



MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire

WEEK ENDING 5 JULY 2020

WEST HEIDELBERG 3081

St James Ivanhoe

St James Ivanhoe has been developing a church congregation in West Heidelberg (3081) for over 10 years. There is a regular attendance of between 20 and 30. Many of this group neither have the technology nor the knowhow to meet together on Zoom during this isolation period. Instead we have divided the church up into 4 small groups. Each Saturday morning at 10am (our normal time of worship) 4 leaders lead a telephone conference with their group.

The conference involves fellowship, sharing stories of God's goodness (Show and tell), reading and discussing the Word of God, and prayer. Over the months of isolation we have discovered a deeper sharing in spiritual matters, a strong commitment to meeting together, and growth in our leadership team.

Members have also supported one another with letters of encouragement, and many personal acts of kindness. The leadership team meets weekly by telephone conference, for sharing the progress of their groups, for sharing pastoral matters, for prayer, and to plan steps going forward.

- *The Reverend Stephen May*



SATURDAY SCHOOL

Box Hill Anglican

The St Peter's Saturday School program promotes educational, cultural, community connectedness and life skills to Victoria's migrant community. Saturday School participants are kinder, primary, secondary and tertiary students and their parents. The COVID-19 pandemic has meant that Saturday School can't continue in person, but our students and their parents are more in need of support than ever. Learning from home, and households additional financial stress in an environment where fewer community support programs are able to run, made us feel strongly that Saturday School should continue online. To that end, we are supporting 20 students each week with online mentoring. Online Saturday School is more than just homework help, it's checking in with students and their families and staying connected as a community. We are so thankful to our tutor team, and have seen some really positive improvement in engagement of our student's with their learning despite the disruption this year!

In addition to our online classes, with the wonderful support of the St Peter's Parish, Saturday School has been able to continue distributing bread and groceries to a number of families since the COVID-19 restrictions came into place. On a weekly basis we reach between 6-9 families (about 80 people) with this additional support. The St Peter's Parish and Saturday School team have been providing this online and delivery support since late March and are continuing while Victorians are encouraged to stay home as much as possible.

- *written by Katherine Moore, shared by The Reverend Shane Hubner*

I want to add that this is a great example of compassionate and collaborative ministry. Anglicare Victoria provides the funding for the program and it is a partnership which has inspired Anglicare to see how they can provide online tutoring to youth and children in their care.

As an alternative to a pre-Lambeth visit, I received an invitation from the Diocese of Southwark to contribute to their Messages from the Anglican Communion. A wonderful opportunity to share a conversation with Robyn Andreo-Boosey about Preventing Violence Against Women and COVID-19. *+Genieve*

MESSAGES FROM THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

+Genieve Blackwell & Robyn Andreo-Boosey

Robyn Andreo-Boosey & I were asked by the Diocese of Southwark in the UK to contribute to a 'Message from the Anglican Communion' which takes the form of a conversation about Covid-19 and the increase in violence towards women and families.



Click here to view my message from the Anglican Communion

Please keep sending your stories to inspire...