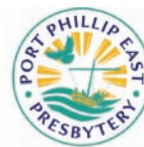


# NEWSBEAT



AUGUST 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



Moderator helps those in need through Workplace Giving. Hear her reasons on page 6.

Back support... Global Chaplaincy Conference is a runaway success. Turn to page 11 for the story and pictures.



## Standing room only at landmark ordination

**IT was quite a service to celebrate the very first South Sudanese minister to be ordained into the Synod of Victoria & Tasmania.**

At Springvale Church on Sunday, July 24, the Presbytery ordained Akoi Koul Atem - Nathaniel Atem - as a Minister of the Word.

Nathaniel and his family came to Australia from Sudan in 2004 and started attending Springvale Uniting Church. So it was appropriate that his ordination be held there. The church was filled to overflowing with people seated in the narthex. A few had to stand.

by  
**Ian Firth**

Because of the large number of Sudanese folk who attended, this was a service that was heavily influenced by Sudanese

culture. The Presbytery procession into the church was led by the Dinka Community Sunday School and youth who sang and danced us in. This was accompanied at random intervals by the enthusiastic blowing of a ram's horn or shofar as it's referred to in the Bible. This same group sang later in the service as did the Sudanese Mothers' Union.

The blowing of the shofar continued at various points



during the service. I was told that this is done to indicate high points in the service in much the same way as a bell is used in the

Roman Catholic mass. It sure keeps you awake. The Bible

readings from Ezekiel and Matthew were read in Dinka with the English words on the screens. The Rev Dr John Flett, Coordinator of Studies, Missiology at CTM preached on who does Jesus say he is.

Following his ordination, Nathaniel and his family were presented with gifts from both the Anglo and Sudanese members of the Springvale Congregation. Nathaniel then jointly presided at a service of

*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@ucappeg.org](mailto:newsbeat@ucappeg.org)



Cont. from front page

Holy Communion. It was a truly wonderful day in which we celebrated not only the fact that God has called Nathaniel into ministry but that was so enthusiastically embraced by the Sudanese community with much love, dancing and excitement. Nathaniel and his family will now move to Orbost where he will take up his first placement.



## Songs and dances delight on Nathaniel's big day



### Wendy's floral send off

A service to farewell the Rev Wendy Snook was held recently, and there were a few surprises! The Rev Liz McMillan led the 'Releasing of the Ties' service which also involved participation by many members of the congregation and was followed by morning tea.

With leave including an overseas holiday with husband Roy, Rev Wendy will then commence duties at the Berwick Uniting Church in September.

The colourful attire worn by Rev Wendy was part of a very vocal Cook Island farewell presentation by church elder Ta Tunoa.

We thank Rev Wendy (and Roy!) for nine years of service and we wish them safe travels.



### Readings

and *Conversation*



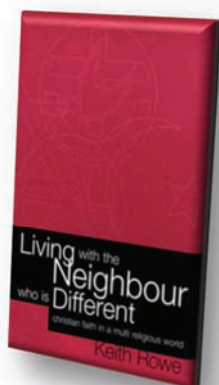
Monday 8 August 2016 at 4:30pm

Living with the Neighbour  
who is Different

Presented by Tim Angus  
based on the book by Rev Dr Keith Rowe

This little book (just 60 pages) was first presented as a Report to the Uniting Church in Australia's Ninth Assembly (July 2000). The purpose of the book is to provide 'an initial attempt to explore what it might mean for us as part of the Church of Jesus Christ to live alongside the neighbour who believes differently.' Copies are available from Tim PH 0400 383 628.

We share an afternoon tea before starting each discussion.



# Art for heart's sake

**SPRINGVALE** Uniting Church has announced an exciting new appointment - its inaugural artist in residence.

Mr Brendan Nicholl an emerging artist in the Springvale area will be in residence over the coming months. Mr Nicholl, is a local artist and is a painter, community activist, and men's shed participant. Brendan's professional craft and training was in traditional sign-writing and he has just completed an artist in residence posting at Heritage Hill in Dandenong.

The project that he is undertaking is titled "Springvale in transition" with the idea of capturing a moment in time in the changing face of our local community.

Rev Paul Creasey, minister, believes that this assignment will help people reflect on memories past with an eye to the future.

There will be opportunities to meet the artist and explore philosophical thoughts on the place of art in a local community as a method of expression and exploration. Mr Nicholl says: "I paint what is around me, mostly in oils, starting with a sketch en plein air. I seek out ordinary scenes that may surprise the viewer and remind them that where they live is interesting and beautiful. Painting this urban view is for me a way of feeling at home here, appreciating not only the shapes and colours that fill our suburbs but the sense of history within the scene. My subject is fringe and remnant territory, I know I am recording some scenes before they disappear."

All enquires should be made to Rev. Paul Creasey 0407 157157



Attend 4 training days, have access to monthly e-resources, an online community and local mentoring.

**WHEN**

2:00pm – 6:00pm  
Sunday, 11 Sept.

**WHERE**

Ringwood Uniting Church, 30-32 Station Street, Ringwood, 3134

**CONTACT**

Drew Hanna or Age Greenwood- 03 9340 8815

# Somerscamp

# Trivia Night

## CONCERT EDITION!

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August

7pm. chelsea Uniting Church - Sherwood Ave

\$12 per person or \$80 per table (8 people)

- Silent Auction
- Raffle
- Door Prizes
- Talent Acts
- Somers Activities

Proceeds to Somers Camp. Contact Claire Dawe on 0410 827 597 or [clairedawe@hotmail.com](mailto:clairedawe@hotmail.com) to book.

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

# Winter retreat for CMN offers challenges and replenishment

**SIX members of the Creative Ministries Network Congregation enjoyed the Congregation's Winter Retreat on the last weekend of June at 'Wilkin' Baptist campsite in Anglesea, writes John Bottomley.**

The Congregation gathers for two retreats each year to provide a relaxing and dedicated time for sharing members' faith and life. Established by Port Phillip East Presbytery five years ago as an initiative of the CMN UnitingCare Board and inspired by the Assembly's 'Being Church Differently' document, the Congregation shares a common vocation with the agency to attend to matters of faith in the whole of our lives, and especially our working lives.

On Friday evening the sharing began over a fine meal at the Anglesea Hotel, followed by group singing and a time of silent guided meditation. After a good night's sleep, we dived into the Saturday program, which comprised a series of three sessions where two members shared on a panel 'the God questions that arise from my everyday life'. In each session, the group response focused on the points where we were touched by our friends' presentations. What followed was a rich and supportive conversation over the day where members had an opportunity to unpack some tough questions and circumstances of their lives. After a leisurely stroll and a great meal, our evening began with an integrative bible study where the lectionary gospel from Luke provided a lens for reflection on the day's conversations. Members took to paints and coloured crayons to capture the heart of their journey. We concluded with an examination of our hearts and souls in quiet contemplation in the Ignatian tradition.

Sunday morning began with our regular congregation meeting, where a range of pastoral, worship and bible study and administrative concerns were attended to. Rev. Steve Crump then led us in a closing Eucharist, where members contributed in pairs to prayers of forgiveness, concerns for others, and thanksgiving.

The hospitality of the staff and the quality of the facilities all added to a very joyous winter retreat for our CMN Congregation.



## The Grail Prayer

Lord Jesus,  
I give you my hands  
to do your work.  
I give you my feet to go your way.  
I give you my eyes to see as you do.  
I give you my tongue to speak your words.  
I give you my mind that you may think in me.  
I give you my spirit that you may pray in me.  
Above all, I give you my heart that you may love in me and all mankind.  
I give you my whole self that you may grow in me, so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who live and work and pray in me.  
**Amen**



## St Andrews Uniting Church, Orbost 3888

# Annual Flower Show

### Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2016

Opening time 11.00 am through to 4.00pm  
Scrumptious Lunch and Afternoon tea available

### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2016

Opening time 9.30am through to 3.3pm  
Morning and Afternoon Tea and a Scrumptious Lunch available

**\$5 Entry tickets at Hall Door**  
**No Multi passes or family tickets**  
Further details

**Contacts** Jan Read 51542922 [jananddenis@bigpond.com](mailto:jananddenis@bigpond.com)

Heather Richardson 51541853 [richardson.c.heather@gmail.com](mailto:richardson.c.heather@gmail.com)

# B'Annual/OPEN GARDENS

## Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016

## Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Open 10.00am to 5.00pm BOTH days  
Morning and Afternoon teas available all day (at specified Gardens)  
Light Lunch 11.30am to 2.00pm

All details/Directions will be available at the SLAB HUT in Orbost, however if any clubs would like a list prior, once Maps compiled we can forward them to the club.

**Entry \$5 each Garden. Tickets at the Garden Gates**

**No multi passes or Family passes**

Further information

Judy Weatherall 03 51541360 0407586328

[judy.occ@bigpond.com](mailto:judy.occ@bigpond.com)



PICTURED are some photos of the well-attended Fourth Annual Combined Service held at St John's, Mt Waverley on 19th June to celebrate the UCA birthday and togetherness – past, present and future. "It was a wonderful service of praise, thanksgiving and music followed by lunch together – celebrated by some 250 friends," says Rev Julie Ross, far right.



St John's tradition goes from strength to strength



## Walking together in the *Paths of Peace*

### An evening with Mariam Issa



Mariam Issa's refugee experience is a powerful and positive one.

It's a journey of inspiring resilience and strength and one she is happy to share through her book 'A Resilient Life'.

When she arrived in Melbourne from her Somali homeland in 1998, she had a husband, four children and a fifth on the way. She had little knowledge of Australian life, other than the motivation to provide a secure, safe future with her family. In her book Mariam talks of her experiences of integration, refugee issues, new beginnings and the power of community.

In 2012 Mariam launched RAW (Resilient Aspiring Women) – a not-for-profit organisation to create better social environments for all women. RAW is a platform, a community garden and a meeting place for all women in her backyard Brighton home.

**WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST**  
**6:30 – 8:30 pm**

\$15 / \$12 in the Parish Centre,  
Hampton UCA, 17 Service Street Hampton

Please join us for various curries at 6:30 pm.  
Following dinner Miriam will speak with us about  
her inspiring story and 'Resilient Aspiring Women'

*RSVP would be appreciated to assist with catering:*  
Tim Angus 0400 383 628 or Ian Menzies 0403 727 080



### Views from the Edge

**ST Luke's Uniting Church in Morwell runs an Arts Festival in Mental Health Week which endeavours to increase awareness of mental health.**

It encourages participation of all people involved in art, particularly those who have suffered from mental illness or who have been touched by it in some way.

**Luke's Arts Festival/Views  
From The Edge Art Exhibition  
2016**

**07 October - 09 October 2016**  
**Lukes Precinct, 279 Princes  
Way, Morwell, Australia**

# New Moderator reveals her love of our communities

**“Share has always been in the picture during my church life; as a vehicle for supporting local, on-the-ground, communities that I live in – and love!”**

These are passionate words, spoken by the new Moderator, Rev Sharon Hollis, and she backs up her words with action through her giving to Share. Share was officially established 36 years ago as an effective way to meet funding for agencies set up by a number of Uniting Churches. The appeal generated \$350,000 in its first year. This highlighted that UCA congregations truly cared about local community service work.

Now, that figure has swelled to nearly \$3 million a year, with the proceeds given in grants to what has evolved into UnitingCare agencies. Few people actually realise that UnitingCare is second only to the government in its agency work in support of children, families, the differently-abled, the homeless, asylum seekers, indigenous and other disadvantaged people in our society.

Sharon adds: “Share assists marginalised and vulnerable people and the wrap around services they support have always been creative and needed.

My early career was in public housing, so I am interested in methods to create better communities and places that are safe and desirable to live. I also want my children to be generous and committed to caring about people who, for whatever reason, are experiencing temporary or



permanent social challenges. Since 1980, the Share-UnitingCare partnership has helped literally hundreds of thousands of people by delivering creative and vital programs to urban and regional communities. Projects like the Food for Thought food program, Bicycles Over Lunchtime (BOLT)

for ‘at risk’ boys and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

Donors have come from all walks of life, ages and backgrounds and Share has developed into a professional fundraising organisation with many avenues in which to give. Share makes it easy for givers because it's the

support of Share's work that matters most; whether it's giving online, monthly pledge-giving, leaving a gift in a will, funding a service through the gift catalogue, becoming a Share Project Partner or even re-directing some or all of the interest from a UCA Funds Management savings account.

In fact, Moderator, Sharon Hollis, recently switched to donating through Workplace Giving.

“I have supported Share in a number of ways, but it gets to a point in your life when you are earning a regular income so it's easier to do it through payroll and your good intentions are enacted. Trying to remember to make it happen is much harder when you're busy, so for me a monthly workplace giving donation is a no-brainer,” she says, “I'm really looking forward to learning more about Share's work in my role as Moderator.” Rev Brian Cole in Tasmania, agrees: “The Share Appeal supports so many worthwhile programmes, including UnitingCare Tasmania projects. So I support Share all-year-round, because the needs are all-year-round. I find it easy to deduct \$10 per fortnight from my stipend. It took just a quick phone call. It is a small amount but 26 instalments add up! Plus my donations are tax-deductible. I share a little, but together we can share a lot!” *by Helen Beeby*



**Expressions of Interest** are being sought for a tour of a local UnitingCare agency. If you and/or your congregation would be interested in seeing the vital community work of our agencies in action please call 1800 668 426 or send a message to [shareinfo@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:shareinfo@victas.uca.org.au) stating your name, phone number and address and the words Agency Tour Newsbeat in the Subject line.

Agencies in our Presbytery include:

**UnitingCare Harrison**  
**UnitingCare Connections**  
**South Melbourne Mission**  
**St Kilda Mission**  
**Prahran Mission**  
**LifeAssist**  
**Wesley Mission Victoria**

## Share-d lunch

On Sunday 31st July there will be a lunch at Hampton Uniting Church, in aid of the Share Appeal. This will be followed by a hymn singing session.

For details or to register attendance call 9598 3369

by  
**Kayla McClurg**

# Reflections on Faith



**THE story in Luke 10:38-42 begins quite simply: "As they continue on their way, he enters a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomes Jesus into her home."**

Martha is at the heart of this tale, welcoming Jesus and, we assume, his entire group. Through her actions, she expresses her gladness that such a guest has come. She does not dawdle, but gets to work in tangible ways.

Who among us doesn't appreciate and depend upon the Marthas in our midst? What kind of dinner party would it be if guests arrived to a barren room, no refreshment on the table and no preparations being made? Martha sees what needs to be done and does it. Martha sees to the cleaning, the shopping, the cooking – the daily demands of duty.

What church, family or society does not benefit from her good heart and busy hands, her steady willingness to work?

But... Martha is unable to enjoy her gifts or be fully herself, to let her goodness flow freely, because she becomes distracted by comparing herself to her sister, Mary. Mary, too, welcomes

Jesus – by sitting down, right there with the other disciples, by listening, absorbing, being still. While Martha is busy with tasks, ones she and other women have always fulfilled, and been expected to fulfil, Mary carves out a new kind of welcome. She creates an open and receptive space, crossing presumed boundaries, expectantly watching for not-the-same-old-thing to happen.

Which one is right? Who shall we try to be, Martha or Mary?

When the mind and heart begin to see in sacred stories lessons beyond duality, Martha and Mary become not opposing sisters but simply members of the same family, mutual parts of a whole. Without Martha, who would ever notice what needs to be done and get to work doing it? Who would help make a more welcoming world by taking specific actions toward that end? Without Mary, would we ever stop our frantic pace, calm our distracted minds, and listen for deeper wisdom to be given?

Unless we nurture and respect both Martha and Mary, come to love them both and let them grow stronger within us, we will miss the meaning and the action required of us now. Our communal home is a mess, and company's coming.

Will we welcome Jesus into the fractured family and let him teach us new ways?

## Material gains

**REGULAR** Reflections on Faith contributor, Bill Pugh, a retired Melbourne minister, is looking to downsize his theological books and commentaries.

If you are interested in browsing through his collection and taking material home - for free - please call 9598 5841 to book an appointment. Bill is pictured right enjoying a cuppa and learning more about the world for future reflections.



## HYMN FEST



*Sunday Afternoon*

*2pm, 21 August 2016*



**Come & Sing with us at  
Bentleigh Uniting Church  
497 Centre Rd, Bentleigh**

**It's FREE**

**Sing old and new favourites**



**Special Guests  
Journey Bound**

Another of our Pleasant Sunday Afternoons



**A servant ministry! One night at The Village Church they held a refugee dinner, in that they ate the food that a refugee in Syria might expect to receive in a ration pack; rice, lentils, chick peas, tomatoes, stock and drank water. The refugee meal**



## Walking in their shoes

diners heard about the great work of Act for Peace, the Act Alliance and the Refugee Challenge from Jeff Wild, pictured far left.

Minister at The Village Church, Rev Cameron McAdam adds: "We also learnt about the

refugee crisis in Syria, the 4.8 million 'registered' refugees living on the border and the 6.5 million internally displaced people. We raised enough money to provide 3 families with rations for a year. Thanks Jeffrey Wild."



*Are you a young person between the ages of 16 and 25 years old?  
Would you like to spend 4 days at a great convention with other 16 to 25s?*

### **Then NCYC is for you!**

*The Presbytery of Port Phillip East is offering some funding to help young people attend Yuora NCYC 2017 and cover the registration costs for this event.*

*If this funding would help you go to NCYC 2017 please contact the Mission & Outreach Task Group (Jay Robinson is the contact)*

*If you want to go to NCYC 2017 please fill in the form below and return it to Jay Robinson ([jay@robinsonfamily.id.au](mailto:jay@robinsonfamily.id.au) or 13 Macorna Street Frankston 3199) by Monday 19th September.*

*Once your form is in Jay will contact you will more details.*

*Transport options are currently being sorted out, so more details to come on that!*

### **YES, I WANT TO GO TO NCYC!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation/School/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

*I would like some financial assistance to go to NCYC: Yes/No*

### **The mind boggles...**



RECOGNISE this 'mad scientist' Hawks fan? Famous for her maternal role at a local church camp, passion for all things Messy and pushing trolley-loads of equipment round at Little Aths. Pick out this fun-loving lady from the PiC line-up on the back page...

## Quote

*"In the same way a Christian is not a man who never goes wrong, but a man is enabled to repent and pick himself up and begin over again after each stumble - because the Christ-life is inside him, repairing him all the time, enabling him to repeat (in some degree) the kind of voluntary death which Christ Himself carried out."* CS Lewis: Mere Christianity

## of the month

### Ground-breaking Centre takes flight

**A PROPOSED Social Justice Centre being set up by Uniting Church organisations and other community supporters looks set to become a reality.**

In early June the 'Concept discussion paper' outlining the vision for the Centre was sent to a number of potential partner organisations and groups with a presence in Glen Eira and neighbouring municipalities, inviting them to nominate a representative for the Steering Committee.

At the July meeting, the Steering Committee comprised Philip Liebelt, Michael Forbes and Lee Hanmer from St John's, Lydia Sherren from Bayside Refugee Advocacy and Support Association (BRASA), and Sivan Barak from Australian Jewish Democratic Society (AJDS). Both St Catharine's Anglican Church and Community Information Glen Eira have expressed an intention of nominating a specific representative to the committee.

The 'Concept discussion paper' was also forwarded to relevant areas of Synod - the Justice and International Mission Unit, Share, and the Interfaith unit. Michael and Philip subsequently met with representatives from these areas and have received valuable advice and support from them.

Other groups who have received the concept paper include the Caulfield South Community House, Glen Eira Interfaith Network, neighbouring Uniting Church congregations, the Wesley Elsternwick Campus chaplain, Port Phillip East Presbytery, Glen Eira Council, Connections UnitingCare and Prahran City Mission, and some interested individuals living locally.

It was agreed at the first Steering Committee meeting that the start-up phase up to the end of December 2016 will focus on creating a profile for the Centre, and activities to raise the awareness of social justice in the local community and educate about different perspectives of what it means. The committee identified some exciting ideas for activities and initiatives for consideration to deliver before the end of the year. Members have taken these away to explore in greater depth and return to the August meeting with suggestions for ways they might be delivered.

**by Michael Forbes**

## There's still time...

**Last chance to register for the multi-faith Conference: Exclusion and Embrace: Disability, Justice and Spirituality.**

An outstanding array of presenters and elective sessions has been assembled to meet the interests of people with

disabilities, families, faith communities, and service providers. Topics include practical examples of inclusion, NDIS issues re spirituality, theological interpretations of disability, and personal stories of exclusion and embrace. For faith communities Bill Gaventa is an international expert in how agencies and congregations can respond to and support people's expression of their spirituality and connections to community life. For service providers and practitioners Dr Lorna Hallahan, Flinders University, will make a presentation about the place of spirituality within NDIS, and Daniel Leighton, CEO of Inclusion Melbourne and Chair of NDIS's Service Provider's Research Committee will respond. For academics there is a dedicated stream for interpretations of sacred texts and theological interpretations of disability.

An art exhibition featuring 60 exhibits will be launched and displayed as part of the Conference.

There are a few places remaining so visit <http://exclusionandembrace.melbourne/>



### Tulsi Treat Indian Fundraiser

Enjoy a delicious meal at  
Tulsi Indian Restaurant  
74 Station Street, Somerville  
Thursday, September 8th, 6.30pm  
while raising funds for the  
Mother & Child Mobile Health Clinics  
Project in North India.

\$45 per person, which includes a two-course meal. BYO wine.

Door prizes and a raffle.

Please call/SMS 0434 412104 for tickets  
or book directly at [www.stickytickets.com.au/41371](http://www.stickytickets.com.au/41371)

**Frankston  
Uniting  
Church  
- Christ  
in the  
Community**



Pictured right: Rev Paul Creasey and Jean Taylor present groceries and a cheque to Joe Rechichi



## A half-century of help is rewarded at Springvale

### WHO is my Neighbour? Who indeed!"

Springvale Uniting Church has taken this to a practical level by assisting Springvale Benevolent Society.

This volunteer-run group has been helping disadvantaged and struggling residents for over 50 years. They have recently lost their government funding and need the communities help even more than ever.

During the month of May, church members donated non-perishable food items each Sunday and on May 15th an old-style Harvest Festival worship service was held. Fresh produce was brought to church and displayed and then sold to church members. A gift stall and donations also raised additional funds.

On Sunday July 10th, Benevolent Society president Joe Rechichi and his wife Teresa attended worship. Rev Paul Creasey and Church Council Chair Jean Taylor presented Joe with a cheque for \$200 and five boxes of groceries.

It seemed very appropriate that the lectionary reading for this day raised the question "Who is my Neighbour?"

by Faye Cheney



GET YOUR  
TICKETS NOW!!!

**SCHOOL  
OF HARD  
KNOCKS**

Voices of Frankston

# TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY 6TH AUGUST, 2016. 7:30PM START

**Where:** High Street Uniting Church, Frankston

**Cost:** \$15 Per person

Organise your tables of 8

**BRING YOUR OWN FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC  
DRINKS TO SHARE WITH YOUR TABLE.**

**SILENT AUCTION ON  
THE NIGHT**

All proceeds go to The Voices of Frankston Choir!

## IMMORAL DETENTION

*The fundamental flaws in our asylum policies*

**St John's Uniting Church, Elsternwick  
Annual Social Justice Lunch**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August**  
12 noon for 12:30pm

St John's Uniting Church  
567 Glen Huntly Road,  
Elsternwick - Mel. 67 13  
includes a silent auction  
BYO wine; soft drink supplied

Cost: \$25  
RSVP: 31<sup>st</sup> July  
Phone: 9530 0684  
[janeoldfield@netspace.net.au](mailto:janeoldfield@netspace.net.au)

**Speaker: Daniel Webb**  
Director of Legal Advocacy  
Human Rights Law Centre

St John's supports asylum seekers and social justice

## Warm reception for global roaming chaplains at Bendigo's LaTrobe Uni



**Photos  
by Steph  
Robinson**



**THEY came from all over the globe to share their knowledge, faith and educational expertise... and the event was a triumph.**

More than 115 higher education chaplains met in Bendigo for the Global Chaplaincy Conference in July, jointly run by PPEP's Rev Jay Robinson. The week-long conference is hosted every four years in different locations around the world. This year they came from all corners of the globe - Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, UK, Africa, Europe and Hong Kong. They gathered to share their experiences of chaplaincy in different universities, polytechnics, colleges and education institutions.

Jay is youth minister at Frankston UC, chaplain at Monash University Peninsula Campus and national president of the Tertiary Campus Ministry

Association, who coordinated the 2016 conference alongside the Aotearoa New Zealand Tertiary Chaplains Association.

"Most people would agree that Bendigo in the middle of winter is a cold place. However, the atmosphere was definitely not cold at LaTrobe University Bendigo campus during the conference," says Jay. "The theme for the conference was 'Digging, Dialogue and Diversity' and all you had to do was watch and listen to the conversations over morning and afternoon tea, lunch and dinner to see this theme in action every day."

The conference featured keynote speeches from Dr Rachael Kohn, Rev Dr Richard Leonard SJ, Professor Abdullah Saeed AM FAHA and Rev Dr Julian Hamilton. About 40 workshops were run by chaplains at the conference covering a diverse range of topics, including honouring indigenous spirituality in the workplace, building relationships between faiths on campus and exploring Muslim chaplaincy in the UK.

For many, the highlight of the week was the multifaith panel held at the Ulumbarra Theatre in Bendigo, which discussed the topic of 'Formation vs Radicalisation: Impacting Society through Education, Religion and Spiritual Expression.'

"This panel had input from Christian, Muslim, Jewish and Buddhist faiths as well as input from University deans," Jay adds. "It was a great night of discussion and learning."

Jay thanks the various churches, universities and councils for making the event possible.

"We were fortunate enough to receive some funds to assist the running of this conference from the UCA Commission for Mission, the Lutheran Church, the Council for Chaplains in Tertiary Institutions, Griffith, LaTrobe, Melbourne, Monash, Curtin, Queensland Universities as well as the Bendigo City Council and Bendigo Tourism," she said.

"A great conference was had by all and a huge thank you to all who helped to make it happen."

To see more wonderful photos from the Conference visit: <http://www.chaplainsglobalconference2016.com/photo-gallery.html>





## Dates for your diary

- Release of Ties - Rev Jay Robinson Sunday, August 21 at 10am.
- Induction - Rev Wendy Snook at Berwick on 18 September at 3pm.
- Induction - Rev Jay Robinson at Koornang UC, Friday, September 2, 7.30pm.
- Code of Ethics Sessions - Noble Park 14 July, Hampton 28 July, Frankston 11 August and Stonnington 25 August. All sessions start at 2pm.

## Sunshine and scones warmed those at PiC meeting

It was a lovely sunny morning for the last Presbytery in Council, PiC, meeting and to add to the feeling of warmth, we were greeted with freshly made scones (with jam and cream of course) and some delicious blueberry muffins.

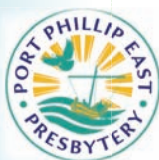
And right outside the entry was the Sir Hamlet coffee cart dispensing the coffee or chocolate of your choice. PiC met on 16 July at Koornang Church, Murrumbeena Rd Murrumbeena. The meeting was held in the church and the church people had gone to a great deal of trouble to set up so that members can meet in table groups. We were addressed by Mr Paulo Kwajakwan, one



of the Presbytery's candidates for Minister of the Word. Our other candidate is Ms Heather Hon who will address a PiC meeting later in the year. Paulo spoke about his experience as a candidate. Members were also informed of the outcomes of the "Promoting Presbytery" survey. The meeting decided that the Presbytery Standing Committee needs

### Presbytery in Council meeting dates for 2016:

- **Wednesday, 28 September at St John's Mount Waverley**
- **Wednesday, 23 November at Cook Island Congregation at Clayton**



to do more work on this and bring recommendations to a future meeting. Something that was a little different was the decision to send a formal greeting to the Presbytery of Pusan East of the Presbyterian Church of Korea. The Rev Dr Paul Chalson reminded the Presbytery of the visit he and Kelly Skilton had made to this Presbytery. The photo above is part of that greeting.

Other issues shared included the need for mentors for our Culturally and Linguistically Different (CALD) congregations and ministers and also for ministers from other denominations. The Rev Claire Dawe (Camp mum at Somers Camp) thanked those congregations that had contributed financially to the camp and noted that contributions have already been received for 2017.

The next Presbytery in Council meeting is on 28 September at Mt Waverley (St John's) Church, Virginia St Mt Waverley.

**Words by Ian Firth, picture courtesy of Rev Dr Paul Chalson**

*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.ucappep.org](http://www.ucappep.org) and [www.facebook.com/ucappep.org](https://www.facebook.com/ucappep.org) for news, events and more....**