NEWSBEAT



PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST

Overseas aid cuts opposed by spiritual leaders

OVERSEAS aid given by Australia is changing the lives of people living in poverty - but that could soon falter if the government breaks its promise in next week's budget.

Last call for BOMAR

EACH year the wider church uses the BOMAR process to share resources with congregations and agencies to encourage mission.

This year's round of applications must be submitted in draft form to the Presbytery Secretary no later than May 30.

(Narre Warren North & Hampton Prk/Cranbourne have already met the May 30 deadline.)

This will allow the Presbytery BOMAR Reps to work with applicants throughout June to get the application finalised by June 30 ready for consideration by the Presbytery at its meeting in July. Forms can be downloaded from the Synod website.

http://wr.victas.uca.org.au/ committees/bomar/b-o-m-a-rannual-funding-forms/

A shortened version of the link that will get you there is http://ht.ly/aIVx3

It is VERY important that you read the Supporting Document as we have been advised that for this year funds will only be available from these sources.

Further info from Rev. Steve Terrell or Rev Ian Cayzer e-mail: steve. terrell@ucappep.org or Ph (03) 9005 7774 Mob 0417 146 196 or ianrcayzer@hotmail.com

Currently, aid given by Australia ensures children are attending school, babies are being safely delivered and marginalised people are building their own capacity to look after their families.

For years, major political parties have agreed to increase overseas aid to 0.5% of our Gross National Income (GNI) by 2015. Which equates to just 50 cents out of every hundred dollars.

Now there are serious concerns that the Australian Government is

UnitingWorld.

PROMISED
HELP THE
WORLD'S
POOREST.

"We will increase development
assistance to 0.5 per cent of Gross
National Income by 2015-16."

Now the ALP is considering breaking that promise:
a promise that could save 800,000 lives.

PLEASE, PRIME MINISTER,
KEEP YOUR PROMISE
THIS BUDGET.

Signed by
22,463 Australians.

going to renege on its commitment to increase our overseas aid spending in the Federal Budget next week. Even a small decrease will mean that it is very unlikely that the 0.5% target will be reached by 2015. More importantly, it could put the lives of 800,000 people at risk. In response to this U-turn the Australian Council for International Development released an open letter to the Prime Minister yesterday – signed by more than 100 prominent Australians – calling on Julia Gillard to ensure next week's budget does not break its promise on aid. Uniting Church in Australia President, Rev Alistair Macrae, has signed the open letter, along with Synod Moderators, the Administrator of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress as well as the National Director, Rev Dr Kerry Enright, and Chairperson, Mr Malcolm Gledhill, of

Church leaders from all over the nation are also on board, with leaders from across denominations concerned about the effects of Australia backing away from its promise to the world's poorest people. Signatories to the letter also include well known entertainers, politicians, business leaders and community sector representatives.

You can stand alongside the world's poorest people. Write today to Julia Gillard to ask her to stay committed to the world's poorest simply by visiting http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au and clicking on 'Ask the PM to keep our promise to the world's poor' and submit your name to the letter.



Join with the staff of the Centre for Theology and Ministry in a time of theological reflection, study and activities - with renowned singer/ songwriter Fay White leading us during





Centre for Theology & Ministry in partnership with

invite you to the Kivers of life Rivers of life ivers of life Rivers of life F. May 25-26, 2012 Loddon Mallee Presbytery

St Andrew's Uniting Church, Bendigo



Please register online at https://event.goregister.com.au/ wisdomsfeast2012 or post the registration form available online by the 18 May 2012.

Accommodation:

Various options for accommodation are available - billet, cabin, motel or own arrangements. If accommodation is required please indicate when registering.

Cost:

Full program \$70 Friday Night \$35 Saturday \$55

(incl Friday dinner, Saturday lunch (inc. meal & refreshments)

Catering will be provided by local caterers. Please indicate any dietary requirements when registering.

Travel Assistance:

A \$30 travel assistance is available for those living more than 150km. Please indicate at the event for reimbursement.

BOMAR not the only fruit

THE Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (CCAF) is calling for applications for its 2012 community grants program.

With up to forty community grants of up to \$10,000 on offer each year, CAFF says the program provides financial support to local organisations and projects that aim to make a positive difference in the lives of marginalised young Australians.

CCAF says it is committed to funding projects that are 'ambitious, innovative and unique' in their approach.

CCAF says it hopes to inspire change in areas of education, leadership,

wellbeing and environment by focusing on four core areas of marginalisation, including social/economic, marginalisation amongst indigenous youth, physical/geographic marginalisation as well as mental health issues and youth depression. More info at http://www.coca-

colaaustraliafoundation.com.au/

Places still available



Centre for Theology & Ministry

APPLICATIONS are still open for the intensive Uniting Church Studies course which offers an introduction to the theology, history and life of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Attention will be paid to the Uniting Church's:

- Emergence and roots in Congregationalism, Methodism and Presbyterianism,
- · Theology of the Basis of Union,
- · Polity and code of ethics,
- · Relationship to Australian culture and
- · Ecumenical commitment and outreach,
- · Approach to questions of ministry and mission, and to issues facing the Uniting Church in the future.

The program will be taught as an intensive from Wednesday 13 June to Friday 22 June, on weekdays 9:15-5:00pm. Registration cost is only \$100.00 as the Uniting Church Theological Collegeprovides a subsidised rate.

To register visit https://event.goregister.com. au/ucastudies/individual/ or contact CTM for info (http://ctm.uca.edu.au/page/contactus). On-site accommodation may be available at Maclean House (http://ctm.uca.edu.au/ page/maclean-house).

Veterans chaplain sought

The Creative Ministries Network (CMN) wishes to appoint a **Chaplain to the Veterans' Community** to develop our Veterans Faith and Wellbeing Support program. The Chaplain will support the program by addressing the trauma of war and peacekeeping service on veterans and their families through a ministry of spiritual care.

This is a new position at CMN, and builds on a small community-based program of support that has developed a range of innovative projects over an eight year period. Examples of CMN ministry can be found at www.cnm.unitingcare.org.au/06Peace.html The position is initailly funded for two days per week (15.2 hours) for three years, during which time CMN will be pursuing other funding sources to increase the employment time.

A copy of the position description is available from Margaret Neith admin@cmn.unitingcare.org.au_ or 9692 9426. Enquiries may be directed to John Bottomley, 9827 8322.

Applications for this position or expressions of interest are invited by 14 May 2012, to Margaret Neith by email, or to CMN, P.O. Box 362, St. Kilda 3182.

Understanding Grief and Loss- June Workshop

"Understanding & responding to grief & loss in the church

– preventing grief becoming destructive."

9:00am-4:00pm
Friday 1 June 2012

CTM

29 College Crescent Parkville 3052 Book early, limited numbers \$50 (includes lunch) Phone: 9859 8700

Facilitated by Rosslyn Chandler (D Soc Stud MAASW VAPP)

Associate Educator - Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement.

*This information was circulated by the Bethel Centre. Have you seen their website?

www.victas.uca.org.au/ bethel-pastoral-

Flyers for many workshops are posted on the site.

If you have questions or comments or would like to request a workshop, email at: bethel@victas.uca.org.au

Or speak to a staff member on: Phone/Fax: (03) 9859 8700

Dates for your diary

CRE & ACCESS Sunday (May 20)

Special meetings for CRE teachers to discuss a significant challenge and present an important new strategy for CRE partnerships that continue to take place around the state. Upcoming meetings (from 30/04 onwards) take place in Mildura, Swan Hill, Castlemaine, Berwick, Blackburn, Carlton, Kew, Warrnambool, Hamilton, Seymour and Echuca. More information via herehttp://www.accessministries.orgau/contact.

ACCESS Sunday (May 20)

An opportunity for you and your church to encourage and profile those who teach CRE in your local primary school.

Resources, including a DVD, are available to assist you in planning a service. Try here for more informationhttp://www.accessministries.org.au/churches/access-sunday.



Restore sight; restore life

Visit http://www. unitingworld.org. au/programs/reliefand-development to help

IN Australia, we think of the islands of Fiji and Vanuatu as holiday paradises.

But thousands of people in communities across the Pacificare living with blindness, trapped in a cycle of poverty.

Blindness restricts more than sight. It restricts life, independence and employment. It's an issue that affects individuals, families and communities. Tragically for some, blindness is irreversible. But for 70% of sufferers, it is reversible and preventable. In many cases, a simple cataract operation can restore vision within days.

Through support we can respond to the needs of people suffering needlessly from blindness.

This includes:

- Providing access to quality eye health care to over 6000 people.
- Restoring sight to 400+ people suffering from cataracts.
- Issuing more than 2000 pairs of glasses to people with low vision.



Inner healing for pastors and church leaders

Christian counselling services are now available in Chelsea, thanks to the experience of Rev. David Mitchellmore.

Counsellors are skilled in helping with all manner of issues; from abnormal psychology to everyday problems such as stress, anxiety/depression plus couple and family counselling.

Rev. David Mitchellmore says: "I am the senior

counsellor and my experience comes out of 30 years of church ministry, 22 years as a pastor and 10 years of professional counselling. I am also the Centre Director for the Australian Institute of Family Counselling (AIFC).

"In recent years our client base has grown to include

associate pastors and church leaders from other churches so I would like to offer counselling services to other churches. I know how busy life can be when pastoral care becomes more than an hour



God's Earth, our Care Faith for a Planet in Peril

Decisions as basic as what we wear, what we eat, how we travel, how much and what type of power we use are becoming key questions for Christian disciples.

(Alistair Macrae, President, Uniting Church in Australia)

- Guest speaker: Rev. Elenie Poulos National Director: Uniting Justice Australia
- Q&A panel "Planet in peril or flourishing world?
 What can the church offer?" facilitated by Rev. Alistar Macrae
- Practical workshops
- Networking and sharing of inspiring stories

Come and be part of the solution!





over coffee and the complications that can arise with confidentiality and dual relationships in church settings."

The Counselling Centre has five counsellors, all with an Advanced Diploma in Christian Counselling, two with Masters in Counselling and one with a Graduate Diploma in Christian Counselling.

The Centre operates under the Freeway banner at Level 1, 450 Nepean Highway, Chelsea. For further information visit: http://www.freewayclc.org/counselling-centre.htm or call (03) 9772 5985/0414 795 398 or email david@freewayclc.org



St John's Uniting Church Elsternwick celebrates 125 years of being church in October 2012

St John's Uniting Church Elsternwick celebrates 125 years of being church in Elsternwick on 31st October 2012. The anniversary service will take place on Sunday 28th October at 10am and other celebrations are being planned. We would love to hear from you if you or your family have had any connection with the church over the last 125 years - with the worshipping community, the scouts, the girl guides, the tennis, cricket, football clubs, the dances....

Please contact us by phone - Audrey 9523 8413 or the Pastor, Christine Clinch, by email stjohns.elsternwick@ucappep.net or by letter PO Box 4069, Hopetoun Gardens, VIC 3162. We look forward to hearing from you!



Doors open at 7pm Round 1 starts at 7:30pm SHARP

High Street Uniting Church, Frankston \$10 per person or \$80 for a table of 10 booked in advance by the 28th of April.

SILENT AUCTION

Bring along loose change for games BYO snacks and drinks. Prizes for winning table.

To book: Call Hope 0409 967 285 or email alexhopesmith@bigpond.com



This is an event for all ages. As such, we would prefer an alcohol free evening, however church policy states that beer and wine may be consumed. The Victorian Chapter

of the
Australian Church
Library Association
is meeting on Sunday, 20th
May, 2012 from 2.00pm to
4.30 pm
at Keysborough Uniting
(Samoan) Church
176 Chapel St, Keysborough
(Melway 94BI)

Celebrating the National Year of Reading with a discussion on book groups, and more...

Also featuring:

Story of books collected and sent to Pacific Islands for use in schools and theological colleges.

A swap table - bring along books, videos, cassettes, CDs and other resources that you no longer need.

For more information please ring Rachel on 9850 4828 or Marion on 9803 0583 Further information can be obtained from the website www.acla.asn.au, or from Rachel Hardie, email: alanrachelh1@ bigpond.com or phone (03) 9850 4828, or by phoning Marion Wilson on (03) 9803 0583.

Quote...

"In many areas of understanding, none so much as in our understanding of God, we bump up against a simplicity so profound that we must assign complexities to it to comprehend it at all. It is mindful of how we paste decals to a sliding glass door to keep from bumping our nose against it."

Robert Brault

...of the month

ANZCO - more than a pipe dream

THE search is on for would-be organists following the establishment of a new group of devotees called

Chris Cook has been involved in the church music and organ teaching/performance fields for more than 30 years and is currently Director of Music and Organist of St George's, Malvern.

He says: "A number of us, including organ virtuoso Thomas Heywood, have recently established the Australian and New Zealand College of Organists [ANZCO].

"ANZCO's primary aim is to promote the appreciation of the organ and encourage study of the instrument to Year 3, 5 & 7 levels. We will also help to co-ordinate visiting organists touring through Australia and New Zealand." As part of the general thrust of this outreach program, ANZCO want to form some local organ "cells", and with the enthusiastic support of St Joseph's Parish, Chelsea - that has a newly installed organ - and Father Gregory Pritchard. Father Pritchard has also agreed to invite neighbouring congregations and denominations to these sessions.

At present the course is planned for Saturday mornings, possibly every second Saturday, of the month, from 10:30am - 12:30/1pm, with a morning tea break. Age is not a limitation, though preference is middle primary to mid-20s. "It is my hope that we can instigate cells of organists and people with an interest in this amazing instrument to reinvigorate this important work."

Have you ever wanted to learn the organ?

Or just to see how it works?



ANZCO - The Australian and New Zealand College of Organists is offering FREE start-up tuition on the wonderful newlyinstalled organ at St Joseph's, Chelsea.

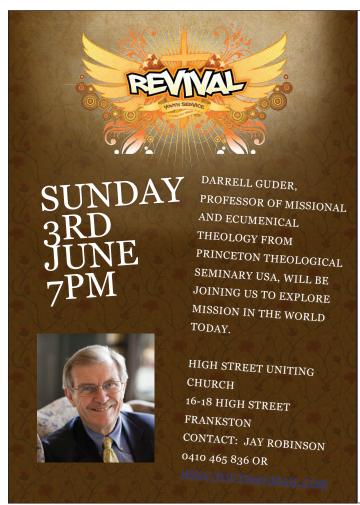
Contact Christopher christopher.cook@anzco.org for more information, and to register your interest in this exciting initiative.

ANZCO Mission Statement

www.anzco.org

- To build a sustainable community of organists by promoting the teaching and learning of the organ

 To facilitate programmes utilising pipe organs as cultural assets for the benefit of the
- To operate an Academy for the furtherance of these educational and cultural objectives





HIGH STREET ROAD **UNITING CHURCH MT WAVERLEY**

Celebrates 125 years of worshiping on the hilltop on Sunday 10th June. 2012 at 9.30 a.m. followed by a light lunch.

Guest Preacher:

Isabel Thomas Dobson Moderator Uniting Church Victoria & Tasmania.

We would love to hear from you if you or your family have had any connection with our church over the last 125 years or with the former Larch Crescent Presbyterian congregation. We would like to hear your stories and welcome you to our celebrations.

> Address: 482 High Street Road, Mt Waverley 3149 Phone: 9887 8239 Email: hsruc@iinet.net.au Minister: Rev Julie Ross 9560 7616.

Short time left to register for Darrell Guder events

Darrell Guder: Princeton Theological Seminary Professor of Missional and Ecumenical Theology

FOR Presbytery members, church councils, ministers and leaders: Sat May 26 ipm – 5pm

Session 1 (members and visitors.) Approx 1pm

where is it leading?

- What is happening to the church in our time, and
- Does the church have a future and what might thatbe like?
- The shape of the church in a post-Christian

Registration for above events -Steve Terrell on Tel: (03) 9005 7774; Session 2. (members) post afternoon tea Conversation starters include:

- Missional Church when the church buildings are
- Missional church when we feel old and tired
- Missional church when we've got no money
- Missional-church when there's no existing church community
- What are the essential ingredients of the church?
- What form and content for Christian Worship in a missional context?



preparations are off to a flying start.

We are again calling on the Uniting Church community within the Presbytery for their assistance. Somers Camp is a Port Phillip East Presbytery children's camp in the mid year holidays. This year it will be held from 2nd of July to 6th of July, 2012. The camp is held at Lord Somers Camp, Western Port Bay, Somers for school grades 3 - 9. The camp is for children to have fun and learn about Christianity, through singing, worship, bible studies, outdoor activities, craft, group meals and a concert. This letter has been written to ask you to:

- Distribute camper forms from www.somerscamp. com.au to members of your congregation. Support children to attend camp, particularly those with financial challenges.
- Ministers to attend the camp, even for one day, Please let us know in advance.
- Find cooks full time for 5 days (accommodation supplied) and part time for a day or a meal. You don't have to be a qualified chef.

We would love to come to your church to talk about the camp. Let us know a date you would like a visit, and if we need a data projector. Contact: General enquiries & Ministers email mail@somerscamp.com. au and cooks call Irene Heidenreich 9773 3125

Mob: 0417 146 196 For ALL children's workers Get Inspired! Energised! Refreshed! SELENSBOROL GE Saturday 19th May 8:30am to 1:15pm All Saints' Anglican Church 14 Church St. Greensborough ential Please book by 15^h May at Christian Book Centre Ph: 9435 5762 CHRISTIAN Cost \$30 (includes Brunch) BOOK CENTRE More Info Sue Bluett Ph: 0433 024 626 or 9435 5266 (Please use Message Ba aintsgb.org.au http://www.gcbc.net.au http://www.gcbc.net.au A ... Greensborough Christian Book Centre & All Saints Children's Ministry Event Some of the recommended resources Oh Have You Heard CD-Snack Music - - \$24.95 and lots more Ultimate Games (formerly -Theme Games 1, 2, 3 & 4 by L Pinchbeck) \$29.95 Multi Sensory Prayer \$25.00 Big Tiddlywinks series - Scripture Union \$29.95 (Big) Book Colin Buchanan CD's Big Rescue Bible CEV ${\bf And\ lots\ more\ from\ Greensborough\ Christian\ Book\ Centre}$ CRE teachers can meet their annual Professional Development requirements through attending this day and selecting two CRE recommended electives (marked with an * on the Registration Form).

Children's Workers BOOST Special Event Booking Slip		
Name Church/School N		ne
	e Postcode Phone Faxile Email	
Please circle the two electives you would like to attend (CRE accredited *) Session 1 - A* B* C D* E Session 2 - F* G* H I* J K		
Payment Options (please tick your intention)		
	I have enclosed my cheque for \$30 with this booking slip payable -Greensborough Christian Book Centre	
	I will drop into the Greensborough Christian Book Centre (14 Church St) to make payment prior to 15 th May	
	I will phone the Greensborough Christian Book Centre (9435 5762) to make payment prior to 15 th May	
	I require a tax receipt.	
Any Special Dietary Requirements—		