faith course
Thursday 28th October 7.30 p.m. The Big Stories of our Faith course
Monday 1st November 6.00 p.m. Material for *Pathfinder* due
Thursday 4th November 7.30 p.m. The Big Stories of our Faith course
Sunday 14th November 11.00 a.m. Monthly After Worship Chat
Tuesday 16th November 7.45 p.m. Church Council



*I sought the Lord
and he answered me.*

*He delivered me from
all my fears.*

PSALM 34:4 CEB