

# NEWSBEAT



JANUARY 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



Kerry Bolger bids farewell to Cornish after 24 years. Drive to page 3 for more words and pictures.

Who picked up the Anti-Poverty Awards for 2015? Connect to our coverage on page 7.



## Security is increasingly in the spotlight at our churches

**A RECENT spate of burglaries, thefts and criminal damage incidents at PPEP churches has peaked with a break-in at the Cranbourne Food Truck.**

This wonderful service to feed homeless people and those in need has suffered at the hands of what appear to be 'adolescent thieves.'

A run of incidents at churches in recent weeks stimulates a call to all ministers and their teams to step up their security to stem

the tide of criminal intent on vulnerable church spaces. The first incident was when thieves are believed to have hidden out in side rooms in the evening at Noble Park UCA recently, leading to key thefts and IT equipment stolen from neighbouring offices. Then a coin donation barrel in aid of the LARDER appeal was also taken from a foyer at a Mornington Peninsula church and was found later in a neighbouring Anglican church yard: a site that has also suffered breaks-in in recent weeks.

This series of incidents was eclipsed by the food truck damage and thefts just before Christmas.

Rev Wendy Snook, of Cranbourne UC, says: "At about midnight Sunday before Christmas two young males were seen on monkey bikes behind the house next to the church. We think they did some graffiti on our newly painted shipping container (which has since been repainted.)

"Then about 4am, the neighbours' dogs barked. More than one person, possibly the same ones, returned with bolt cutters, screw driver and scanners. Initially they tried to break our security lighting bulbs, and got some. Then they climbed on the roof of the church hall and food truck garage, and turned a security light upwards. Then they found the lighting wiring on the

roof and and ripped it out.

"They used bolt cutters to cut the garage gate, then the six padlocks and hasps

on the truck itself were cut or levered open and the truck door lock was broken.

She adds: "They got into all the side truck bays. The only one not broken was at the centre back facing the street, where the generator and tables were kept. It was the most visible; even without the security lights on. Then from the loaded truck they took food, of the easy to eat variety. Teenage boy type food. All the two-minute noodles, muesli bars, tunas, biscuits, pop tarts, peanut butters, vegemite! and spaghetti tins, etc. they didn't take 'healthy' foods!

*Happier times... Above: When carols and items of music were presented during the pre-Christmas Food Truck party.*



Cont. on page 2

If you would like to submit a news item for the Presbytery's monthly Newsbeat newsletter please send all articles and images to [newsbeat@ucappep.org](mailto:newsbeat@ucappep.org)





# BLLESM delivers the spirit of Christmas Day

**HAMPTON** Park UCA has been keeping one of the most community-minded traditions alive for eight years now: They provide a fabulous Christmas Day lunch for anyone who wishes to come along - or is struggling - on this special day.

Rev Mat Harry says: "This was our 8th Annual BLLESM Christmas Lunch.

It was an awesome lunch once again with wonderful volunteers. We even had a stand up comic this year. Well done to everyone involved."



*Above: A festive feast with wonderful fellowship and a spirit of fun boosts Hampton Park's Christmas lunch.*

## Security increasingly in the spotlight at our churches

*Cont. from front page*

"They were obviously disturbed as a little of the food was left outside the truck nearby. They did not get into the shipping container, praise the Lord, as we had food for Christmas ready.

"They also stole a special light which had been bolted and wired inside the truck. They needed tools to remove it. But they left the microwave, pie warmer etc. alone. So it is difficult to guess motivation. Perhaps 'midnight munchies? Or on a grander scale? Trainee criminals? People who don't care about the needy, and want immediate gratification? I don't know.

"The police said in future, we need to put an alarm on the truck, and a security camera system if we can afford it. We had done everything else possible. So that is the story. Meanwhile the truck had to be reloaded and sent out as usual on Monday night, and the following days, including Christmas Day! And our Food Truck Support Worker Chris finished her job yesterday, and we were training the new Worker Debbie Wallace from Hampton Park UCA at the same time. It has been a busy time!"

**If you would like to help them recover you can donate to the Food Truck by electronic transfer. Account name is the Cranbourne Regional UCA Food Truck: BSB – 063 250 Account No. – 10706336.**



**SUNDAY  
17 JAN  
2016**

**10AM**

You are invited to a special worship service including "The Release of Ties" at 10am followed by hospitality and a presentation in the hall at 11am.



## Kaylea's Final Service at St Leonard's



**St Leonard's**  
UNITING CHURCH  
2 Wolseley Gve Brighton 3186  
Tel 9592 9333 contact@stleonards.org.au







*After 24 years at Cornish College, Kerry bids adieu to this wonderful Uniting Church school community.*



## Kerry leaves a lasting legacy at Cornish College

**AT their final assembly Cornish College bid farewell to Principal Kerry Bolger after 24 years of service to their community and 44 years in education.**

Complete with security around the 'Principal Mobile' he completed one final lap before departing. A mother at the school, Rachael Angus, said of her son's time there: "Words cannot describe what this school has been to my son. From the moment we walked into the office to meet Mr Bolger four years ago to today when my son dropped in after getting his amazing VCE results to give his teachers a final hug (and Mr Bolger). Do your children a favour and send them to Cornish College - it is truly one of a kind!"



*... but a new year means a new start for new leader*

## A fitting send off to a one-of-a-kind minister



**A moving service for the Release of Pastoral Ties for Rev. David Peel was conducted at Bentleigh Uniting Church by Presbytery Minister Rev. Fiona Winn.**

David and his wife Anne Shirley-Peel were farewelled at the Service on the afternoon of Sunday, 20th December, 2015 by members of the congregation with thanks to God for the ministry they had faithfully exercised. David has retired to allow his health to improve and continue on well into the future.

A time of fellowship was shared over afternoon tea

acknowledging all David and Anne had contributed to Bentleigh during their four and a half years there.

**by Dorothy Andrew  
Secretary Church Council**



**Ms Vicki Steer takes up the the role of Principal of Cornish College at the start of the new term.**

Ms Steer is former Principal of the Ravenswood School for Girls, a high performing day and boarding school in Sydney, New South Wales.

Rev Dr Robert Johnson, chair of Cornish College School Council, says Ravenswood School and Cornish College share a similar educational ethos. "Cornish College's motto is Make a Difference and it was clear that Ms Steer shares our dedication to the development of independence and resilience for students to make a positive contribution to the world they live in."

Prior to Ravenswood School she was Vice-Principal of Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School (PEGS).

Vicki Steer holds combined English and Politics honours degrees and a Master of Arts in English - specialising in Australian and American literature - from the University of Melbourne.

**Hub is  
where  
the  
heart is**

## If the CAP fits, wear it: new money-management course on offer



THIS photo was taken during a recent *Share* visit to the St Kilda 101 Engagement Hub (Prahran Mission) where they feed and assist thousands of homeless and lonely people every month. The Hub is part of St Kilda UCA complex and Rev Deacon John Tansey has been heavily involved in its continued community growth during his 15 year tenure at St Kilda. There will be a release of ties service for him on Sunday, January 31st at 10.30am, followed by lunch at St Kilda UC, 163 Chapel St, St Kilda.

CAP money stands for Christians against Poverty. Whis is a UK based charity focused on helping people in difficult financial circumstances and, more recently, in educating people about budgeting and cash flow management with the aim of helping them avoid financial distress.

The course runs over 3 weeks, 2 hours one night each week. It is DVD and workbook based course in a small group with a maximum of 10 participants.

Judy Schofield says: "I am a long term member of St Leonard's Church and my background is recently retired after over 20 years as a Financial Planner. I have run 3 previous CAP courses at St Leonard's Church."

Comments from previous participants include:

*"Much more optimistic - I can see the potential to take control."*

*"I feel more confident"*

*"Feeling more in command, but need to put in more work."*

We are advertising the course through the wider church community and welcome adults of all ages and backgrounds. We have found a diversity of ages is a big advantage in group discussion.

The course will be held on 3 consecutive Tuesdays at 7.30pm beginning April 19<sup>th</sup> 2016.

Leader Judy Schofield's contact details are [bazjude@bigpond.net.au](mailto:bazjude@bigpond.net.au) or 0408 387 230.



A free course to help you manage your money better and learn to budget, save and spend well

### Course Info



**budget. save. spend.**

**Starting:** Tues April 19,26 and May 3 **Venue:** St Leonard's Uniting Church, 2 Wolseley Grove, Brighton

**Book by calling:** Judy 0408387230 **Time:** 7.30-9.30pm **Run by:** St Leonard's UCA

[www.capmoney.org](http://www.capmoney.org)

Christians Against Poverty is a national charity offering award-winning, free, face-to-face debt counselling through 30 CAP Debt Centres across the Australia. The innovative charity also offers financial education through the CAP Money course. For details of CAP's services, or to support the charity, visit [www.capmoney.org](http://www.capmoney.org).

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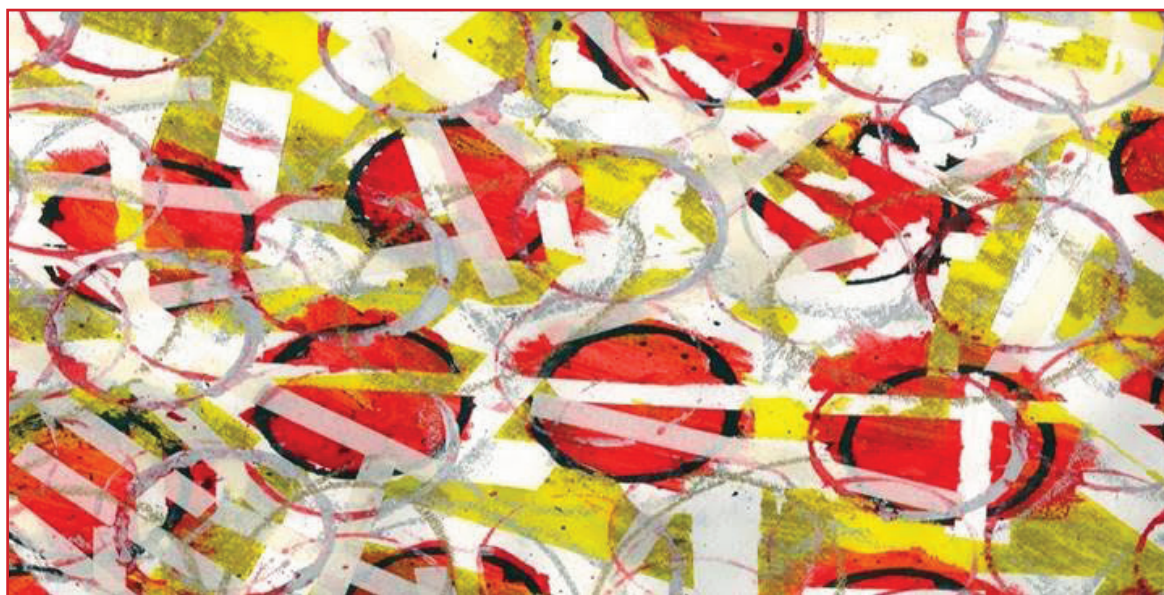
PO Box 298, HUNTER REGION MC 2310, e [capmoney@capmoney.org](mailto:capmoney@capmoney.org) 102 4914 0500  
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# Multi-faith remains high on the international agenda



THE revised presbytery Prayer Calendar, so diligently prepared by Rev Ian Cayzer, is now on the PPEP website under Events. Please refer to this when preparing prayers for your Sunday services. Thank you.



*Artwork  
by Nathan  
Photiadis  
at Araluen  
Centre*

## Always wanted to work with Indigenous people?

### Administrative Assistant – Travel

Nungalinga College is a Theological College for Indigenous people with a campus in Darwin in the NT.



The Admin Assistant will manage all travel bookings and accommodation for students, staff and visitors to the College.

See full advertisement at <http://www.nungalinga.edu.au/job-vacancies/>

Start Date: 1st February 2016

Closing Date for Applications: 15th, January 2016

For further information and an application form please contact:

Dr Jude Long [jloug@nungalinga.edu.au](mailto:jloug@nungalinga.edu.au) or Mrs Jennifer Johnson [jjohnson@nungalinga.edu.au](mailto:jjohnson@nungalinga.edu.au)

Or phone 08 8920 7500

### Multi-faith Conference August 21-23, 2016 Jasper Hotel, Melbourne

**AN IMPORTANT Multi-faith Conference planned for August this year has attracted two internationally renowned keynote speakers.**

Prof Hans Reinders and Rev Bill Gaventa, who are in Australia for the IASSID Congress being held from August 15-19 in Melbourne, will add their voice to a special conference being coordinated by the UCA.

Organiser Andy Calvin, says: "Multi-faith Conferences such as this one bring people people together who wish to explore the understandings and experiences of disability and spirituality. these are rare occurrences in Australasia. The Conference will include keynote presentations, concurrent sessions and an Art Exhibition.

The organising Committee would therefore like to reach as many interested people as possible. This Conference has the endorsement of a number of entities including the Jewish Christian Muslim Association, Spiritual Care

Australia and the Faith Communities Council of Victoria. We have been most fortunate in attracting two internationally esteemed keynote speakers. The range of multi-faith presenters continues to grow, and is being regularly updated on our website. We are now also seeking Abstracts from people who wish to make a presentation, drawing on the themes of exclusion and embrace."

In addition to spoken presentations and workshops, there will also be given to stories, poetry and song. The closing date for Abstracts is 10 April, 2016

Registrations are now open with Early Bird prices set till 17 June 2016. It is recommended people take advantage of the early registration as numbers are capped at 160. Further details from Ann Byrne at [ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au) 03 9251 5404.





## Signs of hope provide kerbside appeal to this PPEP church



**SOMETIMES** a new sign can light the way for a church community. This is definitely the case at Monash Uniting Church, which has recently put up new, and very eye-catching, signs around the church complex. Their wonderfully inclusive message of "Many Cultures... One Community" is set against a colourful backdrop that passers-by couldn't fail to miss. Keeping with the same theme their International Centre underpins how this is a sacred (and educational) space for people of every nation, culture and background.

*All-talk... Monash UC is also starting English classes in March 2016: Wednesday 4:00-5:30 pm Friday 4: 00 - 5:30 pm. Cafe Conversation 4:00 pm and Drop In Centre 9:30 am Thursdays. Start February 2016.*




### With grateful thanks from those on the front line

**CHURCHES** from across the Presbytery have shown enthusiasm and energy in their support for Act for Peace's annual Christmas Bowl Appeal.

In particular, churches in Mount Eliza, Frankston and Brighton have acted either alone or with churches of other denominations to conduct street collections. In addition, churches from Mount Martha, Balnarring and Cheltenham were part of the local Christmas Carols events where some of the fundraising contributed to Christmas Bowl.

**St Leonard's**  
UNITING CHURCH

Add more to life

  
**St Leonard's College**  
An education for life.

### **Chaplaincy & Youth Faith Formation** **Full time position**

A unique and exciting opportunity to shape and form young people in a Parish and School setting involving:

- leadership in the faith formation of youth and young adults through worship events and community/social justice activities at St Leonard's Uniting Church
- being part of a ministry team delivering chaplaincy services to St. Leonard's College through pastoral care and educational opportunities

A background in teaching and theological formation at a tertiary level will be well received.

Position description available at [www.stleonards.org.au](http://www.stleonards.org.au)

**Applications:** Secretary St. Leonard's Church,  
2 Wolseley Grove, Brighton VIC 3186  
or email [contact@stleonards.org.au](mailto:contact@stleonards.org.au)

Initial inquiries can be directed to **Rev Kim Cain 0419 373 123**



On behalf of our partners, working in desperate and insecure conditions, a very big thank you to all those contributing.

Jeff Wild, Act for Peace  
Development Officer for Victoria  
and Tasmania



## CONNECTIONS recognised Anti-Poverty Week by honouring the significant contribution young Australians make towards eradicating poverty.

Scooping the Individual Anti-Poverty Award was Andrew Mellody, left, Director of non-profit organisation Co-Ground, which launched in response to the devastation following Tropical Cyclone Pam, Vanuatu.

Andrew has a history of

villagers and investigated ways they could help address poverty.

This year we awarded one Encouragement Award to Heidi Zajac. Heidi was inspired to create Cooking

## Connections honours the young and the selfless

tackling inequality, volunteering with community development organisations in the Philippines and the Maldives, locally with YMCA Victoria for more than 10 years, and working in the disability and youth sectors. He also won our Most Votes competition, with just over 2000 votes and received a HD camcorder.

Receiving the School Award, right, was Gawler East Primary School in South Australia. After hearing about the harsh realities of the people living in Laiya in the Philippines, the Year 2 to Year 4 students identified areas of need for the



Circles after a trip to Timor Leste in 2012. Simply and loosely framed, Cooking Circles creates carefully constructed spaces where women identify skills and resources in cooking, develop confidence and form networks. The Anti-Poverty Awards recognise there are many young people in Australia who are passionately working towards tackling inequality and injustice in Australia or abroad. The Awards acknowledge and highlight the hard work and dedication of individuals and schools across Australia who demonstrate a deep

## An important read

UCA Code of Conduct for Lay Leaders is now on our website <http://www.ucappeg.org/newsbeat/notices/> The Assembly Standing Committee at its meeting in November adopted the Code of Conduct for Lay Leaders and accompanying 'Guidelines for Councils of the Church when implementing the Code of Conduct for Lay Leaders'.

Presbyteries will be given further information in due course however, given that these documents are now available, it is good for people to be aware of them. The Code of Conduct comes into formal effect from 1 April 2016.

Grace and peace,  
Rev Dr Mark  
Lawrence  
General Secretary



## Reflections on Faith

### "SOME of us remember back to Sunday Schools in Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches.

Lessons set by the Board of Christian Education. Old and New Testament themes, readings and examples of heroes of the faith. Memory verses to learn. Medal and Book examinations for book prizes, and an Alan Bequest examination for a scholarship at secondary level.

And catechisms to learn, such as "What is the chief end of man?" Not the best terminology now! Dedicated teachers for each class, and kinders too. Do you remember those Sunday School Anniversaries? Tiered platforms in the Church, three services on a Sunday. Full houses, mum, dads, grandies and more. And Sunday School picnics at the beach, or in the hills. And this influence lasted. Young ones became teachers. On hospital visits I have been quoted helpful words of scripture remembered from those days. The Sunday School was a field of mission. Young people were inspired to train as Ministers of the Word, called to serve as missionaries, to witness in their daily lives.

Sunday school teaching continues today, aided by lectionary based material, and a wealth of resources available. The advent of Messy Church is another way of presenting the gospel. Our teachers need our prayer and support.

*Reflection: We give thanks for the great tradition of the Sunday School, for the generations of faithful teachers. Bless all teachers of the Word in all fields of mission. May their influence bring many to find in Jesus, the way, the truth and the life. Inspired to follow and serve him too.*

**'The mission of the Sunday School' by Bill Pugh retired Melbourne minister**





## Food and Gift Appeal unites our UCA community

**THANKS to Wesley College and a number of Uniting Church congregations, Connections UnitingCare was able to support many families during what can be a very difficult time of the year for some people.**

Now in its fifteenth year, Connections' Christmas Food & Gift Appeal relies on the generosity of the local community to donate non-perishable food and gifts which are then provided to families facing an uncertain Christmas.

For a number of years, Wesley College has been a generous contributor to the appeal. This year, Connections was asked to attend both the junior and middle school chapel services to accept their donations.

"We are so grateful for the support we have received from the Wesley College community and the many Uniting Church congregations this Christmas," said Kirrilee Torney, Connections' Acting Manager, Community Relations.

"Our Appeal is the most effective way the community can help disadvantaged families, individuals and young people. Donations are provided directly to those most in need

and ensure everyone, particularly children.

"Each year we are amazed at the generosity of the local Uniting Church community who are

always willing to make sure everyone has a smile on their face on Christmas morning.

For more information on Connections' work visit [www.connections.org.au](http://www.connections.org.au)

Connections UnitingCare logo and conference poster. The poster features the text "MAKING LIVES BETTER" in large blue letters, followed by "IMPROVING LIFE OUTCOMES FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES". It also includes the text "CONNECTIONS UNITINGCARE CONFERENCE" and "25-26 MAY 2016". There are images of children and a woman on the poster.

The Connections UnitingCare Conference: ***Making Lives Better - Improving Life Outcomes for Vulnerable Children and Families***, will explore how we build services around clients in a changing, complex world.

Connections is keen to receive papers which explore and address innovative ideas which respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families in the community. We encourage submissions from a range of organisations and individuals who can contribute to our knowledge of current practices and interventions which are making the lives of vulnerable children and families better in the four key sub themes.

- 1. Cultural responsiveness and awareness**
- 2. Early intervention**
- 3. Measuring change in the context of challenge**
- 4. Workforce development**

**Call for Abstracts for  
the 2016 Connections  
UnitingCare Making  
Lives Better  
Conference  
25-26 May 2016,  
Rydges, Melbourne.**

For more information or to submit your abstract go to [connections.org.au/conference](http://connections.org.au/conference)



## Sizzle proves to be the key word

**MEMBERS of High Street Uniting Church, Frankston, and willing friends, braved the scorching pre-Christmas temperatures to fulfil their place on the Bunnings Mornington annual roster.**

Sales of ice cold drinks were definitely higher than the snags that day but the intrepid volunteers battled on in the 38 degree heat to bring sustenance to embattled shoppers.

The sausage sizzle raised a total of \$1,150, after deductions, and the proceeds will go to High Street UC's project partnership work with the Church of North India. Special thanks to all those who sweated it out on the day...



## Experience India Trip – April 7th-21st, 2016

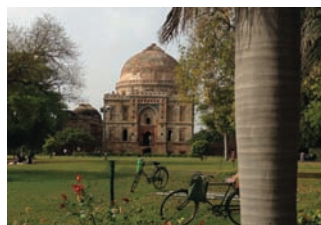
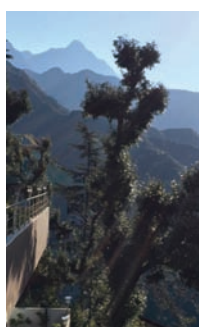
Join us for a journey that combines sight-seeing with support for a Health Clinics program in North India.

Part of Uniting Journeys 'responsible travel' initiative, this 14-day tour takes in majestic New Delhi, golden Amritsar, historic Shimla and spiritual Dharamsala (cricket ground included:)

Cost \$4,500 – includes flights, accommodation, transport and most meals. A fundraised donation of at least \$500 to the project is also anticipated.

This time we'd like some people to join us to **HELP BUILD A LOW WALL** in front of the Field Office (not obligatory)

**For an itinerary contact Helen Beeby on 0434 412104 or [helen.beeby@gmail.com](mailto:helen.beeby@gmail.com)**



UNITING  
JOURNEYS



Jetaway  
The trusted travel experts

## Seaford gives thanks for Christmas Eve organist offers

Thanks very much for forwarding the email from Rajitha Perera with an offer to find an organist for us for Christmas Eve.

We have been very fortunate as Edith John from Endeavour Hills rang early December, after seeing our plea in Newsbeat, and offered to play for us, and we have accepted her offer.

I had offers from a couple of people offering to play but having accepted our first offer we stayed with the first decision. We are not a very big congregation but have very much appreciated the support from other congregations.

Kind regards  
Bev Boys

## Quote

*"God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains; it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."*

C.S. Lewis

**of the month...**



## A call for prayer

I admit dismay when I first saw the front cover image of the New York Daily News last month, writes Moderator Dan Wootton.

It proclaimed "God Isn't Fixing This" and was in direct response to social media postings by American government representatives following the shootings in San Bernardino. According to the newspaper, those tweeting to pray for the victims were the very people with the power to change the gun laws. The suggestion was that the call to prayer was repetitive and meaningless.

The essence of the call to prayer certainly involves repetition, yet

it is far from meaningless. Prayer can unify, particularly in moments of turbulence. Nowhere was this better demonstrated than in the aftermath of the Paris terrorism attack when the social media hashtag #prayforparis resonated globally. The challenge for us all is to remember that many for whom we pray continue to suffer long after they leave the front page headlines we hungrily consume. Prayer can be an effective spiritual 'weapon' against violence and injustice, but first it should take deliberate aim not a vague aspiration for peace and security. A starting point is that violence and injustice in the world is not outside us but inside us. Each one of us forms the world. For those who feel the urge to offer prayer in a public manner, I would recommend careful analysis of motives. The violence plaguing our world is the result of our failure to see the other person or group of people as fully human as ourselves. It's a matter of not being afraid to look into the depths of suffering. Love always involves risk. At Christmas there is much focus on the historic birth of Christ. But the real focus should be on the birth of love – and suffering is the ground on which love is born. If we haven't suffered, that is if we haven't seen the suffering of other people, we won't begin to understand what it means to love.



*This wonderful photo montage represents many of the Christmas activities and images at Mount Martha Uniting Church. The panorama shot depicts the fabulous turnout for the outdoor carol concert. Hat's off to minister Rev Paul Chalson for showcasing all the wonderful goings on...*

## Important date for your March diary...

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - CUBA

Theme: Jesus said to them "Receive Children. Receive Me."

The 2016 World Day of Prayer worship service, written by the women of Cuba, will be held on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016** at a nominated church in your area.



The artist for this year's WDOP is Ruth Mariet Trueba Castro who says: "Although I can explain in a rational way the drawing, based on the symbolic elements that I used: the palms, the windows, the hands and the colours of the Cuban flag, I wanted to complement the art of drawing with the art of words, which is the poetry".

#### On the threshold of childhood

We open the door to the childhood within us and Jesus enters  
As light transcends the stained glass windows  
It is made flesh on the games of laughter  
As child hugs the palms  
In the middle of the day.  
Our prayer is like a sparkling pupil  
Sweat from white, yellow, and black hands.  
Who receive Jesus, once again  
Along with all who are waiting  
On the threshold of childhood.

Locations for World Day of Prayer Services near you can be found by checking: [www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org](http://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org) and click on Worship Services or call your church.





## Dates for your diary

- Release of Pastoral Ties - Peter Beale, Sunday, January 31st
- Induction of Rev Ray McCluskey into Monash UC - February, TBC
- St Andrew's Gardiner Congregation closure 10th April 2016
- Releasing of Pastoral Ties - Rev Deacon John Tansey, Sunday, January 31st at 10.30am. St Kilda UC, 163 Chapel St St Kilda.
- MSR – Presbytery Briefing session - January 20th, 2016 at 12pm Synod office.
- St Andrew's Gardiner Congregation closure - 10th April, 2016.

## Spreading the Word

**OUR appeal to cross-pollinate is clearly working. Hurrah! As we've been seeing some fabulous activity and Sharing going on via the Presbytery of Port Phillip East Facebook page and other PPEP church Facebook pages.**

More and more churches are establishing their own pages and many are posting and sharing events, photographs and happenings across the PPEP

page too. We continue to invite people to Share their



Facebook pages and postings with the Port Phillip East Presbytery page. Just search for Port Phillip East Presbytery on Facebook... or click on <https://www.facebook.com/ucappegp.org/>

To learn more about how to do these things on Facebook please e-mail Rev Jay Robinson - our Facebook guru - on [jay@robinsonfamily.id.au](mailto:jay@robinsonfamily.id.au)

## Five churchy things to do over the holiday break

- Visit a church you've never been into and see if you can identify all the biblical references in the church windows.
- Visit a cemetery in a country town and try to work out what the gravestones tell you about the early history of the region.
- Get your baptismal cup out of the cupboard and give it a good polish.
- Mark into your calendar all the religious events for 2016 you want to take special note of.

*Courtesy of Crosslight, December issue. See more at <http://crosslight.org.au/>*



**Fie bids au revoir to VicTas with a service of song ONE of Fie Marino's final ministry services in our presbytery, at least for the time being, was the Carols by Candlelight Service at Trinity Dandenong UC.**

Choirs included: Oromo Fellowship Choir, the Hindi Fellowship Choir, the Fijian and Cook Islander Choirs as well as Trinity's own choral group, to make it a deliciously tuneful occasion.



Fie Marino was recently appointed as the new Multicultural Ministry Consultant with the NSW/ACT Synod Resourcing Team, starting on January 1, 2016. This follows his placement as NextGen Resource and Development Officer within the Commission for

Mission Intercultural Unit, Synod of VicTas.

Fie is an ordained minister with the Congregational Christian Church in Samoa, and has been serving within the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria/Tasmania, since June 2013. Fie's work with the church has included time as lecturer in systematic theology at Malua, Youth and Sunday School Development officer for the CCCS District of Victoria, short term supply placements with St Luke's Mt Waverley, Narre Warren North, Hampton Park and Berwick Uniting Churches, long term supply at Ormond Uniting Church and Dandenong Uniting Church.

Fie's qualifications include Bachelor of Theology (Distinction) at Malua Theological College, Masters of Applied Theology, University of Birmingham, England, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, Chisholm Institute.

*The NEW Port Phillip East Presbytery website is an exciting additional resource tool for communication across our churches, agencies, schools and communities. We welcome submissions to the website, Newsbeat and Facebook, but should advise that photographs may be used across all unless instructed otherwise when submitted.*

**Visit the Presbytery website at [www.ucappegp.org](http://www.ucappegp.org) and [www.facebook.com/ucappegp.org](https://www.facebook.com/ucappegp.org) for news, events and more....**