# NEWSBEAT PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST

# Rudd pledges to match Horn of Africa donations dollar-for-dollar

FOREIGN Minister Kevin Rudd has announced that the government will match dollar-for-dollar all monies raised by Uniting World for the Horn of Africa Crisis Appeal - until November 30.

Rev Dr Kerry Enright, national director of Uniting World, was present at the announcement and welcomed the opportunity to double the impact of donors' giving.



The need for assistance remains acute as:

- More than 13 million people require urgent aid
- 750,000 people in Somalia are at risk of starvation
- 1.3 million children are acutely malnourished
- Unprecedented numbers of people are fleeing their homes for neighboring countries
- Life-threatening cholera and measles break out in the region.

It is estimated that over 12 million will be affected by the worst famine and humanitarian crisis in 60 years across East Africa. That's half Australia's population!

"I'm proud of the Uniting Church and what it does locally, notionally, and with partners everyone." Mr. Budd exid at

"I'm proud of the Uniting Church and what it does locally, nationally, and with partners overseas," Mr Rudd said at the announcement.

#### From little acorns...

ST John's Uniting Church may be small but their recent 'Let's Walk for Africa' fundraiser on Sunday, September 25 proved they are capable of big things!

Pastor Christine Clinch says: "We are happy if we top 30 people on Sundays, but we are passionate about social justice. Our TV screens show thousands of men, women and children walking in the Horn of Africa for food, shelter and safety so we wanted to help."



The church organised 10km, 2km and 'round the church' walks and raised a stupendous \$5,480 which will be doubled by the government.

"We then shared a meal of soup and an African red lentil recipe, before our Social Justice Service," Chris adds, "Erica Harrison, from Uniting World, spoke about their work and shared her experience of the Sudan and we sang 'From little things, big things grow."

More than 80 people joined the walk, all different ages. Who said you can be too small to make a difference!

He went on to describe the dollar-for-dollar initiative as a partnership between government and NGOs (non-government organisations) - likening it to a secular miracle of the loaves and fishes story of the Bible which 'goes to the heart of what aid agencies are about.'

The Uniting Church is calling for congregations to play their part in this urgent fundraising mission before the November 30 deadline to maximise the commitment made by the Australian Government. Newsbeat will feature some of these money-spinning efforts in our next issue.

Below are some examples of how donations will directly help those in need:

- \$20 Supports foster parents of separated, orphaned and abandoned children with cooking sets, sleeping mats, clothes and training.
- \$50 Provides nutrition for 40 schoolchildren in Kakuma Refugee Camp.
- \$75 Gives 5 girls emergency kits of clothes, slippers and sanitary wear.
- \$150 Supplies 100kg of porridge flour (approx. 1,400 meals).
- \$300 Provides an emergency tent.
- \$2,500 Supplies water for a week to one camp (about 120,000 people.)

To support UnitingWorld's Horn of Africa Crisis Appeal call 1800 668 426, visit www.shareappeal.org. au or send a cheque/money order to SHARE, PO Box 24154, Melbourne, Vic, 3001.

100% of donations will be forwarded to UnitingWorld.



#### **Understanding dementia**

WITH Australia's population ageing and the number of people with dementia expected to quadruple by 2050 it is important to understand this disease - for it is likely that many people we know will suffer from it in the future.



This seminar provides a brief understanding of dementia, and will explore some of its early signs. It will provide suggestions as to ways of communicating with those experiencing dementia and supporting their carers.

People who work with or care for someone with dementia, or anyone wishing to gain an understanding of it will find this seminar helpful.

Thursday, October 27, 2011, 2-4pm St Mark's Uniting Church. Cnr Barkly Street & Waterloo Place Mornington, 3931

#### Rev Barry McWha delves into this debilitating disease in his upcoming Mornington seminar

JOURNEYING with Dementia presenter Rev Barry McWha currently serves as Seniors' Ministry Facilitator with the Baptist Union of Victoria and is Pastor to seniors at Kilsyth South Baptist Church. Previously he served as an

aged care chaplain for 11 years. His post-graduate studies in ageing and pastoral care included units related to Dementia. He is the author of Flourishing and Fruitful – Biblical studies in the



context of ageing. More of his ageing related studies have been published by the Baptist Union of Victoria.

Registration: Tel: 03 5975 1943 email: stmarks.mornington@bigpond.com A donation of \$5 will be used towards expenses and refreshments.

#### Car Boot Sale and Trash & Treasure

Plus: sausage sizzle, plants, books, Devonshire teas...

With: Seaford Uniting Church

Where: Railway Parade – next to soccer ground When: Saturday, November 5th, 8am to 1pm

Contact: Bev on 9785 2692 or Mavis on 5971 4649

for more information or to book a stall.



#### **Creating Friendship**

Narana Day - Saturday 15 October, 11.00am-3.30pm @ Narana Creations, 410 Torquay Road, Geelong

HEAR stories of our Indigenous people, our Church and think about our future together at Narana Day. Rev. Ken Sumner, Victorian Congress State Director, and other UAICC staff will lead the day, which will focus on ways to journey together with space for questions, reflection, and sharing of stories and place in country. Narana Day will include cultural education, understanding our history, throwing boomerangs, and a free BBQ lunch together.

If you've always wanted to go to Narana but have never found the time to do so - then Narana Day would be the perfect opportunity!

If you're thinking about being part of the About FACE 2012 program, and want to find out more about Congress and Covenanting this would also be an awesome opportunity to join-in!

Narana Day is jointly organised by Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC/Congress), the Justice & International Mission Unit and the Centre for Theology and Ministry.

RSVP essential for catering purposes – please contact jill.ruzbacky@victas.uca.org.au / 9251 5266 by Thursday 13th October (include any dietary needs).

#### Well done for Wesley winner



Centenary celebrations at St Andrew's Church

St Andrew's Gardiner Uniting Church will celebrate a special anniversary on Sunday, 16th October 2011.

Its forerunner, the Gardiner

Presbyterian Church, was opened at the St Andrew's site 100 years ago. Join the celebrations and reminisce about the past. Celebrations commence with a worship service at 10.00am at which the preacher will be Rev Alistair Macrae, the President of the Uniting Church National Assembly. Lunch will be provided following morning worship, at 11.45am. There will be a display of archival memorabilia in Wesley Hall (adjacent to the church). After lunch Sarah Yang, our gifted young organist, will give an organ recital which will be followed by a musical program by the

young people of the Korean

Church of Melbourne.

partnership.

with whom Gardiner is in

The Dept of Human Services held their annual Robin Clark Memorial Awards recently as a launch for Child Protection week

It turned out to be a particularly special night for Michael O'Kelly, local Wesley Mission Executive Manager.

For Michael was awarded the *Inspirational Leadership* award for his work with young people. Sue Cattermole, acting CEO, says: "It was a very proud night for Wesley and Michael's family. The award is very well-deserved as Michael has an unbelievable commitment to the young people we work with."

### Do you have skills to share?

SkillsFest 2011 will held on Saturday 5th November, 11am - 3pm at the Port Melbourne Uniting Church and Simply Living Community Garden.

A day to share and celebrate skills and join in free hands-on activities;

including bike maintenance, gardening, bread and cheese making, handcrafts, balls skills and games and a whole lot more. There will also be enterainment by local music and dance groups,

community stalls and food.

Blessing of the
Bikes will be at Port
Melbourne Uniting
Church, Cnr Nott and
Bridge Streets
Port Melbourne
Sunday 23rd October,
10am

Whether you are a recreational, road, touring or BMX cyclist, join us for a time of blessing and celebration of the bicycle. A time of remembrance will be included in the service. Followed by morning tea Contact Rev Deac. Peter Batten 96901188 (office) 0419 255 585. (mob)

#### **Dinner date**

A Remembrance Eve Dinner will be held on:

Thursday 10 November 2011 6.00 – 9.00 p.m.

UNITING CHÜRCH SYNOD CENTRE 130 LITTLE COLLINS STREET,

**MELBOURNE** 

Tickets cost \$30 per person for veterans and spouses. RSVP Please forward your contact details and payment to 'Creative Ministries Network', PO Box 362, St. Kilda 3182 by Friday 28 October.

Enquiries: 03 9827 8322 john.bottomley@cmn.unitingcare. org.au

#### Mark your calendar

According to Mark exploration evenings Thursdays:

- · November 3,
- November 10,
- November 17
- November 24

@ 7:30pm, @ Armadale Uniting Church, Kooyong Rd/Clarendon St. Register with Rev Crabbe on 9509 8958 or armadaleuc@bigpond.com





#### **Promoting Mental Wellness Community Forum**

A SPECIAL forum to increase people's understanding of mental illnesses and the impact these have on the lives of individuals is being staged next month.

The event will provide information on available mental health programs that assist in building a more inclusive and supportive community and the program will include speakers and a Q&A

Wednesday 9 November, 7pm at High St Rd Uniting Church, 82 High St, Mt Waverley, cnr **Stewart St** 

panel session as well as free resources and information for attendees.

The event is a partnership between Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre (CRCC) Mental Health Respite Program and the Mt Waverley Chadstone Uniting Church cluster, and will involve a range of services that extend support within these local communities (Beyondblue, Prahran Mission, EACH, GROW, Mental Illness Fellowship, ARAFEMI). All welcome.

#### Get your adrenalin pumping...

'Folkal Adrenalin' concert, Saturday October 22, 7.30pm, Cranbourne UC, 41 Lesdon Ave Cranbourne

FOLKUS will be headlining the Folkal Adrenalin Concert in Cranbourne next week so put the date in your diary...

The concert aims to build greater cross cultural appreciation and sharing, and to raise money for charity.

It costs just \$5 per head and includes supper.

Rev Wendy Snook explains: "Our main musical attraction is the newly formed 6 member folk-pop music group FolkUS including Bronwen Mathews and Ian Scott, (both UCA ministers' spouses), from the southern region of Melbourne, from Frankston to Drouin, singing Australian,

English and American songs. Their material is selected from a wide variety of styles and the sound is very much based around the vocal harmonies, presented in a folk style, and include many a'capella items. They also play a variety of

instruments for accompaniment."

FolkUS will be supported by local Cranbourne and Casey multi-cultural talent with a 'come all ye' time, including singing, guitar, piano, saxophone, dances and poetry from many countries. If people would like to perform on the night, please come at the starting time and make yourself known to the MC (Wendy) so you can be included in the program. Look forward to seeing you there." Enquiries to the minister Wendy on 5995 2755, or leave a message on the church phone, 5996 4939.



#### Labyrinth Prayer Days

Saturday 22nd October: Spring Dreaming: A Day in Silence

\*

Saturday 3rd December: Advent Dreaming

\*

## Saturday 31st December, 8:15pm to midnight [including Eucharist] New Year Dreaming

A quiet New Year's Eve Covenant Meditation

- An opportunity to walk the labyrinth at night. To make the transition to 2012 in quietness and thankfulness to God. No charge; please bring a small plate of supper to share
- Please book by Wednesday 28th December.

October and November events 10am to 4pm, lunch and drinks provided.

Cost: \$18, unwaged \$13

At 60 Bass Meadows Blvd, St Andrews Beach 3941,

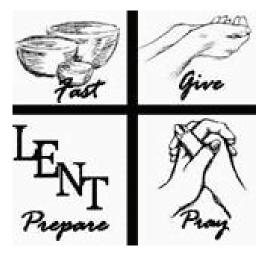
Melway map 251 J5

Leaders: Robin & Bronwyn Pryor.Please book by 8pm

the previous Thursday evening.

Phone: 03 5988-5257 or email robron@pryor.org.au





#### **Share your views**

The Lenten Appeal is an annual event in the life of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.

In the past, the projects supported by the Lenten Appeal have been selected by the Director of SHARE.

With a view to diversify, we ask you to invite presbytery endorsed local projects to apply.

Please find attached a 2012 Lenten Project Application and Guidelines for distribution within your presbytery. The Commission for Mission (CFM) accepts all applications and approves four projects chosen for support through the Lenten Offering.

Look out for promotional material, including a poster and donation envelope designed, printed and distributed to congregations by SHARE, accompanied by a letter from the Moderator.

Donation envelopes, posters and project information are distributed to congregations at the beginning of Lent and funds are distributed in July 2012.

#### Halving global poverty by 2015

MICAH Challenge is a global campaign of Christians speaking out against poverty and injustice and the Micah Challenge Victorian Working Group will be running two workshops in Anti-Poverty week, and would like to invite you to attend!

The workshops are aimed at people who have little knowledge about the Micah Challenge campaign and would like to find out more. They will be a chance to explore the campaign itself, learn about some of the successes of the campaign so far, and give examples of actions that you could take within your own congregation or local area. The workshops will be offered on two different evenings, one in Melbourne CBD and one in the Eastern suburbs (you only need to attend one).

Tuesday 18th October, 7.30pm-9.00pm at UCA Synod Centre, 130 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Thursday 20th October, 7.30pm-9.00pm at St. Aidan's (North Balwyn UCA), 17-21 Duggan Street, North Balwyn