

NEWSBEAT



AUGUST 2019

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST



State of the art Senior Studies Centre launched at this flagship school. Open the doors of page 3 to discover more.



Which church is being given a facelift, courtesy of big business? Page 7 has the answer.

Search is on for first three 'new future' congregations

THE Presbytery is putting a call out to find three action-oriented congregations for the first round of the Presbytery Mission Pilot Process. There will then be subsequent rounds from mid-2020.

This is the next phase of the Port Phillip East Presbytery *Cultivating a New Future Process*, which is a cultural change process the Presbytery of Port Phillip East is undergoing to navigate the challenges we face as a presbytery in the changing reality of the church and community and the synod's Major Strategic Review.

The Mission Cultivation Process is a twelve-month plan for congregations to learn about new ways of being in mission through action learning – that is, taking on a new initiative and learning from the experience.

This involves a process of missional cultural change designed to assist congregations to respond to the challenges and opportunities of the post-Christendom context in Australia.

A brochure and introductory video are available here: <https://www.ucapppep.org/being-presbytery/mission-pilot-process/>



For more information and to submit expressions of interest contact Craig Mitchell, Presbytery Minister

Church Development on 0417323088 or pm-cd@ucapppep.org

Kharis returns to her roots



THERE was a sense of homecoming, mixed with celebration, at the induction of Rev Kharis Abadani into the congregations of Monash and Mulgrave Uniting Churches.

On the afternoon of Saturday, July 13th the Port Phillip East Presbytery gathered, along with the congregational members, to induct the Rev Abadani as their new minister.

It was a joyful gathering that was the culmination of more than 20 months of conversation, dreaming, discerning and exploring just where God may be calling these congregations, who will now share a ministry agent.

Kharis will split her time across the two congregations in what is seen as a great opportunity to continue their mission and ministry as well as to see what God has in store for them.



Kharis returns to Port Phillip East, where she candidated some seven years ago, after time ministering in the Mitchell River Parish - returning with her husband of 12 months, Ben Abadani.

More words and pictures on page 2

by Rev Jay Robinson

Port Phillip East Presbytery's vision & purpose: "Encouraging, resourcing and giving pastoral oversight to communities of faith and ministers entrusted to our pastoral care."





Welcome home, Kharis

Cont. from front page

Welcome back to Kharis, welcome to Ben and our prayers are with you both as well as the Monash and Mulgrave congregations.



Anti-clockwise from top: Kharis and her many friends and family after the service, musical accompaniment on violin and flute, members of the congregation stand in welcome as the service comes to a close, Rev Andrew Boyle, Presbytery Chair, presides at the induction, Aavon speaks to assembled guests, Rev Jay Robinson preaches and the choir give voice for a warm and musical introduction to their new minister.




port philip east presbytery childrens camp

Somers Camp Trivia Night

24th August 2019



6pm - 10pm
High Street Uniting Church
16-18 High St, Frankston

CELEBRATING ANOTHER YEAR OF SOMERS CAMP!



port philip east presbytery childrens camp

When: Saturday 24th, August
6pm - 10pm

Where: High Street Uniting
16-18 High St, Frankston

Cost: \$28 per person or
\$250 for a table of 10

Somers Camp is a children's camp for kids grades 3 - year 9, run every year during the first week of the July holidays.

We would like to invite you to join us for a night of fun to celebrate Somers and raise funds so we can continue to host the epic Somers experience each year!

There'll be 5 rounds of trivia with gold coin entry games running between. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase upon entry with awesome prizes!

We'll share a delicious plant-based dinner and dessert with coffee available for a donation. Please notify us of any dietary requirements upon booking.

Expect Somers traditions, including rhyming, jokes and an SOS appearance.

Contact admin@somerscamp.com.au to book your place!

 Somers Camp  @somers_camp_au

All smiles at Cornish for opening of new 'green' building for senior students



BUILDING work was finally finished allowing Cornish College to celebrate the opening of their Senior Studies Centre for Years 11 and 12 students recently.

The Hon James Merlino MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education, cut the ribbon, joined by Tim Richardson MP, State Member for Mordialloc and Parliamentary Secretary for Schools. This new building continues the wonderful story of educational growth and commitment by Cornish College, which began just seven years ago with 200 students and is now flourishing with more than 680 students.

Rev Dr Robert Johnson, Chair of the Board, dedicated the building and spoke of the vision shown by Principal Vicki Steer in bringing the project to life. In honour of her significant legacy the landscaped area in front will be known as 'The Vicki Steer Green'.

The design of the building incorporates flexible learning spaces and shared informal areas overlooking the natural environment of the college in Bangholme. Sustainability is also embedded; including north-facing orientation; three pop-up roof lights to bring natural daylight deep into the learning spaces; interlinked motorised windows; roof mounted ventilators; double-glazed windows; LED lighting and hot water from an energy efficient pump. The building construction also incorporates thermal mass in the concrete slab; glue laminated timber structure; acoustic ceiling system of sustainably harvested shredded timber and wool; high volume spaces for high oxygen capacity; shaded glazing; an airlock at the main entry and low/no volatile organic compound materials. Vicki Steer, who announced her retirement earlier this year, said of the opening of the new building: 'Today was a real Cornish team effort'.



Immersion opportunity

Diving Deeper: Preparing Youth and Adults for Baptism and Confirmation is an interactive session focusing on the educational dimensions of preparing people for baptism and confirmation. Unearthing aims and understandings, a variety of approaches, mentors and companions, plus a range of print and multimedia resources; including a preview of new UCA materials. To be facilitated by Craig Mitchell, former UCA National Director for Formation, Education and Discipleship and current Presbytery Minister - Church Development with Port Phillip East Presbytery. Diving Deeper on Tuesday September 10, 10am-12.30pm @ Murrumbeena Uniting Church. The cost of the session is \$10. For more information and registration e-mail office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au

DIVING DEEP

PREPARING YOUTH AND ADULTS FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

WORKSHOP

This interactive session will focus on the educational dimensions of preparing people for baptism and confirmation: our aims and understandings, a variety of approaches, mentors and companions, plus a range of print and multimedia resources including a preview of new UCA materials.

FACILITATOR

Craig Mitchell is the Presbytery Minister - Church Development with Port Phillip East Presbytery. He is the former UCA National Director for Formation, Education and Discipleship. Craig has produced faith development resources for all ages in the UCA over many years.

Cost \$10

To register call 9568 8177 or email office@murrumbeenauniting.org.au by 3 September

An activity of Port Phillip East Presbytery and Murrumbeena Uniting Church

Tuesday 10 September 10am-12.30pm

Murrumbeena Uniting Church

Book now

Quote

"Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven."

Rabindranath Tagore

of the month

JOHN and Ann Connan, of Mission Liaison Group – or MLG, as most folk know it – went to Tonga in late June to distribute goods from two containers sent in early June. At first things didn't go well. The containers, full of new and used goods from Australia, were there but emailed documents to the Friendly Islands Bookshop hadn't made it to the person employed to get goods off the wharf. The containers finally reached Sia'atoutai Theological College, ready for the planned bazaar, eight days into the 21-day trip – on



July 3rd: The day before King Tupou VI's 60th birthday celebrations - nothing could happen on July 4th, a national holiday. After working day and night, the bazaar was held on the Friday - four days before leaving – to have enough time

MLG bazaar goes ahead after troubled start

to clear the Hall and make sure everything had found its

way. Goods went to Tupou Tertiary Institute, Queen Salote and Tupou Colleges, Maamaloa Primary and Nuku'alofa Primary School, Sia'atoutai and Maamaloa Kindergartens.

Large crates had been packed to go to kindergartens in the northern island group of Vava'u and backpacks to schoolchildren in the far distant island of Niufo'ou. On the day of the bazaar, despite incredibly cheap prices – two items of children's clothing for 60¢, brand new Bata shoes for \$3 – almost \$8,400 came in. After minimal expenses that meant \$600 went to the Women's and Children's Crisis Centre – as well as boxes of women's and children's clothing, primary school backpacks and household effects – and another

\$600 to Methodist work among deportees. And another \$6,000 was deposited with the Methodist Church for future projects. Other funds went to shipping costs to other islands, and a fridge and microwave for the new Girls' dormitory at Sia'atoutai.



If you would like to help MLG contact 0419 572936 or e-mail jconnan@hotmail.com

A Musical Moment at Trinity

Cantiamo

Enjoy a selection of musical pieces from Opera and popular English, French and German songs.

Saturday August 24TH
at 2.30pm

Trinity Uniting Church
17 Black Street Brighton

Tickets at the door
\$25.00
or \$20.00 concession

All enquiries:
Jen Verwoert 0419 492 222



Tenor David Chun



Soprano Sena Lee



Pianist Joo Yoon Lee



Tenor Rev Kevin Kim

Songbirds fly in to Trinity

The group is called Cantiamo which means *Let us sing*.

They are a Sydney group consisting of Mr David Chun - Tenor, Ms Sena Lee - Soprano and Ms Joo Yoon Lee - pianist. Accompanying them on the program will be our very own Rev. Kevin Kim - Tenor and Dr Gordon Atkinson - Trinity Uniting's resident organist.

The program will include a selection of popular light Opera pieces, Gershwin and some beautiful organ pieces. The concert is on Saturday August 24th commencing at 2.30pm at Trinity Uniting Church, Brighton. Tickets will be sold at the door - \$25.00 or \$20.00 concession. **by Jen Verwoert**

Heading to the JIM through the Side Door

The Side Door Social Justice Hub at St John's UC, Elsternwick

"Community Organising Basics"

A workshop led by Denise Sandoval, Community Organiser and Social Justice Advocate with Synod's JIM unit will be held on Saturday 24th August, 9.30am - 1pm at St. John's UC, 567 Glen Huntly Road. RSVP: mforbes57@gmail.com

Make it Messy!

Saturday, August 24 CTM, Parkville

Make it Messy! will assist those already engaged in Messy Church, churches contemplating beginning a Messy Church and people genuinely curious about the Messy Church phenomenon take the next step in their Messy journey. Join with others from churches across the state for a day of active engagement, stimulating discussions, encouraging stories and helpful electives that will empower your ministry in your local context – whether you are already engaged with Messy Church or not!

Across the day you will have the opportunity to connect with experienced Messy Church leaders around a range of topics including...

- Starting a Messy Church
- Practical ideas for Messy Worship
- Developing Messy pathways for faith
- Messy Church and Intergenerationality
- Discipleship in the Messy Church

context

More information and registration: Make it Messy 2019! (live from July 1) or e-mail ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au

Correction

Rev Bill Morgan married Duncan Greensmith (not new PM Rev Duncan Macleod) and wife Yvonne as was stated in the July issue of Newsbeat.

Like the Presbytery of Port Phillip East website by clicking on <https://www.facebook.com/ucappep.org/> ... go on, do it right now :o)



Tim's positive style shines through to the end

A WELL-ATTENDED Farewell Service for Rev Tim Angus was celebrated on Sunday 30 June as he concluded his Placement at Hampton prior to his retirement.

With his typical style, hymns both old: 'All creatures of our God and King' and new-to-us: 'The bright wind is blowing' featured, and the three 'mini-Reflections' on each lectionary reading were skilfully woven into a fitting 'conclusion-cum-moving forward' theme for the day.

Rev Anneke Oppewall, the Presbytery of Port Phillip East's new Presbytery Minister – Pastoral, conducted the Conclusion of Placement at the end of the service, before leading the Blessing and Benediction, for which Tim symbolically joined his wife Frances as a member of the congregation. A sit-down three-course roast luncheon for 60 was served after speeches and presentations, led by Church Council Chair, Ian Menzies. In lieu of a traditional gold watch, its 21st Century equivalent – a 'Fit Bit' – was presented to Tim and a photo book compiled by Margaret Wilkins which featured as many of the congregation as possible. Several impromptu speakers, and a poem by Shirley Mackie, echoed the gratitude of the congregation and community for Tim's work in Hampton. **As seen in NUCH magazine, Hampton UC**



THE VILLAGE CHURCH MT. ELIZA
FAITH JUSTICE COMMUNITY

GALA

fundraising

DINNER

& SILENT AUCTION

- 31st August 2019
- Saturday, 7pm
- Formal dress
- \$70 per ticket
- BYO drinks
- The Village Church:
93 Canadian Bay Rd,
Mount Eliza 3930

Join us for an evening of fine dining, beautiful music, and great conversations. Proceeds from the evening will help raise the \$4500 needed to support and build the lives of young people on the Mornington Peninsula through our two key youth engagement roles: School Chaplaincy at Mt Eliza Secondary College, and Youth Engagement at The Village Church, Mt Eliza.

Tickets are limited, so be sure to get in fast and reserve your place!

To purchase a ticket, contact The Village Church: 9787 1683 or ucame@hotmail.com.au

To make a donation:
The Village Church,
BSB: 633 000
Account #: 143632834

Anneke aligns at Leighmoor Uniting

ON a very cold and wet morning the community of Leighmoor Uniting Church gathered for worship around the theme of the Holy Spirit and Trinity. The service was jointly led by Rev Peter Whitaker, *right*, Rev Anneke Oppewal, *left*, and members of the congregation. Founded in 1854 people have been worshipping at this location for well over 150 years now with a rich history of initiatives in mission, education, care for and connections with the community. A tradition that is proudly continued today in various groups, social activities, pastoral care and sharing of resources. It was lovely to be part of this congregation for a very special morning worship.



by Rev Anneke Oppewal, PM Pastoral



Uniting Church Historical Society

1960-2020

RE-DISCOVERING THE UNITING CHURCH VISION
FORMATIVE INFLUENCES OF METHODIST, CONGREGATIONAL AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

Guest speaker: Rev Dr D'Arcy Wood

Sunday 16 August 2.30pm

Blackburn Uniting Church corner The Avenue and Blackburn Roads

Free public event Enquiries: Mobile 0427 812 606
UNITING CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HISTORIC CHURCHES OF MELBOURNE TOUR:

Visiting the Collins Street Baptist Church, The Scots' Church and St Paul's Cathedral for guided tours. 10 am-3.30 pm, Tuesday, 24th September.

Information:
Geoff Paterson 0448740195.

Enquiries:
Robert Renton
0427 812 606



Dear God

When we fall, let us fall inwards. Let us fall freely and completely: that we may find our depth and our humility: the solid earth from which we may rise up and love again.

Amen

What the neighbours are up to...



Join Oxfam, Manningham & Koonung Heights Uniting Churches, other community groups, church and faith groups to learn how we can support achieving wage justice for women garment workers.

5th August

At 7.30 pm at
Koonung Heights Uniting Church,

Cnr of Belmore and Winfield Roads, Balwyn East.

For further details contact Ian
iananderson@sandi.com.au
0438118995



Share a little love on August 11

This year's Share Sunday theme is hearts beating for others.

We have just released the 2019 resources via the Synod eNews for a full worship service, writes Rev John Clarke. These include:

Uniting

- A sample service outline, including a liturgy, sermon and suggested hymns
- PowerPoint presentation
- Stories of people supported by the Church's faithful generosity.

We have responded to the suggestions that we make the resource available to download from our website.

We have used the lectionary readings from Sunday 11th August this year, but note that many congregations adapt the service for times that suit them.

May the resources help the congregations, parish missions and faith communities in your presbytery to focus on those on the edge in your communities and the great work Uniting does with partners across the Church.

What's happening at Wesley Place?

The 52 year old UCA Synod Centre building at 130 Little Collins Street, Melbourne has been sold.

In April 2020 it is anticipated that staff will move to a new Cox Architecture designed building at Wesley Place, 130 Lonsdale Street, in Melbourne's North East CBD. Charter Hall is the developer of the \$700 million tower of premium office space at 130 Lonsdale Street. *Right is an artist's impression of the building.* It will accommodate Uniting Church administration, an arrangement that is part of a 125 year site lease deal to develop the church owned land.

The deal included the restoration of the c1858 heritage protected bluestone Wesley Church, one of Melbourne's finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture. Stained glass restoration, some of the glass dating back to the late 1880's and stone work restoration is taking place. A new slate roof is included with the slate imported from the original source in Wales.



Restoration work on the Caretaker's Cottage and Manse will also be undertaken.

In the midst of the construction activity on the Wesley Church site is a 143 year old olive tree which is listed on the city's exceptional tree register.

The 35 level Wesley Place tower building which includes four upper levels of cascading rooftop terraces is almost fully leased. The Uniting Church Synod will occupy Levels 2 and 3, Uniting Vic/Tas will occupy Levels 3 and 4 and Uniting AgeWell and U Ethical (formerly known as UCA Funds Management), Level 6.

Green space for public enjoyment, restaurants and a wellness centre are planned for Wesley Place.

by Lencie Harding



Renovations in Wesley UC. Inset: Rear of tower

NEW CD LAUNCH & CONCERT CADENCE

@ High Street Uniting Church,
16-18 High Street, Frankston
on Saturday, August 10, 2pm



In aid of JBKS Woman & Child Health Clinics Project, North India
Entry \$15 (Conc. \$10) including afternoon tea
Tickets available at the door, HSUC Church Office or through
Bronwen & Alan Mathews; 0427 130 747
bronwen.alan@bigpond.com
Helen Beeby; 0434 412 104/helen.beeby@gmail.com
Project Link: <https://womanandchildhealth.org/home/>

Special meeting report from our new PM



**by Duncan McLeod,
Presbytery Minister
Team Leader**

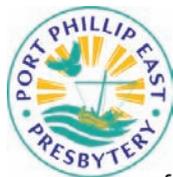
The special meeting of Port Phillip East Presbytery in July had two major agenda items: the presentation of two applicants to be candidates for ministry with the Uniting Church in Australia,

and the consideration of Cultivating a New Future, Phase 4.

Devotions were led by

Rev Molesi Tamate, minister with St George's Burnley and the Niuean congregation.

Steven Bernaudo from Frankston Uniting Church and Duncan Turuva from Melbourne Fijian Uniting Church reflected on their Period of Discernment and their sense of call to the Ministry of Deacon (Steve) and Ministry of the Word (Duncan). Members of the Presbytery read reports from the Ministry Formation Task-group and asked questions of each potential candidate before voting to affirm their call to ministry. They will now explore that call with the Synod Selection Panel in October. Members



of the Presbytery considered three projects from the Cultivating a New Future strategy

process: Leadership Structures, Mission Pilots and Strategic Resources. After presentations and table conversations, Presbytery members together agreed on proposals.

The Leadership Structures review, looking at how decisions are made across the Presbytery, will be undertaken by the Standing Committee, to be facilitated by Phil McCredden.

The Standing Committee will be able to co-opt people to help with that process, reporting back in February 2020. Another group will report in February on resource review and analysis, looking at ways to sustain and grow the mission and ministry of the Uniting Church in the Port Phillip East region.

The Mission Pilot Prospectus outlines ways in which congregations will be supported in exploring local mission together, learning as they go with support from the Presbytery. A missional experiment fund has been established to support congregations. See the video and prospectus on the Port Phillip East Presbytery website. A Minute of Appreciation was moved for Ian Firth by Rev Cam McAdam as he has now concluded his well-needed supply arrangement with the Presbytery.

New Moderator takes the helm



At the opening service of the meeting of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania held at the beginning of July at St. Michael's Uniting Church in the city, Rev Denise Liersch, pictured, was installed as the new Moderator for VicTas for the next three years. This brought to an end Rev. Sharon Hollis' term. During this time, Sharon, pictured behind Denise, was elected to be the next President of the UCA Assembly, and will be installed at the Triennial Meeting in 2020.

As seen in LINK magazine, St John's Elsternwick

Response to the Voluntary Assisted Dying bill

One of the key resolutions dealt with at the recent meeting of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania was in relation to "Voluntary Assisted Dying." The complete Resolution and the Moderator's Pastoral Letter can be found on the Resources page of the Presbytery website: www.ucappeg.org

Through the ages workshop

**UCA Intercultural & Intergenerational workshop
August 27, 28 Parkville**

Join with others from around the Uniting Church Synod at this engaging and practical workshop. More information and registration for An Intercultural + Intergenerational Church by e-mail to ann.byrne@victas.uca.org.au

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



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.

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