



'Communities' expert, Jim Diers, speaks at the CTM next month. For details and tickets see page 8.

Healthy eating is a major focus at OPMAs new Play 'n' Learn sessions. Turn to page 2 for more on tot treats.



St Leonard's says 'Let's Dance the 'O' Away!'

IN 2014, around 1,470 Australian women are expected to be diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

Despite some improvement in the survival rate over recent years, the prognosis for women with ovarian cancer remains poor, with only 43 out of every 100 women alive 5 years after diagnosis.

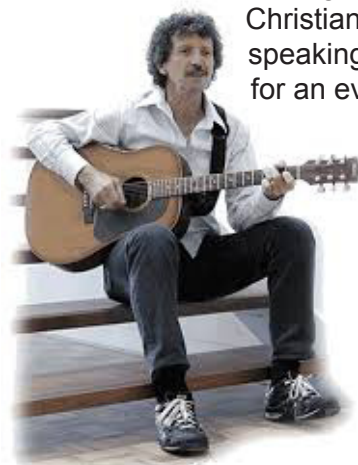
The importance of learning more about this form of cancer has never been more prevalent, as cases are set to rise by approximately 10 per cent in the next five years, as life expectancy increases.

This is why St Leonard's Uniting Church, Brighton is inviting everyone to participate in the first ever Dance - 'O' - thon for Ovarian Cancer on Saturday, October 25th. It will be held at the Performing Art Centre at Brighton Secondary College, 120 Marriage Road, East Brighton and all proceeds will go to Ovarian Cancer Australia to fund research into the treatment of this terrible disease.

To register or for more information go to: www.trybooking.com/FMRV or contact millicent@onegift.com.au.

ROBIN Mann has been one of Australia's leading Christian songwriters for 40 years, and his songs are sung and loved by many different age-groups and denominations. He and his wife, Dorothy, are the driving force behind the *All Together* series of Christian songs that is used so often in worship. Robin is great at sharing his skills in writing, performing and leading Christian songs and he will be speaking at High Street UC for an evening of teaching and encouraging singers and musicians.

Mann about town



Robin Mann Seminar
8pm, Thursday,
October 9, 2014
at High Street Uniting
Church, 16-18 High
Street, Frankston
\$10 (suggested
donation)



Dates for your diary

1. St Georges – Service to celebrate moving to Burnley Street, September 7, 10:30am
2. Rev Christine MacDowall – release of pastoral ties September 7, 10am at Brighleigh UCA
3. Rev Dev Anandarajan – release of pastoral ties September 14.
4. Rev Hoon You – Induction – Port Melbourne UC, Friday, 24th October at 7.30pm
5. MSI Courses Tuesdays October 7, 14 & 21 @ 6pm Frankston and Glen Waverley UC on 8, 15 and 22 October– visit www.ucappep.org/leadership-education/
6. Presbytery on Show – October 26 at Cornish College, 2-5pm

Healthy Eating lessons at Play ‘n’ Learn sessions



EVERY Tuesday during school term mums, dads and carers with their young children meet at the Pakenham Uniting Church where the room is set up with toys that enable learning and for children to enjoy a craft activity.

A highlight of the morning group at the Main Street church (10am to 12pm) is the ‘Healthy Eating’ activity. Funding for this program was made available through the Cardinia Shire’s ‘Healthy Living’ program. The minister Rev Ann Scott strives to encourage as many young families to participate in this time of fun, learning and hospitality. She is hopeful that the program will continue for a long time to come as offering hospitality, building relationships, having fun and enjoying a healthy snack.

Ann says: “A beautiful smell of cooking wafts through the building as the children play. The smell from the kitchen is always mouthwatering!! Then a snack is enjoyed by all before they leave for afternoon naps at home.”



TOP: Toby and his mum Di get ready to prepare a healthy snack as part of the ‘Play n Learn’ session. LEFT: Mum Beliny helps daughter Arenja to fold her vegetable and meat pastie.

Steve Biddulph’s back by popular demand

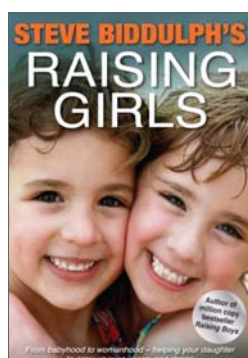
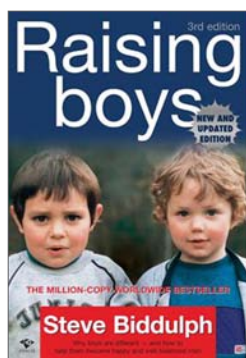
RENOWNED author Steve Biddulph is coming to Trinity Uniting Church at 17 Black Street, Brighton for 2 nights only.

Wednesday 5th November, Raising Girls [7pm for 7.30pm]

Thursday 6th November, Raising Boys [7pm for 7.30pm]

All tickets are \$30 (+30c Booking Fee) from www.trybooking.com/101528

Light suppers will be provided on the night. For further information please contact Ian Cayzer: 0409 860 427 or trinity.brighton@uniting.com.au





HEATHERTON-DINGLEY UCA has been busy as bees recently, developing some great new worship and community outreach ideas. It's no wonder they're still going strong after 155 years...

**by
Neil Cormack**

The congregation and visitors marked this landmark birthday on Sunday, 27th July at Heatherton-Dingley UC with a service led by Rev Peter Robson, followed by a get-together over lunch. In 1859 Methodist services were held in private homes in the district, then known as "Kingstown". The name Heatherton was introduced in 1861. Also in 1861 a grant of two acres of land was obtained from the government, and the foundation stone was laid for the "little

The 'little white church on the corner' was built free-of-charge

materials carted by bullock teams from a Dingley quarry. A new church was built in 1909 for the cost

white church on the corner" of Kingston and Old Dandenong Roads, Heatherton. The church was built, free of charge, by Mr. Laver, a stonemason, with

of 199 pounds. In 1944 the original stone building became the church building again. Electricity was connected in 1941. Heating was installed in 1960. After church union, Heatherton became part of the new parish of Moorabbin East. In 1981, Dingley Village was included in this parish. 1986 saw the creation of the Heatherton-Dingley parish. In 1990 Rev. Fred Wagstaff presented plans for proposed alterations to the church, and so with the financial assistance of the Presbytery of Nepean and a

number of parishes, so started the process which led to the current suite of buildings. A large garden area being set up for common use, working with CLOC Musical Theatre, community craft market, outreach to nursing homes and a unique outreach to dog owners, are some of the ways the current congregation reaches out to the local community.

The congregation continues to witness to the loving Grace of God through his Son, Jesus Christ, all the

time looking for new and relevant ways to carry out the mission of the Church.

To be continued

Gather us in... pictured top: the congregation and guests enjoyed a follow-up luncheon after the service of celebration while, left, Rev Peter Robson led the worship and thanksgiving service for the 155th anniversary at Heatherton-Dingley UCA



Craft and Produce Market

Come and sample some of the finest home-made products in the presbytery on Saturday, October 11 from 10am to 2pm at Heatherton-Dingley UC (cnr Kingston and Old Dandenong Roads, Heatherton.) All produce and craft will be home made. If anyone is interested in having a stall, please ring Margaret on 9551 9494. Stall costs are \$10 or \$20, depending on table size.



...of
thanks

God of all blessings,
We thank you for the gift of life:
for the breath that sustains life,
for the food of this earth
that nurtures life,
for the love of family and friends
without which there would be no
life.
We thank you for the mystery of
creation: for the beauty
that the eye can see, for the joy
that the ear may hear,
and for the expanse of space
that draws us beyond the
definitions of our selves.
We thank you for your promise: to
be with us, to be our God, and to
give salvation.

Amen

Exploring theology

The dates for 'Talking Faith' at the CTM have been changed to 12-14 September and 10-12 October, which may make it possible for more people to consider participating, or to encourage others to participate in this intensive course exploring theology in the Uniting Church. The info and registration form with the new dates can be downloaded from the CTM website.

MyPeace speaker returns

A MEETING in Melbourne hopes to attract hundreds of Muslims and an equal number of Christians. On 18 September Dr Bernie Power, Christian lecturer in Islamic Studies at the Melbourne School of Theology, and Diaa Mohamed, a Muslim speaker from Sydney, will address the topic: 'Is Muhammad the Prophet in the Bible?' Invitations are being sent out to the 55 mosques and Muslim organisations in Melbourne. Last year's meeting attracted about 150 Muslims and the same number of Christians.

This will be the sixth Muslim-Christian public discussion Diaa Mohamed has taken part in. 'They have been carried out in an atmosphere of peacefulness and respect, but the different views of both sides have been plainly and firmly presented. This is a wonderful opportunity for Christians to come and meet Muslims and to discuss issues of deep spiritual significance. Diaa Mohamed, the founder of MyPeace, an organisation in Sydney that promotes Islam, has said: 'I am looking forward to this event.' The event is also supported by the City Bible Forum.

This public discussion will be held on Thursday 18 September from 7.30pm at the Melbourne City Conference Centre, 333 Swanston St, opposite the State Library. A presentation and response from each speaker will be followed by a public Question and Answer session. Tickets at \$5 for adults and \$3 for concession can be bought online at www.trybooking.com using the code 'FPIT', or they can be purchased at the door on the night at MCCC for \$10 adult or \$5 concession. For any enquiries, contact Bernie Power on 0449 768 932.

Quote

"Back when we did these big crusades in football stadiums and arenas, the Holy Spirit was really moving—and people were coming to Christ as we preached the Word of God. But today, I sense something different is happening. I see evidence that the Holy Spirit is working in a new way. He's moving through people where they work and through one-on-one relationships to accomplish great things. They are demonstrating God's love to those around them, not just with words, but in deed."

Billy Graham

of the month...

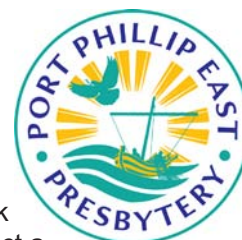
Logic behind logo...

THE decision to bring in a new webmaster for the presbytery website was part of a succession strategy by the former website and PPEP logo designer.

This strategy was included in an updated approach to communications being conceived by the new Communications Task Group and other relevant committees.

During some of these discussions, it was felt that the previous PPEP logo had started to look 'dated' and that the website and communications' output, including the logo, needed to project a fresher, modern 'look and feel.' This decision was ratified by the original web designer.

Some of the themes of the original logo - water symbolising the bay, a boat with a cross for a mast - were used in the new image, along with the original colour scheme. In the updated version the boat incorporates fishermen to represent the UCA concepts of risk-taking and discipleship - being fisher's of people on a choppy sea - and the dove of peace; an early Christian symbol and more recently adopted as a secular symbol for peace. The rays of light behind the 'retro' boat act as a backdrop of sunshine representing Port Phillip Bay and also project Jesus as 'the light of the world.' The boat moving forward, along with the dove, indicates a pro-active and forward-thinking missional and peaceful approach from our Presbytery. The circle echoes the UCA logo and brings it up to date.



PRESBYTERY ON SHOW

Sunday
October 26th
 2.30pm to 5pm



PRESBYTERY ON SHOW

Is a great opportunity to share our stories, our dreams and our inspirations. It's an opportunity to see what others are doing and hopefully take home some great ideas. There will be stands showing the remarkable diversity of our presbytery, alongside agencies like the Justice & International Mission Unit, and UC Camping. We'll provide books and other useful resources for sale. There'll also be special moments to share gifts, skills, specialties and presentations throughout the event.



Sunday 26
 October
 2.30pm - 5pm
 Cornish College
 65 Riverend Rd
 Bangholme

Contact Jay Robinson
 0410 465 836 or
jay@robinsonfamily.id.au for
 details

Reflections on Faith

Now I'm a believer...

WE know God exists because he pursues us. He is constantly initiating and seeking for us to come to him.

I was an atheist at one time. And like many atheists, the issue of people believing in God bothered me greatly. What is it about atheists that we would spend so much time, attention, and energy refuting something that we don't believe even exists?! What causes us to do that? When I was an atheist, I attributed my intentions as caring for those poor, delusional people...to help them realize their hope was completely ill-founded. To be honest, I also had another motive. As I challenged those who believed in God, I was deeply curious to see if they could convince me otherwise. Part of my quest was to become free from the question of God. If I could conclusively prove to believers that they were wrong,

then the issue is off the table, and I would be free to go about my life. I didn't realize that the reason the topic of God weighed so heavily on my mind, was because God was pressing the issue. I have come to find out that God wants to be known. He created us with the intention that we would know him. He has surrounded us with evidence of himself and he keeps the question of his existence squarely before us. It was as if I couldn't escape thinking about the possibility of God. In fact, the day I chose to acknowledge God's existence, my prayer began with, "Ok, you win..." It might be that the underlying reason atheists are bothered by people believing in God is because God is actively pursuing them. I am not the only

one who has experienced this. Malcolm Muggeridge, philosophical author, wrote, "I had a notion that somehow, besides questing, I was being pursued." C.S. Lewis said he remembered, "...night after night, feeling whenever my mind lifted even for a second from my work, the steady, unrelenting approach of Him whom I so earnestly desired not to meet. I gave in, and admitted that God was God, and knelt and prayed: perhaps, that night, the most



dejected and reluctant convert in all of England."

Lewis went on to write a book titled, "Surprised by Joy" as a result of knowing God.

I too had no expectations other than rightfully admitting God's existence. Yet over the following several months, I became amazed by his love for me.

For five more reasons Why God Exists - by Marilyn Adamson - visit <http://www.everystudent.com/features/isthere.html>

Family Violence Public Forum

Let's make a change



Peninsula Community Theatre
Wilsons Road, Mornington (Melway ref.145 - E2)
Tuesday, 16 September 2014 (6.30pm – 8.45pm)

Forum Panel



Ken Lay
The Victorian Chief
Commissioner of Police

The statistics and prevalence of
Family Violence



Rosie Batty
Director,
Luke Batty Foundation

The myths of Family Violence
How to effect meaningful change
in the community



Fiona Mc Cormack
CEO,
Domestic Violence Victoria

Thoroughly understanding Family
Violence



Rodney Vlasis
Rodney Vlasis,
A/CEO of Men's Referral Service
and No To Violence

Sexism and the inappropriate use of
power

Register

Free Community Forum
All welcome

For more information please contact - morningtonchurch@bigpond.com

PRESENTED BY: PENINSULA VOICE Inc. in conjunction with our sponsoring bodies



Piping hot celebration



Come and help us celebrate this great George Fincham organ, *writes Rev Ian Cayzer.*

VENUE: Trinity Uniting Church, 17 Black St. Brighton

DATE: Saturday, October 4th at 2:30pm: John Hargraves from South Island Pipe Organs will talk about the organ and its restoration.

DATE: Sunday, October 5th at 10:00am: Special Church Service with choir featuring the organ.

DATE: Sunday, October 12th at 2:30pm: FREE ORGAN RECITALS in the church followed by refreshments, champagne and finger food and BIRTHDAY CAKE in Trinity House.

All are welcome.



Correction: the August issue of Newsbeat showed a photo of the George Fincham Organ at the Church of All Nations instead of the Trinity UC organ pictured above.

HELP REQUIRED

Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church is seeking someone to help set up a website for the Church. Help is only required for construction, not to maintain it. Please ring Chris on 9551 6349.

Stepping in the right direction

HOW Can We Reduce our Ecological Footprint & Energy Costs by 10%+

The National Energy Efficiency Network (NEEN) has been inspired by the community to deliver energy efficiency across the community sector and in addition to collaborating on reducing one's energy consumption by 10% + an initiative was posed about "Bulk Buy Energy for the Community", in turn saving additional financial resources on rising utility bills. For those that are NEEN members, they have the opportunity to participate in this pilot Aggregated Bulk Buy Energy for community, where instead of buying as an individual organisation, they now have the means of tapping into "Community Power", where a range of NFP entities are collaborating their energy spend for a better deal!

There is no cost to participate and all NFP entities need to do is be registered as a NEEN member and once done, send an email to Michael Hwang, Regional Leader Victoria & Tasmania on michael.hwang@neen.org.au with the subject matter - EOI Community Energy. A template will then be sent back to the recipient to complete and then be returned to Michael.

For those that haven't looked and done a bill analysis before, it is a worthwhile exercise with NEEN identifying savings for several different organisations ranging from the \$100+ to the \$1,000+. Across the community we are hoping to achieve savings off the retailers published rates of between 10 - 30% (electricity) & 10 - 25% (gas). Expressions of interest are open now, with community responses closing by the 26th September 2014 for Victorian based NFP organisations only.

For information:

Contact Michael Hwang

NEEN - Regional Leader VIC/TAS

(National Energy Efficiency Network)

Level 3, 130 Little Collins St Melbourne 3000

f (03) 9251 5490 | m 0417 342 017

e Michael.hwang@victas.uca.org.au

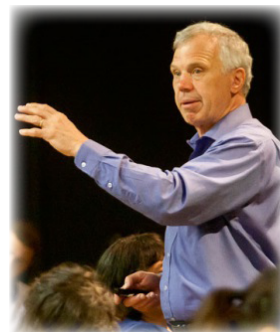
w victas.uca.org.au<<http://victas.uca.org.au/>>

Diers in the headlights

SPEND a day with Jim Diers to explore the foundations of Asset Based Community Development and how it can benefit your community.

Jim is an exponent of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). His interactive workshop is for anyone interested in developing inclusive and powerful relationships in the neighbourhoods where they live, work or play.

ABCD is an approach to building community which resonates deeply with an intentional and relational Christian faith. It posits that our communities are places of capacity and resilience and so our role is not just to serve, but to be served – to give everyone in our neighbourhoods a chance to share their gifts. Jim assists associations and



agencies support caring, inclusive and powerful communities. He has facilitated sessions around the world for non-profit organizations of all types, community associations, business associations, faith-based communities, universities, and foundations.

Event Details:

Date: Mon 8th Oct 2014

Time: 10am-4pm

Venue: CTM

Cost: \$25 per person or \$100 for groups of 5 or more from one congregation.

RSVP:

Ann Byrne ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au by 6 October 2014.

Enquiries:

Reverend Phillip Liebelt 0400 631 264
This invitation is available through the partnership of the Commission for Mission, Centre for Theology and Ministry, Brunswick Uniting Church, Manningham Uniting Church and the Presbytery of Port Phillip East.

SUNDAY
SEPT

14

EAST MEETS WEST IN HARMONY



Bunun Singers and Dancers from Taiwan with The Australian Welsh Male Choir

Côr Meibion Cymreig Awstralia

Uniting Church High St Frankston 2:30pm

The Vibrant Harmony and colour of the Bunun Aboriginal Singers from Taiwan will be joining the renowned Australian Welsh Male Choir in a fascinating concert of cross cultural harmony.

\$25 / \$20 concession \$50 family tickets
from 5971 2748 or at the door

Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children

OFFICIAL PUBLIC LAUNCH

1:45pm for 2pm launch

Saturday, 6 September

On the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral.



Contact: Ms Rosemary Clare Forbes
Email: grandmothersref@gmail.com
Address: PO Box 1279, Carlton LPO
VIC 3053

Dear Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children,

We hope you will all be able to participate in our official public launch, which will be on Saturday afternoon, 6th September, on the steps of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Please arrive by 1:45pm for a 2:00pm launch. We will all wear purple scarves. If you already have one, please wear it. If not, don't worry, we will provide!

Please also bring a percussion instrument to play – for example, a tambourine, triangle or small hand drum.

We will also be holding a working bee to prepare for the launch from 10:00am to 12:30pm on the morning of Saturday 23rd August at the St Andrew's Uniting Church hall, Duncan Street, Fairfield (corner of Gillies and Duncan Streets).

We will be making paper doll chains to represent the 1,000 children in detention, attaching banners to poles, cutting up purple fabric etc. If you are free, please drop in with your scissors for all or some of the time to help.

Best wishes

Alex, Gwenda and Clare

<http://workersbushtelegraph.com.au/2014/07/24/grandmothers-against-detention-of-refugee-children/>

<http://www.thesenior.com.au/News/The-Senior-News/Grannies-against-detention>

ALL ABOARD FOR SUPER COACH TOUR

INTERESTED in visiting and hearing about other churches, schools and agencies in our presbytery - and forming new friendships along the way?

The Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF) Coach Tour will be visiting Port Phillip East and Yarra Yarra Presbyteries from November 11-13, 2014.

Staying two (2) nights at the Best Western Plus Buckingham International, Highett, participants will visit:

The Church of All Nations, Korean Church of Melbourne, Ewing Memorial UC, Mission Liaison Group, Hampton Park UC, Berwick UC, Billanook College, the Open Door Community Church, Monbulk, Sandringham UC, Synod Archives, Toorak UC, UnitingCare Prahlan Mission, Port Melbourne UC and the Simply Living Community Garden. .

\$353 (twin share) covers transport by coach, four star accommodation and all meals (including morning and afternoon teas).

Application forms (to be returned no later than 19th September) are available from David Wang, UCAF Office, 130 Little Collins St., Melbourne. Please

enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope to receive your form.



Decade of diligence

IT was all smiles at the Red Cross AGM, Frankston Branch, this week as Keith Holmes was presented with his 10 years Service Award. He is pictured above in the church hall - where the meetings are often held - with Marion Day (President) and Penny Russell, the local zone representative of Red Cross.

Chris Johnson says: "Keith and his wife Julie, members at High Street Uniting Church, do a lot of work for Red Cross in this district and of course Julie's Mum, Margaret Short (deceased) and long time member of High Street, was very instrumental in its work for many, many years.

"It's so nice to see their efforts and hard work being celebrated in this way."

Ecumenical exploration from your armchair

Eileen Ray, of Sandringham Uniting Church, shares her experience of the Emerging Spirituality and Awareness Conference

ABOUT 7,000 people attended this conference; yet there were no problems in finding a big enough venue as we all attended in our homes... online.

Organised by Ian Lawton, a former Anglican priest in Sydney, who did most of the interviewing for the sessions while working in USA. The sessions were timed to commence from midday Pacific Time (5am Australian time.) On the first day I discovered that the sessions could be viewed once they had been uploaded after 5am, so I was able to keep more normal hours for the remaining 31 hour-long sessions.

For a cost of almost \$100US I have downloaded transcripts of most of the sessions. These will be used as a basis for a short discussion series some time next year. I chose this particular conference because I have read and heard so much about the emerging church movement, and wanted to know

more about the emerging spirituality movement.

Speakers included such

noted people as: John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Michael Dowd, Richard Rohr, Bishop Spong, Dairmuid O'Murchu and also several Jewish and even one Muslim scholar, Yasmin Mogahed. This mix was very interesting. God is moving in inspiring ways through all our different religions.

Here are some inspiring quotations from some of the speakers:

"What if Jesus didn't come to start a new religion, but rather came to start a political, social, religious, artistic, economic, intellectual, and spiritual revolution that would give birth to a new world?"

Brian D McLaren.

"We need to wake up and get up from our mortal slumber by an adventurous exploration of the mysteries that lie behind mysteries and of the core behind the core of things." *Rev Dr Matthew Fox.*

God is *being* itself, not a being and certainly not even a supreme being, but *being* itself. Everything that exists is an activity of God. I don't usually talk about God as creator. I talk about God as creativity. It's about activity. It's about dynamism. The Kabbalist, the Jewish mystic said – because in Judaism we're not bound by grammar or even the way the text is written or printed on a page. We can read things in a variety of different ways because we believe that reading the bible should be an act of creative imagination or what Jung calls active imagination." *Rami Shapiro.*

"Everything becomes a metaphor for the divine without exception. I can still relate to God in a personal, loving way, but I can also know that God is an energy, a power, a force. Our doctrine of the Holy Spirit in Christianity was meant to leave a space for that, so that we could understand God as fire, as living water, as blowing wind. The very metaphors of Pentecost are all moving us beyond God merely as a person." *Richard Rohr.*



Sunday 7th September

Richard Leigh from Campfire Film Foundation will be joining us as we sit and look at stories from different faiths and people from around the world. This Revival will be a multi faith event open to all. The Frankston Interfaith Network will be joining us and providing some supper. The Revival band will be playing. Come and join the discussions around the campfire.

High Street UC 16-18 High Street Frankston.

Sunday 7th September 7-8/8.30pm

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HSRevivalWorship/>

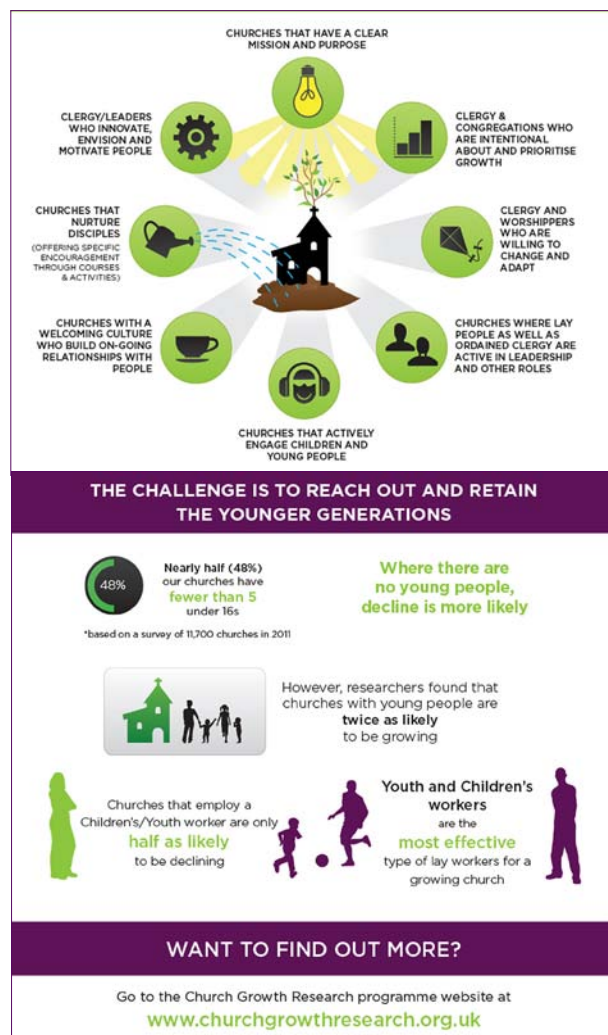


TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO HELP MOTHERS AND BABIES

Understanding growth...

THE Church of England produced a research paper investigating growth with the following points forming the basis of the research. The questions and subsequent diagram are just as relevant for the UCA, so take a look and see what you think...

1. To find practical evidence to support mission.
2. To understand better the identity and context of the church in the 21st Century.
3. To bring clarity to issues around church growth.
4. To identify what is effective and why.
5. To identify what is not effective and why.
6. To support and share good practice.
7. Because an understanding of how to effectively share the Good News of the Kingdom is important.
8. Because church attendance is declining.
9. To inform good stewardship and ensure that funds are spent effectively.
10. To identify areas where further research is needed.



IF the Taj Mahal, Golden Temple, Agra Fort, the Astronomical Observatory at Jaipur, Delhi's Old City and Humayun's Tomb are on your 'bucket list' then the Uniting Journey trip to India below is the perfect vehicle.

This exotic and memorable trip, staying in stylish, boutique hotels, has an important social purpose too - as it includes visits to the Mother & Child Health Clinic Project run by the Diocese of Amritsar.

The responsible travel tour, which also includes jeep safaris, cyclo and rickshaw rides, colourful bazaars and the once-in-a-lifetime chance to join the Palm Sunday Procession through Amritsar, lasts for 12 days from March 24-April 4, 2014. The cost of just \$4,500 includes all flights, ground transport, hotel accommodation, tour guide and a \$500 donation to the Mother & Child Health Clinics Project. The trip can be self-funded or fundraised through charity events and sponsorship. A Fundraising Toolkit comes with the brochure.

Please call/text 0434 412104 for a brochure and booking form before September 30.



MARCH 2015 HELP MOTHERS AND CHILDREN IN INDIA

A Uniting Journey to literally save the lives of mothers and babies in North India, and supporting the work of the project for another year!

Join this unique 12-day tour combining a visit to the Woman and Child Health Clinics Project in the Punjab with a sight-seeing trip in North India.

UNITING JOURNEYS

Jetaway Travel

Commission for Mission

EXPLORE INDIA
SUPPORT LOCAL
MOBILE CLINICS

Your opportunity
to make a
difference in the
world today

Depart
March 24th, 2015

Return
April 4th, 2015

Limited places on
this remarkable
tour – register
your interest now

UNITING JOURNEYS
130 Little Collins Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000

www.responsibletravel.org.au

Or call Helen Beeby on 03
9775 3619 or 0434 412104
to register your interest.

M The Major Strategic Review interim report to Synod 2014 is now available for access and download. The two main terms of reference are:

S A vision and plan for the Church in the 21st century; and Options for its ongoing sustainability.

R Check out the Resource and Documents section at <http://listeningpost.victas.uca.org.au/msr>



Great yarn to support asylum seekers

FOLLOWING the special prayer service for asylum seekers and refugees, Chelsea Parish is now on a mission to yarn bomb their three churches in blue knitting and crochet in time for Christmas - as a public witness acknowledging 'Jesus was a Refugee.'

A new parish craft group has begun producing yards of blue knitting which will be sewn together around the buildings. Pictured top left: this will form part of one banner – columns of blue knitting made on a knitting nancy. Pictured bottom left: Those who can't attend the group are busy knitting at home, including younger members of the congregation. Church members are also writing to refugees in



Talking Transit

THE Transit Lounge is an online publication for young people who care about faith. Sponsored by the Uniting Church, it discusses life, culture, the world and home, news and events for and by people who are trying to figure out life. It doesn't have the answers, it's about the

conversation. Join in...



See and hear more at: <http://www.thetransitlounge>

offshore detention centres through the initiative of Julian Burnside. Go to www.julianburnside.com.au/letters2.htm for more details or contact the JIM unit. The aim is to offer encouragement and hope to those seeking refuge in a seemingly hopeless situation.

by Rev Claire Dawe

Where the wild things are... at Somers Camp!

SOMERS Camp 2014 was as much fun as ever - just look at the leaders dressed up for a Noah's ark themed activity on the Tuesday afternoon.

Chameleon Capture is a giant game of tag which is an integral part of the camp.

You can see the trouble these guys go to writes *Claire Dawe, Camp Mum*.

This year, there were 114 campers, 8 slushies, 4 cooks and 40 leaders. As always, a highlight was the walk to Coolart reserve and the enviro activities on the Wednesday afternoon. DVDs are available if churches would like to share with their young people and families.



Like Somers Camp on Facebook...

Visit the Presbytery website at www.ucapppep.org and www.facebook.com/ucapppep.org for news, events and more....