

Pilgrim News - Sunday 2nd May 2021

At Pilgrim TODAY

8.00am Rev Dr Greg Elsdon
9.30am Denise Griffen & Margaret Chittleborough
11:00am Rev Dr Greg Elsdon



holding on

... and letting go

"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?" [Jesus of Nazareth]

"God give us strength. Strength to hold on and strength to let go. Amen"

[Michael Leunig]

"We all have a hunger for certitude, and the problem is that the Gospel is not about certitude, it's about fidelity. So what we all want to do if we can is immediately transpose fidelity into certitude, because fidelity is a relational category and certitude is a flat, mechanical category. So we have to acknowledge our thirst for certitude and then recognize that if you had all the certitudes in the world it would not make the quality of your life any better because what we must have is fidelity." [Walter Brueggemann]

News of Pilgrims and Prayer Points

John Green passed away on Tuesday night this week. Many of the 9.30 Community will remember John (husband of Elizabeth Green). John's funeral will be held at Darroch House (Bowen Funerals) 6 Briar Road, Felixstow **Thursday 6th May at 10.30am**. Please check with Noel on Sunday regarding possible morning tea prior to the Funeral Service rather than afterwards.

The life and health challenges being faced by so many Pilgrims are many and various. In our prayers this week we remember especially **Vikki Waller** who is recovering from recent surgery, **Marilyn Hyde** who has further chemotherapy on Monday, and **Dalece Pope** who lives with ongoing health challenges.

Why not make contact this week with someone you know who is doing it tough and would appreciate a visit, a phone call, a card or an email?

Last Monday at the beach. **Sue Ellis and Sandy** in the water with **Sylas Yarad**, our newest member at Pilgrim. What a wonderful time to support Sylas' baptism. So appreciative of those who came from Pilgrim for the occasion. Lots more photos uploaded to Pilgrim's Facebook page.



Sandy is in Melbourne for the next two Sundays on a short study course.

Practical help

During the past year it has become obvious that it is useful for Pilgrim people to be able to access practical help from other Pilgrims. This might take many forms; shopping if someone can't get out, being a required responsible adult to be around the night following day surgery, **initial** help with legal/social work/age care and house/car issues, care for pets/dependents in an emergency, plus many more.

But how to make the connections is the dilemma. It has been suggested that we collect the names of people who are willing and able to offer help, and what type of help. We will need volunteers to maintain the list and people to be contacts when the need arises.

If you are interested in being on the list of helpers please let us know what type of help you can offer. There are details to be considered, including how we allocate tasks due to the widely dispersed nature of the congregation. However, the first step is to find out if Pilgrims are interested in joining this endeavour. Please contact Ruth Farrent or the Pilgrim office by email or letter if you wish to offer help.

History Month involving a Pilgrim

As part of History Month, the City of Adelaide is hosting an event at the Town Hall, with an incredible opportunity to hear about the journey to commission and install the new J W Walker & Sons Adelaide Town Hall Organ. This organ concert and history talk celebrates the 30 year anniversary since the magnificent organ was installed.

Peter Kelsall, Pilgrim's organist, will play the organ, with a program featuring works by J.S.Bach, Frank Chorale, George Thalben-Ball and Ralph Vaughan Williams. While Peter is playing, the audience will see inside the organ with a live recording of the inner mechanics of the instrument while enjoying the music being played.

The program will run for 75 minutes, of which 40 minutes will feature organ music in between the series for talks given by Andrew Baghurst about the history of the organ and its intricate and quality features. Andrew was the curator of the Adelaide Town Hall organ for a number of years and oversaw the installation of the instrument.

Hosted by the City of Adelaide, the event will be held on Tuesday 11 May 2021 from 12.30pm to 1.45pm ACST at Adelaide Town Hall, 128 King William St, Adelaide.

This is a FREE event but you must register on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/30th-anniversary-organ-concert-history-talk-tickets-143427119375>

Advanced Care Directive

On Tuesday morning fifteen Pilgrims attended a workshop on **Advance Care Directives**. The workshop was brilliantly facilitated by **Peter Muller** from our 9.30am community – a former nurse with experience in helping people navigate the many difficult issues we face as we enter our more 'mature' years. Thank you Peter for your informed, sensitive [but direct], humorous and engaging leadership. Much appreciated!

DEVELOPMENT OF PILGRIM'S STRATEGIC PLAN - NEXT STAGE

The development of the Pilgrim Strategic Plan for 2021 – 2024 is progressing well, and the next stage is the development of Objectives and Strategies for the Strategic Priorities of **Worship, Social Justice, Growing the Church and Reaching Out, and Communications and Media**

We are in the process of developing Working Groups to develop the Objectives and Strategies for the two Priorities of "Growing the Church and Reaching Out" and "Communications and Media".

I would be delighted to hear from any member of the Congregation who would be prepared to contribute to this work. In the first instance I would expect that the time commitment could be as little as two or three meetings.

If you are interested in being part of this work please contact me on smiller@internode.on.net or mobile: 0408 948 922

Susan Miller - Chair, Church Council

Evensong – Saturday 8th May at 5.00pm

SA History Festival Archive Display

This year, Pilgrim Uniting Church will delve into its archives to display historic items from the beginning of its foundation in 1867 as Stow Memorial Congregational Church. Among the many valued items on display will be Rev TQ Stow's Bible.

Soup for the Lounge

It's that time of year again when we ask for supplies of cup-a-soup for our Lounge visitors.

Donations over the past few years have been excellent as we haven't had to purchase any extras. As we weren't able to do this last year we are glad that we are able to warm our visitors, at least from the inside, this year.



We look forward to your continuing support over the coming months. It is something our Lounge visitors look forward to and appreciate during the Winter season. Thank you. Please leave in the kitchen or at Reception.

Community Connections

Reconciliation breakfast: MORE THAN A WORD. RECONCILIATION TAKES ACTION

Reconciliation Week's theme for 2021, *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.* Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians. At the heart of this journey are relationships between First peoples and the broader Australian community.

Thursday, May 27th, 6:30 am-9:00 am, Adelaide Convention Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide, 5000

Individual tickets are priced at \$80. Register: <https://reconciliationsa.org.au>

What can we learn about our first peoples?

Over the first four **Tuesday evenings in May from 7.00pm – 8.15pm**, Marelle Harisun will be facilitating discussions about those who are "Crying Out" for justice that we need to hear. We will be using a small study book produced by the SA Dialogue of the Roman Catholic and Uniting Churches, focused on how these two denominations are responding to the cries for justice for Indigenous/First Peoples of this land, and to the climate crisis. If you are interested in being part of these discussions, please either register your interest with the Pilgrim Office or with Marelle. Copies of the booklet will be provided in advance of the first night. Contact mharisun@bigpond.com

This is the first Covenanting event of our series of events for the year.

Statement From The Heart study guide

A new study guide for congregations and other small groups on the Statement from the Heart, is now available. It provides a way for members of the Uniting Church to better understand Sovereignty and the determination of First Peoples for Voice, Treaty and Truth-Telling. Assembly Consultant Covenanting Stuart McMillan has highly recommended the resource for congregations and small groups. "Walking Together as First and Second Peoples with integrity means entering more deeply into relationship, growing in understanding, and sharing the suffering and joys of life. In the Statement we hear the heart of First Peoples cry for justice in this ancient land.

<https://mk0unitingchurc6akw.kinstacdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/v1.1-Statement-of-the-Heart-online.pdf>

A recent presentation at the Hawke Centre was '**Elders Speak – What is the Future of Aboriginal Education?**'

A video of the event is available via the following link: <https://youtu.be/0OocpTNjtLU>

Those interested in understanding racism and indigenous stances may gain from accessing this video.

UCA Historical Society

Meredith Lake will be guest of the Uniting Church Historical Society at 2.00pm on the 16th May. Meredith will share her extensive research on the Bible in Australia. "Under the Skin - the Contested History of the Bible in Australia".

She recently shared her thoughts and insights with the ABC presenter Richard Vidler on radio. Check out this link to listen in to a very lively conversation.

<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/adelaide/programs/conversations/meredith-lake-the-bible-in-australia-a-history/13068408>

In the Neighbourhood

Construction of a new \$200m hotel to tower above the historic GPO site has officially started. The project will include a 16-level luxury hotel with 285 rooms, a presidential suite, club lounge, restaurants and bars, swimming pool and fitness centre, and function and conference rooms. It will become the first hotel operated in the state by international chain Marriott International and tipped to become Adelaide's 'landmark' hotel. It is due to open in 2023. (From The Advertiser, 28th April 2021).



Working bee at the Church

There are a few jobs that need doing around the church that could easily be done by a few willing people coming together and making the job easier and helping to beautify the Church and making good use of spaces available.

If you have a spare couple of hours that you would be willing to come and give a hand, then the Office would love to hear from you. These are just a few of the things that are on top of the list at present.

- Hall kitchen needs a good tidy up, audit of what is required to replenish crockery/cutlery etc and perhaps even a revamp of where things are kept
- Pigeon poo clean off from the walls especially by the East Porch area.

Please let the Office know which area you would be interested in and also what days/times you are free. You don't have to have particular skills for any of these jobs, just a willingness and a preparedness to share in a time of fellowship with other Pilgrims.

The Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts: Winter Retreat

18-19 June, Nunyara: A time for creative community, writers, visual and performing artists. Be tucked away in the Adelaide Hills to practise your craft and to be inspired. Reconnect with your inner artist and be spiritually nurtured in this retreat. You have the option of going for the full overnight retreat, starting Friday evening, or the day only retreat from 9-5 on Saturday. **Sean Gilbert** and **Sharonne Price** will be leading the retreat. Speaker bios, program and registration information on cmla.org.au.

Lectionary Readings & Rosters – 9th May 2021

Easter 6

Acts 10: 44-48 Psalm 98
1 John 5: 1-6 John 15: 9-17

8.00am Rev Dr Greg Elsdon
9.30am Rev Dr Greg Elsdon/Rev Steve Thompson
11.00am Rev Dr Greg Elsdon

8.00am		David & Pam Mitchell
9.30am	Welcomers:	Judy Buney
	Coffee:	Ros Wilson, Blair Badcock & Gail Orr
	AV Desk:	Peter Russell
11.00am	Welcomers:	Jenny & Dean Drilling & Susan Miller
	Bible Reader:	Emily Kelsall

Mid-Week Service Thursday @ 12.15pm

— a time of worship, of gentle reflection, and caring community.