

Cranbourne Uniting Church

"We are a multicultural church, called to provide Christ's living bread in physical and spiritual ways to the Cranbourne Region."

Matthew 25: 35 - 40

THE GOOD NEWS

Pentecost 8

Colour GREEN

Sunday 19th July 9.30am

Presider Rev Tony Duncan (retired minister)



Heaven on earth

This week's story from the Hebrew Scriptures is about a man on the run. Jacob is fleeing from his brother Esau who he tricked out of his birthright. He's running scared and living rough. But he is not able to run from God. He wakes from a dream and says "**Surely God was in this place, and I did not know it!**" In the most unlikely of places, and on the run, the surprising

mystic Jacob the Trickster, finds himself in a thin place where heaven and earth are joined and angels ascend and descend on a ladder to the heavens.

It is interesting to note that the angels "ascend" to heaven. But Earth is filled with divinity. Earth has its own angels. God is not far off or trapped in some remote heaven in the sky. **Divinity is on earth as it is in heaven.** You don't need to go to heaven to find God; heaven is in this place.

The world is chock full of divinity. You can encounter the holy in the most unlikely places. Thin places, joining heaven and earth, abound for those for whom the doors of perception have opened.

Life is messy, but it can be spiritually full in all its complexity when we open our senses to divinity within and beyond us.

God is in all things, and all things are in God!



Sunday's Readings

Genesis 28: 10 – 19a

Psalms 139: 1 - 12

Romans 8: 12 - 25

Matthew 13: 24 – 30, 36 - 43 Focus Text



A Prayer for this week

Lord, we wonder about you. We look around us at the mighty power and majesty of nature, and it is easy for us to sing songs of praise for your creation. But then we look at the ways in which people treat one another. Too often, lying and cheating are touted as the ways in which we should live. We see deceit and anger, hostility and hatred, and we wonder where the visions of the angels descending and ascending are today. We long for times of peace and joy yet are drawn into the horrors of the world. Be with us, Lord. Help us see and feel your presence in our lives. Help us place our trust in you. For there is much work to be done in your world, and you have called us to this work. Guide our steps and guard our lives. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. **AMEN.**

<https://ministrymatters.com/>



Giving We appreciate your support and dedication to Cranbourne
UCA
In **June 2026** our giving was \$5,410.00
and our expenses were \$10,442.30
Balance **-\$5,032.30**



Hampton Park UCA
Celebration of Community
Sunday 26th July, 2pm
In recognition of 2026 Casey Environmental and
Sustainability Champion Award
Afternoon tea provided

July F.U.N.
Saturday 18th July
Doors open at 7pm
Cost \$7



JULY Food Truck Wish List
We are collecting **tinned tuna, noodles and canned vegetables**

Roster

DUTY ROSTER	Sunday 19 th July Communion	Sunday 26 th July
Liturgist	Robyn Tomkins	Chris Marsh
Music	Elizabeth Hunt	Sharon Start Trevor Anderson
Readers	Cath Taylor Ally Mohan	Julie Streckfuss Veronica Dharmaraj
Sunday School	Paul Martin	Phill Start
Door	Peter Pryn	Karen Anderson
Steward	Robyn Tomkins	Chris Marsh
Cleaners	Duncan Family	Streckfuss Family

