



In Touch

FEBRUARY 2017

TOORAK UNITING CHURCH

MINISTER: Rev. Dr Christopher Page

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Contemplation, meditation and prayer are vital aspects for a healthy life. Unfortunately, they often take a back seat to those pressing activities that require our immediate attention. The advantage of a life that incorporates these spiritual practices is that our actions are more thoughtful and we are able to measure what is of value and what is of lesser value in our lives.



For over six years I have lead a Contemplative group at the Wellspring Spirituality Centre in Ashburton. The group of about a dozen people spend time in meditation and personal contemplative reflection on a poem or an object of art and then those who wish to are invited to share their experience. It is an open group with new people always welcome. The "Circle" meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 10am until 12:30pm, \$30 per session. The next gathering is March 15th. If you are interested and would like more information call Christopher on 0417 506 338.



Rev Dr Christopher Page

[Easter Services at TUC](#)

April 13 at 7:30pm

Maundy Thursday service of communion and meditation

April 14 at 10:00am

Good Friday Service

April 16 at 10:15am

Easter Sunday Worship



Toorak Ecumenical Movement' s [Lenten Studies](#) series will be "*Looking at St. Matthew's Passion Narrative (Matthew 26:1 - 27:66) from Art and the Mystics*" on Tuesday evenings: **March 14** at the Swedish Church, **March 21** at St Peter's and **March 28** at St John's. **7:30-9:00pm**. Tea and biscuits following the presentation. All welcome.

TUC Office 9829 0300

John Mackenzie Kindergarten 9829 0331

John Macrae Centre 9829 0320

Uniting Arts Toorak / Kinross House 9829 0340

Manse Gallery Café 9829 0341

Alan Watson Centre Dancing Class 9829 0310

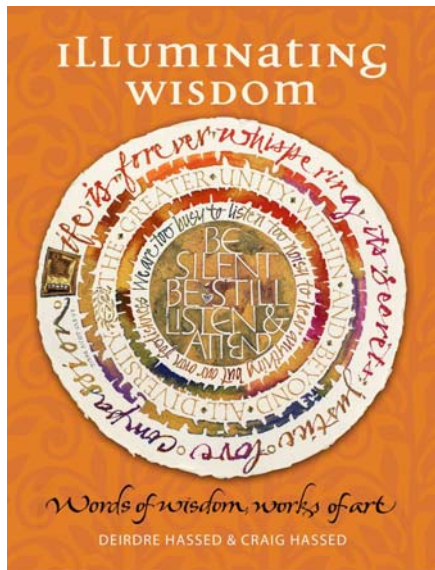
KINROSS ARTS & SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

Gallery, Café, Studios.

8.30am-3.30pm M-F.

9829 0340 | 0404 078 105

manager@kinrossarts.org.au | www.kinrossarts.org.au | www.facebook.com/KinrossArtsCentre



MARCH

"Illuminating Wisdom - Words of wisdom, works of art" - the calligraphy of Deirdre Hassed and launch of her book, written, illustrated and produced with her husband, Craig Hassed - renowned physician and mindfulness expert.

Opening & Launch: **Fri. 3 March, 6 - 8pm.** Guest Speaker: Dr Ian Gawler

OAM. Book signing, Art, Print & Book Sales.

Until 26 March, incl. Sundays 12 - 4pm

"Women & Wisdom"

Wednesday 8th March (International Women's Day), 10am - 11.30am

A personalised tour of the exhibition with Deirdre Hassed, followed by morning coffee and conversation.

\$10 pp. incl. morning tea.

APRIL & MAY

"The 64th Blake Prize Touring Exhibition" 7 April - 26 May

Open 10am - 3pm Mon-Fri, 12 - 4pm Sun.

Premiere: Fri. 7 April, 5 - 8pm. (FREE)

Easter Viewing 14 - 16 April with Rev Dr Chris Page, TUC. (FREE)

Rev Tim Costello AO & Artists Thu. 27 April, 2 - 5pm. (FREE)

Australia & 'The Divine Image' Symposium 11 - 13 May (TICKETED)

Atmospheric Concert, Panel Discussion, Conversations & Workshops.

Exhibition Entry by Donation. Colour Catalogues: \$30.00 each.

Information and bookings: www.kinrossarts.org.au

We look forward to seeing you at these wonderful creative happenings.

Bring a friend and relish the opportunity to be culturally and spiritually enriched!



The Toorak Ecumenical **Food For Friends 2016 Appeal**

was very successful. Volunteers accepted donated grocery items from local supermarket customers and distributed this food to 13 front-line agencies nominated by TUC, St Peter's and St John's churches. Huge thanks to all those who volunteered their time and talents to make this appeal meaningful to so many people.

REGULAR EVENTS AT TUC

Sunday Worship services

Sundays at 9:00am (informal). Communion 1st Sunday of the month
Sundays at 10:15am. Communion 3rd Sunday of the month

Whole Church Family Worship services (no 9am)

10.15am, last Sunday of February, April, June, August & October
Usually followed by a delicious lunch! Please check our website to confirm.

Morning Group for men & women (Feb-Nov)

10am, 3rd Thursday of the month. Guest speaker & discussion. All welcome.

Retreat: A Contemplative Circle. Theme "Solitude in Community"

Space for reflection, meditation, silence, input through poetry, readings, reflective activities with quiet times and conversation.

Centre for Ecology & Spirituality, 183 Burns Rd, Glenburn VIC 3717
9:30am Sat. 6 May - 3pm Sun. 7 May. Cost: \$250. Incl. meals, study materials, accommodation and linen. (Sat. only: \$100). Payments to

WellSpring. Bring comfortable clothes and walking shoes.
Contact Chris Page: cpage@netspace.net.au | 0417 506 338



2017 has started with great enthusiasm at JMK.!

We have 10 dedicated, trained and experienced educators working with 85 children over 4 groups.

We are a Community based kindergarten and have great pride in the involvement of our families to help continue the great traditions of JMK.

The children participate in a play based program in line with the Early Years Framework of Belonging , Being and Becoming. The program includes music, yoga and relaxation, dance, Letterland and wonderful play opportunities in our beautiful established outdoors space.

We are hoping to further develop relationships here at TUC with the John Macrae Centre and the Kinross Art Gallery.

There are still limited spaces available this year at JMK. Please contact me for a tour of our centre. Tel: 9827 1855.

Dianne Cookesley, JMK Director



Milestones ...

Baptisms

27 Nov - Lachlan John Hunter

04 Dec - Julian Allan DeSilva

Marriages

18 Nov - Andrew Montague & Samantha Moran

19 Nov - Sandeep Abeywickrema & Nipuni Mallawarachchi

07 Dec - Daniel Calou & Maryanne Xuereb

31 Dec - Joel Peterson & Kate Hatzopoulos

07 Jan - Ian Wong & Mandy Wu

11 Feb - Daniel Lim & Jun Chong

17 Feb - Anton Sabljak & Tara Murnane

Funerals

19 Jan - B. Robin Stewardson

03 Feb - Ralph Holdsworth

07 Feb - Rosemary McCallum



TOORAK ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT

Toorak Op Shop

Donations and church volunteers very welcome! Open Mon-Sat. 10am-4pm.

1a Carters Ave, Toorak. ph. 9827 3172.

Prayers for Christian Unity

Ecumenical services 10:00-10:30am last Thursday of the month (Feb-Nov). followed by refreshments and a chat. All welcome.

30 Mar. TUC | **27 Apr.** Swedish Church |

25 May St Peter's | **29 Jun.** St John's |

27 Jul. TUC | **31 Aug.** Swedish Church |

28 Sep. St Peter's | **26 Oct.** St John's |

30 Nov. TUC

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences Sun. 28 May, with services during the following week at noon.

30 May: TUC | 31 May: Swedish Church

01 June: St John's | 02 June: St Peter's.

DANCE CLASS

Dance Class has completed the first two weeks of their calendar and all seem to be enjoying their classes with very positive feedback coming in.

I think, for the first time in Dance Class history, certainly for the first time since I have been doing this job anyway, it's wonderful that we have equal, if not slightly more boys than girls enrolled!!

Numbers are good for the three Semester 1 classes and we are in a positive position for the Semester 2 classes as well.

Rhonda as head teacher, Edwina, Rachelle and John, assistant teachers, Paul and William as security are all back with us for what is looking like another successful year.



"Live, Breathe, Dance"

Lin Cooper, Dance Class Coordinator

JOHN MACRAE CENTRE

Our members had a few surprises in the week leading up to Christmas with entertainment and food. The highlight of each day was a visit from Santa Claus with small gifts for each person and which everyone could not stop talking about. I don't know if any wishes were granted!!

We were kept busy packing and storing ready to move in January as renovations to the Centre commenced on the 16th of January. We are very grateful to the Church for allowing us the use of the Faichney and Mackie Rooms during the renovations. After a few initial reservations, everyone has enjoyed the temporary space, and taken advantage of the courtyard at every opportunity. We also wish to thank the Office staff and James for their help during our stay.

We will be back in the Centre in the first week of March and look forward to enjoying all the refurbishments!



Katrina Szabo, JMC Director

GOOD FRIDAY MUSIC SERVICE:



On Good Friday, the congregation is invited to come to The Way of the Cross (Via Crucis) by Franz Liszt performed by the TUC Choir and Soloists. Inspired by paintings of Johann Friedrich Overbeck, Franz Liszt started working on the piece in 1873 and finished it in 1879. He hoped from the first that one day it would accompany the Via Crucis celebrated by the Pope in Rome near the Coliseum on Good Friday. The work was a new kind of church music and never performed in Liszt's lifetime, the

first performance was not until 1929 in Budapest. It includes the Fourteen Stations of the Cross, with Liszt giving the keyboard instrument the task of telling the holy story.

SAVE THE DATE : ANNUAL LADY WHITE ORGAN RECITAL, SUNDAY 21 MAY at 2:00pm:

Former TUC Director of Music Andrew Blackburn, and Jean Penny will give an Organ and Flute recital on Sunday 21st May at TUC. In 2011, Andrew and Jean went to Malaysia where they spent five years as senior lecturers in the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts at the Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris - Tanjong Malim. Since 2012, Jean has been Chief Editor of the Malaysian Music Journal. In 2013, both Jean and Andrew were invited to join the Commonwealth Intercultural Arts Network, a Centre being established by the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, UK. They returned to Melbourne in July last year.



Jennifer Chou, Music Director

COMMUNITY GROUPS currently meeting at TUC :

Aust. Native Orchid Soc.
Stan 9511 4211

Bridge for beginners
Sue 0402 137 143

Dickens Fellowship
Lyndsey 9370 7404

Feldenkrais Study Group
Diana 9510 1757

Ikebana International
Sally 9882 4021

Joanne Brown Bridge
Gary 0418 570 430

Le Club Enfants
Carla 0407 325 919

P. Brown Handbell Choir
Jennifer 0410 844 552

Soozexercises
Sue 9827 2787

Tai Chi
Gary 0407 855 344

Weight Watchers
Sally 0419 316 852

Yoga Mitra
Fiona 0400 404 384

Yoga with Jean
Jean 0417 363 137