

AUGUST 9TH 2020

WALKERVILLE UNITING CHURCH

A community in Christ for all generations



A SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE

One of the things Paul seems keen to do in his letter to the Ephesians, is to raise their eyes to a bigger perspective to see the world through the lens of God's ultimate plan for everything and everyone. Even though he is writing to a single church in Asia Minor, it applies to everyone in the world.

Consequently, Paul writes in broad global terms reminding his readers of the "hope to which he [God] has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people" (Ephesians 1: 18). Doubtless, Paul has in mind the covenant promise that God made to the descendants of Abraham, that they would be his people and that he would be their God. As it is in Deuteronomy, "For the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance." (Deuteronomy 32: 9). This short verse conceals within it a huge and complex saga that is one of the primary themes of the entire biblical narrative. This is what God has been working toward all through the long history of Israel and now the church universal.

The centrepiece of this whole plan, according to Paul, is the power that God "exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms." (Ephesians 1: 20). Thus, Christ has proved himself worthy of the highest place of authority, and therefore "God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the

Scripture Readings:

- Old Testament:
Jeremiah 1: 4-12
- New Testament:
Ephesians 1: 18-23

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

- **Craft Group** *Tuesday*
11th August 9.30am to 12noon in Hall 2
- **Seniors Exercise**
Tuesday 11th
August 10.30am in Hall 1
- **Bible Study**
Wednesday 12th
August 10am in Hall 2
- **Prayer Group**
Wednesday 12th August
11.15am in Vestry
- **Playgroup** *Thursday*
13th August 9.30am
- **Men's Fellowship**
Thursday 13th August
7pm in Hall 2
- **WOW Lunch** *Sunday*
16th August 12.15pm The Kentish Hotel

A SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE CONT.

church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way" (v22-23). In simple language, what God has planned all along was executed through the life, death and resurrection of Christ and the ramifications of that fact are now unfolding through the church for the whole world.

What Paul is telling the Ephesians—and you and me—is that we get to be participants in the main thing that God is doing throughout history. That may sound like a tall claim, and that's because it most certainly is. However, this puts what Paul is saying in perfect unison with the very things that Jesus said of himself. You'll remember how Jesus claimed to be the light of the world (John 8: 12); the bread of life (John 6: 35); the only way to the Father (John 14: 6); the true Messiah (Matthew 16: 16-20); the Son of God (John 10: 30); the forgiver of sins (Luke 5: 24); the lord of life (John 10:18) and so much more! All this is either entirely true and Jesus is everything that he claims to be, or he is none of it and the worst of charlatans and a narcissistic megalomaniac. There is no middle ground here. It's all or nothing and, for Paul, Jesus is everything he said he was, and the implications are therefore obvious and global.

Paul has clearly made up his own mind and now he is now throwing us into the very same all-or-nothing crucible of decision—what a dilemma! It is all in or all out. All other options are off the table.

In faith

David Kowalick

YOUTH GROUP



BOWLING AUG 2

ROSTERS

Assistants for Sunday 9th August

Welcomer: R Sellars

Morning Tea: Evan/Sampson

Prayer: S Farrant

Bible Reader: J Wiseman

Flowers: R Whitehead

Children's Chat: R Sellars

Godly Play: R Sellars & L Baum

Stewards & Counters: R Jew & M Millard

Sound Desk: R Jew

Assistants for Sunday 16th August

Welcomer: R Sellars

Morning Tea: Sandord/msg@5

Prayer: R Whitehead

Bible Reader: R Sellars

Flowers: H Penhall

Children's Chat: M Hobby

Godly Play: Children in Church

Stewards & Counters: R Jew & M Millard

Sound Desk: *could this be you?*

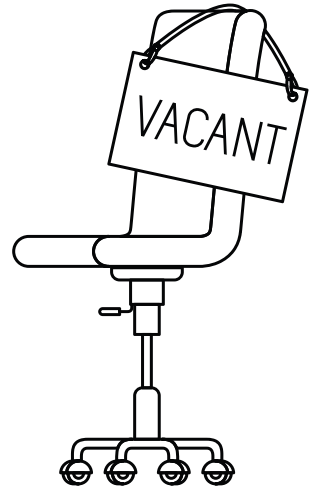
POSITION VACANT

Learn a new skill! We need sound desk operators for Sunday mornings.

You will be required to:

- switch the sound desk on
- press some buttons
- record the sermon
- switch things off

Applications to Reg Jew.



- Church Council meeting Monday 10th August in Hall 2, commencing with soup lunch at 11.30am.
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THE **WORD**
FOR **TODAY**

Word for Today
is available for
collection

COMING UP

- **msg@5** - NEXT WEEK August 16th, 5pm.
- **Hike Group** - Sunday August 23rd.
Yurrebilla Trail, Belair. Moderate Hike.
Meeting at Belair Railway Station
1.30pm. Contact John C for more
information 0400 445 714
- **Craft Group** - Tuesday 25th August
10am. Contact Helen B 0407 830 640
- **Ladies Chat Group** - Thursday 27th
August 1pm. Contact Kay Graham 8269
5538

*Correction - in the Messenger 'August Activities'
Men's Group was listed as Wednesday 13th
August. It should read Thursday 13th August.



YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
ARE INVITED



EXPLORE THE STORY OF the Prodigal Son

5pm to 6.30pm

SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH

@ Walkerville Uniting Church



Find us on
Facebook

17 SMITH STREET, WALKERVILLE
www.walkervilleunitingchurch.org.au

REFLECTIONS...

The leaders of the Uniting Church in Australia recently reflected on "What we are learning in response to COVID-19".

The following are some of the points made by Dr. Deidre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly, and Mr. Bronte Wilson, Moderator, Synod of South Australia:

Dr. Deidre Palmer:

Our best laid plans can be dramatically disrupted in the space of a few hours, days or weeks.

In times of crisis, we draw deeply from our relationship with God, our spiritual practices, and those things which bring meaning to our lives.

We have been reminded again of how much we need each other, and the need for generosity and kindness forming and transforming our world.

The Holy Spirit, Giver of life, and creative, loving presence of Christ in our world is active in the world.

Many communities have found that people have connected in to worship and discussion groups online, who would be reluctant to come in to a church building to participate.

As the Church, we continue to abide in Christ's love, and discern carefully, where the Holy Spirit is guiding us personally and communally.

In this time of disaster, great loss, and an exacerbation of the inequities of our world, God calls us to embody Christ's compassion and love, and to live God's vision of justice and flourishing for all people and the whole creation.

Mr. Bronte Wilson:

A significant learning from this experience is that as a church we can adapt and change when we recognise the need to do so.

Many, both within and outside the traditional church, are reflecting in a deeper way on their faith and spirituality, with an increased openness to talk about spiritual matters and even to engage in worship.

Discerning what to hold on to, and what to let go of, will hold challenges, alongside some perhaps surprising delights.

We pray that we might see this as an opportunity to carefully consider our priorities, to think about what we had once taken for granted, and to be challenged on how we understand and respond to our faith, our world, our relationships, and our church.



August is here!

Our Concert is this month! Tickets are on sale and selling fast. We can not wait to share this beautiful music with you in person. Please know we are doing all we can to make sure that you will be safe. Also if the event has to be cancelled due to Covid-19 all tickets are fully refundable.

www.trybooking.com/book/eventeid=643458&

WALKERVILLE UNITING CHURCH

Office Hours: Tue & Thur 9am - 12pm

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