



News for the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra Congregations and Institutions

Calendar of Events – Sep-Nov 2024

Date	Time	Event
Thurs 19 Sep	1-5pm	Assessable Worship Workshop, ONLINE
Fri 20-Sun 22 Sep	Fri 7pm	Feast of Faith: weekend for UCA CALD members aged 18-40. Start Fri 7pm until mid morning Sunday.
Sat 21 Sep	9am-3pm	An Event About Hope: Sharing indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing...., Box Hill Town Hall
Thurs 3-Fri 4 Oct	10am-4pm	Pause & Paint: An icon-painting workshop for teens.
Sat 5 Oct	9am-4:15pm	JIM Convention 2024 – Food Production&Social Justice
Sat 12 Oc		Building Bridges Through Story – Manningham UC
Sun 13 Oct	3:30-5:30pm	Reconciliation, Where are we now? Wesley Centre
Fri 18 Oct	11:30am-1pm	Quarterly Conversation, Mark the Evangelist, Parkville
Mon 21 Oct-25Nov	7-9pm	eLM: Exploring Worship in the UCA, Zoom.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THESE EVENTS ARE IN THIS EDITION OF PYY NEWS

Presbytery Chair's Message

Greetings to all members of Yarra Yarra Presbytery,

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Presbytery in Council meeting held at Burwood Heights Uniting Church on Saturday 31 August, 2024. What a wonderful day it was to share as community together. We worshipped and prayed together; affirmed two members of our community (Jane Yun and Alisha Fung) in their journey to Ordination; and we celebrated the congregations that are in conversation with one another. We thought about how God weaves many textures together and new things are created and we wondered how we might experience 'weaving' as we met together. We listened for the voice of the Spirit and, I believe, we were challenged by it.

This is why it is so important that we meet together. Presbytery is more than just another meeting, it is a community of people of faith who journey together, question, grieve and celebrate together; and pray for one another. Let us continue to meet together, for this is how we might continue to encourage one another.

Blessings - Rev Heather Hon (she/her).

Accessible Worship

Free Online Training for all Church Leaders –September 2024

As part of the Synod's 2023-26 Disability Action Plan, eLM is offering **free online training** for all Ministers, Lay Leaders and Church Councils in September to help Church leaders ensure that worship is accessible to people with disabilities.

The ACCESSIBLE WORSHIP workshop will be presented online by the Centre for Accessibility Australia, and will include:-

- Making your Worship Service accessible
- How people with disability engage with content
- Making your content accessible (Websites, newsletters and the promotion of church activities on Social Media)
- Policy and legislation on making content accessible

To make it as easy as possible for people to attend this interactive workshop, we are offering two options:

- One **4-hour afternoon** session on **Thursday 19 Sep, 1-5pm**, OR as

Bookings are now open via the VicTas Synod website at <https://victas.uca.org.au/event/accessible-worship/>

Feast of Faith

The Younger Generations Team at eLM will be hosting a 2nd Gen CALD Young Leaders Retreat on **Friday 20th-Sunday 22nd of September 2024**.

Flyers for distribution are available from PYY Office (ann.williamson@victas.uca.org.au).

This weekend, we will focus on what it means to be a 1.5/2nd Generation CALD member in the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA). We'll explore the joy we receive along with the struggles and obstacles we face, as 2nd Generation followers of Christ. We'll discuss how we can continue to equip, enrich, and empower each other in this journey of life.

Where: Peninsula Outdoors (Merricks)

Who: UCA CALD members aged 18-40

Time: Starts 7pm and finishes Sunday 11am (Morning tea time)

Costs: Full weekend \$100 (this includes all meals and accommodation)

Registration Link: [Feast of Faith | Humanitix](#)

Cut off Dates for Registration: 1st September 2024

An Event About Hope – Saturday 21st September

Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation is running a forum at the Box Hill Town Hall on **Saturday, 21 September**, that may be of interest to Uniting Church people in the Yarra Yarra Presbytery, particularly those in the Whitehorse Council area.

Three indigenous leaders will make presentations, encouraging participants to consider how First Nations thinking may encourage hope in our day. The forum is free, but you need to register - <https://events.humanitix.com/being-hope>.

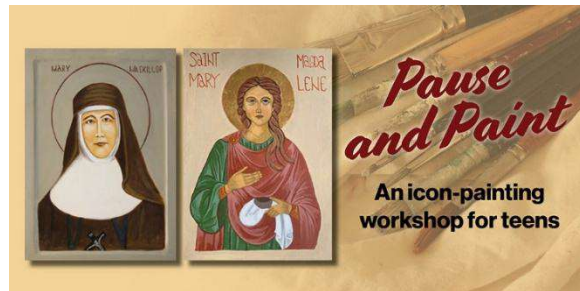
When: 21st September 9am for a 9:30am start, finishing at 3pm.

If you would like a flyer to distribute to others please contact Ann in PYY Office (ann.williamson@victas.uca.org.au).

Pause & Paint: An icon-painting workshop for teens

A two-day school holiday event for teens to learn the ancient art of icon painting.

Across the 2 days you will learn the skills you need to draw a face in perspective as well as the opportunity to try painting using the style artists used over 500 years ago using the same type of materials: dry pigments in egg tempera.



The workshop will be led by UCA icon painting teacher Peter Blackwood. There will be opportunities to pause and pray and reflect each day as you paint. Participants can also pause and walk the labyrinth on site at the church, or to enjoy an icon exhibition. If you enjoy art and like thinking about faith, then this is for you.

When: 10am-4pm Thursday **October 3rd** and Friday **October 4th**.

Where: Scots Uniting Church, 187 Burgundy St, Heidelberg.

Cost: \$20 to cover art materials and morning and afternoon teas. Lunch can be brought or purchased at the Sycamore Tree café on site, or at other nearby shops.

Transport: Scots church is 200m from the Heidelberg train station, and accessible by bus.

Sign up: To find out more contact sandy.brodine@victas.uca.org.au or the Younger Generations VicTas Facebook page.

JIM Convention 2024 - 'Give us Today our Daily Bread: Food and Social Justice'

This year's JIM Convention will explore the social justice dimensions of food production and how to incorporate them into the church's life. Register now to reserve your spot and workshop preferences.

Large food corporations are producing unhealthy and addictive food products that drive up unhealthy food consumption. The foods in question cause various health problems, including obesity, cancer, heart disease and depression. Ultra-processed foods have been progressively tailored by scientists and technicians through combinations of sugar, salt, fat and flavour enhancers to bypass our natural mechanisms of appetite control. At the same time, food corporations to drive up food consumption and obesity also impact global greenhouse gas emissions.

When: Saturday, October 5th 9am-4:15pm

Where: Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Cres

Cost: \$40 Metro, \$25 Concession and non-metro, \$10 Online (morning only)

Register: [Justice and International Mission Convention 2024 | Humanitix](#)

Building Bridges Through Story – Sat 12 October

Building bridges through story has a new story to share - homelessness

BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH STORY

REGISTER NOW
Tickets: \$20
buildingbridges.events; 9846 2012

Manningham Uniting Church COMMUNITY GRANTS MANNINGHAM CARE.NET Uniting

Wesley Centre Event – Volunteers Needed

The Wesley Centre will be hosting an event on **Sunday the 13th October** from 3:30pm - 5:30pm called *Reconciliation, Where are we now? Marking a year since the referendum,* that we are seeking a few volunteers to help us for on the day.

Tasks Include:

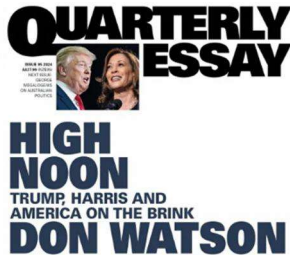
- Assisting with Pack Up/Pack Down
- Assisting people getting in and out of the building
- Setting up catering
- Spot cleaning surfaces and rubbish throughout the event

Perks Include:

- Snack and drinks
- Listening and being involved in what is looking to be a moving, informative and insightful panel discussion

We will be needing assistance from the hours of **2:45pm - 6pm located at Wesley Place.**

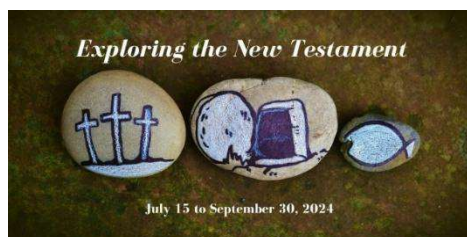
We would be incredibly appreciative of any time you may be able to donate towards this event and If you're interested and would like further details, **please email our Centre Coordinator Alice at the following email coordinator@thewesleycentre.org**



The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist's "Quarterly Conversation" seeks to foster conversation in the community on important social and political themes, based on the most recent issue of the *Quarterly Essay*.

Our hope is that these conversation groups will broaden understanding of – and engagement in – what is happening in Australian society. The next discussion will be **on Friday, October 18, 11.30am-1.00pm** in the **library** at the **Centre for Theology and Ministry, Parkville**. For more information and to **register to attend**, www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au.

Education and Formation for Leadership Team, eLM



We will be running *Exploring Worship in the UCA* in Semester 3 from 21 October to 25 November.

Both on Zoom, Monday nights, 7-9pm.

Please register at

<https://events.humanitix.com/exploring-the-new-testament>

'Christian worship and Christian unity- how fares the Uniting Church?' VicTas UC Historical Society

Emeritus Professor Robert Gribben spoke to around 60 people at the August VicTas UC Historical Society meeting on the subject of Christian worship and Christian unity.

A summary of Professor Robert Gribben's speech, written by Rev Robert Renton is available to be emailed to interested persons. Please contact Ann on pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au if you would like a copy.

The full copy of the speech will be reproduced in the December edition of The Proceedings of the Uniting Church Historical Society of Victoria and Tasmania, and further information can be obtained from Robert Renton (robert.renton@bigpond.com or 042 7812 606).

To join the Society a brochure is available on the Synod website; www.victas.uca.org.au/resources/mission-resourcing/synod-archives/

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.

August Newsletter Deadline: 14th October

Please forward articles and other information you wish to share with the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra to ann.williamson@victas.uca.org.au by 14th of the month.