



19<sup>th</sup> July 2017

## **Notes and news for Yarra Yarra Congregations and Institutions**

*There has not been much news coming from the Presbytery office over the past couple of months, for which we apologise. The information below brings you up to date with some of the activities that are occurring over the next little while, and provides some reminders of important information. Although this newsletter is longer than usual, please take a few minutes to read it to the end.*

*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.*

### **PRESBYTERY NEWS**

#### **Presbytery Meeting**

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August at the Forest Hill Uniting Church, Canterbury Road, Forest Hill.

Church Council Secretaries are asked to remind Ministers and Presbytery Representatives of the importance of attending, so that every congregation can participate in this important meeting.

#### **Membership of Assembly**

The next meeting of the UCA Assembly will take place in Box Hill in July 2018, and each Presbytery throughout Australia appoints members. In Victoria and Tasmania, the number from each Presbytery is three, and the Synod itself appoints an additional 32 members. Our Presbytery appointments must include one ordained and one lay person.

The Standing Committee has determined that an election will be held at the meeting on 5th August, and nominations are now open. Members of Assembly do not have to be members of the Synod or Presbytery, but must be members of the UCA.

Please consider whether you or others in your congregation are interested in this opportunity. Please contact the Secretary on ☎ 9857 1003 or email [pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au) to request a Nomination Form to make nominations. Nominations must be received by midnight on 31st July.

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

## **Position vacant – Assembly Volunteer Coordinator**

We have been approached by Kathryn D'Alessandro, the Assembly Logistics Coordinator, with a request to help in the identification of someone who would be interested in the task of Volunteer Coordinator for the Assembly. Kathryn notes that at this stage it is unclear exactly how many volunteers but it would certainly be over 50 – in WA they had 70. Volunteers will be needed for a whole range of activities such as registering and greeting people on arrival at the various accommodations, assisting on information desks during the meeting, providing car transport for people with mobility issues, driving mini-buses at various times, providing assistance at the Opening Worship and supper afterwards etc....

The role of the Coordinator will be to assist with the coordination and management of the volunteer team, including the identification of volunteers, assigning them to particular roles and schedules, and then making sure they are properly briefed and aware of their tasks and rosters. The person appointed will work with Kathryn and the Local Arrangements Committee over the next twelve months, and it will be most helpful if this person is able to be available during the day during that time, and on a full-time basis in the month or so leading up to the Assembly.

This will be a very interesting task, providing opportunity for contact with many people from throughout Australia and our partner countries.

Please give some thought to people within your congregation who may be interested in this position, and take the initiative of approaching them about the possibility of taking on this role.

In the first instance, please make contact the Secretary, on [pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au) or ☎ 9857 1003 to express interest, pass on a name, or for further information.

## **JIM MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

The Synod Justice and International Mission Unit (JIM) is arranging several meetings with local members of Parliament to discuss issues relating to corporate tax. Meetings are scheduled for Sculin electorate on 1<sup>st</sup> August and Higgins Electorate on 26<sup>th</sup> July, and the coordinator, Denisse Sandoval would welcome people who would like to attend the meetings. Contact: Denisse Sandoval ☎ 9251 5286 or at [Denisse.Sandoval@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:Denisse.Sandoval@victas.uca.org.au)

## **SHARING YOUR FAITH**

Grow confident in sharing your own faith: training with Rev Dr Ian Robinson. 'Makes You Wonder' training helps people to find their own voice for their own faith in their own situation. It does so through authentic friendship, prayer, respect and caring. This training is for people who want to learn to share their own faith in everyday ways, and for leaders who will train others in the Makes You Wonder resources.

Sessions will be held on:

11–13<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at North Ringwood UC, Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, \$40 catered

14–15<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at Hoppers Crossing UC, 9:30am-3:00pm both days

More information: <https://ucavt.goregister.com.au/myw2017> or Rohan Pryor ☎ 9340 8816

### **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

For many, admission to hospital can be an overwhelming and alienating experience. Even the language and landscape of hospitals are foreign. Dignity is surrendered and vulnerability is off the chart. In hospital there is much interest in body; its failures, its capacity to heal and all manner of interventions to assist recovery. All of us are embodied people and the impact of hospitalisation on personhood can vary from mild impact to major crisis.

In a talk entitled “Admission to Exile”, Pastor Karen Eller, Uniting Church Chaplain at The Royal Melbourne Hospital, will offer insights into the unique challenges of caring for patients, family members and staff in the radical clinical setting of a teaching hospital. The talk will be at North Balwyn Uniting Church, 17–21 Duggan St, Balwyn North, on Sunday 20th July, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm, and will be followed by soup and then a short reflective service.

Contact: Nell Potter, ☎ 9857 8412 or [mail@nbuc.org.au](mailto:mail@nbuc.org.au)

### **LIVING LEADERSHIP INTENSIVE**

For anyone in a leadership role, the Living Leadership: Core Intensive is especially valuable for those in a team environment (ie. pretty much anyone leading in the church context). Including exploration of teams and leadership styles; culture, context and conflict; strategic change: and much more, this unique leadership experience will assist you in addressing your current challenges and increasing your team’s effectiveness. Build capacity, insight and resilience in your leadership through this five-day intensive learning opportunity. It will be held at the Centre for Theology and Ministry in Parkville from 24–28<sup>th</sup> July.

More information and registration: [Living Leadership: Core Intensive](#)

### **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 27–30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.transformingworship.com.au) Online registrations are now open through the website. For more information contact Neryl McCallum at [admin@transformingworship.com.au](mailto:admin@transformingworship.com.au) or ☎ 0409 096 809

### **SPIRITUALITY AND WELLBEING CONFERENCE**

The Spirituality and Wellbeing Centre brings together a group of Spirituality, Health and Wellbeing practitioners with program facilitators based at Habitat Uniting Church. Their inaugural conference will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> August, and will be followed by an Enneagram Workshop. Keynote speaker Uranio Paes will present an address on the topic of "Spiritual Awakening". More information and cost details: ☎ 9819 2844 or this [Registration Page](#).

### **EXPLORING INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY AND MISSION**

If an intergenerational approach is the key to effective ministry with people of all ages, what does it look like in practice? How can it be implemented by local congregations? What can stay the same and what needs to be changed?

Re:Generations — Exploring intergenerational ministry and mission is a unique opportunity to engage with these questions and more! Two sessions will be held in August, at Greensborough (29<sup>th</sup> August) and Mitcham (31<sup>st</sup> August).

Facilitated by Chris Barnett from the Centre for Theology & Ministry, each event will include three engaging, participatory and practical core sessions.

Come for the whole day or simply select the session/s that are of most interest to you. Session titles will be:

- Intergenerational ministry - worship, mission and more
- Messy mission - learning from Messy Church as an intergenerational model
- Here to Stay – a framework for nurturing lifelong discipleship

Each session will run for 90 minutes and there will be time to browse resources and connect with others in-between sessions. Register for any one session and participate in as many of the others as you like for FREE.

Greensborough — 29<sup>th</sup> August, 10.30am to 4pm

Mitcham — 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1.30pm to 7pm

More information & registration: [Re:Generations Registrations](#) or Chris Barnett ☎ 9340 8806

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*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](mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au) with the name of your congregation and the name of the correct person.*