



Charman Uniting Church

News Letter

27th September 2026 Vol 7 No 34 Pentecost 18



A Grand Occasion!

The Rev Salesi Faupula, Moderator of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania unveils a plaque commemorating the opening of Charman Uniting's new worship facilities



Charman Official Opening 20th Sept. 2026

Dwelling, Discerning, Exploring

313 Charman

Some 150 people filled the Charman Uniting Church for the Opening and Dedication of the new worship facilities.

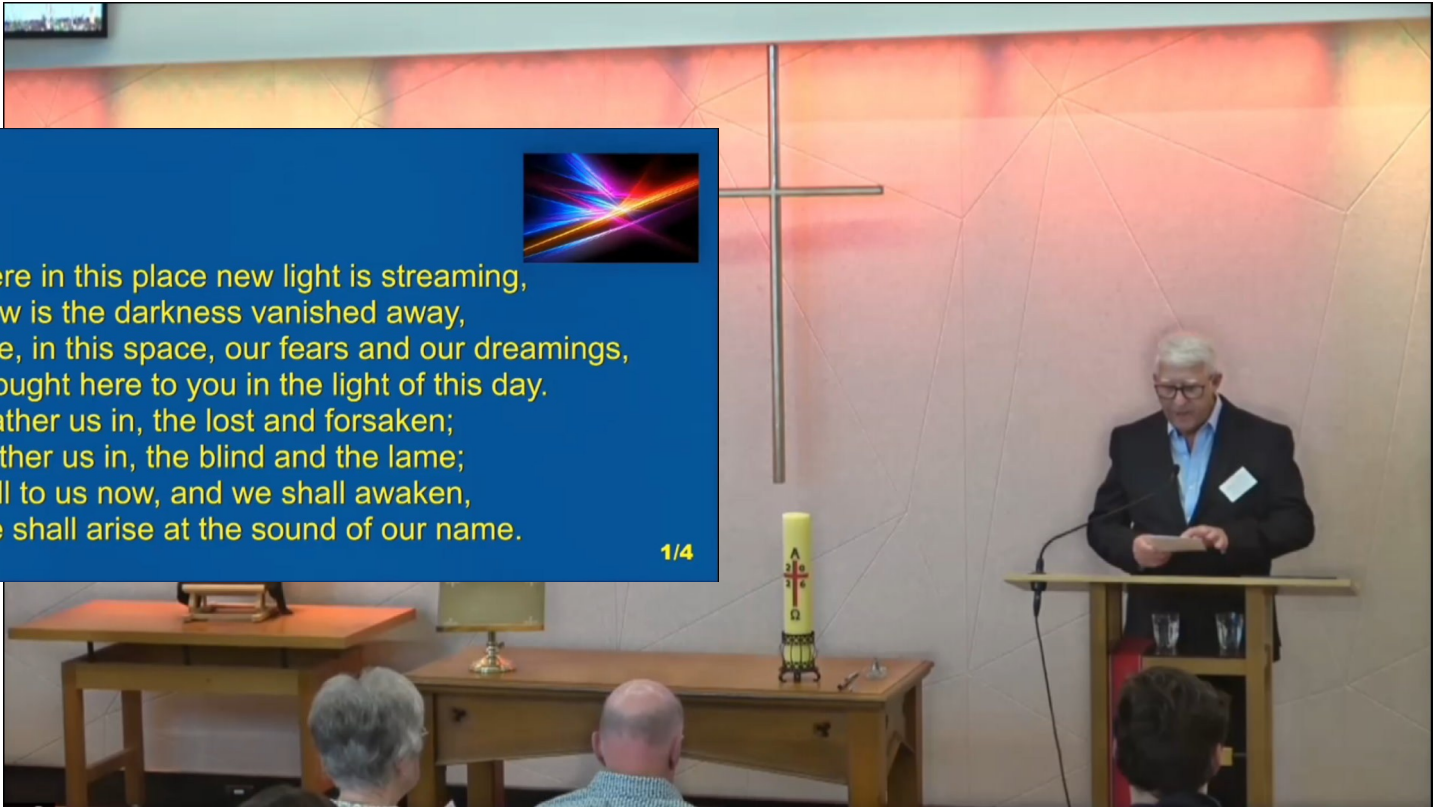
It was a truly Grand Occasion with and inspirational address by the Moderator of the Synod of Victorian and Tasmanian, ably assisted by Rev Greg Fry, Pastor Di Paterson, Cheryl Threadgold, Joan Wright, David Higham (Presbytery) and Jenny & Grant Collins.

To our musicians, technicians and all who helped in so many ways, a huge thank you.

1

Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

1/4



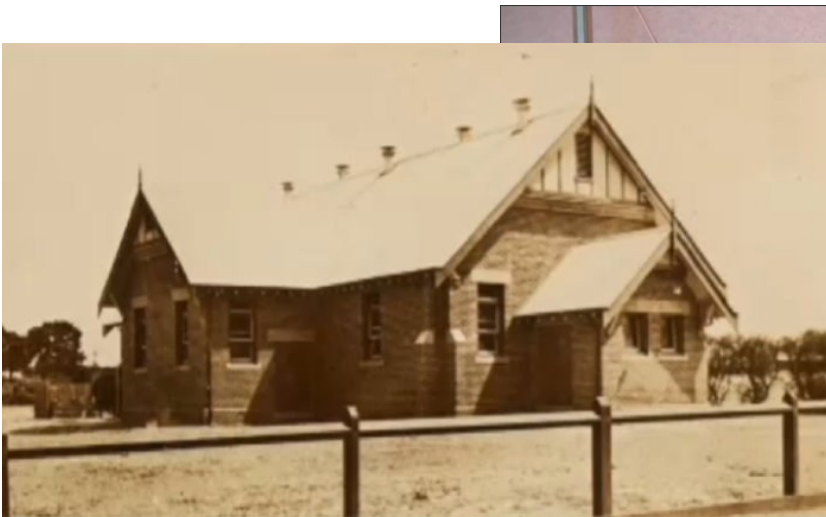
Gavin Gunning announcing the Processional Hymn



Above: Rev Greg Fry welcoming the congregation



Below: Pastor Di Paterson recounting some of our journey



The Journey Over 172 years

YOU MAKE THE PATH BY WALKING

*You make the path by walking
As you travel on through life
With all its joys and sorrows
With all its trouble and strife*

*There is the path we as children
With parents showing the way
Influenced by many good people
As we learn and work and play*



*There is a new path we walk as a parent
Knowing little at the start
But we make our way in that one
With lots of love in our heart*

*You may have a difficult path to walk
When a loved one has passed away
There are many testing ups and downs
And surprises every day*

*On our lifetime walk as a Christian
We're still learning as we go
We walk alongside each other
It's better with others we know*

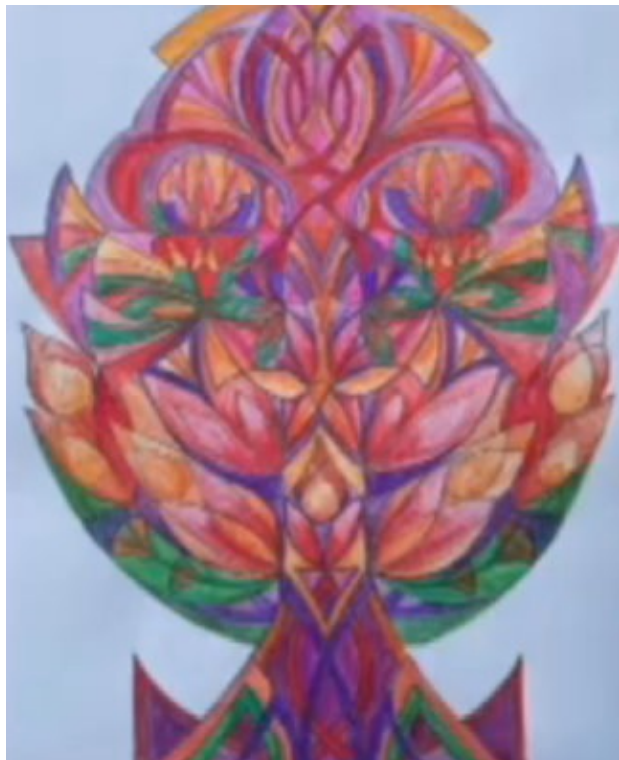
*A now there's another new path ahead
As we return to our church in May
But we know God has a plan for us
And He will show us the way*

*Dawn Morrison May 2026, slightly modified for September
Inspired by a sermon of the same name by Rev Greg Fry*



Dedication of the congregation

Above: Dedication of the congregation by David Higham representing the Presbytery of Port Phillip East



Joan Wright with the Prayer of Confession, reminding us that the burning bush was God revealing Himself to Moses, a symbol of growth and the "Great I Am" revealing Himself to all generations



Your word O Lord is a lamp to our feet

A light to our path



Cheryl Threadgold with the Readings for the Day



David Johnston could hardly contain his excitement welcoming all and sundry to the service.

Earlier we had just sung "Lord for the Years" to words written by our Rev Peter Aumann back in 2017 ("*Bright shining light*") for the opening of the new facilities which would happen 'soon'.

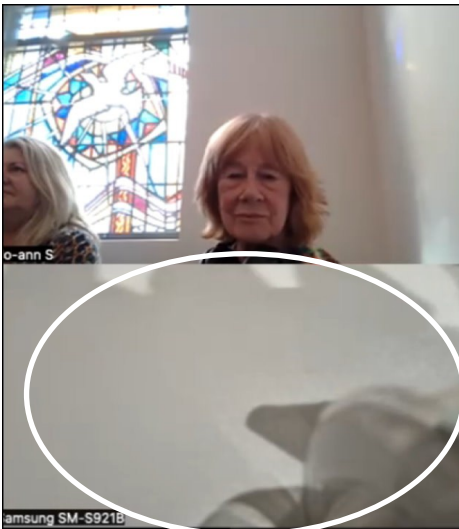
Regretfully Peter became ill during the week and wasn't able to attend the service, but he was able to 'tune in' via Zoom and his phone and WAS able to hear his hymn sung officially for the first time -from his hospital bed!



And so, at an appropriate time David invited the congregation to turn to a camera at the back of the church and on the count of three say "HELLO PETER!"

And Peter was seen waving back from his hospital bed— what a miracle!

Peter Aumann waving from his hospital bed...



Gregory Fry



665784

1
Bright shining light, God from our crafted windows
see, how our land gleams in your rain and sun
Here we give thanks for love that calls to worship,
calls all our hearts to sing for you as one.





The beautiful voice of Helen Jackson singing “Bless the Lord O my soul” with the congregation joining in the chorus—inspirational

Solo 10k Reasons- Helen Jackson

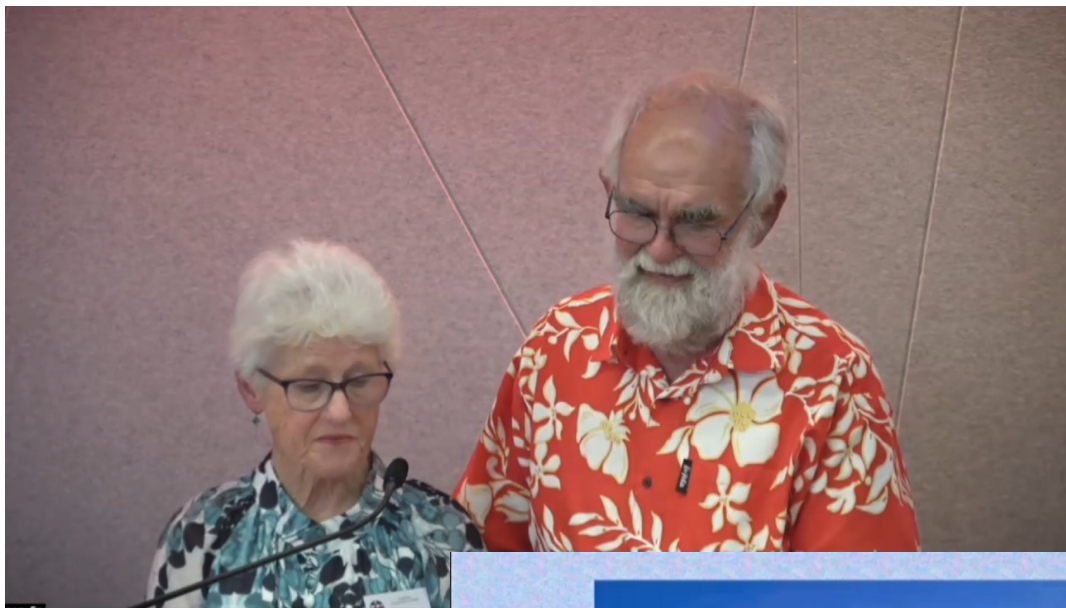
(Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin)

Used with permission CCLI licences 264964 and 86956

Chorus

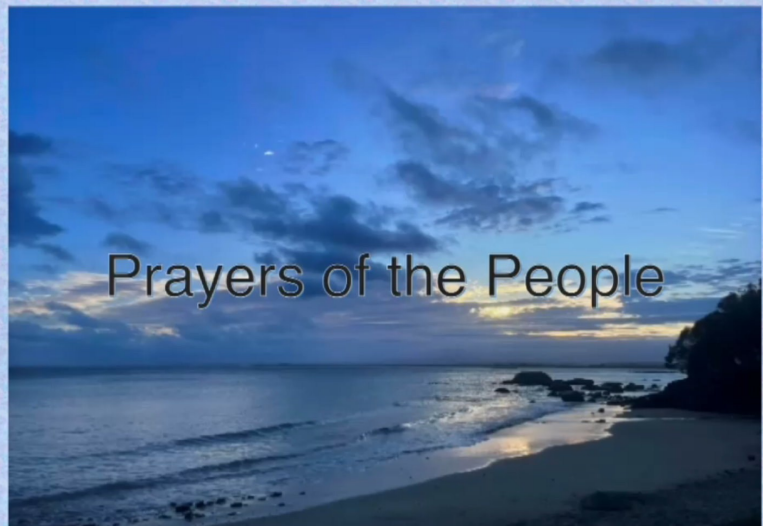
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
worship His holy Name.

Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.



Jenny & Grant Collins
leading us with the Prayers
of the People

Prayers of the People



1 You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth in
singing.
There'll be shouts of joy, and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field will clap their hands,
and the trees of the field will clap their hands,
and the trees of the field will clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

Author:Steffi Geiser Rubin, Stuart Dauermann Used with permission CCLI license

And everyone went out with Joy!



Jo-ann Stenton looks after
Zoom attendees, here she is
speaking with Nan McArthur
who was not able to attend the
service but was able to ‘join in’
from home





Left: Musicians at the ready

Below: A much relieved Alan Millard exclaiming "it only took this long!"



Left: Comment next day on FaceBook by the Presbytery of Port Phillip East

Right: Our illustrious Church Council



Bible Readings September 2026 *(the readings used in our service may differ slightly)*

September 6th	Pentecost 15	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 149	Romans 13:8-14
September 13th	Pentecost 16	Exodus 14:19-31	Psalm 114 or Exodus 15: 1b-11, 20-21	Romans 14:1-12
September 20th	Pentecost 17	Exodus 16:2-15	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Philippians 1:21-30
		John 3:10-4:11	Psalm 145:1-8	
September 27th	Pentecost 18	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Philippians 2:1-13

CROSSLIGHT is available on the internet - click on the following link or the CROSSLIGHT image to view online. www.crosslight.org.au Print copies of CROSSLIGHT are available at the entrance of the Charman Church.



Prayers of the People



Matilda
Cec Bartholomeusz
Robyn
Pat
Adie & Ally
Katherine's cousin David & Family
Tina, friend of Joan Wood
Phillip (Barbara's nephew)
Barry
Adrian
Anne-Maree, Andrew and their daughter, Rachel

We pray for all in need especially -

Maria
Jenny and Janine Bartholomeusz
Anita and Kingsley
Joyce Curnow
Stuart - addiction struggles
Helen & Earle Hosking
Grace & Van Rensberg
Joan's friends Robyn & Jemma
Kath Tondorf
Susan Hoskin
Karen
Helen Cole

Gloria, Samson & Family
Mark
Margaret Walker
Joyce Carpenter
Andrew
Bronwyn
Teresa
June and Grace Fairbank

We give thanks for those whose prayers have been answered..

BayCISS Collection Contributions - change of delivery arrangements

Many thanks to those who continue to support BayCISS with donations. Goods especially non perishable food should be brought to the church where they will be distributed along with Family Life contributions

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Thanks to everyone who have continued to make their weekly offering.

Direct Debit: Cheltenham / Mentone members note that direct payments can now be made to our Westpac account at Southland, **BSB number is 033 358, Account Number is 664 881** Payee "UCA Cheltenham Mentone Parish"

SOCIAL COLLECTION DEPARTMENT:

BayCISS - Please bring your donations, especially non perishable food to the church and we will arrange for their distribution.

Emerge - Financial help is the best way to help - Cheques to - GPO Box 420 Melbourne VIC 3001 or donate via the website www.emergesupport.org.au Emerge welcomes vouchers for supermarkets or art materials which children could use at home - materials, pencils, colouring books etc. Margaret Bode is happy to collect items if you leave them at her home, 16 Monaco Street Parkdale. **Donations in an envelope marked EMERGE may be left in the collection plate.**



OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:



Click on the YouTube logo to view a selection of **over 200** sermons and service preludes

*This week's video -
"Dwelling Discerning Exploring"
Rev Salesi Faupula 20th
September 2026*

Click on image or [HERE](#) to view



Church on the Internet - Sunday 10am *(virtual doors open 9:45 am)*



If you don't have Zoom on your computer/laptop/iPad/Smartphone, click on <https://zoom.us/support/download>

Then click on this link below or the "Sunday Church" image to join our Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82004410836?pwd=cU9RWlhVMm8wOUw0TStLV1EvNFdYdz09>

Meeting ID: 820 0441 0836 Passcode: 665 784

You can also join us on your phone by dialling **03 7018 2005** and entering the above meeting details.

Sunday Church
on Zoom



For the musically minded ...

