

St Stephen's Women's Saturday Coffee The first 2024 gathering is scheduled for 10am Sat 17th Feb. Venue: verandah of the Warrandyte Stonehouse Café. Family members welcome. Bookings, please, to Sue on 0488 111 944. Transport can be organised if requested.

- Lent** Ash Wednesday - 7am, Wed 14 Feb: 'Imposition of Ash'
 Lent Bible Studies - 7pm, every Thursday: from 15 Feb to 21 Mar at church, 'Remembering the Poor' a study series prepared by Anglican Overseas Aid
 Passover Seder - Thurs 28 Mar - watch this space for more
 Good Friday - Fri 29 Mar - **early service 9am**
 Stations of Cross - Fri 29 Mar - from 10am, Stiggant Reserve

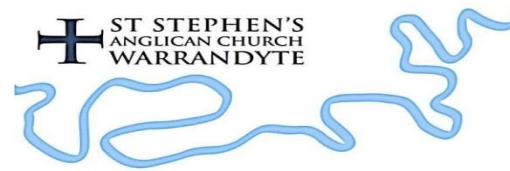
Stations of the Cross Choir Warrandyte Community Church is organising a choir for this Good Friday event, to sing a bracket of songs. One rehearsal will take place: 12noon 24th Mar (Palm Sunday) at WCC. If you'd like to participate, please mention to Vicar.

Resources for ministry

Giving can be made directly to our Bendigo Bank Warrandyte account
 BSB: 633-000 Acct Number: 140334277.

Church Contact Details

Rev'd. Mark Hanson (Vicar) 0430 141 006
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A welcoming Christ-centred community seeking and working together through the power of the Holy Spirit to worship God, share His good news and grow as disciples of Jesus

Sunday 11th February 2024

Today I'm very happy to welcome the team of Lara and Kirsty to the front of church as Service Leaders, bringing new voices and insights to our Sunday mornings. With a change of church membership and different possibilities for music, we have tweaked our rhythm:

- 1st Sundays of the month will continue with formal services of Holy Communion, supported by Margaret leading hymns
- 2nd Sunday will be led by Lara and Kirsty to lead singing.
- 3rd Sundays will be my opportunity to organise a diverse service with simple forms of the Lord's Supper
- 4th Sundays will be led by Ellie and Graham with fresh insights.

I nearly lost a couple of friends! Two pals had gone to fish the Rose River in the Dandongadale district. On a remote road, they spotted the river way below them and struck off into the bush. It proved steep, so they quartered over a small ridge hoping for an easier climb down the hill. Somehow, very quickly and easily, they became separated. Thick undergrowth quickly muffled sight and sound. One retraced his steps to try again, only to find himself in an unfamiliar gully. Lost! Fortunately, both were able to climb back to the road, but separated by hundreds of metres. It had been a close call.

In church this Sunday we will consider how God finds those who have become separated from Him: Naaman was an enemy alien but was powerfully blessed by God. A leper, defiled and unable to participate in the life of his Jewish community, but Jesus cleansed him swiftly.

1 If a child is in **immediate danger** at any point **CALL 000**

2 All suspicions or reports of child abuse must be reported to:	What is Child Abuse?	Who can report neglect and abuse of a child under the age of 18?	What sorts of things must be reported?
Police Child Protection Kooyoora Professional Standards	Abuse and neglect includes but is not limited to: Physical Abuse, Emotional Abuse, Family Violence, Sexual Abuse, Grooming and Neglect.	Children, Parents, Staff, Volunteers, Anyone.	All child safety concerns must be reported: • Disclosure of past and present abuse and harm • Allegations, suspicions or observations • Breaches of the Code of Conduct
CONTACT NUMBERS:	POLICE 000	CHILD PROTECTION SEE BELOW	KOYOORA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS 1800 135 246

2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, 'If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.'

Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 'By all means, go,' the king of Aram replied. 'I will send a letter to the king of Israel.' So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents (i.e. 350kg) of silver, six thousand shekels (i.e. 70kg) of gold and ten sets of clothing. The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: 'With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy.'

As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, 'Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!'

When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: 'Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel.'

So, Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.' But Naaman went away angry and said, 'I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus,

better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?' So, he turned and went off in a rage.

Naaman's servants went to him and said, 'My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, "Wash and be cleansed"!' So Naaman went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

Mark 1:35-45

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Simon and his companions went to look for him, and when they found him, they exclaimed: 'Everyone is looking for you!'

Jesus replied, 'Let us go somewhere else – to the nearby villages – so that I can preach there also. That is why I have come.' So, he travelled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

A man with leprosy came to Jesus and begged him on his knees, 'If you are willing, you can make me clean.'

Jesus was indignant. He reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: 'See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.' Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.