

NEWSBEAT

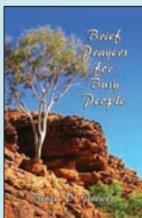


APRIL 2017

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



Ordination precedes PPEP induction for this minister. Discover who and where on the back page.



Bruce does it again... turn to book review on page 7.

Could you give four fragile children a loving home? Find out how on page 3.



Food for thought

ACCLAIMED international chef and author Laila El-Haddad is coming to 'The Side Door' Social Justice Hub at Elsternwick.

On this occasion Laila will be speaking on "Gaza, food, parenting and politics" - a rich mixture indeed!

Laila El-Haddad is the author of *The Gaza Kitchen*, one of the only political histories of Gazan cuisine and Palestinian cuisine, tracking down century old recipes being used today and showcasing them to the world through the stories of life in Palestine. "Often, the only way to explore the true history of Gaza is through its food," she says. "This is a place that the Silk Road passed through, so it is a unique intersection of the spices of the east with the traditions of the Middle East. It's quite unique."

This special evening will be held on Saturday, April 15, 7pm-9pm. Tickets can be booked on the Australian Jewish Democratic Society's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1395945110428797/>

Since a successful opening in December, when Tim Wilson from MHR and Shen Narayanasamy from 'Get

Speaker and writer explores Gaza through dining history

Up' spoke to more than 60 people, The Side Door, at St John's UC, has

had two guest speaker evenings. In February Helen Szoke, CEO of Oxfam, gave a relaxed talk about the work of Oxfam and what social justice means to her. In March, Tony Nicholson, Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, talked about their work, with particular reference to 'Homelessness' and his own personal journey. Check out 'The Side Door' Social Justice Hub Facebook page for more information and events.



**by
Rev Philip
Liebelt**



Depression affects us all - one woman tells her moving story

"MY name is Kerri McMillan and I am a victim of suicide.

"I can stand here and deliver you all of the horrible statistics - but the most important one to me is that of the, on average, eight people that died from suicide on just one day, May 12, 2011, the most devastating for me and our friends and family was that one of them was my beautiful son."

These were the opening lines from Kerri McMillan's speech at a Teenage Depression forum recently held by Peninsula Voice, featured on page 2.

Heart-wrenching words, but on a vitally important subject - teenage mental health. The full speech, both powerful and human, is accessible on the PPEP website at www.ucappep.org Media Releases page.

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



Peninsula churches spearhead successful community gathering

With the support of the Mornington Churches, Peninsula Voice ran a highly successful Teenage Depression forum recently.

More than 550 attended along with 13 different MH agencies, ambulance, police and fire emergency services. Former Australian of the Year and Mental Health expert Professor Patrick McGorry presented along with Headspace and prominent Psychologist's.

With informative presentations by former Australian of the Year, Professor Patrick McGorry, AO, Director of Orygen Youth Mental Health, HEADSPACE, the National youth mental health foundation and local Psychologist Dr Di Mc Greal, the forum discussed basic strategies parents could use to help their children maintain good mental health.

"Talk to your children around the dinner table and talk often about their anxieties and fears". This was the impassioned plea made by Mt Martha resident Kerrie McMillan, who lost her 20 year old son Sam, to suicide in 2011. Kerrie's story resonated with the audience in a similar way to Rosie Batty's loss of her son Luke to family violence in 2012.

Peter Orton, Chair of Peninsula Voice, was delighted 550 Peninsula people attended, but remains deeply concerned. Orton says, "Not only is depression devastating for families, friends and local communities, but it works against the health and well-being of all residents of the Mornington Peninsula."

A 2 min ABC audio http://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-09/mother-calls-for-youth-mental-health-funding-after-sons-suicide/8340810?pfmredir=sm&WT.ac=statenews_vic



Milestone year makes history for St Kilda

St Kilda Uniting Church is celebrating the 140th Anniversary of its Balaclava Church this year.

A special event will be held on Sunday, May 21st at 10.30am which will be followed at 12 noon by the launch of a fascinating book on this history - Campaigns, Causes and Commitments: the continuing story of the St Kilda Uniting Church in the Balaclava Community, by Maureen A. Walker.

Address: 163 Chapel Street (cnr. Carlisle St), St Kilda, 3182

A welcome is extended to all. For catering purposes or to order a copy of the history, please contact: Desleigh Kent 9534 3145/0413 158855 desleigh@ozemail.com.au or Maureen Walker 9534 1966 /0400 187250 maureenawalker5@bigpond.com



Creation's Hope
 experiencing Lent through ecological eyes

Reflections on Lent, caring for the planet and being a follower of Jesus

Mixing prayer, time for silent reflection and discussion, all engaging with the natural surroundings of Mount Martha Uniting Church.

2:30PM till 4:30PM
 Sunday April 2
 Mount Martha Uniting Church
 109 Bay Road, Mount Martha



The program will be led by Paul Chalson. Paul is the minister at Mount Martha Uniting Church and is passionate about our calling as followers of Jesus to care for creation

Enquiries: paul.chalson@bigpond.com or phone 0409 473 081

INVITATION -
 Come, celebrate with the St Kilda Uniting Church its **140th** Anniversary (1877 - 2017)

NEW BOOK: "Campaigns, Causes and Commitments: the continuing story of the St Kilda Uniting Church in the Balaclava community" Author: Maureen A. Walker

Sunday 21 May 2017

Anniversary Service: 10.30am
 (Rev David Pargeter, Minister)
 &
 Book Launch: 12 noon
 (Rev Dr Mark Lawrence, General Secretary UCA Synod of Victoria & Tasmania)



A light lunch will follow. You are invited to join us at any stage of the day's program. For catering purposes or to order a copy of the book, please RSVP by 15th May.

Desleigh Kent: desleighk@ozemail.com.au 0413 158 855
 Maureen Walker: maureenawalkers@bigpond.com 03 9534 1966

Cloverleaf development bears more fruit

Searching for a loving family

Connections UnitingCare is appealing to the community to help find loving, nurturing and permanent homes for four children aged 6-13. Connections' Permanent Care program facilitates the placement of children, who are unable to live with their family of origin, due to risk or experience of serious abuse, neglect or harm.

Leading the appeal is Connections' Program Leader, Out of Home Care, Prue Walker, who believes that many members of the local community.

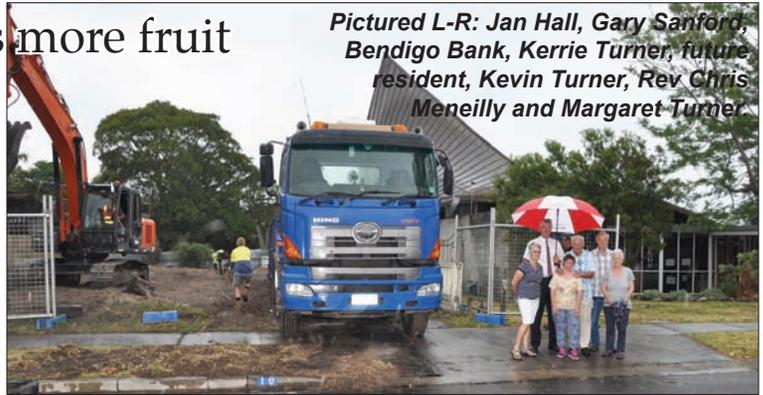


"It is important that couples wanting to start a family realise there are other options out there that exist beyond traditional methods," said Ms Walker.

"All of the children who come through our program are longing for loving, caring families. They each have their own unique stories but unfortunately, have all had an unstable start to life.

"These children are craving the security and stability of a loving home that many of us take for granted. We are calling out to anybody who thinks they may have room in their lives to provide these special children with a home, to make contact with us today.

"Ensuring every child has a safe, stable and caring family should be of fundamental importance to our community," Ms Walker said. For more information about Connections Permanent Care program visit connections.org.au/foreverfamily or call 03 9521 5666.



Pictured L-R: Jan Hall, Gary Sanford, Bendigo Bank, Kerrie Turner, future resident, Kevin Turner, Rev Chris Meneilly and Margaret Turner

"Blink and you miss it" said Rev. Chris Meneilly recently in a sermon at Rosebud (SMPUC), writes Jan Hall.

He was talking about the convergence of vibrant congregational life, mission and vision, combined with hard work and community involvement which is seeing fruition in a number of ways at Rosebud.

Building of 'Cloverleaf', a home for people with intellectual disabilities has finally started. The substantial funding has come through - \$1,000,000 each - from state and federal governments, and \$250,000 from the local Bendigo Community Bank. The old house next to the church has been demolished in preparation for the new eight bed facility. Residents of this home have been chosen through an independent process and range in age from 46 through to 60 years. You can do the maths to work out how old their parents are and yet still required to care for their intellectually disabled (adult) children.

Meanwhile the congregation at Rosebud (SMPUC) is modifying the church property in response to changing needs of today's community. Storage areas have been expanded plus an external ramp and deck for easier access. The 95 year old hall has had a face-lift. With repair and new paint it looks great. Plans before Shire Council to extend the foyer include a Minister's office and a counselling room for a 'Carer Support Worker' desperately needed on the Peninsula. An \$18,500 grant from Hon. Greg Hunt's office as part of the 'Building Stronger Communities' program will contribute to

fit out the new expanded foyer and community programmes with particular reference to counselling and craft roomsoace. The icing on the cake was the generous donation from a church member to buy 200 chairs for the church. These chairs, in a refreshing green colour, pick up the theme of bushland and coastal environment, represents the mood of the congregation's vitality, growth and new life. A visitor from Brisbane commented that 'the SMPUC congregation is largely retirees, but there is a bubble of enthusiasm and life about the place.'

ARE YOU COMING TO DINNER?

**Thurs. evening, April 20th
@ 6.30pm**

Discover the Alpha Course for yourself at our free dinner and video information evening.

To be held at:
Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church
cnr. Old Dandenong & Kingston Rds.,
Heatherton.

For catering please RSVP to
petrolpete1954@gmail.com or 9580 6983



God speaks to people - even in Frankston



COMMEMORATING the life of Sister Dorothy Knight reminded the congregation of some incredible acts of faith at High Street Uniting Church recently.

On Sunday, March 26 Rev Ian Cayzer presented a copy of a book outlining the missionary work in South Korea of Sister Dorothy Knight to Rev David Fotheringham of HSUC. The St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Frankston held Dorothy's commissioning in June, 1968 and she was to spend the next 14 years in South Korea in various roles. Primarily she was a



Maternal and Child Welfare nurse and she did much to improve the lives of countless mothers and babies in South Korea. Dorothy, at age 37, was

working at the Bruce Park Infant Welfare Centre, Frankston, and had completed a course in motor mechanics. She was currently doing a carpentry course at the Aspendale Technical College as well! She was a member of the Frankston Church and President of the PWMU (Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union). Her call began when Dorothy attended a talk in September, 1967 at St. Andrew's on the work at the Il Sin Hospital in South Korea given by the legendary Dr Helen McKenzie. She appealed to the 100+ people present to find her a nurse/midwife. This person had to have skills in doing small repairs around Il Sin where Dr McKenzie and Nursing Sister sibling Cath McKenzie had been working together for a number of years. Dorothy later wrote, "My mind was blown away! It seemed that every single thing I had

heard was telling me that I could do that! But I was looking towards 40 years old and a congenial lifestyle; not one with problems - poverty at every turn!" Church Deaconess Lyn Walker said during supper, "Sounds to me like you're the one she is talking to." "Don't be silly, I said! I couldn't do that job. Anyway, I'm too old to learn a foreign language now!" At 5am the next day she drove to Mornington to find Lyn Walker. Dorothy continues, "My knock on the front door was answered by her father. 'She's in bed asleep', he said. 'No. She's not, she's standing right behind you!' With that, Lyn said she had not slept; but was praying that I would not resist God's call. She'd been waiting for me to come!"

This book was prepared by Dorothy's sister, Heather Bancroft, outlining her service in Korea. Ian and Jill Cayzer were given this copy of the book at a Memorial Service held in Dorothy's birthplace, Ardlethan, NSW. High Street folk remember Dorothy and the strong support she received including paying her stipend for the first 11 years. Rev Joe Rankin knew Dorothy from the Missionary course they were both attending in early 1968. Dorothy received a prestigious medal from President Park Chung Hee in 1975 in front of 100,000 people. Dorothy retired to Wagga Wagga and later Maclean in NSW where she died on December 28, 2016.

by Rev Ian Cayzer

Experience India - the journey of a lifetime



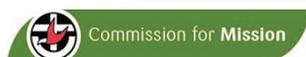
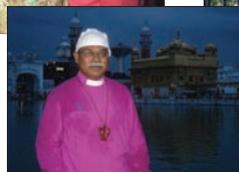
JOIN us for an amazing journey that combines sight-seeing with support for a Mother and Child Mobile Health Clinics program in North India.

Part of Uniting Journeys responsible travel initiative, this 12-day tour takes in majestic New Delhi, golden Amritsar, artistic Manali and spiritual Dharamsala. As well as visiting some breathtaking heritage sites you will connect with nature in the hometown of exiled His Holiness the Dalai Lama. We'll also re-connect and develop our ongoing relationship with the project organisers, established through the Church of North India. You'll also take in other responsible travel excursions and meet with Indian people to enable the small travel group to explore and reflect on the diversity of Indian culture. Staying in comfortable, authentic and ethical hotels, and travelling in comfort, all needs are catered for without losing that true immersion in Indian life and its people. Approximately \$3,500 (includes flights, accommodation, transport and most meals) plus a minimum fundraised donation of \$500 to the project.

Saturday, September 23 - Saturday, October 7

Contact:
Helen on
0434 412104,
or Sally on
0447 446336

E-mail:
helen.beeby@gmail.com



Strengthen your children's ministry skills

Stories of Childhood Playgroup/Pre-school Ministry Training Day, Saturday, April 29, Parkville

For ministers, pastors, leaders and team members involved in activities such as Playgroup, pre-school music programs and Sunday morning activities. Excellent electives on offer across the day include:

- Using puppets with pre-schoolers
 - Recruiting and Supporting Volunteers
 - Inclusion and Engagement for All Abilities
 - Creating a thriving intergenerational culture
 - Supporting, encouraging and blessing parents
 - Making Mat Time memorable - Stories and songs
 - Going deeper – growing faith through conversation
 - Encouraging the journey from Playgroup to Church
 - Child Safe Standards and pre-school ministry
- Registration: Chris.Barnett@ctm.uca.edu.au or 9340 8806.

More on sharing our faith ...

Mat Harry from Hampton Park writes:

“How do you share your faith in a time when so many people are of different faiths or no faith? I think the answer is that we need to preach with our lives, not just our lips! At Hampton Park Uniting Church we have worked authentically as followers of Jesus to serve the local community. We provide a weekly meal for a group of people who are carers of loved ones with a mental illness. We also provide a meal for those who wish to join us for Thursday lunch. “We don't just provide a lunch but sit down and eat together; we share stories; become Facebook friends; comment and engage with their Facebook posts; we know what is going on in their lives; we are beside them. Then when they may really be struggling we listen to their concerns and at the end ask if they would like us to pray for them. Most of the time people truly appreciate us saying a prayer together. This is what makes the people from the congregation different to agency workers. They expect us to pray for them, and if you don't they wonder why they aren't worth praying for.

“Many of the people we serve think that coming along to our meals IS coming to church. They know we are followers of Jesus, as it is known as the reason we do what we do. So before each of these meals, a representative from the congregation says a prayer of thanks for the meal and for the good things that are happening in our lives. Additionally, if there are concerns that people have they often ask for prayer for these situations and these are included as well.

“However, the greatest witness is doing situational theology. Whenever there is a group conversation happening in which someone is talking about an issue they are facing it is wonderful to say what you would do as a Christian. The way that I do this is to wait for a break in the conversation and say, "You know a Christian response would be to..." or "Jesus said..." and apply a parable to the situation. The first times I began doing

Celtic Prayer workshop

St Luke's Uniting Church

Mt Waverley

Saturday 20th May 2017

Prayers for others—Intercessory Prayer

Why intercessory prayer?

Do you long to see intercessory prayer (prayers for others) in your local church grow stronger? Perhaps you'd like to develop or grow intercessory prayer in your own life? Maybe you have felt praying up front in church is too challenging, but would like to learn how to represent the people of your church or faith community in prayer.

If you lead prayers, have you wondered how you can involve the congregation so that it really becomes 'The Prayers of the People'?

Celtic prayers can offer a different approach.

One that is life-giving. Come and enjoy a day learning the elements of Celtic prayers and the opportunity to write your own in a supportive, safe environment. Learn how to write prayers that involve the congregation as active participants, not passive hearers.

Celtic prayers not only involve the Trinity in your daily lives, but also in bringing God's Kingdom to the world.

Commencing with a look backwards at the roots of intercessory prayer in Jewish and early Christian church history, we join in a Celtic service and prayer time. Using this, the elements of Celtic prayers are examined with opportunities for writing introductions for praying intercessory prayers. Finally, using thought-provoking photographs, an area of concern is chosen as a focus for writing your own prayers that include the congregation.

Celtic Prayer Workshop

94 Essex Rd., Mt Waverley

Date: Saturday 20th May 2017

Leader: Judy Kennedy

Time: 9.45am arrival & coffee,

Workshop 10am - 3pm

BYO lunch—other refreshments provided

Cost \$20

Enquiries: Katrina Dowling

katrinadowling@yahoo.com

Phone: 0411 042 111

Image courtesy Megan Haysom

JUDY KENNEDY and her husband, Rod, were missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators for 20 years, translating the Kala Lagaw Ya language of Western Torres Strait. Since that time, Judy completed a Behavioural Science degree, majoring in Pastoral Counselling. She then worked as a Children and Women's Counsellor in a domestic violence unit. A discovery while on this path was expressing herself in forms of art. She always had a deep longing to strengthen her intimacy with God and, as she made discoveries along the way, to share them with others. This desire led to investigating Celtic spirituality. An outcome of this was the action of belonging to the Quiet Garden Movement which involved opening their home and garden to others to lead them into times of quiet and drawing closer to God. Also, opportunities have arisen to lead Quiet Days in various churches and homes on a variety of topics.

Joining the International

Community of Aidan and Hilda gave her support and a place to express her journey. Celtic prayers have deepened her personal life as they involve God in every part of life and give wholeness.

Celtic Prayer

Workshop

(sponsored by the Worship

Ministry Group)

St Luke's Uniting

Church

94 Essex Rd.,

Mt Waverley

Saturday 20th May

2017



by Robert Johnson
PM, Mission and Education (Supply)

this I was nervous, but the people I was speaking with almost dropped their knives and forks as they strained to listen in to what I was about to say.”

Robert Johnson adds: “In January, I was asked to help members of the Church Council at Mt Eliza where we worship, to lead the service while their minister was on leave. None of them wanted to preach, so I said I would give a brief explanation of the passage – Jesus calling his first disciples – as long as I could interview three of them about how they tried to live out their faith in their everyday life. It really worked, and it has been great to see our minister, Cameron, doing similar things in the following weeks; asking people to share about their daily work and how they try to live out their faith.”

How do you try to encourage people in your congregation to share their faith in meaningful ways? There are some great resources around. The Church of Scotland has developed a new four week course on faith sharing – go to <https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/mission/sharing-faith>. Ian Robinson who teaches at UTC in NSW, has developed a faith sharing training program called “Makes You Wonder” and has been running it across Australia with very positive feedback. <http://makesyouwonder.yolasite.com>. Do you have resources which could help others?

Hear, hear for Voices

VOICE hearers hear things that others can't.

Clinically, these experiences might be referred to as “auditory hallucinations” and people may end up being diagnosed with schizophrenia or some other mental illness. Some will be confused or frightened by hearing voices and seek help. Others find them helpful or just a normal part of life. Most voice hearers live well with their voices. Voices

Vic – initiated by Port Phillip East’s Prahran Mission



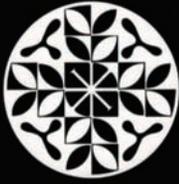
in 2009 – is a statewide specialist program led by people with a lived experience. It utilises the “Hearing Voices Approach”, based on research which found that many people hear voices without distress or ever needing to seek mental health services. It is not about ridding people of their voices but changing the relationship people have with them – learning to deal with fear and shame, finding support and getting control. The program’s achievements have been many and varied, including:



- A Gold Achievement Award from TheMHS (2012) (The Mental Health Services)
- A high profile international conference in 2013 – the largest consumer-led event in Australian history, and the largest Intervoice congress to date.
- Initiating world-leading research and projects.
- Strong awareness and support from across the mental health sector.
- The Victorian Department of Health recognises work and seeks advice from Voices Vic.
- A significant contribution to the recovery of many people who hear distressing voices.



64th Blake Prize Touring Exhibition



HOST VENUE: Kinross Arts & Spirituality Centre and Toorak Uniting Church
603 Toorak Road, Toorak VICTORIA 3142 Tel 03 9829 0340

THE 64th BLAKE PRIZE TOURING EXHIBITION
A Casula Powerhouse Exhibition toured by Liverpool City Council
Featuring the 64th Blake Prize Winners and a selection of finalists whose stunning art provokes dialogue about faith traditions, belief and cultural diversity.

ON DISPLAY Friday 7th April - Friday 26th May 2017
Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm & Sundays 12noon - 4pm
Exhibition Entry: by Donation; Colour Catalogues: \$30.00 each; People's Choice Award

COME ALONG TO THESE SPECIAL EVENTS - EVERYONE IS WELCOME
64th Blake Prize Melbourne Premiere, Friday 7th April, 5pm - 8pm with Guest Speakers and Readings

Easter Viewing Friday 14th April - Sunday 16th April with Rev Dr Christopher Page, Toorak Uniting Church

Australia & 'The Divine Image' Symposium Thursday 11th May - Saturday 13th May including Atmospheric Concert; Panel Discussion; Conversations with Art & Arts Workshops. Presented by Kinross Arts & Spirituality Centre, Centre for Theology & Ministry and Uniting Arts Toorak.
For more information and event bookings visit www.kinrossarts.org.au/blake

Images (clockwise): Damien Shen On the fabric of the Ngorongoro body; Alan Jones Painting 148 (from Dunsmuir Reserve); Cigdem Aydemir (Cinematographer: Ping White) With Sarah Spickman Operatum; Robert Hague The Messenger



Blake Prize is coming to Toorak Uniting Church

INTERESTED parties are invited to register now for a public program presented in conjunction with the 64th Blake Prize Touring Exhibition which runs from 7 April - 26 May, 2017 and is hosted by Kinross Arts Centre and Toorak Uniting Church.

The Blake Prize is a significant national religious art prize. Kinross Art Centre and the Centre for Theology & Ministry, through Artfull Faith, is presenting a symposium, Australia and “The Divine Image” from May 11-13. Reflecting on themes and issues in multi-faith and secular communities around Australia. Panellists and conversationalists include artists and academics, musicians and medical practitioners, poets and pastors. The symposium program begins with an Atmospheric Concert on Thursday evening 11 May in Toorak Uniting Church. Performers include musicians, David Jones, Suzette Herft, and poet and storyteller, Clare Coburn. Friday engages diverse panellists in conversations with art, and Saturday offers opportunities to respond to the exhibition in visual arts workshops and poetry. The early bird rate offers a generous discount.

Events are also sponsored by UCA Funds Management. Go to ucavt.goregister.com.au/thedivineimage/info to register.

Life After Death - Dadirri Labyrinth Reflection Day

29 April: Near Death Experiences

Eben Alexander, a highly-trained neurosurgeon, contracted an extremely rare case of bacterial meningitis, and was in a deep coma on life-support for 7 days.

'When it came to the part of my brain that every single brain scientist will tell you is responsible for the human side of me: well, that part of me was gone. I could see it on the scans, and on all the data from my very closely recorded week in hospital. I began to realize mine was a technically near-impeccable near-death experience, with the flat-out impossibility of arguing, from a medical standpoint, that it was all fantasy.' Before Alexander

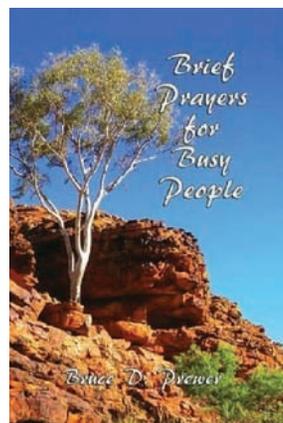
Bruce pens another prayer classic

I HAD the great good fortune to meet Bruce Prewer a couple of months ago - having heard and read his spirit-stirring prayers at various times in worship.

Despite failing health, Bruce has recently completed and published a beautiful compilation of prayers complete with inspiring quotes from authors, poets, theologians and clergy, among others.

I've used Brief Prayers for Busy People on a number of occasions when presenting to groups, and been delighted to hear feedback and stories of the many lives Bruce has touched during his time as a minister and in his published works.

His ministry took him to many places, including Tasmania, and during a recent trip there a UCAF member told me Bruce had married her and her husband and a second lady said he baptised her daughter - just two women in one group! Bruce's life and work has been



an inspiration to so many and will continue to do so with this new book and from his previous publications. He is truly one of the greats and is well-loved by all who encounter him. We thank God for Bruce Prewer. Bruce says on the write-up on the book jacket: "While compiling these pages, I particularly had in mind those individuals who have not as yet been able to establish a regular habit of daily prayer. During

my long ministry, many good folk have confided that apart from spontaneous "spot prayers" during a day, set times for prayer are not common. Yet they say they feel guilty about this deficiency... Maybe you are in a similar situation? If so, this book might be of help to you."

Implant us, dear Lord with that post-Easter miracle which can transform setbacks into growth, suffering into faith, and sorrows into healing tears of utter wonder and delight. Amen

*Prayer on p136 of Brief Prayers for Busy People, which is available to purchase online from BookDepository.com at \$30.53 with free shipping.

by Helen Beeby

underwent his out-of-body journey, beyond this world and encountered an angelic being who lovingly guided him into the deepest



realms of super-physical existence, he could not reconcile his knowledge of neuroscience with any belief in heaven, God, or the soul. Today he is a doctor who believes true health can be achieved only when we realize that God, and the soul are real and that death is not the end of personal existence but only a transition. *Eben Alexander, MD. Proof of Heaven: A Neuro-surgeon's Journey into the Afterlife.*

Location: 60 Bass Meadows Blvd, St Andrews Beach 3941, Melway map 251 J5, 10am to 4pm. NB: day will be in silence after morning tea till closing event. Lunch: Please bring food to share; Morn/Aft tea provided. Cost: \$10 [pension \$5] Booking: Tel. 5988 5257; email robron@pryor.org.au; <http://dadirri.pryor.org.au> Accommodation available o/n at 'mates rates' view at www.stayz.com.au/accommodation/bays-peninsulas/st-andrews-beach/68361

Ageing well What you need to know about getting older

Uniting AgeWell will hold a series of **FREE** community information sessions to help you understand this emotional time and plan ahead.

Managing anxiety and depression

Depression is more than a low mood – it's a serious condition that can affect physical and mental health. Anxiety happens when anxious feelings don't go away, making it hard to cope with daily life.

Mental health is about wellness rather than illness. Having social connections, good personal relationships and being part of a community are vital to maintaining good mental health.

Join psychologist Sharon Kerber and Uniting AgeWell's chaplains at one of our information sessions to find out how you or your loved ones can manage these conditions.

Tuesday 11 April
2pm – 4pm

Uniting AgeWell Noble Park Community
1312 Heatherton Road, Noble Park
Light refreshments provided

Presenters
Sharon Kerber
Psychologist

Cathy Beaton
Chaplain, Uniting AgeWell Noble Park Community

For more information or to book a seat, contact the Uniting AgeWell Noble Park Community on T: 9554 0700.



unitingagewell.org

Uniting AgeWell

Presbytery in Council meeting dates for 2017:

- 26 April,
- 21 June,
- 23 August,
- 18 October
- 29 November

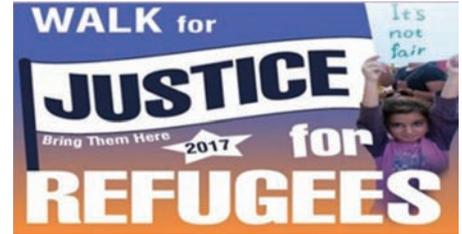
Now always at Noble Park UC, Joy Parade at 7.30pm



Palm Sunday Walk looms

MANY UCA people will join thousands of others again on Palm Sunday this year to Walk for Justice for Refugees.

The Melbourne event starts on Sunday 9 April from 1:30pm at the State Library of Victoria with music and then the walk begins at 2pm. You'll find a group there with the Synod banner. Please feel free to bring along your own placards with refugee support messages.



Somers breezes back in

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth"

3 John 1:4

SOMERS Camp registrations will be going live shortly so follow the website link to get your campers registered asap. The camp will run 3-7 July. <https://www.somerscamp.com.au>

The cost for camp is \$240 per camper (reduced from last

year). We

take campers from years

3 to 9 and

slushies from year 10. The leadership conference

will take place at the end of April, supported financially by a grant from Richmond Uniting Church, and will include a range of electives led by experts in their fields. Next year, we hope to open this up to anyone wanting to train young adults in leadership for their own community development. This will enable us to become financially more sustainable and widen our community.

If your church or community can support Somers with a donation, please contact Camp Mum Rev Claire Dawe on 0410 827597 or clairedawe@hotmail.com. We are grateful for the support of the presbytery both financially and prayerfully. Without this support, we could not offer places to children who would ordinarily be unable to attend.

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Julie's ordination precedes PPEP induction

FUTURE minister at Bentleigh Uniting Church, Rev Dr Julie Hall, was ordained at St Michaels UCA, Collins Street, recently, with Yarra Yarra Presbytery chair Rev Lauleti Tu'inavai presiding.

The Induction of Julie as minister of Bentleigh Uniting Church takes place on **April 6, 2017 at 7.30pm** at Bentleigh Uniting Church, Centre Rd, Bentleigh.

Another diary date

Rev Jason Kioa will also be inducted as minister to the Dandenong Congregations on Sunday, April 30, 3pm. The church is on the corner of Scott and Robinson Streets, Dandenong.



Delicious food - Exciting Cricket - Inspiring speakers - Amazing performances

Harmony Day

A MULTI-FAITH AND MULTICULTURAL AFTERNOON

Presented by Sri Lanka Invites & USMAA

FREE Concert & Dinner
Saturday 8 April

Mulgrave Community Hall (355 Wellington Rd, Mulgrave)

Concert 3:30 pm
Light Dinner 6:00 pm

Supported by

Professor David De Kretzer, Annathale & Rev. Jeffrey Abayastara, Shanaka Fernando, Mohammed Mohideen

With Professor Paul Komarasaroff, Rev. David Pargeler, Maheshini Perera, Rev. Dev Anandarajan & Assistance from the UC Synod Vic/Tas

SRI LANKA INVITES - is a group of Sri Lankans from various backgrounds who are continuing a journey of peace and reconciliation. Its primary aim is to pave the way for Sri Lankans living in Australia to meet and form links beyond religious, ethnic, political, cultural and other divides.

USMAA - United Sri Lanka Muslim Association of Australia

Larry Marshall 9331 2678 larry.marshall@vic.tas.uca.org.au

Maheshini Perera 9801 4349 maheshini@optusnet.com.au

Dev Anandarajan 9504 3077 gumam55@optusnet.com.au

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 and www.facebook.com/ucappep.org for news, events and more....