

Toorak Uniting Church

Update 19 March 2017

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Phone: 9829 0300
Sunday services 9am & 10.15am

Still Thinking – Christopher Page

Spirit and Belief by *Bradley Flanders, Tamworth, New South Wales*

I look at these kids having fun and running free,
seeing their smiling faces without a care in the world,
hoping they don't fall over and scrape their knee.
But with a scared and frightened face,
we look up the road at the dust building in the air.

So we gather the children and say 'hurry, quick, run,
run as fast as you can over there, near the trees in the gully
you'll be safe for now, so please be silent'.

Then this police car pulls up
and we're hoping that the children will be quiet.
Two police officers jump out of the car
and one lonely black fulla following from behind.

They call him the Tracker but I wonder
how he can hunt his own kind.

We stand frightened, answering questions about our Aboriginality and where we
belong.

All we think of is if they take our children and for how long.

They send the Tracker off and I swear to you, without a lie,
within five to ten minutes, I hear this awful and terrible cry.
It's the children - two girls and one boy singing out aloud,
and the Tracker dragging them with a tear, but without a sound.

He throws them in the car and as the gungies [police] try to hold us back
from our kids they think that their Aboriginality is what they lack.

As they drive away, my heart breaks at the thought that my children have gone.
But I know I will get them back one day. That's what my heart has sworn.

I look back on that horrible day and all it brings is grief.

But I will have my children one day because my heart has great spirit and belief.

Be proud of who you are.



2016 ANNUAL REPORTS are due.

Please email them to the Office: office@toorakuc.org.au.

Thank you to those who have already responded.

Diary Dates

Tue 21 Mar	7.30pm	Lenten Studies	St Peter's Church
Sun 26 Mar	10.15am	Service on Living Well and Dying Well	St John's Church
Tue 28 Mar	7.30pm	Lenten Studies	TUC
Thu 30 Mar	10.00am	Prayers for Christian Unity	Church
Thu 13 Apr	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Church
Fri 14 Apr	10.00am	Good Friday Service	Church
Sun 16 Apr	10.15am	Easter Sunday Service	Church
Sun 23 Apr	5.00pm	Deadline for Annual Reports	Office
Tue 25 Apr		Office Closed—ANZAC Day holiday	
Sun 30 Apr	10.15am	Whole Church Family Service: ANZAC Day	Church
Sun 30 Apr	11.15am	Cong AGM: Reports & re-election of Elders	Church
Sun 07 May	9 & 10.15	Annual Report available	
Sun 21 May	9.30am	Congregation AGM	Church
Sun 21 May	2.00pm	Lady White Recital: A Blackburn & J Penny	Church

The **Week of Prayer** for Christian Unity begins on Sunday 28 May, with services during the following week at noon :

30 May—TUC,
31 May—Swedish Church,
01 June—St John's, and
02 June—St Peter's.

Lost Property has been piling up in the church office. There are several pairs of glasses, a few umbrellas, an electronic car key, a red scarf, a vase or two and other assorted bits and pieces. If you think any of these may be yours, please come to the office asap, as **they will be donated to the Op Shop if they are not claimed by the end of this week.**

The Progressive Christian Network at Stonnington Community Uniting Church presents Reem Sweid , who will address the following topics:

What does it mean to be a progressive Muslim?

What is the purpose of launching a progressive Muslim movement?

What challenges do we face? How do we tackle those challenges?

Reem Sweid is a social policy researcher, progressive Muslim advocate and founder and president of Muslims for Progressive Values in Australia. She is a doctoral student at the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. Her area of interests include government social cohesion policy, countering violent extremism, Muslim communities and social identity.



In our thoughts and prayers —

Lorraine Moir who has returned to Hopetoun Rehab.

David Smith, Pamela Wilson and their families.

David has now been moved to Caulfield Rehab.

Andrew Baldwin and Annette and Graeme as they support him.

Helen Clayton, who is at Darnlee and doing relatively well.

WALK for
JUSTICE
Bring Them Here **2017** **for**
REFUGEES

It's not fair

Close Manus, Close Nauru - Welcome Refugees - Permanent Protection

Palm Sunday, April 9
2pm State Library cnr Swanston & La Trobe Sts Melbourne

www.facebook.com/palmsundaywalk #justice4refugees



Toorak Ecumenical Movement's Lenten Studies series

"Looking at St. Matthew's Passion Narrative (Matthew 26:1 - 27:66) from Art and the Mystics"

continues on Tuesdays 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.

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.

'Living Well and Dying Well'

Reflection Seminars 9.00am and 10.15am

Sunday 26th March 2017

Toorak Uniting Church, 603 Toorak Rd, Toorak 3142

Join Rev Dr Christopher Page and Psychotherapist Lea Rose, for an in-depth open discussion of the deeper meaning of Living Well and Dying Well. Presented together with warmth, laughter and compassion. Bridging the vast educational gap on the subject of death, dying, quality end of life, grief and loss and what it truly means to live a fulfilling meaningful life.

Rev Dr Christopher Page

Minister of Toorak Uniting Church for the past six years. Director of 'StillThinking' Centre for the practice of contemplation, meditation and reflective learning.

"Contemplation, meditation and prayer are vital aspects for a healthy life".



Lea Rose

Pioneer and educator in her field, International Death and Dying Educator, Clinical Counsellor/ Psychotherapist with 25yrs of experience.

Founder of 'Living and Dying Well Counselling' and Author of 'LET'S TALK ABOUT IT! Finding Peace with Death and Dying in Everyday Life'

In private practice at Kinross Arts Centre, 603 Toorak Rd, Toorak. *"We all envision quality of life, we can also envision and insist on quality of life, death and dying"* Lea rose



Manse Gallery Café

Our Beautiful friends 'Raz and James' the owners of the Manse Gallery Café, Kinross Arts Centre, behind the Uniting Church will open 8am to 2pm for breakfast, morning tea and lunch to support this special event 'Lets continue this important discussion over a cuppa together'



For more information contact Lea Rose

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