

**LECTIONARY READINGS for
EASTER 5 and 6**

First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Gospel
Acts 7:55-60	31:1-5, 15-16	1 Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
Acts 17:22-31	66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21



**Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY**

Thursday, 07 May 2020

Time to Build a Better Future

A worldwide climate action led by school students is taking place on Friday 15 May.

UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer has offered a reflection and prayer for people to use in worship as a way of showing their support for the young people leading this global action.

"We have seen what can be achieved in a very short space of time to address a crisis that threatens us all," Dr Palmer said in her reflection, in reference to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We have another crisis that we need to face together – the crisis that our whole creation is groaning under the impacts of climate change, pollution, and degradation of our ecosystems.

"Emerging from the COVID crisis – what will we do?"

"As followers of Jesus, what are the values and practices we want to embrace and maintain? How will we bear witness to God's vision of the reconciliation and renewal of the whole creation?"

With restrictions in place due to COVID-19 pandemic, the climate action will take place online and UCA members are encouraged to show their support in creative ways.

People are encouraged to finish the sentence "I support a safe climate future for all because..." and to post the video on their social media channels on the day of the School Strike (15 May) with the hashtags #uniting4climate #BuildaBetterFuture #ClimateStrikeOnline.

Whilst there are many issues of concern during the pandemic, it is important not to lose focus on the crucial issues confronting our planet and all creation brought about by climate change. This crisis and the current lockdown globally have shown us, in small ways, how the planet can recover if we reduce our carbon outputs and pollution generally.

Written by Rebecca Beisler

<https://www.schoolstrike4climate.com/may15>

CHURCH OF THE TRINITY

An inclusive, caring, creative and vibrant Uniting Church community

**Minister:
Rev Susan Wickham
(0409 516 847)**

**Email:
susanwickham@icloud.com**

**STOP BY
CLOSED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**STAYING
IN TOUCH IN
STRANGE TIMES**



*Today is
EASTER 5*

NEWSLETTER

10 MAY 2020



**READ AN ARTICLE FROM E-NEWS WRITTEN BY THE
MODERATOR AND THE SYNOD REFUGEE ADVOCACY
GROUP—INSIDE**

**318 Goodwood Road, Clarence Park 5034 Phone: 8272 2564
Website: <http://churchofthetrinity.unitingchurch.org.au>**

A WARM WELCOME to all who are worshipping with us on-line!

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on-line on Tuesday, 12 May.

ELDERS will meet on-line on Tuesday 19 May.

MORE NEWS can be read on the Synod E-News page at ucenews@sa.uca.org.au ; and also national news from the Assembly at <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/>

If you are interested in viewing live-streaming services from other congregations around Australia, you can visit

assembly.uca.org.au/resources/ministry-during-covid-19

Oxfam Walk

A big “thank you” to those who have donated to Oxfam in support of my walk. Donations can still be received and I’m happy to discuss means of receipt.

On-line donations can be made by using the link; <https://fundraise.oxfam.org.au/f/071736928930> .

Thank you, John Pratt (8371 1934 or 0431 637 613)

#NobodyLeftBehind

By Bronte Wilson (Moderator) & the Synod Refugee Advocacy Group

Warm greetings to you in the name of the risen Lord.

We have all had challenges adjusting to restrictions in place in response to COVID-19. Many will have experienced a direct impact on their work and livelihoods. Others will have felt the impact of physical distancing on their well-being.

Our congregations have been affected by not being able to gather in our buildings for worship and other activities. We continue to pray for you and your church community, and encourage you to keep living with all the hope that is ours in Christ.

Many groups are particularly vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic, including refugees and people seeking asylum, who have been working and paying taxes, but many of whom have lost their jobs in this lockdown period.

They have been unable to access key elements of the Australian Government’s COVID-19 safety net. We believe it is essential that they are included in any government package designed to support people, the economy and public health. Without access to income support or even to

Medicare it may be a challenge for public health and safety requirements to be observed, or to access treatment as required.

As Moderator, I have recently signed an open letter to the Prime Minister titled “Nobody Left Behind: Ensuring people seeking asylum, refugees and other vulnerable groups are included in COVID-19 responses”. The Synod Refugee Advocacy group and I would like to encourage you to consider writing a personal letter or email to your Federal Member of Parliament and to the Premier of South Australia to remind them of their responsibility to support the most vulnerable. This includes those seeking asylum and refugees who are facing hardship as a result of losing their livelihoods due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The more of us who take this action, the more impact we can have and the greater our demonstration of the love of God for all people.

The Uniting Church in Australia has articulated its vision for a just Australia and we have a responsibility during the COVID-19 pandemic to make decisions that are compassionate, inclusive and just. Only in so doing, can we ensure Australia emerges from the COVID-19 crisis as a resilient, healthy and cohesive community. There are tens of thousands of refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia who are part of our communities, and they cannot be left behind at this time of great need.

A letter writing guide has been prepared to assist you to write a letter or email. Feel free to personalise it. It does not need to be lengthy, and can simply address the main points. *(Letterwriting guide attached)*

You are also encouraged to consider some of the following ways to support those in need:

- As mentioned above, email your MP to ensure no one is left behind during the COVID-19 health crisis
- Donate food, money, or volunteer for a UnitingCare Emergency Relief Centre near you
- Support Circle of Friends who are distributing food, rent, mobile phone payments, car registration, pharmacy bills etc to people in need.

Any small action will be a valuable contribution to ensure nobody is left behind at this time. These are practical ways we can continue to be the church and embody God’s love in the suffering world. Please hold refugees and those seeking asylum in your prayers, and undertake action with compassion and love.

Grace and peace,
Mr Bronte Wilson,
Moderator & the Synod Refugee Advocacy Group

5 May 2020

Any items for inclusion in the Newsletter can be sent to Val—no later than Thursday, if possible. val.canty@gmail.com