

Newsbeat

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



JULY HEADLINES

COATESVILLE

CREATIVE
MINISTRIES
NETWORK

HAMPTON PARK

HEATHERTON
DINGLEY

KARINGAL

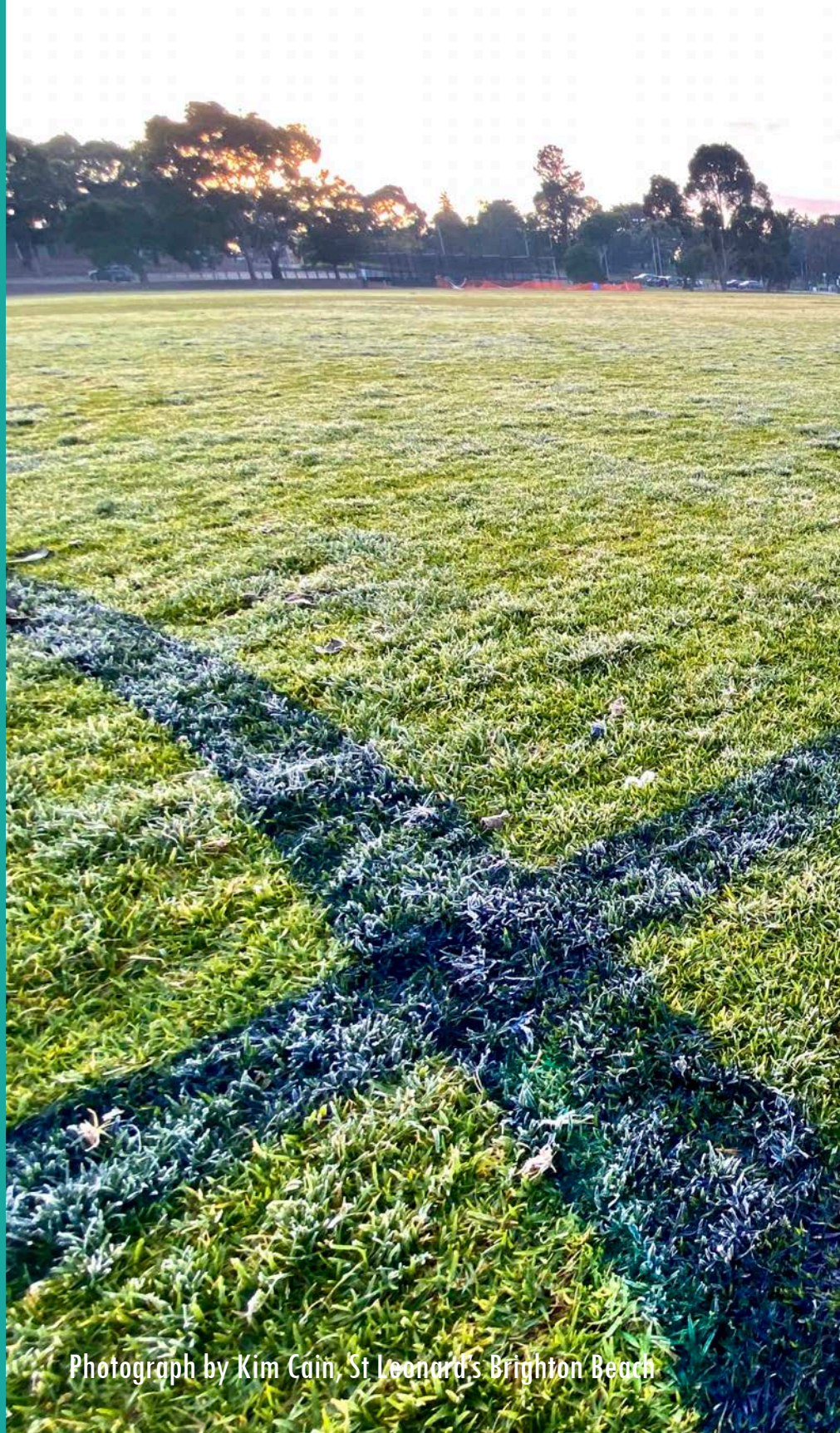
KOREAN CHURCH OF
MELBOURNE

LEIGHMOOR

UNITING BY THE
BAY

A CONTROVERSIAL
PLAQUE IN MT
WAVERLEY

JULY 2022 ISSUE



Photograph by Kim Cain, St Leonard's Brighton Beach

Port Phillip East Presbytery's WHAT'S HAPPENING

An insight into what congregations,
schools & members are doing

Back to the Future for MLG?

Mission Liaison Group is based in Chapel Road, Keysborough. John and Ann Connan write about a possible change in direction.

In some senses it was back to the future for the Mission Liaison Group. At the end of May we'd been asked whether we might see any way in which MLG could be involved in helping provide warm clothing and other needs for incoming Pacific Island workers.

Then on Sunday June 5th we were asked by Heather Johnson of Dandenong Uniting Church whether we could provide clothing for a small group of Fijians who had arrived in Pakenham to work in an abattoir. They had come to Melbourne in the midst of our coldest beginning to winter in almost a century – with nothing more than hand-luggage.

Early that afternoon Heather together with Ann and John Connan of Mt Eliza UC (all volunteers with MLG) came together at the MLG Shed in Keysborough.

Within half an hour of the Fijians arriving the whole group had been outfitted with warm clothing, bedding and backpacks and were happily on their way back to Pakenham.

MLG from its beginnings by Bruce Walker in 1966 has always tried to assist overseas and inland in the frontier work of the Methodist then Uniting Church.



Over the years that work has changed till today it involves the gathering and sending of quality second-hand and new goods to Island communities in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa and Kiribati; serving as the Victorian collection point for goods for the Old Timers Fete in Alice Springs; and filled backpacks to go to primary school students in the Pacific. In recent years the sending of packed 20 foot shipping containers to Vanuatu and Fiji came to an end.

We're not sure whether this new sharing with Pacific Island temporary workers will continue, but we'll be ready if it does. A 'back-to-the-future' attitude is part of MLG's DNA!

John and Ann Connan



Murals by the Bay

Uniting by the Bay is a congregation with three centres, Carrum, Chelsea and Edithvale. Currently the congregation runs the Op Shop at Carrum and worship services at Chelsea.

This year, the church walls at Uniting by the Bay, Chelsea building, have been beautified with a series of murals painted by local artists and our church members. These murals tell amazing stories of the Bible intertwined with our local landscapes.

The sunset over Port Phillip Bay tells the story of Jesus' death. The sunrise over Edithvale-Seafood Wetlands tells the story of Jesus' resurrection.

A pair of doves descending on people with fire tells the story of Pentecost.

The church plans to paint a couple more murals throughout the year to continue and enrich the narrative.

Already, the locals have expressed their appreciation for these murals, and the members are glad to strike a conversation here and there.

These murals were also done with the help of our Sunday School children who were excited to participate in the projects.



Celebrating volunteers in Hampton Park

Childrens Worker Nikki Oostwoud writes about a celebration of volunteers at Uniting Place, Hampton Park Uniting Church, Sunday June 19.

There's a buzz in the kitchen as we plate up a cheese and biscuits, fruit, muffins and scones with jam and cream. Music floats in from the church sanctuary as the finishing touches are completed on the audio-visual presentation and activities are set out for the kids.

This morning church is a little different. Chairs are arranged around tables set with white cloths and flowers. Our minister, Rev Ric Holland, is dressed as a waiter. His notes are arranged on a silver platter, not for a sermon, but for a celebration of our wonderful volunteers.

When I first joined "Uniting Place" (Hampton Park Uniting Church), at the beginning of 2019 I was struck by the hospitable nature of the both the building, centred around the kitchen and welcoming foyer, and the congregation themselves who exuded a welcoming energy. It wasn't until I joined the staff however, that I understood how far our community of volunteers reached beyond the walls of our church.

One of the things I love about the community at Uniting Place is that there are no pre-requisites for those who want to be involved beyond of course the usual safety checks and an agreement with our code of conduct. Our volunteers come from all backgrounds and walks of life and their presence adds a great richness to the community here. Because of the talents, experience and commitment to our vision that the volunteers bring, we are able to achieve so much more. In fact, I think it's fair to say that we wouldn't exist without them.

The morning tea on Sunday 19th June was an opportunity to celebrate our volunteers and all that they do. From congregation members who give of their time to play music, record video, read or pray to everyone who volunteers to cook, serve meals, garden and provide services during the week, volunteering is in our DNA. It's an essential part of who we are and what we do here at Uniting Place.

We instituted a new annual volunteer award. Doreen Diong was recognised for her tireless work in the kitchen as she resourcefully prepares free meals each week using ingredients from Food Bank. Jacob La-Lau was acknowledged for his work in the garden as a lead volunteer and the regular Food Bank resource delivery.

Nikki Oostwoud



Doreen Diong, Rick Holland and Jacob La Lau

New era for Karingal Uniting Church

Karingal Uniting Church is a congregation in Frankston, founded in 1964. Kieth Pyke writes about recent changes.

In 2000, St Peters, the nearby Lutheran church, sold their building to a shopping centre development. They arranged with us to conduct their worship services in our church building.

After some months, in which we occasionally attended each other's services, we decided to create a sharing congregation with one minister serving us all. Our Presbytery and the Lutheran District gave their approval (with a few conditions) and the first combined service was conducted by Pastor Peter Ghalayini in 2002.

This was the first time in Victoria that the Lutheran Church had entered a formal sharing arrangement with any other denomination. Much of the success of the venture was due to the proposal being initiated at the grass roots level and by the hard work of many of the members. There was a single church council and all running costs were shared, but finances and baptismal records were maintained separately.

In 2021 St Peters elected to end the sharing relationship and to disband their congregation, leaving Karingal Uniting Church to continue as it had prior to 2002, as a small congregation with a part time supply minister (currently Rev Reg Davies).

Rather than seeing this change as a setback, the congregation has relished its new arrangements and has been delighted with the return of some former members and the addition of some new members.

The changes have included a return to sharing morning tea and to more intimate seating arrangements (still Covid-compliant) with separate chairs facing the altar.

It is considered most unlikely that we will ever have 100 people at worship as in the 1970s and thus very unlikely that we will be required to provide a manse for even a half time minister.

We have recently (with the appropriate approvals), sold our manse under the Money For Mission program. The sale will provide an ongoing income stream that (in conjunction with our offerings and hall rental fees from some excellent long-term tenants) will ensure the financial security of our congregation for many years (and also provide some funds for the wider mission of the Uniting Church).

Karingal has always valued its independence. We are appreciative of several meetings held earlier this year with Rev Anneke Oppewal (Presbytery Minister) and Rev James Douglas (Chair Pastoral Relations Committee). We were reassured that Presbytery had no plans to close the Karingal congregation but rather that it wished to support the congregation however it could.

We recently changed our form of governance from an elected church council to one where the whole of the Karingal congregation is the church council. Anneke and James conducted a commissioning service to establish this new format at our meeting on 29 May 2022.

Kieth Pyke



Heatherton Dingley

The Little White Church

In May this year the congregation was excited to induct the Rev. Deacon Andrea Mayes as its minister on a half-time basis. Andrea brings a strong commitment to social justice matters, care for the environment, pastoral care and outreach to the community focus. We look forward to her ministry with us.

The interior and exterior of the church has been painted this year, enhancing our reputation as "The Little White Church"

As a congregation we have the following outreach activities in place:

Assisting the Dandenong Asylum Seeker Centre: an on-going collection of non-perishable food and basic home hygiene products that are used to assist people seeking asylum in our city.

Unleash the Music: a gathering, held every second Thursday each month, of people who love to play their musical instruments and singing all kinds of music. Usually attracts up to sixteen people and we enjoy supper afterwards.

Thanksgiving service for our dogs: For many people, their dogs are a lifeline. They offer companionship, protection and in some cases, practical assistance. We hold this service once a year to thank God for all that dogs do for us.

Dog Bark and Chat Group: meeting every odd month; an opportunity for local people to socialise and enjoy morning tea with their dogs. Occasionally a guest speaker is invited to share on a doggie theme.

Know your Bible: An international Bible study group for women.

Home Produce and Craft Market: held annually each October. Various people set up stalls, sell plants, home produce, art work and gifts of all kinds. The church provides a sausage sizzle and a morning tea area and everyone goes home with a special gift bag from the church.

Prayer Group: Held weekly in the church for anyone who wants to come and pray.

Indoor Carpet Bowls: Held monthly and open to anyone interested in a fun evening of carpet bowls followed by supper.

Neil Cormack



Signs of life in Leighmoor

Geoff Serpell writes about recent activities at Leighmoor Uniting Church, in Wickham Road, Moorabbin

Leighmoor has been active in encouraging the congregation and the community to act on climate change, leading up to the federal election.

A sign was attached to the fence along our main road seeking action by 2030. This was conspicuous during the election day to voters attending our church hall to vote.

A list was compiled and circulated among the congregation of actions individuals may take including matters such as leaving lights on to a minimum, recycling plastic bags and clothing, buying, and donating to opportunity shops, walking more, driving less and of course planting more trees.

Back at church, a sausage sizzle was held on election day raising approximately \$1300. for church maintenance and improvements. Five hundred sausages were sold with 25 loaves of bread and 10 kilos of frozen onions with much sauce. Over 20 volunteers did great work in organizing and cooking the democratic sausage.

Recently, Leighmoor conducted a training session for both our congregation and tennis club members when 17 assembled in the hall for tuition in CPR and use of the church defibrillator led by our own qualified trainer, Maggie Lowdon.

Geoff Serpell

Flying a kite with the Spirit in Coatesville

Peter Heazlewood writes about a wonder-filled planning process using the creation of a colourful kite through Lent, Easter to Pentecost.

Let's go fly a kite!
Let's go fly a kite!
Up to the highest height!

These words from the musical Mary Poppins are not only wonderful, but they describe a process that's happening at Coatesville Uniting Church in Bentleigh East across the Easter period through to Pentecost.

We, like all other congregations have moved through this Holy period in our own creative ways. In the case of Coatesville, it has been on the wings of a kite.

Our journey started in the period leading up to Easter with a stark 'cross-like' construction providing a focus during a week-by-week exploration of issues and themes.

As Easter flowed through to Pentecost, quadrants of the kite were coloured with panels (one per week), each presenting a theme - Life, Joy, Freedom and Fun – themes of faith, renewal, hope and future. Over the weeks the stark cross of sacrifice, despair and death was transformed into a colourful celebration of joy, possibility and new life!

Our kite-building lifted off (literally) on the morning of Pentecost with our colourful creation taking to the skies – or at least to the upper reaches of our building with the assistance of some creative wires and pulleys. And there it currently resides, suspended joyfully in the 'sky' – a reminder of the journey through Easter to Pentecost – the pouring-out of the Holy Spirit.

A feature of all kites, including our own, is the tail. In addition to encouraging members of the congregation and property users to write their names on the tail, we were keen to recognise the various groups and organisations who use the Coatesville property and who form part of our community. The local Mini Maestros, a local 'pop choir' and even the Australian Electoral Commission are represented.

Special mention must be made of our 'seamstress' – Cheryl Gardner who week by week has not only created interactive paper images to represent the journey, but who has wonderfully fashioned these concepts (words and caricatures) into the fabric of a most beautiful kite.

Of course, the flying of kites relies totally on the blowing of a breeze – the life provided by wind. The wind that gives kites and each and every one of us life, of course, is the wind of the Holy Spirit.

As we move on into the second half of the year, we at Coatesville pray our blessings and the wind of the Holy Spirit upon all within the Presbytery and beyond. We pray for peace, grace, hope and love to equip you and sustain you as our journey continues.

So.....Let's go fly a kite, up to the highest height! What better words describe the journey of faith that we all travel on?

Peter Heazlewood



At Home with Creative Ministries

Creative Ministries Network Congregation is a group of people who meet in each others homes, one of the 55 congregations in Port Phillip East Presbytery. This community of people produces lots of interesting and insightful resources for discussion, available online at creative.unitingchurch.org.au Gary Bowman and Keir Saltmarsh write about their experience in the congregation.

During my time worshipping in a couple of different congregations over the past 20 years I have enjoyed various aspects of the experience. This included singing of hymns, and listening to, and reflecting on, good sermons. I have also enjoyed feeling part of a faith community.

I joined Creative Ministries Network, CMN, over 5 years ago. As a participant member of this congregation, I have felt I have got to know the life and faith journeys of our members much more so than when I was in a traditional congregation.

The sharing of our stories has made me feel as though we are journeying together to discover deeper parts of ourselves, and each other, and gaining a better understanding of ourselves as Christians in the world. Our activities and sharing have challenged and assisted me to become a better Christian in my interactions with others, particularly in being prepared to listen to the stories of pain and joy of others.

During the lockdown periods over the past couple of years, our activities and get togethers via Zoom have also helped me to feel less isolated in a very difficult time.

I look forward to continuing my life and faith journey with the CMN community.

Gary Bowman



Many years ago, I faced a dilemma that many parishioners face, in that attending Church to grow my faith wasn't working. I fell further and further away from a sense of finding and strengthening and practicing my faith, as rituals seemed to distract more than assist. My personal understanding of what it means to be a Christian was questioned and I no longer attended Church or practised my faith in ways that I was raised.

My faith was restored through a chance meeting with Reverend John Bottomley, a good mate of my father, also a Methodist/Uniting Church minister. I was introduced to the Creative Ministries Network. Church in the home had arrived.

On a regular basis, John makes his way to my home and we engage in contemplative worship. We work through a carefully crafted order of service and focus on a reading from the Bible, which we discuss after contemplation though silence for some 40 minutes.

For me, I find this worship truthful. My faith is strengthened and my relationship with God and Jesus simply grows and grows. The opportunity to explore the depth of these relationships, it seems to me, couldn't occur in any other setting.

Further, I'm able to engage with our small congregation from time to time, often gathering in the lounge room of one of our congregation's members.

What is of most value to me is the exploration of deeply personal accounts that we draw upon and share during contemplative worship. This for me signifies a true pathway to deepen, rejuvenate and explore a relationship with God that I find would not have been possible without the Creative Ministries Network.

Keir Saltmarsh



In the Spirit of Reconciliation in Mount Waverley

Tom Spurling writes about local steps along the journey of listening and discovery with first peoples

At St Luke's Uniting Church, Mt Waverley our journey began in 1997 when we became aware that the Assembly had resolved to commend to all parishes the desirability of displaying in Uniting Church places of worship and Church halls visible symbols of the covenant between the Congress and the rest of the Church. One of the ways of displaying recognition was to install a plaque acknowledging that the Church was meeting on unceded land.

The St Luke's Social Justice Committee proposed that such a plaque be erected in a prominent place on the property. The Church Council put this proposal to the congregation. Despite the majority approving, there was some opposition from the congregation, which also had majority approval. Written responses were collected and produced in an Aboriginal Reconciliation booklet.

The case for the plaque can be summarised by quoting one entry. "Land was appropriated by the force of the gun without even a semblance of compensation being made. Until this wrong is acknowledged there can be no reconciliation with our aboriginal brothers and sisters. This is a very minimalist approach as a step towards reconciliation."

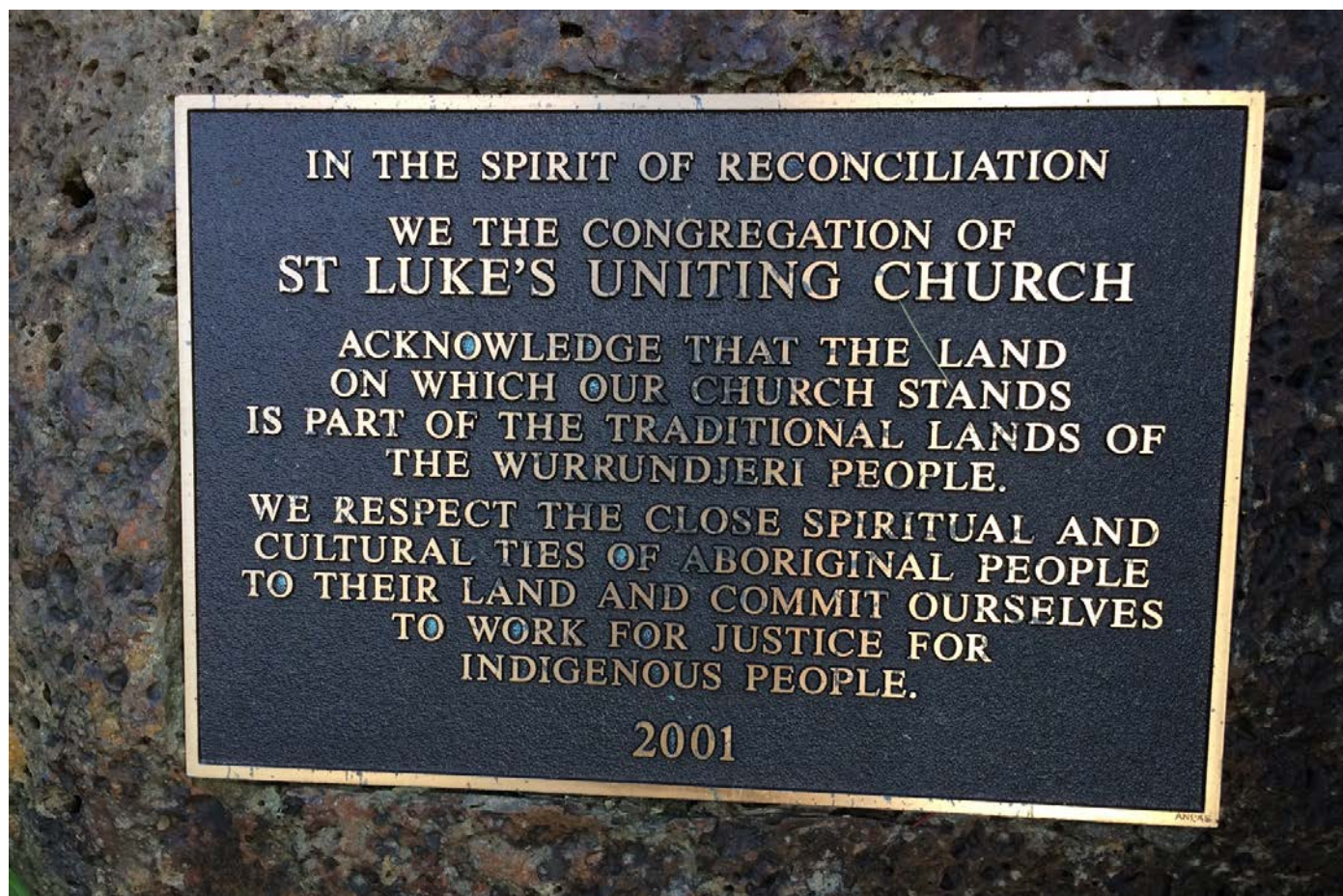
The case against the plaque had two main streams. The first was that 'Retrospectivity never really achieves anything. It cannot change the past.' And the second that 'Something more constructive could be done with the money.'

There was some discussion with indigenous organisations about the wording on the plaque which was eventually installed in 2001.

The Social Justice Committee became involved with other issues during the 2000s and 2010s and reconciliation with first peoples went on the back burner.

In 2020 the Mt Waverley Uniting Church Cluster Adult Growth and Development Committee worked with Synod Social Justice Officer Tim Molineux to try out an early version of a study on the Statement from the Heart. It was very helpful to those attending. It left us in no doubt about the importance and complexity of the task in front of us, the Church and the nation.

Tom Spurling





Presbytery Minister Craig Mitchell writes about the Mission Catalysts project is shared between Port Phillip East and Yarra Yarra Presbyteries, supported by eLM.

Do you know any mission catalysts? People who have the passion, drive, vision and initiative to foster new communities of faith – perhaps in a home, a cafe or pub, an interest or social action group, or among a particular cultural group?

God's mission is always bigger than us. The Spirit is always at work beyond the gathered congregation.

How might faith be shared and Christian community nurtured beyond the reach of our congregations?

How do we engage genuinely and humbly with people who may be interested in spirituality but not in institutional religion?

We're seeking people support, resource and mentor people who are both dreamers and activists.

We're hoping to find, train and support a few people each year to be Mission Catalysts, responding to God's call to embody the good news in word and deed with groups of people beyond the scope of existing congregations.

This is not about the church choosing where to send people, rather it is about supporting people's sense of call and community.

We are most likely seeking people who are self-starters, who think 'outside the box', who are 'people persons', who have an innovation orientation, who have an evangelical heart in the best sense, who are willing to learn, who travel lightly with the church as an institution, who are more interested in living in the world than spending all their time the church.

The primary aim is to see who God is calling, and to work alongside those people. The Mission Catalysts project is based in the premise that the Spirit calls people to ministry and mission. In this time and place, God is calling the whole church to foster varied forms of Christian community.

The project is not about 'church planting' as such, but rather about diverse, contextual expressions of Christian community. These may include, for example, a community formed around a particular mission or justice concern or project, a contemplative community, a 'house church', a new faith community in a school, a gathering of new migrants from a particular culture.

In the first instance we are seeking lay people who see this as a calling as a volunteer. These are not funded positions, although we hope that some will develop into that. We hope that as new faith communities emerge, the presbyteries and their congregations will look at ways to resource them as needed into the future.

If you'd like to know more,
contact us at mission@ucappep.org

Craig Mitchell





Seeding & Sustaining New Faith Communities

ONLINE SEMINARS
24 AUGUST & 7 SEPTEMBER
10.30AM-12.30PM

REV DR STEVE TAYLOR

Steve is a researcher, teacher, pastor, speaker, church planter, author and innovator. He is a former Principal and Director of Missiology at Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Adelaide. Steve has recently served as the Principal of the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership for the Presbyterian Church in Aotearoa New Zealand. He lives in Dunedin.

These seminars are for ministry leaders and mission catalysts in Yarra Yarra and Port Phillip East Presbyteries. There is no cost for participation, however participants must attend both sessions. The group size is limited to 20 people. Sessions will be held on Zoom. Register at tinyurl.com/seedingfaith by Friday 15 July.



CURRENT RESEARCH

Steve will draw on his research into new faith communities 10 years on, published in his excellent book "First Expressions" (SCM 2019).



STORIES OF INNOVATION

The sessions will explore real-life examples of new communities and how they developed. You will be invited to make connections with your own context.



THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Steve brings great wisdom in connecting theological sources, Scripture and images to the practice of mission.



MISSION PRACTICES

A key focus of the sessions will be on cultivating missional imagination and missional practices as leaders and teams.

PORT PHILLIP EAST & YARRA YARRA PRESBYTERIES

EVENTS@UCAPPEP.ORG

Home Brewed Conversations

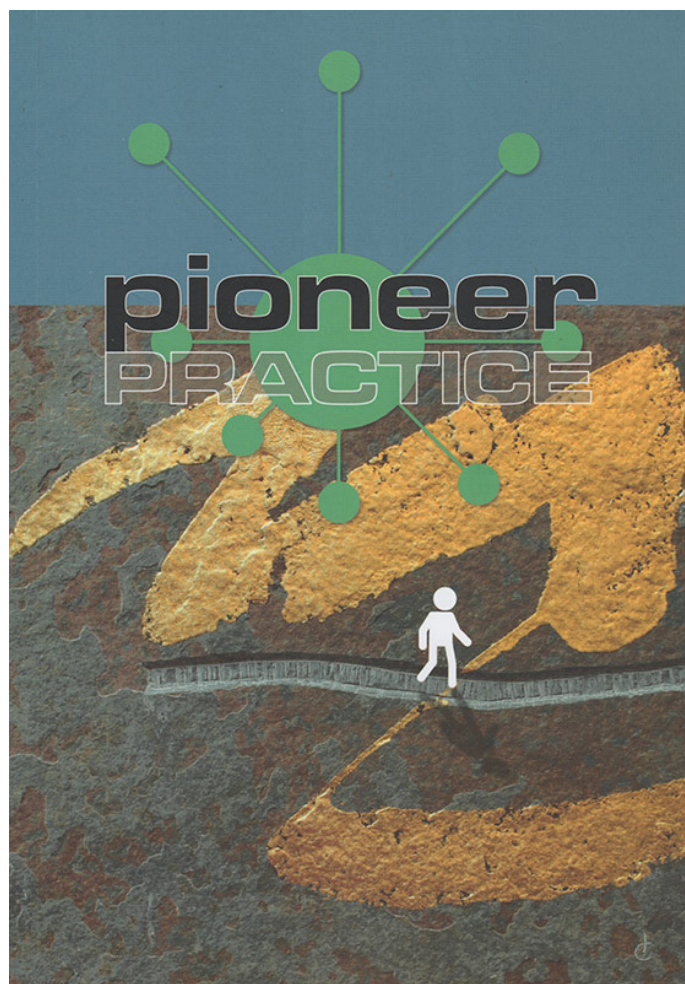
Home brewed is a regular series of pub conversations about forming new faith communities. These are informal chats with practitioners and those who are interested in starting new faith communities.

Join us at 6.30pm, Friday 29 July, for a meal at The Corner Hotel Richmond, or come later from 8.00pm

This gathering is part of the Mission Catalysts project of Port Phillip East Presbytery and Yarra Yarra Presbyteries in association with eLM. We are seeking to find, encourage, mentor and support people to start new micro faith communities. You'll need to RSVP as we've had to book tables. Please email mission@ucappep.org or talk to Craig Mitchell or Kelly Skilton.

We're also hosting two online seminars with Rev Dr Steve Taylor based on his research into new faith communities – Seeding and Sustaining New Faith Communities – 24 August and 7 September.

In August we'll also be starting a couple of book groups discussion the book Pioneer Practice by Jonny Baker and others, describing stories and research from the UK.



Worship in Multicultural Communities



THURSDAY 21 JULY
10.30am-12.30pm

Preparing and leading participatory worship with people of many cultures
How do we become more inclusive in the shaping and leadership of worship? How do our practices, language, symbols, even our sense of time, reflect who we are as the whole, varied, people of God? How may we move beyond assimilation to mutuality?

VENUE
1 Allan St
Noble Park

This is our second network meeting for ministry leaders of congregations with many cultures.
Please RSVP by 15 July for catering purposes. secretary@ucappep.org.au

PORT PHILLIP EAST PRESBYTERY



Rev Dr Amelia Koh-Butler

Amelia is experienced in leading multicultural congregations. She is a gifted liturgist and song leader. Amelia is the former convenor of the Assembly Multicultural and Cross-cultural Reference Committee and the Seeking Common Ground Circle. She is also a member of the World Methodist Council's worship group. Amelia will join us via Zoom.

Worship Leader Training Day – August 6 at Glen Waverley Uniting Church

Port Phillip East Presbytery is running a day of inspiration, ideas, wisdom and skill development for worship leaders and preachers.

Electives include new music for worship, crafting intergenerational worship, prophetic worship – prophetic action, crafting prayers for worship, leading online contemplative worship, Messy Church, worship leadership and more.

We'll have a keynote address on the book of Jeremiah which is featured in this year's lectionary readings between August and November. Keynote Speaker Rev Dr Monica Melanchthon is a lecturer in Old Testament at Pilgrim College and Associate Professor in the University of Divinity. Monica will unpack the themes of Jeremiah through the related lectionary texts.

Elective leaders: Anneke Oppewal, Sandy Brodine, Chris Barnett, Mel Perkins, Alanee Hearnshaw, Duncan Macleod, Alison Campbell Rate, Alex Sangster, Chris Rowntree, Craig Mitchell.

Program

10.00 am	Worship Keynote speaker Monica Melanchthon
11.00 am	Cuppa
11.30 am	Electives A
12.45 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	Electives B
2.45 pm	Closing Worship
3.00 pm	Finish

No admission fee.

Lunch may be ordered for \$15.

Register online at Eventbrite

<http://ucappep.eventbrite.com>

Hosted by Port Phillip East Presbytery

Register at tinyurl.com/ppe-disciples

Forming Disciples in a Missional Church

Four online workshops about growing lifelong disciples

1. **Leading a Community of Disciples**

Growing disciples begins with leaders who live and model lifelong faith development and openness to God, and who are intentional about creating environments for nurturing faith-in-practice. How might such leadership be encouraged in congregations?

2. **Cultivating the Practices of Discipleship**

Discipleship is learned as it is lived. The habits or practices of discipleship are both inward and outward, expressing our relationship with God in *being* and *doing*. How might the faith life of a congregation be shaped by its participation in the habits of followers of Jesus?

3. **Growing as Disciples in Mission**

People grow as disciples by learning *for*, *in* and *from* participation in God's mission. Discipleship is oriented towards God's work in our world. What does this look like in the life of a congregation? How do we invite people into this dynamic process of serving and learning?

4. **Fostering a Discipling Culture**

Belief matters. Yet the impetus for faith formation is more relational than ideological. Growing disciples requires intentionality in fostering a faith forming, missional culture open to the Spirit. What are the marks of a church whose core praxis includes growing disciples?

Thursdays 4 & 18 August, 15 & 29 September 10.30am-12.30pm

Sessions offered on Zoom. Limit of 12 participants.

Register by Monday 25 July at tinyurl.com/ppe-disciples

Dr Craig Mitchell is Presbytery Minister - Church Development in Port Phillip East Presbytery. He was previously UCA National Director - Formation, Education and Discipleship.



KCM (Korean Church of Melbourne) in Malvern began with an inaugural service at Burwood Presbyterian Church on July 8, 1973. 49 years later, the intergenerational Uniting Church congregation continues to nurture faith. Mother and daughter Anne Kim and Jeanie Kim reflect on their experience of growing in faith and serving with the congregation.

Korean Church of Melbourne nurturing faith for 49 years



Anne Kim with her family on the day of her induction as kwonsa and commissioning as member of KCM Church Council in December 2021. The role of kwonsa in Korean protestant churches is carried by lay women recognised for their spiritual and pastoral leadership.

I praise the Lord for the past, the present and the future for KCM as we walk along with him. It has been my privilege to serve KCM for the last 25 years as God's servant with huge support from my family and fellow friends in Christ. KCM has been my shelter when I was weak and discouraged. It has truly been God's temple, a place where I can be strengthened again so I can step forward in my daily life of discipleship.

The years I have spent at KCM have enabled me to discover the true meaning of loving church, the body of Christ and obeying Jesus' command that we love another just as he has loved us.

Serving the church as a kwonsa and church council member hasn't been an easy task since I was inducted in December last year. However, I am very grateful that I am a part of the body of Christ, and I have fellow friends and family to strive for the prize of the high calling of God in Jesus Christ together.

Anne

Growing up in a Christ-centred family has shaped who I am today, and it would not have been possible without the support of the church and the wisdom displayed by my parents and my grandparents.

From being baptised at KCM as an infant to my confirmation as a teenager, it has been a privilege to be part of such a loving, caring and passionate church that continues to centre God in our lives and nurture our infants and Sunday school members with values that are Christ-like.

Three generations of our family have attended KCM, and we have witnessed the transition of multiple senior ministers. Many may say the change in senior minister every five years is a challenge, however, as a young church member, I have taken this as an opportunity to expand my knowledge in Christ.

The selfless nature of many church members, especially our leadership team, inspires me to continue serving God and living out a Christ-like life. KCM has taught me to stand firm in my faith and to prioritise God. Continuing to serve Christ and setting a good standard for the youth will always be a priority and motivation for me to believe in God.

Jeanie



Jeanie Kim with her parents and brother on the day of her confirmation service at KCM.

Making Kimchi

Main Ingredients

4 kg napa cabbage, remove thick outer cabbage leaves
 16 cups water (3840 ml)
 1.5 cups coarse sea salt or natural rock salt (for salt water),
 1/2 cup cooking salt, medium sized crystals (for sprinkle), (97g)

Kimchi Seasoning / Kimchi Paste

2 Tbsp glutinous rice flour (sweet rice flour)
 1.5 cups water (360 ml)
 1.5 cups gochugaru (Korean chili flakes), (141 g)
 540 g Korean radish or daikon radish, julienned
 1 Tbsp fine sea salt
 3.5 Tbsp Korean fish sauce
 2 Tbsp salted fermented shrimp, minced
 90 g Korean chives, cut in 5 cm / 2 inch length
 140 g carrots, julienned
 1/4 cup minced garlic (42g)
 1/2 Tbsp minced ginger
 2 Tbsp raw sugar
 75 g onion, blended (with a stick blender or vegetable chopper)
 or finely grated

Instructions

- Cut the napa cabbage into quarters and rinse it in running water. Make sure the stem is intact.
- Dissolve the coarse salt in the water (16 cups) in a large bowl. Dip the napa cabbage in the saltwater one at a time and transfer it onto a tray for further salting.
- Pinch some cooking salt (1/2 cup total for all pickled cabbages) and rub over the thick white part of the cabbage. Open each leaf gently and sprinkle the salt over the thick white part. Repeat this for the rest of the cabbage. Reserve the saltwater from when you soaked the cabbage for later use.
- Put the salted cabbage in a large food grade plastic bag or large bucket (wedge side of the cabbage to be facing up) and pour in the reserved saltwater from step 2. Close the plastic bag. If using a bucket, get something heavy on top of the cabbage to press down (e.g heavy pot with water).
- Set the cabbage aside for 6 hours to pickle. Rotate the cabbage upside down every 2 hours. Using a large food grade plastic bag will make the turning process much easier than using a large bucket.
- Once the soaking process is finished, rinse the cabbages in running water, especially the thick white part of the cabbage, to get rid of the salt. Place them in a colander and allow to drain for 1 hour.
- While waiting, prepare the glutinous rice paste. Mix glutinous rice flour with the water (1.5 cup) in a saucepan and boil it over medium heat for 5-8 minutes, until it thickens. Once ready, transfer the rice paste to the medium-size bowl and let it cool. Add Korean chili flakes once it has cooled. Then, combine them well.
- Prepare a large mixing bowl and add radish, fine sea salt, Korean fish sauce, and salted shrimp. Leave it for 10 minutes for the radish to salt down. Add Korean chives, carrots, minced garlic, minced ginger, sugar, blended onion, and the Korean chili flakes mixture from step 5. Mix them well. Now the kimchi seasoning / kimchi paste is made, ready for use.
- Place a quarter of a cabbage on a tray. Spread the seasonings over each leaf. (You only need to season one side of the leaf.) 1 to 2 small fistfuls of seasoning is enough per quarter of cabbage. Repeat this step for the rest of the cabbage. Don't pull the cabbage leaves off the stem, leave them attached so it holds together better.
- Transfer the kimchi into a kimchi container or an airtight container (and put the lid on). Leave it out at room temperature for 24 hours, then move it to the refrigerator. While you can start eating it once it's chilled, you may want to wait 3-4 more days for it to develop more flavor.

Anne Kim's favourite kimchi recipe from
mykoreankitchen.com/kimchi-recipe

Uniting in prayer for July

Each week congregations are encouraged to include their neighbours in their prayers. The Presbytery's prayer calendar covers congregations, schools and agencies of the Uniting Church in our Presbytery and Synod. You can check the calendar on the Presbytery website.

July 3	<i>Hampton Park Uniting Place – Rev Ric Holland, Nikki Oostwoud, Chair David Taylor</i>
July 10	<i>Heatherton Dingley – Rev Deacon Andrea Mayes, chair Christine Duguid Karingal – Rev Reg Davies, chair Kieth Pyke</i>
July 17	<i>Korean Church of Melbourne – Rev Han Song, Daniel Sihombing, chair Ken Cho</i>
July 24	<i>Leighmoor – Rev Heeyoung Lim, Chair Jennifer Longmuir</i>
July 31	<i>Uniting by the Bay – Rev Sam Joo, Chair Marie McIntosh</i>

WINTER PRAYER 2022

*Glorious, unfathomable God,
in your mystery
you were present
in time beyond our knowing.*

*You breathe,
and sparks emerge from the dark
order is fashioned from chaos,
and life begins her cycles.*

*You breathe,
and the Word is made flesh,
we glimpse glory,
grace and truth,
as we are called and sent.*

*You breathe,
and wrap the
warp and weft of wonder
between our beating hearts,
so that we might all stand,
strong,
woven into the cloak of kinship.*

*Yet, we confess,
that sometimes we turn away
from your breath of life,
closing our doors, our ears, our lives.*

*We do not always get up when you call,
Forgive us, wake us up.*

*We do not always stand up for justice,
Forgive us, hold us steady.*

*We do not always show up
bringing peace.
Forgive us, send us out
with empty hands and open arms.*

*Siblings in Christ,
hear this assurance
and live as if you believe it:
We are loved and forgiven.
Thanks be to God, Amen.*

by Jennie Gordon, Gippsland Presbytery

The Figtree Worship Resource

gippsland.unitingchurch.org.au

Send your articles and photographs for Newsbeat, the Presbytery website and Facebook page, and weekly email, to Communications Officer Sarah Manase

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