



**The Uniting Church in Australia
180 Palmerston St Carlton**

Contact details

Office phone: 9347 7077

Website: www.carlton.ucavictas.org.au

[Facebook page](#)

Emergency Pastoral Care: Rev. Rod Brown

Email: rodlois98@outlook.com

Phone: 0408 088 371



Please send news, photos and events for the bulletin to contact@cancarlton.org.au before 3pm on Thursday.

NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY

Our congregation is taking part in the 2026 National Church Life Survey. Churches in over 20 denominations will benefit from the NCLS this year, as an opportunity to listen well to their churchgoers, to strengthen their church health and vitality, and gain insights for future ministry.

Locally, this survey helps our church to listen to all voices, so we can gain valuable insights to shape the health and vitality of our church. Nationally, our church will also add to a vital picture of church life across Australia, highlighting national trends and informing wider society.

At Church of All Nations, we will take a moment at the end of worship this week – to complete the survey, either in paper form or online. If you are unable to be at worship this Sunday, but would like to complete the Survey, use this link <https://attendersurvey.ncls.au?ccode=UA2D0401>

The survey takes approximately 15mins to complete and online surveys are available in Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Tongan and Vietnamese.



Please complete the survey by 31 October 2026.

CHURCH FAMILY MEAL - ALL AGES ARE WELCOME !

DATE: Friday 23 October

TIME: 6.30 – 8.30pm

HOSTS: Shiny, Prebin, Ethan and Michelle

ADDRESS: Activity Room, College Square Building 570 Lygon Street Carlton

BRING: Surnames N-Z = dessert course food to share

Surnames A-M = 1st course (savoury) food to share

PARKING: 2-hour street parking nearby (some 3-hour outside CAN Church

RSVP: Names to clipboard on CAN Church Greeting table OR phone Shiny: 0468 430 486



JUSTICE FOR JAYDA: STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In shocking news, a young woman was killed in a Cardigan Street, Carlton apartment early hours on Sat morning 10 October. Her family say it was domestic violence.

[Police are treating it as a homicide.](#)



JAYDA ALLEN BONNER was a 21-year-old Yaggera woman (Traditional Owners, Brisbane area). Her family has given permission for her name and image to be used after her death.

A community event will be held on Saturday evening this week:

- to pay tribute to Jayda
- to show support for her family
- to call for justice for her and an end to family violence.

Everyone is welcome. Please spread the word.

We will gather with a smoking ceremony at **5.00 pm Sat 17 October at the playground on the Carlton public housing estate (480 Lygon St)**, followed by a procession to Parliament House in Spring Street.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to call Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online: crimestoppersvic.com.au

If you need support yourself, contact:

- Domestic violence hotline: 1800 Respect (1800 737 732)
- Aboriginal crisis support line: 13YARN (13 92 76)
- 24-hr support Aboriginal people & families: Yarning Safe'n'Strong (1800 959 563)

COMBINED WORSHIP ON SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER



On Sunday 25 October, Church of All Nations is delighted to join with our neighbouring Congregation Mark the Evangelist Uniting Church in Parkville for worship and morning tea

DATE: Sunday 25 October

TIME: 10.00am

ADDRESS: Centre for Theology & Ministry, 29 College Crescent Parkville

TRANSPORT: If you require help with (or can offer) transport to & from Carlton, please list your name on the clipboard in the CAN church this Sunday.

CROSSLIGHT - OCTOBER 2026

This month's issue of Crosslight is now available for collection at CAN!

This edition highlights the work being done by Dalton McCaughey Library staff to maintain the library's rare books collection, outlines the importance of lay preachers within the Uniting Church, and explains how recent redevelopment has breathed new life into two Melbourne churches.



You can also access the online edition [here](#).

REHABILITATION AND TRANSFORMATION

By Dr Mark Zirnsak

As a film buff, I have been fascinated by the increased inclusion of Christianity in films and series in recent times, and by how they portray Christian theology. Two contrasting films recently caught my attention for their themes of rehabilitation and transformation: the French film 'Jean Valjean' and Hugh Jackman's 'The Death of Robin Hood'.

'Jean Valjean' covers an early part of Victor Hugo's novel 'Les Misérables'. We learn Bishop Bienvenu's backstory. He becomes a bishop after being jilted and focuses on serving the wealthy while living in luxury himself. An encounter with a hermit, a former revolutionary, changes his life. They discuss social justice and love for all people. The bishop explains, "That man reconciled me to the world". He gives up the bishop's mansion to turn it into a hospital and serves those in financial poverty, living simply himself.

The character Jean Valjean is used to highlight how unjust systems corrupt people. He is imprisoned for five years with hard labour for stealing bread for hungry children and serves another 14 years for trying to escape. The brutality of the prison system in turn shifts Jean from kindness to brutality. Released on parole, he must show his papers as a released convict to authorities as he travels looking for work. The discrimination he experiences makes Jean even harder.

On a wet night, denied a room at the local tavern, Jean is taken in by Bishop Bienvenu with baffling kindness, given a meal and a bed. Bienvenu reminds Jean that God is his host everywhere and not to refuse what one might yet become. Jean repays the kindness by stealing the silverware and slipping away in the early morning. The police capture him and return him to the bishop, who thanks them but says the silverware was a gift to Jean. He also gives Jean the silver candlesticks. Bienvenu's kindness causes an internal rehabilitation for Jean, who goes on to act with kindness and generosity to others.

'Jean Valjean' holds out the hope that kindness and compassion can lead to redemption. Victor Hugo's criminal justice system is rigid, bureaucratic, cruel and vindictive. Meanwhile, mercy is radical. Grace refuses to play by society's rules; it is not only disruptive, but it's also dangerous to power-over structures.

By contrast, the Robin Hood in 'The Death of Robin Hood' is a mass murderer who has realised he has trapped himself in a cycle of lethal violence. After being wounded, a prioress nurses him back to health. He learns he murdered the husband and son of the prioress. The tale offers no redemption. Racked with guilt, Robin confesses his crimes to the prioress and then begs for her to help him take his own life. The script paints a bleak picture: some people are evil and beyond redemption, even when they realise their errors. These assumptions play out in our society. Our assumptions about the nature of people and the causes of their behaviour will influence the kind of criminal justice system we seek.

Emeritus Professor Ross Homel has pointed out that the small group of teenagers responsible for serious violent offences are much more likely to have suffered serious trauma while growing up, including emotional, physical or sexual abuse, all kinds of neglect, household substance abuse or mental illness. Research shows that incarceration largely re-traumatises these youths.

Getting serious about stopping serious repeat youth offenders means helping them to develop psychosocial maturity. That means helping them develop skills to control their impulses, weigh the consequences of their actions, consider others' perspectives, delay gratification and resist peer pressure.

Both 'Jean Valjean' and 'The Death of Robin Hood' are available on YouTube

Dr Mark Zirnsak is the Synod's Senior Social Justice Advocate



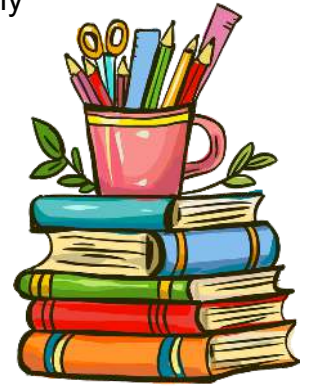


CAN Community Support

HOMework CLUB SUPPLIES

CAN Community Support is still seeking donations of stationery and school supplies as end of year gifts for children attending our Homework Club and Family Learning Program. Many of the children we support face significant barriers to learning, yet with encouragement, consistency and the right support, we see remarkable growth in confidence and achievement.

Donations could include: exercise books, pens and grey-lead pencils, coloured pencils and textas, pencil cases, erasers and sharpeners, rulers and glue sticks.



Please place donations in the box at church by Sunday, November 8th.

THREE YEARS ON: A MESSAGE AND PRAYER FOR PEACE

A pastoral message from Rev Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia, on the third anniversary of the 7 October attacks in Israel



Last week marks three years since the horrific Hamas attacks of 7 October 2023. On this solemn anniversary, we remember the people who were murdered, those who were taken hostage, and all whose lives were forever changed by the violence of that day.

As the Uniting Church in Australia, we stand with Jewish communities in Australia and around the world as they carry the grief and trauma of 7 October. We reject antisemitism and affirm all people should be able to live and worship in safety, free from hatred and fear.

Click [here](#) for *A Prayer From the President*.



A CONFIDENT NATION DOES NOT FEAR DIVERSITY



Click [here](#) to download this week's National Update,
or sign up to get the latest news and content on Uniting Church activities in your inbox every week on Wednesdays [here](#)



FOCUS ON NEURODIVERSITY



Click [here](#) for the most recent Synod Connect

CAN 3-week worship roster to 1 Nov 2026:

	18 October GREEN Pentecost 21	25 October GREEN Pentecost 22	1 November GREEN Pentecost 23 HC			18 October GREEN Pentecost 21	25 October GREEN Pentecost 22	1 November GREEN Pentecost 23 HC
Preacher	Rod B	Rev Dr Craig Thompson	Rod B		Property	Brendan C	Rev Dr Craig Thompson	Ian B
Liturgy or Prayers	David H	Combined worship with Mark the Evangelist UCA in Parkville	Rod B		Offering	Ken T Brendan C	Combined worship with Mark the Evangelist UCA in Parkville	Ian B Ethan K
PP Prep	Jill T		Rod B		Hosp 1	Shirley J		Pam K
Music	Adam D		?		Hosp 2	Coco C		Shiny I
Camera	Jeff J		Ethan K		Flowers	Shirley J		Jill T
Read	Shirley J		Michelle A		HC	-		Paul M
AV	Ken T		Ian B		Chn Mtn	Jill T Shiny I		?
Greet	Jill T		Ken T					

COMING UP THIS MONTH WITH CAN

Friday 16 Oct @ 1.30pm - Online Ecumenical Book Study⁷ with Craig Thompson

Saturday 17 Oct @ 5.00pm - Smoking ceremony for Jayda - Playground 480 Lygon St

Sunday 18 Oct @ 10.00am - Worship in CAN Church with Rev Rod Brown & Rev David Howie

@ 11.45am - 5-yearly National Church Life Survey (have your say!) - CAN Church

Tuesday 20 Oct @ 6.00-7.30pm - Wesley Centre Conversation - prep for Vic Election in Nov - Wesley Schoolhouse

Wednesday 21 Oct @ 7.45-8.15 am - weekly online Holy Communion

@ 4.30pm - Elders meet online, Rev Paul Mayfield chair this month

@ 7.45pm - NB NO Book Study⁸ (combined) this week with Craig Thompson, online

Friday 23 Oct @ 6.30-8.30pm - CAN Church Family Meal @ Shiny/Prebin's building Activity Room (see notice for details)

Sunday 26 Oct @ 10.00am - combined worship with Mark the Evangelist UC, at CTM (29 College Cres Parkville)

EARLY WEDNESDAY ONLINE HOLY COMMUNION

Every Wednesday from 7.45 to 8.15am - all are welcome to participate in this weekly, quiet, reflective service online.

Each provides their own piece of bread & wine/juice.

A fresh zoom link is being used for 2026:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86729575044?pwd=4o9MhCnwWtQAWX6c0qMHaqGD9THbP.1>

Meeting ID: 867 2957 5044

Passcode: 404804



CAN Congregation - Offerings to the Church of All Nations Parish Mission

Your offerings support the ministry and mission of the congregation. The Congregation budget contributes the major component of the Community Support budget as well as ministry costs and other mission support.

Offerings can be made during the church service OR by regular bank transfer. Bank transfers can be regular as weekly, fortnightly, monthly Offerings, OR as an occasional offering

Bank details are:

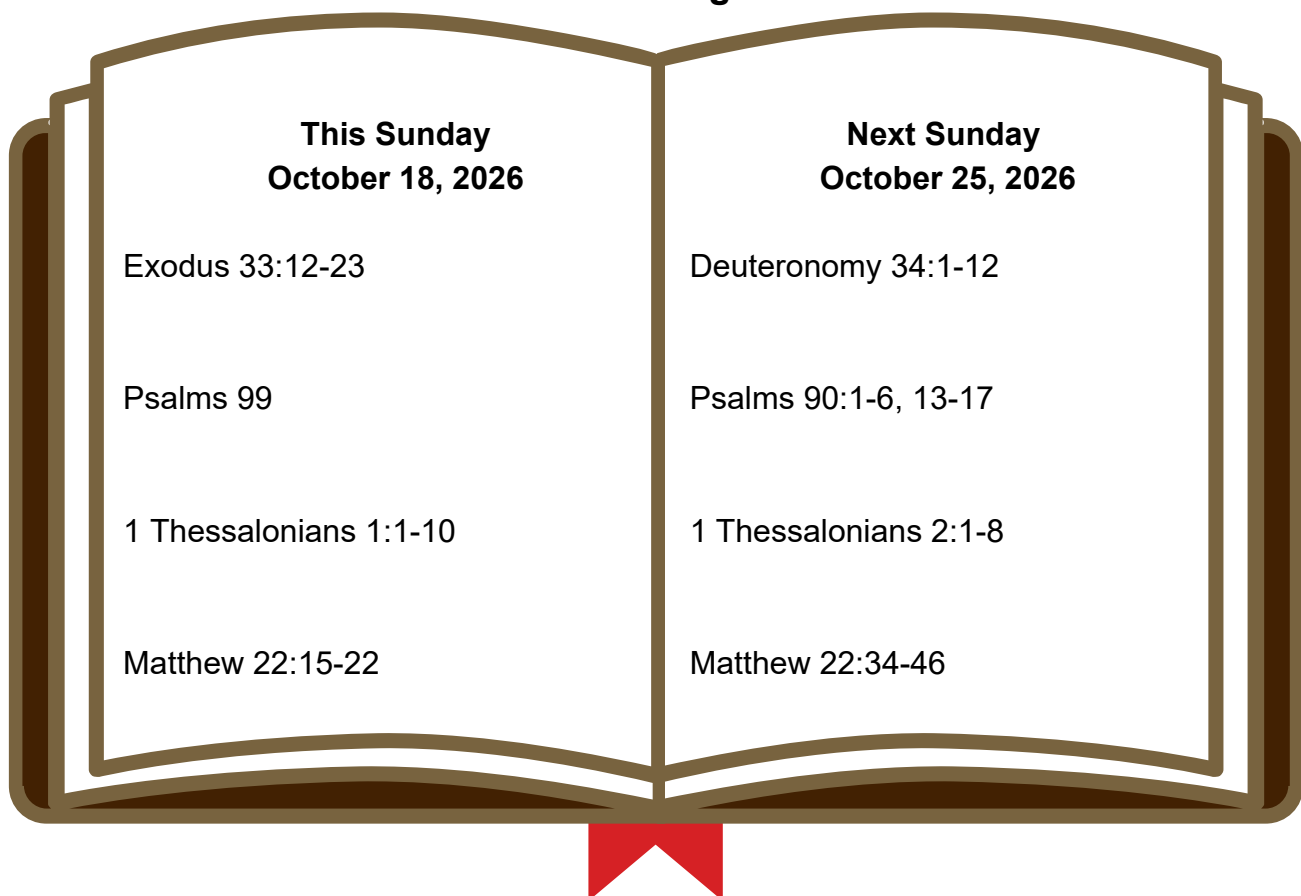
Bendigo Bank BSB: 633000

Account No: 191446954

Name: Church of All Nations of Carlton



Lectionary Bible Readings



Donations to CAN Community Support

Donations to CAN Community Support are tax deductible and can be made online at www.givenow.com.au/canparishmission, in person at CAN Community Support's Administration Office (Tuesday - Thursday) in the CCS Centre, OR by bank transfer as follows:

Bendigo Bank BSB: 633000

Account No: 191170380

Name: CAN Community Support

