



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

PO Box 4308  
Balwyn East VIC 3103

24<sup>th</sup> September 2018

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

*As usual, the newsletter contains two sections. The first has information directly related to Yarra Yarra Presbytery, and this is followed by information about items which may be of interest to your congregations.*

*Please identify other items relevant to your community, and 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.*

*Please ensure that items for the next edition are sent in by the end of the month.*

### **PRESBYTERY NEWS**

#### **Call for nominations**

What action have you taken about the request to start identifying people suitable for membership of Presbytery committees and working groups? Please remember that if everyone leaves this to someone else, we will have no nominations! The formal Call for Nominations documents will be circulated this week, but please start thinking of people in your congregation or faith community who would be able to contribute to leadership in the Presbytery. We know that most nominations arise because an approach made by someone, so every member and Church Council should see this as a task to be welcomed.

#### **Next Presbytery Meeting**

This is an early reminder that the next meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. The meeting will be held at Bayswater.

#### **Assistance with Mission Studies and Consultations**

Church Council Secretaries recently received a letter asking for suggestions/offers regarding people who would be able to assist the Pastoral Relations Committee with a large number of congregational mission studies. If we received one name from each congregation we would have a good pool of people who would be available to assist. We believe that there is surely one person, at least, in your congregation who would be willing and able to assist in this way, so please give some thought to this and send names to Lauren Mosso, the Chairperson of the

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Chairperson	Ross Pearce	0437 561 833	<a href="mailto:rgpearce.au@gmail.com">rgpearce.au@gmail.com</a>
Presbytery Ministers	Dan Wootton	03 9857 1000	<a href="mailto:dwootton@victas.uca.org.au">dwootton@victas.uca.org.au</a>
	Liz McMillan	0419 884 736	<a href="mailto:liz.mcmillan@victas.uca.org.au">liz.mcmillan@victas.uca.org.au</a>
Secretary	Geoffrey Grinton	03 9857 1003	<a href="mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au">pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au</a>

committee, at [lauren.mosso@epworth.org.au](mailto:lauren.mosso@epworth.org.au). More details are in Lauren's letter to Church Councils of 13<sup>th</sup> August.

### **A CELEBRATION OF TALENTS AT MONTROSE**

Montrose Uniting Church will present A Celebration of Talents from 7pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October till 4:30pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October. An exhibition and sale of arts and crafts.

Enquiries: K Osborne, Tel 5968 6167.

### **FORUM ON VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING**

A forum exploring the practical, pastoral and theological implications of Victoria's new VAD legislation will take place at the Brunswick Uniting Church, 212 Sydney Road, Brunswick, at 7:30pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Speakers will include Joel Hallinan, Rev Dr Jason Goroncy and Assoc Prof Rosalie Dudson.

Enquiries: Rev Ian Ferguson, Tel 0438 547 842 or [iferguson@icloud.com](mailto:iferguson@icloud.com)

### **SWELL CONFERENCE 2018**

SWell provides a welcoming community where you will experience healing, befriend your true-self, discover clarity of purpose and begin to awaken abundant life through Presence. The SWell conference welcomes guest speaker and facilitator Rod Pattenden who explores our human calling to attend to Presence. SWell Spirituality and Wellbeing practitioners and facilitators create extraordinary spaces for companionship, connection and cultivating Presence.

The conference will be at the Swell Centre, 2 Minoa Street, Hawthorn, from 5:30pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October to 1:30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

Contact: Joan Wright Howie, [joanwh@bigpond.com](mailto:joanwh@bigpond.com), Tel: 0424670093

More details and registration at [www.trybooking.com/xmju](http://www.trybooking.com/xmju).

### **LAY PREACHERS MEETING**

Rev Dr Sunny Chen will be speaking at the Yarra Yarra Lay Preachers' Meeting on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> October at 2.00pm. The venue is Warrandyte Uniting Church.

Sunny's topic is *Emotive Parallelism: An Alternative Perspective for Understanding Biblical Texts*. This will conclude a study of Biblical

Oxymorons: Jesus being crucified in the Garden of Eden; Moses leading the Jews out of Babylon; Caesar dumping Daniel in the lions' den. All welcome.

Contact: Alastair J Davison, Tel: 0412 653 218

### **HIGHFIELD ROAD UNITING CHURCH BREAKFAST SERIES**

On 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 the breakfast address will be presented by Rev Andy Tiver, minister at North Ringwood Uniting. Andy recently returned from serving with Uniting World in the Philippines. Uniting World is the Uniting

Church Assembly agency that works in aid programs in overseas countries, particularly in the South East Asia and Pacific regions. Uniting World also partners with Protestant and reformed churches to deliver aid in these countries. Because of his experience in the Philippines, Andy is both qualified and enthusiastic about sharing the work of Uniting World. He also has a deep interest in the life of Christian people in the Philippines, particularly in the area of social justice.

Cost: \$10 for breakfast

Location: Highfield Road Uniting Church, 72 Highfield Rd, Canterbury

If you would like to attend this breakfast and presentation, please forward an email to [info@highfieldroadcanterbury.org.au](mailto:info@highfieldroadcanterbury.org.au) with 'Oct 28 breakfast' in the subject line, and provide the names of people who wish to attend. We will confirm your place.

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

At the next Mind, Body, Spirit session on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 5:30pm the speaker will be Rev Anneke Oppewal, Minister at Balwyn Uniting Church and qualified clinical hypnotherapist and psychotherapist. Her topic will be 'Anxiety and its many guises, how it affects our lives and how we might find ways to bend our minds towards a more helpful way of living with it. Where does it come from? And where can it take us? In a world where we find ourselves surrounded by ambiguity, overwhelmed with information, we are all in danger of losing ourselves in apprehension, unable to see the wood for the trees, and wondering how we can stay on top of the ever shifting ground of our being.

How and why are we triggered? Lack of discrimination skills, cognitive distortion of reality, lack of compartmentalisation, rumination, self-referencing, feelings of helplessness and being overwhelmed, future orientation, ambiguity, global thinking, they are all patterns that have a role to play. The question is: How do we bend what is unhelpful about these thought patterns into something that is more helpful and learn to be more in control of our own anxiety?'

North Balwyn Uniting Church, 17–21 Duggan St, Balwyn North. Enquiries to Nell Potter, tel 9857 8412 (Wed–Fri, 10am–4pm) or to [mail@nbuc.org.au](mailto:mail@nbuc.org.au).

### **MORE ENGLISH CLASSES**

Manningham congregation also offer English classes on Friday mornings from 10am to 12 noon at the Templestowe site in Wood St Templestowe.

Contact: Gail Pritchard, Tel: 0432 235 439

### **CHOIR ROBES AVAILABLE**

North Balwyn UC have 20+ choir robes in good condition (burgundy colour), to give to another congregation or choir. Please contact the office (Wed–Fri) on

Tel 9857 8412 if you are interested.

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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.*