

directly to the appeal.

We invite people also to pray for all who are suffering so deeply and for all who are continuing to fight the fires and to care for the victims. We know that the God of love revealed to us in Jesus Christ is reaching out to embrace all who are suffering with his love and peace.

We pray that no more bushfires will break out this summer season, that the summer heat and the hot winds will subside, and that recovery by families and communities will happen as quickly as possible.

Gregor Henderson, President of the Uniting Church in Australia

The Indigenous Hospitality House

The IHH is eagerly looking for new residents in 2009 to join us in opening our home in North Carlton to guests and in exploring the question: How do we live well as non-Indigenous people on stolen land?

IHH residents Matt, Samara and Merryn offer a peaceful, homely atmosphere for Indigenous people supporting a family member in Melbourne's hospitals.

IHH is a project that is overseen by Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, and supported by the Church of All Nations as well as Christians of various denominations, other groups, individuals and volunteers.

Please contact us at house@ihh.org.au on

9387 7557 or at www.ihh.org.au



Next Sunday

22 February 2009

Isaiah 43:18-25

Psalm 41

2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Mark 2:1-12

Next Week's Who's Who?

- Rev Dr John Evans
Preacher
- Damian Sweeney
Liturgist
- Don Smith
Music
- Rose Brown
Greeter
- Paul Madden & Ian Bird
Stewards
- Katie Evans
Children's Worship
- Bev Campbell
Flowers

As we gather here today in grieving,
our hearts cry out the hard questions for God.
"Why?" we ask into the heavens.
"Why would this happen to the people and the land?"
Our tears are joined in loss and pain,
as we look around us and see the ruins of life.
Our faith trembles in confusion,
as we try to hold onto certainties,
in the midst of the challenges to hope.

*Where are you, loving God?
Come to us now and weep with us
as we face the harsh realities of this time.*

Our tears and the tears of all the people
are joined with the tears of God.



Sunday
15 February 2009

Church of All Nations



Who's Who in Today's Service

Today's Readings

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45

Today's Who's Who?

- Rev Dr John Evans
Preacher
- Andrew Turner
Liturgist
- Jean Evans
Music
- Lyn Leerson
Duty Person
- Carole Turner
Greeter
- Paul Madden & David Johnson
Stewards
- Katie Evans
Children's Worship
- Carole Turner
Flowers

Contributions to our newsletter by emailing jeff@clarkson.id.au or phoning Jeff on 9899 3355.

Today ...

Today during our service we will remember the victims of the fires and those who mourn.

From our readings we will see Jesus as a healer and our task also to reach out and offer healing.

Coming Up ...

- **Community Lunch**
Monday 11.30am
Everyone is welcome to join us.
- **Presbytery of Yarra Yarra**
Saturday 21st February
- **Property and Finance Meeting.**
Sunday 22nd February
A meeting will be held after the service.



You are worshipping among friends at the Church of All Nations. As a Parish Mission of the Uniting Church in Australia we acknowledge our church to be part of the one holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout the world.

We aim to be an open, questioning community of faith and we seek to live our faith at work, at home and in the community. If you are new to the area, or a visitor to this church, please participate as fully as you wish in our worship service.

Bushfire Messages

"We are all deeply saddened and grieve the tragic events that have unfolded, and are still unfolding, across Victoria due to the bushfires. Alongside acts of untold bravery and great generosity we have witnessed the horror and pain of death, injury, loss of homes and cherished items.

This is a time where the Uniting Church is being called upon to join together to offer assistance to our brothers and sisters in rural communities. The Bushfire Disaster Appeal will be managed by SHARE and no administration costs will be taken out of donations received.

Please join with us in supporting and promoting this nation wide appeal.
Yours in Christ,

Jason Kioa, Moderator of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania .

The Uniting Church joins with all Australians in mourning the terrible loss of life from the Victorian bushfires. The horror of scores of lives lost, hundreds of homes destroyed and communities devastated, touches all of us very deeply. We thought it was impossible for the disasters of Ash Wednesday 1983 and Black Friday 1939 to be outstripped, but these 2009 fires, dreadfully, have done so.

On behalf of the Uniting Church I extend our sympathy and care to the thousands of victims - to the families of those killed, to the injured in hospitals, to those who've lost their homes and their lives' possessions, to the people of the devastated communities. We also honour and support the courageous efforts of the Country Fire Authority, the paramedics, doctors and hospital staff, the police and the State Emergency Services, the countless number of volunteers who have fought the fires and cared for the victims.

We are today releasing funds from our National Disaster Fund to enable the church in Victoria to provide for immediate emergency relief, and we are launching a national appeal for funds which will be used by the church for both emergency relief and the longer-term pastoral care and rehabilitation for families in need. We invite you to give generously to the appeal. All congregations of the Uniting Church will be asked to hold retiring offerings in the next few weeks, and individuals can give tax-deductible donations

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