



Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania
Presbytery of Yarra Yarra

PO Box 4308
Balwyn East VIC 3103

28th March 2017

Notes and news for Yarra Yarra Congregations and Institutions

Please remember the induction of Bronwyn Ambrose at Kew East on 7th April at 7.30pm. This is a Presbytery events open to all, and attendance is encouraged.

Another change in ministry will occur at Ringwood on 23rd April with a farewell to Stan Clarke. The congregation has issued an invitation to anyone who would like to attend to share with them in the 10am service and afterwards at lunch.

Please promote the issues and events listed below through your own newsletters and other communication channels as appropriate. There is much going on, so please take a few minutes to review.

LENTEN SERMON COMPETITION: STRENGTHENING FAITH AT WORK

The Creative Ministries Network's MISSION TO WORK COMMITTEE invites you to participate in a sermon competition for clergy and preachers in a sermon competition for clergy and preachers in Australia of any Christian denomination. The aim is to support preachers to prepare and deliver sermons within their own church communities that will advance a theologically sound vision of faith and work, to encourage and inspire church members to see their ordinary work as a front-line of God's mission in our world. For more information, including details about how to enter and prizes, contact John Bottomley at johnbottomley@netspace.net.au

PALM SUNDAY WALK FOR JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES

The Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees will take place on 9 April, 1.30pm for 2pm start from the State Library of Victoria, Swanston Street, Melbourne. The Walk, organised by the Refugee Advocacy Network, will be led by well-known people from various civic and community organisations, including an inter-faith panel from Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths, academics, union representatives, media personalities, entertainers, musicians, writers and sportspeople.

Information can be found at www.facebook.com/palmsundaywalk

A HYMNFEST AT BORONIA ROAD

The Congregation at Boronia Road invite you to a hymnfest on Sunday 30th April at 1.30pm, at their church on the corner of Boronia Road and Zeising

Chairperson	Lauleti Tu'inavai	03 9878 6608	lauletitui@gmail.com
Presbytery Ministers	Paul Stephens	03 9857 1001	paul.stephens@victas.uca.org.au
	Morag Logan	03 9857 1002	morag.logan@victas.uca.org.au
	Dan Wootton	03 9857 1000	dwootton@victas.uca.org.au
	Geoffrey Grinton	03 9857 1003	pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au
Secretary			

Court, Boronia. Afternoon tea will be provided. Admission will be \$10 (children free). Enquiries to Irene Smith, Tel: 9762 5032 or irenesmith2@bigpond.com

PROGRESSIVE APPROACHES TO FAITH: AN INTERFAITH DISCUSSION

Yarra Interfaith Network welcomes you to an interfaith panel discussion, "Progressive Approaches to Faith". Join us at this free event where we explore and examine these questions and more on an evening that celebrates progressive movements in different faiths. Speakers will include Rev Dr Christopher Page, Minister at the Toorak Uniting Church, Rabbi Allison Conyer who has dedicated much of her rabbinate to Interfaith Relations and Social Action work, and Reem Sweid is the President of Muslims for Progressive Values in Australia.

Venue: Fitzroy Town Hall (smaller room)

Date: Wednesday, 3 May 2017

Time: Arrivals from 6:30pm for 7pm start

More information: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/progressive-approaches-to-faith-tickets-32946741591#>

CTM OFFERS LIVING LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

The CTM recognises the organic and evolving nature of leadership in contexts of challenge and times of change. Engage with us through Living Leadership events that will build capacity, insight and resilience in your leadership. The Living Leadership program comprises two distinct event types:

Core – providing a foundation for on-going learning, Core offerings are usually provided in an intensive format (1x5 days or 2x2 days) for individuals and teams.

Focus – addressing key issues in the life of the church including strategic leadership, inter-cultural leadership, church governance and leadership for inter-related councils, and designed especially for those who are part of Uniting Church congregational or regional leadership teams or councils.

Contact Merryn Gray on 03 9340 8815 or info@ctm.uca.edu.au for more information

SACREDEGE: "SPIRITUALITY IN DIVERSITY"

This annual event will take place from 5th to 7th May 2017 in Queenscliff, Victoria. It is a unique opportunity for those on the edge, their supporters and those who want to learn more, to come together, celebrate and experience diversity. The themes for the weekend are Indigenous, Asylum Seekers/Refugees, LGBTI, Sustainability and Mental Health. If you would like to know more about this years evolving line up, you can check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SacredEdgeFestival/>, or call Kerrie Lingham on 0425 736 805.

COMMUNITY CIRCLES OF CARE AND SUPPORT

A circle is an intentional way to provide support for anyone affected by disability, injury, illness, frailty. Circles are groups of 'ordinary' people using

their gifts, skills, and empathy to support another person/family. They bring hope and a sense of ‘not doing it alone’ for the main caregiver and close family. If you have an interest in being part of, or creating a circle as part of your congregation or community, please join us for this introductory session. Saturday: 6 May 10am to noon, or Thursday: 18 May 6–8pm, at the Uniting Church Centre, 130 Little Collins St, Melbourne. RSVP to andy.calder@victas.uca.org.au by either 4 May or 16 May.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF LAY PREACHERS

The conference will provide an opportunity for Lay Preachers, Candidates, Worship Leaders and Friends to share faith, fun, fellowship, inspiration and innovation! Explore Reformation 500 and us - with a panel of Lutheran, Catholic and Uniting Church speakers. Revel in First Century Judaism and Jesus with Jewish scholar Paul Forgasz. Share Bible Study and more with Dr Sunny Chen. Be challenged by Dr Jenny Byrnes, currently Executive Director, CTM and entertained by Dr Avril Hannah-Jones' Geek Worship. It will be held from Friday 7th July to Monday 10th July, 2017 at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, Parkville. The conference fee is \$270, including some meals; accommodation options are available.

Further information and registration forms are available from Maureen Postma at maureenpostma@gmail.com or Tel: 0403 841 200

TRANSFORMING WORSHIP — UCA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

“Transforming Worship” is a national gathering for preachers, worship leaders, musicians, artists, poets, and others interested in exploring the deep place of worship in shaping and changing our lives and our world. It will explore the ways in which God forms us in faith and transforms us for discipleship and mission.

On 27–30th July 2017, Adelaide will host the first national worship conference for the Uniting Church in 30 years as part of the 40th anniversary of the UCA. The Venue is Burnside City Uniting Church in Adelaide’s eastern suburbs. Overseas speakers include renowned hymnist and worships scholar Rev Dr Ruth Duck from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in the US, Rev Dr Stephen Burns from the UK, Lecturer in Liturgical and Pastoral Theology at Melbourne’s Trinity theological College. Australian speakers include President-Elect Dr Deidre Palmer, Rev Stu Cameron and Rev Myung Hwa Park.

Information about the Conference is at www.transformingworship.com.au Online registrations are now open through the website. For more information contact Neryl McCallum at admin@transformingworship.com.au or Tel: 0409 096 809

*If you have information that you wish to have distributed through this newsletter, please ensure that it is submitted by the start of the month in which the item is to appear. I plan to try to send newsletters out in the third week, so that means if your event occurs early in the month, you will need to have it submitted by the start of the **previous** month.*

The newsletter is sent to Church Council Secretaries. If you should not be receiving it, please contact me at pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au with the name of your congregation and the name of the correct person.