

Toorak Uniting Church

Update 12 February 2017

office@toorakuc.org.au
www.toorakuc.org.au

Phone: 9829 0300
Sunday services 9am & 10.15am

Still Thinking – The Gold Ring– Christopher Page



There is a famous Jewish tale about happiness. King Solomon, who was extremely wealthy, wanted to teach one of his palace officials a lesson in humility. He sent him out on a wild goose chase to find a magical ring. Solomon told the official, “If a happy man looks at the ring, he becomes sad, and if a sad man looks at it, he becomes

happy.”

The official spent months in search of the magical ring. Finally he asked a merchant in Jerusalem, “Have you by any chance heard of a magic ring that makes the happy wearer forget his joy and the broken-hearted wearer forget his sorrows?”

He watched the merchant take a plain gold ring from his carpet and engrave something on it. When the official read the words on the ring, his face broke out in a wide smile. He went back to Solomon. “Well, my friend,” said Solomon, “have you found what I sent you for?” To his surprise, the official held up a small gold ring and declared, “Here it is, your majesty!” As soon as Solomon read the inscription, the smile left his face. The jeweller had written in Hebrew letters on the gold band the words, - יעבור זה גמ *Gam zeh ya'avor* - “*This too shall pass.*” At that moment Solomon realized that all his wisdom, wealth and power were fleeting things, and one day could all be gone.

Please note: There will be no 9:00am service on February 26th.

Our Whole Church Family worship service begins at 10:15am.

Following the whole church family service on Sunday February 26, all are invited to join in a sausage sizzle and picnic lunch with salads, bread, cake and fruit.

If you would like to contribute a salad or slice that would be much appreciated.

Please RSVP to the office or Barbara McKinnon barbara.mckinnon@bigpond.com, 0405 987 890 to assist with numbers for catering and special dietary requirements.

Interfaith Service, TODAY, 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Toorak Uniting Church

An interspiritual inclusive Service with glorious music.

All welcome!

Master percussionist David Jones and acclaimed
ABC meditation artist Carmen Warrington.

Celebrating the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week

Diary Dates

Sun 12 Feb	3.00pm	Interfaith Service	Church
Thu 16 Feb	10.00am	Morning Group AGM & Communion	Church
Thu 23 Feb	10.00am	Prayers for Christian Unity	St Johns
Sun 26 Feb	10.15am	Whole Church Family Service: Relationships	Church
Sun 26 Feb	11.15am	Cong. Mtg: election of Elders & Cong. Chair	Church
Mon 13 Mar		Office Closed—Labour Day holiday	
Sun 19 Mar	10.15am	Service on Death and Dying	Church
Thu 13 Apr	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Church
Fri 14 Apr	10.15am	Good Friday Service	Church
Sun 16 Apr	10.15am	Easter Sunday Service	Church
Tue 25 Apr		Office Closed—ANZAC Day holiday	
Sun 30 Apr	10.15am	Whole Church Family Service: ANZAC Day	Church

A friendly reminder to Church Council and Committee members that
ANNUAL REPORTS are due.

Please email them to the Office ASAP!

Thank you.



Julian Burnside to Speak at Ewing Memorial Centre

Julian Burnside AO SC will be featured at a Progressive Christian Network of Victoria public address at the Ewing Memorial Centre, cnr of Burke Rd and Coppin St, East Malvern at 3.00pm next Sunday, 19 February. Mr Burnside is a senior barrister at the Melbourne Bar and a prominent critic of Australia's treatment of asylum

seekers, especially those who have arrived here as "boat people". He will give his views on the present Commonwealth policies and processes and suggest what should be done to create a more humane system for dealing with refugees. There will be ample time for Q&A and public discussion. Admittance \$7 (PCNV members \$5) with net proceeds going to the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre.

CONGREGATION MEETING AND ELECTION OF ELDERS

A Meeting of the Congregation will be held on **Sunday 26th February 2017** immediately after the 10.15am service.

The purpose of the meeting will be the election of elders and the election of a new Chair of the Congregation.

In our thoughts and prayers:

The families and friends of
Robin Stewardson, Lorna Handbury, Rosemary McCallum and Lois Iljin,
all of whom passed away in the past few weeks.

MUSIC NOTES:

- ♪ The choir will resume singing in the 10.15am service next Sunday.
- ♪ Andrew Blackburn and Jean Penny will be guest performers in the annual Lady White Memorial Organ Recital on Sunday 21 May 2017 at 2pm. Please save the date now for this special concert. Andrew is a former Director of Music of TUC. He and Jean will share with us magnificent music written for organ and flute.

USE OF THE FAICHNEY ROOM

Please note that due to renovation of the John Macrae Centre building, the JMC program will be run in the Faichney Room during January and February. The renovations are due to be completed by 3 March. Fingers crossed!



Please consider joining the TUC **Planned Giving Stewardship Programme**.
Contact Stan Laugher: 9813 5242 / 0427 401 299 / stanlaugher@acslink.net.au.
The 2017 Planned Giving Envelope Sets are now available for collection.

Welcome to Toorak Uniting Church

We welcome all people irrespective of race, religion, political views, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or age. Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to; whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here at Toorak Uniting Church.

Please come and join us after the service for fellowship and a cup of tea or coffee.

2017 promises to be an exciting and enriching year at Kinross Arts Centre with special events and diverse exhibitions such as the Blake Prize tour.



RE-EMERGENCE by Judi Singleton

Judi Singleton is a Roar Artist working with oils and ceramics. Her work explores her journey of illness and recovery and a 're-emergence' into the art world and experience of exhibiting again.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE 64th BLAKE PRIZE at Kinross Arts Centre & TUC

Would you like to help with the 64th Blake Prize exhibition and symposium in April and May 2017? Tasks include welcoming visitors; guiding tours; assisting with special events and promoting the exhibition to a wide audience. All volunteers will be trained and briefed on March 22 and will receive an information pack including a free catalogue about the artwork. A thank you event for volunteers will be held on Thursday 25th May. Exhibition Dates: April 7th - May 26th Symposium Dates: May 11th - 13th

Please email Lyndel on manager@kinrossarts.org.au to express your interest in helping out with this major event in 2017.

A gift to **Share** in your Will leaves a lasting legacy for people who are disadvantaged or in crisis. Your support will be planting seeds of hope for future generations.

For information about including Share in your Will, call 1800 668 426 or visit www.shareappeal.org.au/wills

Baptism, Confirmation, Membership

If you are considering one of these Christian practices now or in 2017, please see the Minister to discuss it further. There is no age limit on any of them!