



News for the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra Congregations and Institutions

Calendar of Events - 2025

Date	Time	Event
Sun 23 rd November	2pm	Commissioning of David Landis-Morse and Rani Wood at Heidelberg Scots church.
Sat 29 November	9:30am	Presbytery in Council Meeting
Sun 30 November	2pm	Final Service at Christ Church Kensington
Sun 30 November	3pm	Lay Preachers AGM & High Tea, Warrandyte
Mon 1 st December	5pm	Book Launch: Rewilding Prayer, Pilgrim Theological College
Sun 28 December	10am	Heathmont's final Worship Service
Sun 15 March 2026		ADVANCE NOTICE Ivanhoe Centenary Celebrations

Commissioning Service – Heidelberg Scots Church

You are warmly invited to the Commissioning Service of David Landis-Morse and Rani Wood at 2pm on **Sunday 23rd November** at the Heidelberg Scots church, 187 Burgundy Street Heidelberg.

Members of Presbytery are invited to gather at 1.45pm so that we might pray with Rani and David and process in to commence the service.

There is no need for Ministers robe, however the wearing the red stole is welcomed.

Presbytery in Council Meeting – Saturday 29th November

Our final Presbytery in Council Meeting for 2025 will be held at South Camberwell Gospel Hall Uniting Church on Saturday 29th November starting at 9:30am.

It's a jam packed session with a Christmas themed lunch. Hope to see you there. Further details of Agenda items will be emailed to Presbytery Members shortly.

Final Service at Kensington – Sunday 30th November

You are welcome to attend the final service at Christ Church Kensington (CCK, on Sunday 30th at 2.00 pm in the church at 76 McCracken St, Kensington. The service will be followed by a light afternoon tea.

Please note that parking can sometimes be difficult so you may need to park a little distance from the church. We look forward to seeing you and celebrating CCK's history.

Lay Preachers Committee AGM & High Tea – Sun 30th November

Please join us for 'High Tea' and our AGM

We are delighted to invite you to join us, on Sunday 30 November 2025, to meet Lay Preachers and to celebrate the work of our ministry in Yarra Yarra.

We meet at table at **3.00pm** to share some delights, enjoy some chit-chat and to celebrate the work of being a Lay Preacher.

We move into the Church for Worship and the AGM, followed by a forum on Lay Preaching with Revs Ian Turnnidge and Ray McCluskey.

Event Details

Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Location: Warrandyte Uniting Church, Cnr Taroona Avenue and West End Road, Warrandyte 3113 (Parking on site -- enter from Taroona Avenue, also plenty of street parking)

Programme

High Tea in the Hall at 3.00pm

Worship in the Church

Annual Meeting

Forum on Lay Preaching with Revs Ian Turnnidge and Ray McCluskey



So that we can finalise the catering, please RSVP by **Monday 24 November 2025** to Alastair at davison.lpa01@gmail.com

Book Launch Invitation – Monday 1st December 5pm

Rewilding Prayer: God Beyond Gender, Faith Beyond Formulas by Sally Douglas

You are warmly invited to join Sally Douglas for the launch of Rewilding Prayer: God Beyond Gender, Faith Beyond Formulas.

Date: Monday 1st December 2025, 5pm

Location: Yuma Auditorium, Pilgrim Theological College,
29 College Cres, Parkville

RSVP: By Wed **26th November** by registering online at
events.humanitix.com/rewilding-prayer

This book is for the curious, the “spiritual not religious”, the faithful, the disenchanged, and for those who thirst for more.



Final Worship Service at Heathmont – 28th December



Heathmont Uniting Church will be conducting the final Worship Service on **Sunday 28th December** following a 3-year journey to amalgamate with Ringwood Uniting Church. Amalgamation will be completed on 1st January when the temporary name of the new entity will be Ringwood and Heathmont Uniting Church. If you have had a past association with Heathmont Uniting Church you are welcome to join us on this special day at 10am with a cuppa and something to eat afterwards. Please email

HUC at hmuntuc89@bigpond.com if you think you may be able to be with us.

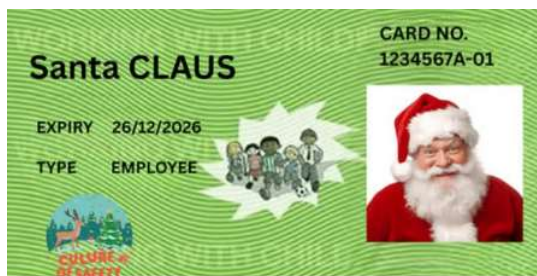
Wanted – Hospitality and Gardening Items

Richmond Uniting Church are in need of a few items for hospitality and gardening and would love to speak to any congregations with any of the following items in excess or for sale:

- ✚ Crockery/cutlery/serving/food preparation utensils
- ✚ Large round tables
- ✚ Together in Song (HARMONY) edition
- ✚ Gardening tools

Please be in contact with the office with a description and/or photographs. The email address to use is Keren.Roodenburg@victas.uca.org.au

Keep safety checks updated: Does Santa have his WWCC/VP card?



The festive season is quickly coming upon us, and soon enough it will be time for Christmas parties, carol events, fetes, nativity plays, and all the other ways we celebrate during advent.

With all this in mind please remember that we will have an influx of visitors into our spaces, including children.

Now is the time to make sure any extra volunteers who will be helping at these events are up to date with their WWCC/VP cards and child safe training ready for the festive season to kick off in a few weeks.

This includes Santa and any of his elves that might be visiting your events to see the kids.

It would also be timely to ensure your safe church contacts details are visible and up to date should any visitors need to raise any concerns.

Let's be prepared to have a safe festive season.



Theology and Culture Conference: Gendered Violence

How do religion, theology, and culture contribute to—or help combat—gendered violence? Join *The Wesley Centre's* inaugural interdisciplinary conference to investigate the intersections of theology, biblical interpretation, culture, sexism, colonialism, and justice. Together, we'll ask hard questions about gendered violence and explore resources for healing, inclusion, and change.



Date: Wed 11th February to Friday 13th February 2026.

For more information about keynote speakers, accommodation options, and other conference details please see www.thewesleycentre.org

This conference is organised by The Wesley Centre for Theology, Ethics, and Public Policy and sponsored by Pilgrim Theological College.

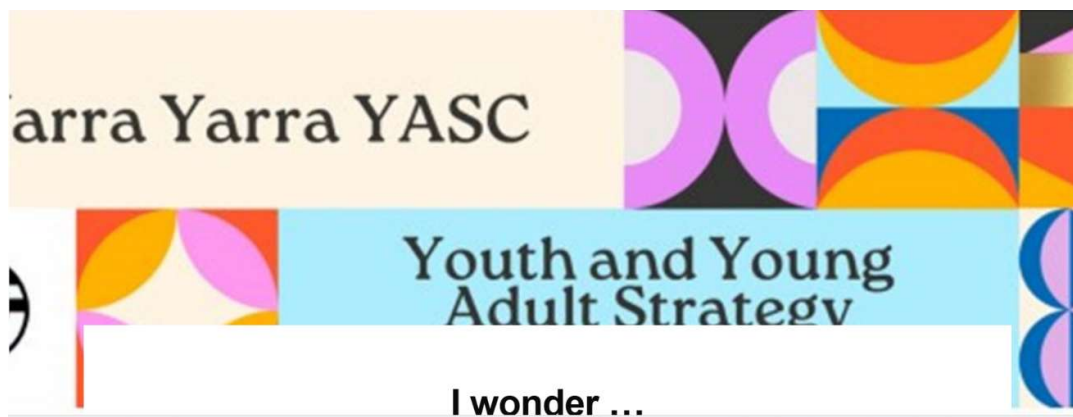
President's Conference Tonga

Those that attended the recent President's Conference in Tonga have said it was an inspiring, spirit-filled Conference, from the joyful voices of the Si'atoutai Theological College choir to the inspiring words of Her Royal Highness Princess Salote Mafie'o Pilolevu Tuita on the first day of the conference to the worship services across Tongatapu - at Saione Centenary Church, Sia'atoutai Theological College, Moulton Chapel Toloa, and the Free Wesleyan Churches in Kolonga - where delegates experienced the beauty of shared faith, inclusion and Christ's love.

“It was an amazing experience, very informative, empowering and encouraging.”

Mafi Pole who the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra supported to attend the President's Conference in Tonga enjoyed the experience immensely. Mafi said it was an amazing experience, very informative, empowering and encouraging.





Young Voices (Youth Council) Co-Design Workshop

On October 5, three youth and young adults from Living Faith Church, as well as others from Yarra Yarra Presbytery, attended a youth council codesign workshop at SCOTS in Heidelberg.

The workshop was a positive experience where participants enjoyed open sharing of ideas and excitement for a youth council.

The opportunity for learning about church structure was valued and there was a keen sense that those involved could make a difference.

All the youth who attended wanted to be a part of the council idea which has been renamed YASC – Yarra/Youth Advisory Strategy Committee. The group enjoyed the possibility that YASC can at once mean:

Yarra Advisory Strategy Committee

Youth Advisory Strategy Committee

Young Adults Strategy Committee

The flexible multi meaning name, YASC, said “why ask”, reflected a common theme and desire of the group to be fluid and adaptable in practical considerations such as capacity, structure and content.

For example, participants discussed the benefits of a core group of regular committed committee members but also wanted the YASC to be open to other youth who wished to contribute occasionally when time, topic or location allowed.

Similarly, it was agreed that YASC would meet monthly, but that the frequency of meetings although based on a monthly expectation would change depending on content, capacity and consensus.

One youth noted, “If it is life giving, we want more meetings.”

The inaugural YASC is scheduled for November 30.

The newsletter is sent to Church Council Secretaries and Presbytery members. If you should not be receiving it, please contact myself at ann.williamson@victas.uca.org.au with the name of your congregation and the name of the correct person to receive PYY News.

Faithful Futures

Faithful Futures Project is a collaborative effort between presbyteries and the Synod to discern priorities, direct resources, and ensure we are equipped for the challenges and opportunities ahead. The project was initiated out of conversation at the Presbytery Synod Forum and approved at the Synod Meeting 2025.

Vision:

Following Christ, walking together as First and Second Peoples, seeking community, compassion and justice for all creation.

Goals:

Coordinated Ministries



Coordinated ministry and mission in geographic areas such as Local Government Areas by 2030: attentive to renewing discipleship, and to the life and needs of the local context.

Respecting Country



Honouring the Church's Covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, all communities of faith will listen to and be able to tell about some of the histories of the Country on which they are located by the end of 2028, and be invited to develop local and appropriate ways to respond.

Intercultural Leadership



By 2028, to:

- Be providing appropriate intercultural leadership formation and equipping for all ministry agents and congregations; and
- Develop intercultural networks for worship, witness, and service.

All-age growth



To have at least one all-age community of faith that is interactive, diverse, inclusive and transformative in 80% of Coordinated Ministries by 2030.

New communities of faith



Establish at least five new Christian communities by 2030.

No newsletter in December. Next newsletter in January 2026

Please forward articles and other information you wish to share with the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra (in Word or image format, not PDF) to ann.williamson@victas.uca.org.au by 14th of January 2026.