NEWSBEAT



OCTOBER 2018

NEWSI FTTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP FAST



Parenting can be tough... but there's no need to walk on eggshells. Turn to page 6 to discover how you can work with your teens.

Standing Committee sanctions future oversight of our presbytery. See the back page for Rev Cameron McAdam's full outline of future PPEP



Golden send-off at St Mark's to round off a half-century of ministry

In our prayers

THE Presbytery of Port Phillip East and many other Uniting Church communities have been deeply saddened and shocked by the news of the sudden passing of Shirley Floyd - wife of Rev Dr Tony Floyd - on September 20. Tony is well-known across the UCA, at home and abroad, and has served as Chair of this presbytery and is a valued member of the Standing Committee. Tony issued this e-mail message on September 21: "Late yesterday afternoon we had another consult with the ICU Consultant and her team. She advised us that Shirley had a huge brain bleed and catastrophic damage. There were now no signs of brain activity which meant no viable future life. We decided that life support would be turned off. She died peacefully with us all around her, about 5.40pm. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. Warm regards, Tonv."

A Celebration of Her Life was held on Wednesday 26th September, 2018 at Canterbury Balwyn Road UCA where a Tongan choir sang.

Cont. on page 3

ALL the ingredients were there... friends, old and new, a service that weaved history with the future, a confirmation, poignant prayers, uplifting songs and inter-generational magic throughout.

There was even a lone piper and drummer to offer a stirring rendition of Highland Cathedral

to swell the size of the exisiting lump in the throat. It was an incredibly fitting curtain call for Rev John Haig, at St Mark's, Mornington - who Released his Ties and retired after 50-plus years in ministry on the last Sunday in September - to a packed house. After the re-affirmation of baptismal vows and confirmation of Jack Carter, pictured bottom right, (also celebrating his birthday the same day) Hannah Dungan, Children & Families Ministry Coordinator, reflected creatively on the derivation

of Goodbye - God Be with You - with everyone in the congregation. For the message Rev John picked out from the James 4 reading: "You don't even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? It is a mist that appears for a

beginning the end...

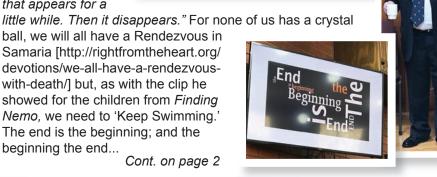
ball, we will all have a Rendezvous in Samaria [http://rightfromtheheart.org/ devotions/we-all-have-a-rendezvouswith-death/] but, as with the clip he showed for the children from Finding Nemo, we need to 'Keep Swimming.' The end is the beginning; and the

Cont. on page 2





by Helen Beeby





Bentleigh marks a special silver anniversary with the Ashton Smith



Pictured above is Mary Torpy, Ashton Smith Singers foundation choir member and soloist discussing Christmas music with Bentleigh Uniting's Graeme Seamer.

Singers this coming Christmas

BENTLEIGH Uniting Church celebrates 25 years association with the Ashton Smith Singers Christmas presentations this coming festive season. Having been a member of this renowned choir since 1983, congregation chairperson, Graeme Seamer, has been a part of each of the annual Christmas performances that commenced in 1993.

Bentleigh Uniting members experienced the early days when the Xavier College

by Rev Dr Julie Hall

chapel was filled over three nights for 10 years, and then the same for a 10 year period at the Sacred Heart Church in Kew.

"Following several years at the Camberwell Grammar Performing Arts Auditorium, in 2018 we move to the Melbourne Recital Centre for our very special 25th Anniversary performance," said Graeme." The

congregation has always been very well represented in the past, and it will be the same this year."

When reflecting on the large numbers who have attended, Graeme noted, "Our members and friends have always appreciated both the music presented and the inspirational narrative focus on the Advent journey". Graeme has found it a privilege to see the appreciation and joy experienced by so many over the years. Graeme is also our cantor for our regular Sunday morning services.

The special 25th Anniversary performance at the Recital Centre will occur at 3pm on Sunday 9th December.

The annual Bentleigh Uniting Church Carol Service will be held at 10am on Sunday 16th December, and will again feature the choirs of Coatesville Primary School and McKinnon Secondary College.



John read this extract from Robertson McQuilkin's poem **Let Me Get Home Before Dark** to complete his sermon: *It's sundown, Lord.*

The shadows of my life stretch back into the dimness of the years long spent.

I fear not death, for that grim foe betrays himself at last, thrusting me forever into life:
Life with You, unsoiled and free.
But I do fear.

I fear the Dark Spectre may come too soon

- or do I mean, too late? That I should end before I finish or finish, but not well. That I should stain Your honor, shame

grieve Your loving heart. Few, they tell me, finish well . . . Lord, let me get home before dark.

Your name.







Cont. from front page

Ian Firth, Secretary of the Port Phillip East Presbytery, performed a moving Release of Ties service before words of thanks and praise were read on behalf of the Church Council for John's eight years of service at St Mark's. A ceremonial/ministerial penknife was even presented to the leader of the St. Mark's men's papertying fundraising group, accompanied by laughter from the assembled gathering.

A few misty eyes watched on as John, and his wife Julia, received farewell gifts and said their last goodbyes at the lectern

before the bagpipes and drummer played them out of the worship space...

And what church event would be complete without a slap-up feast and a cuppa to finish?





Below is the bio of Tony and Shirley on the Key People page of the Presbytery website when Tony began his time as Presbytery Chairperson:

REV Dr Antony [Tony] Floyd trained in an ecumenical context in Melbourne, Australia and in Chicago, USA and was ordained at the last Methodist Annual Conference before Church Union in October 1976. He concluded full-time ministry at the end of March 2015 after 8 tears as National director Multicultural and Cross-cultural Ministry with the National Assembly.

Shirley was a retired midwife and counsellor who still worked casually in Child and Maternal Health. They have a son and daughter (deceased), adult grandson and partner in Perth with their first great-granddaughter, an adult granddaughter in Launceston and infant grandsons in Victoria.

A two-time migrant to this country, Tony's extended family includes first and second-generation Caucasian migrants from England, Wales and Ireland in the UK, Poland in

Cont. from front page

Following the burial, at Pakenham Cemetery, refreshments were served at St Andrew's Berwick UCA, where Tony and Shirley worshipped.

Minister at Berwick, Rev Wendy Snook adds: "We are very distressed about Shirley's passing. Please continue to pray for Rev Dr Tony, Michael and the rest of the Floyd family."

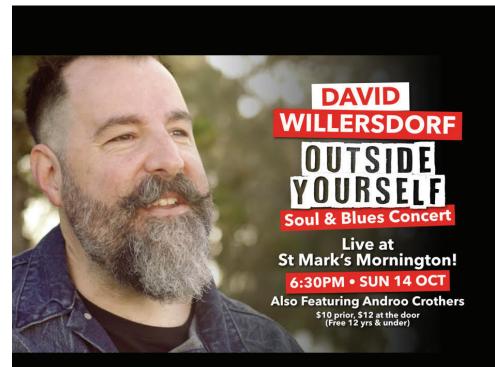
*Shirley and Antony Floyd have been long-time supporters of UnitingWorld's peacebuilding and community development work with UCA ecumenical partners around the world. In memory of Shirley, her legacy and her love of peace and healthcare, Antony asked for donations to be made to support the work of UCA partners in South

Sudan in peacebuilding and trauma healing. Visit https://www.unitingworld.org.au/shirleyfloyd/ for ways to give in memory of Shirley.

Europe, as well as China, Ghana in Africa and Indigenous Australians, one of whom was best man at Shirley and Tony's wedding. Ministry has been mostly with

congregations in Victoria, USA (including graduate study and ministry in an international cross-cultural environment in Chicago) and Tasmania. In rural areas, new suburbs, cross-cultural team ministry (Indonesian and English speaking), and a regional city. But also two years as a member of the Mission Planning team in the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, and eight years as the National Director for Multicultural and Cross-cultural Ministry in the national Assembly of the UCA. Tony was also Chair of Bourke and Westernport Presbyteries, and inaugural Chair of the Board of Mission and Resourcing (six years).

Since retirement he has spent time in supply ministry in the Synod/Presbytery of SA – cross-cultural ministry, and in Pilgrim Presbytery of the Northern Synod with the Indonesian speaking congregations in Darwin.



Seeking shelter for justice

The next Side Door Social Justice Hub event on homelessness is on October 18th at 7.30pm, with speakers from the Glen Eira City Council. Venue: 567 Glen Huntly Road, Elsternwick, 3188 The Glen Eira Council at its 4th September meeting unanimously endorsed a Statement of Commitment on Affordable Housing. See details at www.gleneira.vic.gov.au

Peace garden proposal in memory of Jack

In the South-East front corner of St John's church property, Elsternwick there are two scrappy gardens: a semi-circular one next to the road and another next to it. further along the driveway.

A small sub-committee has been investigating how these gardens can be transformed to honour longserving member of St John's, Jack Campbell. Jack was also Mayor of Caulfield (as it was then) a number of



times and was active in the Elsternwick/ Caulfield community. The proposed plan is to create a path leading from the

footpath through the semi-circular garden, wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair and have two seats. one with its back to the road and the other against the synagogue wall. The remaining area will contain two shade trees, a peace sculpture, a new noticeboard and native ground cover (possibly a prostrate Grevillea species). It is proposed that a competition will be held for the design of the peace-themed sculpture.

Still time to book for interfaith events

JOIN us during Multi-faith October at Ormond Uniting Church and experience the spirit of unity, respect and

Message

"One of the great lessons the fall of the leaf teaches. is this: do your work well and then be ready to depart when God shall call."

Tryon Edwards

of the month

understanding through the wonder and diversity of faith. On each of the four Sundays in October worship at OUC will be faith themed:

- Christianity Oct 7th
- Buddhism Oct 14th
- Islam Oct 21st
- Judaism Oct 28th.

There will be guest speakers, artistic representations and music at each of the services, culminating on the final Sunday with a multicultural morning tea at the end of worship followed by a multi-faith Panel Discussion. For catering purposes for the final service RSVP by October 14.

Worship time: 9.30am.

Location: Corner of Booran & North Roads Ormond. Bookings essential, please contact Christine: Tel: 9578

1553. E mail: ormond.unitingchurch.org.au



STANDARD

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID COURSE

Learn skills and gain confidence to assist friends, family and co-workers experiencing mental health problems.



a mental health problem, experiencing a worsening of a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until the appropriate professional help is received or the crisis resolves.

If you're interested in attending this course, please use contact details below to enrol. Hurry limited spots available!

LOCATION: Murumbeena Uniting Church

DATE: 3 & 4 Dec 2018, 9am to 5pm

\$210.00. Early bird \$185.00 before 18 Nov 2018.

MHFA INSTRUCTOR(S): Marcel Koper CONTACT NUMBER: tba

EMAIL: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Tea and lunch provided.

For accreditation it is required that people attend both days. For any questions about MHFA please Marcel 0422955084

COURSE INFORMATION

12-hour Standard Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA) course e topics cover: developing mental health problen sion, anxiety problems, psychosis and substance ms, as well as suicide and other mental health cri

Participants receive a copy of the Standard MHFA r Participants are eligible to become an accredited Mental Health First Aider.

Participants will learn the signs and symptoms of mental health problems, where and how to get help and what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective.

www.mhfa.com.au



Saturday, October 13th, 2018 10am - 1.30pm

The best of local arts and crafts, jams, preserves, flowers and plants, fresh morning tea/coffee, sausage sizzle and children's activities! Why not stock up for Christmas and get some gifts made with love?



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

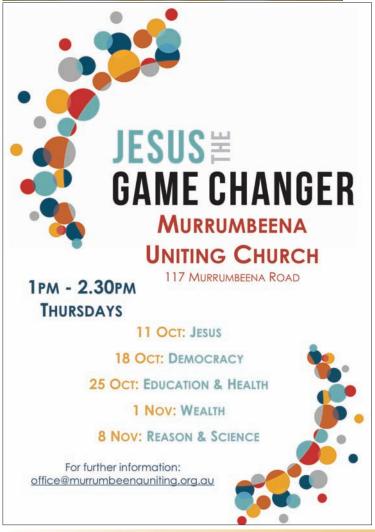


at Heatherton-Dingley Uniting Church cnr. of Kingston & Old Dandenong Roads **HEATHERTON**

Please contact Mrs M Howse for info: 0401 392 772







Samantha comes on board for new role at SMPUC

The congregation of the Southern Mornington Peninsula Uniting Church (SMPUC) has taken another step in its mission to support Carers of adults with a disability on the Southern Peninsula.

We are excited to announce the appointment of Samantha Menzies into the role of Carer Support & Outreach Worker (CSOW). The role of CSOW will be initially concerned with supporting ageing carers of adult children with an intellectual disability and their complex needs, particularly in response to the implementation and impact of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Samantha has worked in arts access for families and

individuals with lived experience of disability in the Bayside region, and lives locally in the Rosebud area. She has had recent experience with families endeavouring to negotiate the NDIS requirements, and is currently developing a network of relevant service providers and carer organisations. She welcomes anyone who would



like to come and chat about support requirements that they may have relating to disability.

The concept of a Carer Support worker arose from the Congregation's involvement in the construction of an accommodation facility next to the Church, for people with a disability requiring supported accommodation. The initial focus of the CSOW role is on assisting Carers and families with intellectually disabled adult children, however it is anticipated that the role will extend to any carer or family member with a disability in need of support.

The CSOW role will be responsive to the needs of the community as they arise and provide outreach. to increase community understanding and support for carers of people with intellectual disabilities. Samantha looks forward to engaging community through a range of social activities and functions and to developing strong relationships with carers and families of the Southern Mornington Peninsula. SMPUC has completed renovations of the church facility to include a new hospitality area, Minister's office and Support Worker office, enabling Samantha to operate from the church as a base. She will work across the region and use the church facilities for hospitality, interviews, gatherings and group activities. We extend an open invitation to our launch and light lunch, for a special screening of "A Time To Care" and to meet Samantha who will introduce the wider concept of the role and needs related to NDIS on Friday 5th October at 11:00am Samantha can be contacted at the Southern Mornington Peninsula Uniting Church in Murray

Anderson Road, Rosebud on Mondays and Tuesdays. For further information contact Samantha on: 0409

620 929 or email carersmpuc@gmail.com

Reflections on Faith

કોલિટોવાર ગા સ્થા

Cathy Wilcox's cartoon 'Wear this little pin to remind you whose side you're on' (The Age Sept 4) is ever widening and compelling. Each point alongside a fluttering Australian flag. Her five points refer to:

- 1. an insatiable desire for revenge to destabilise.
- 2. spending humanity in exchange for votes.
- 3. making policies and decisions for your mates or yourself.
- 4. bullying your colleagues till they resign and then criticise them for weakness.

5. collecting a generous pension for life, no matter how abysmal your performance. Political betrayal of ordinary Australians. The cost of government by the people for the people. The antithesis of Democracy. How proud we are to stand and sing with one voice at the foot of a fluttering flag and call Australia home. What does this all add up to? One's reminded of the biblical thirty pieces of silver. The price paid to Judas to betray an innocent man, a worker from a working class family. The compensation paid to an owner

whose slave was gored by a bull. To keep

the religious authorities in a job. The price of an innocent life. Thirty pieces of silver. A kiss, the signal of betrayal.

for your

A Release of Ties service will be held for Rev Chris Meneilly at Southern Mornington Peninsula Uniting Church,

Murray-Anderson Road, Rosebud on Sunday, October 28 at 10am. All welcome.

How different is the kiss of a mother?

Christina Rossetti pictured the scene in the stable in Bethlehem. With Mary holding her tiny baby in her arms thus:

But His mother only in her maiden bliss,

Worshipped the beloved with a kiss. In this mother's kiss all the hopes and dreams of all human kind forever pinned to the life, teaching and sacrifice of her son.

In Mary's kiss was the sign and seal of good news for the poor, compassion and healing for the sick, and mercy and forgiveness for sinners.

The meaning of this kiss is a message for all who have the privilege to represent us in parliament, the place of the people – to work for all, especially the poor and disadvantaged

here, and the refugees of the world.

Were 30 pieces of silver worth it? Is the price

paid today worth it?

There is judgment for all in high places who abused their trust. "By their fruits you shall know them".



The Message of a Cartoon by Bill Pugh



What have broken eggs got to do with resilience? Absolutely everything!

Come along and find out why at the Raising Resilient Families education seminar, an opportunity to learn about your child's emotional resilience – what to do (and what NOT to do!) to help them grow more of it.

Be ready to participate in an engaging, interactive time with other parents as we learn some new ideas, pool our expertise, uncover some cool secret weapons in the war against helplessness, and reflect, discuss and share together.

Presented by Open Doors Education: opendoors.com.au

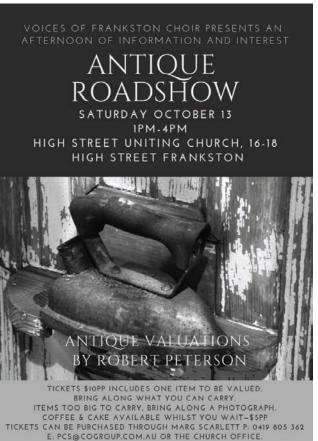
WWW.trybooking.com/YGNT
OCTOBER 25 • 7:00PM
\$20.00 PER PERSON (\$30.00 PER COUPLE)
117 MURRUMBEENA RD. MURRUMBEENA



SPEAN IN PRAYER IS NEVER WASTED GOD give us strength. Strength to hold on and strength to let go.

Amen

from A Common Prayer: A Cartoonist talks to God, Leunig



THE second Equal Voices National Symposium is planned for October 13 and 14 in Melbourne. The theme of the conference is 'Connecting Stories' - with a number of speakers sharing their stories of being Christian and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+). We believe this will be an important conference at a time when there is such need for better understandings and practice, not to mention repentance and reconciliation. Distinguished Christian ethicist David Gushee, author of Changing Our Minds, will be joined by Pastor Sandra Turnbull (also from the US), Dr Keith Dyer, Dr Robyn Whitaker, Ro Allen (Victorian Gender and Sexuality Commissioner) Nicole Conner, along with others who will be speaking and presenting workshops at the conference. See below for details...

Equal Voices Presents Connecting Stories Listening, Learning and Worshipping Together The 2nd Equal Voices National Symposium 13 & 14 October, 2018 Darebin Arts Centre Preston, Victoria, Australia Pavid Gushee (US) | Nicole Conner | Keith Dyer Ro Allen | Robyn Whitaker | Sandra Turnbull (US) | & many more

'Connecting with Community' event

This seminar on Saturday, October 27, 9.30am - 1pm at Forest Hill UC focuses on being a good listener and knowing safe areas of conversation, which is such an important skill in a variety of contexts. It will be especially useful for congregations with a focus on engaging those who are not yet part of a church community – for example, through Messy Church, Playgroups, Music Programs, Craft groups and Op Shops. Those engaged in connecting with their local communities through Messy Church or Playgroup will especially find this a valuable opportunity to learn practical tips and skills to implement in local settings.

Lyndel hangs up her smock at Kinross Arts

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I am writing to let you know that after six and half years I am moving on from my position as Manager of Kinross Arts Centre to take up a new leadership role in Melbourne's arts sector.



Whilst at Kinross I have been privileged to work with many inspiring and creative people from diverse organisations, artistic and faith backgrounds. As you know, the Centre features a gallery, cafe, 7

studios and a garden courtyard and this has led to a

huge range in the style of programs we have developed and delivered for the enjoyment and enrichment of the immediate and wider community and thousands of visitors.

I have truly enjoyed the creative, outreach and management components of my work here and I am very grateful for the support

you have given to the Centre, the Uniting

Arts Toorak Committee of Management and my

individual work. There have been times when your words of encouragement, guidance, energy, ideas, shared resources and collegiate approach have made a great difference to a project or working day.

I very much hope to be able to stay in contact with you into the future. My ongoing contact details are: email lwischer@ bigpond.com and mobile 0404 078 105.

> Warmest regards, Lyndel Wischer.

Know Your Soil

Seniors workshop

Wednesday 10th October 2018 10 am – 12 noon



Get your hands dirty with this hands-on workshop looking at your garden soil – what's in it, how it works, how to grow things in it.

Free, includes morning tea.

Simply Living Community Garden Port Melbourne Uniting Church 144 Bridge St

To book your place:

Janet Hoare, 9690 1188, janet.hoare@southportuniting.org.au



A SkillsFest event of South Port Uniting Church and part of the City of Port Phillip Seniors Festival 2018.

Decisions made.

Dear Presbytery Members,

You will recall that at our last Presbytery meeting on August 15 the Presbytery authorised the Presbytery Standing Committee (PSC) to develop Ministry Profiles and Position Descriptions based on agreed governance structure, positions



presented in the Presbytery Ministry Team Structure report and on feedback from the Presbytery meeting conversation. I am very pleased to announce that at our meeting today, the PSC approved the profiles for the Presbytery Minister Team Leader and Presbytery Minister Church Development which will be presented to the Placements Committee next week. We have worked under a very tight time frame to get these two profiles completed for this Placements meeting, and we are grateful to the teams of people that have helped

the PSC with this important discernment and work. We also established a time frame and process for completing the other two positions and making application to the Presbytery Additional Resources and Innovative Projects Fund for 0.5 funding for the Presbytery Minister Wellbeing role.

The PSC was also authorised to appoint a Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) that will hold conversations and discern together with prospective ministry agents/ applicants. The PSC has appointed one person from each of our three key committees, PSC, PRC and MDC and we have sought three further people from the broader presbytery. As things progress we'll keep the Presbytery informed, and as always, the Presbytery would appreciate your prayers through this important time of discernment.

Grace and peace,

Rev Cameron McAdam, Deputy Chairperson

PHILLIP



Presbytery in Council meeting dates

- 17 October, 2018
- **12 December, 2018**

ALL meetings will be held at Noble Park Uniting Church, jct of Joy Parade and Allan Street and will commence at 7.30pm.

All ministers and presbytery reps are asked to attend regularly. Thank you.

To see who represents **Port Phillip East** Presbytery on the current Standing Committee visit: http://www.ucappep.org/ about-ppep/key-people/

SITUATIONS

VACANT



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING -SOUTH EASTERN REGION **NOVEMBER 2018 ORMOND UNTING CHURCH,** Corner of North Rd & Booran Rd, ORMOND.

Ormond UCA will be running two training sessions during

November, maximum of 80 people per session. Times as follows: Thursday, 1 November - 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Saturday, 10 November – 2:00 to 4:00pm.

Don't miss this opportunity to complete your safe church training before the year ends, remember, all employees and volunteers within the Uniting Church are required to attend.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Registrations will open on Monday 8th October and close on Sunday 28th October, or when full.

Enquiries or booking to our church office, phone 9578-1553 or email on office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au *High Street UC, Frankston is also offering one more training session for anyone who wishes to come. Details are: Saturday 13th October, 10am -12.00 noon, 16-18 High Street, Frankston, 3199; please confirm attendance via e-mail to the Church Office on frankstonuc@gmail.com.

Young Adults **Ministry** Opportunity

The Synod of VicTas eLM

Unit is looking for a person with a focus on Intergenerational Ministry with Young Adults to join our staff team.

Working within the wider eLM team, this person will encourage and build young adult networks and communities within the Synod, enhance young adults' capacities for

engagement in leadership, mission, justice and discipleship in the church Join our

and the wider community, and encourage missional engagement by young adults.

They would also work

to strengthen our Synod's understanding and theology for contextually appropriate ministry and mission by, and in partnership with, young adults. Expressions of interest for this Placement close 15 October.

Contact Nigel Hanscamp (Nigel. Hanscamp@victas. uca.org.au) for more details or for a copy of the Position Description.

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



The 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.