

May God's love light your way
and lead you into a new year
that shines with His special joy.
Happy New Year!

NEWSBEAT



NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST

JANUARY 2020



Warm welcome for Ann as she moves bayside. Discover her whereabouts in her induction story inside.

Is it a bird, is it a plane... no it's Captain Oh My Goodness... ! See the superhero shenanigans overleaf



Christmas cheer as New Year nears

Enjoy our festive round-up in this special Newsbeat edition and we look forward to sharing more wonderful Presbytery activities, events, news and services in 2020!



"Thank you to everyone for being a part of our Christmas Carols spectacular at St David's, Parkdale UC. We're still on a high, such a wonderful event. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"



St Andrew's Christmas Carols by Candlelight 2019 was a beautiful and spirit-filled event, writes Rev Wendy Snook. Thank you to everyone who made it possible, particularly our Music Director Matthew Clark, our regular choir, our 'irregular choir' (other UCA and Anglican singers), soloists Monique Churchill and Warwick Loveless, accompanied by Simon Loveless. Blessings on you all.



by Anna-White Atkins, Pastor

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



LAST night (December 18) despite the hot weather Santa made an appearance at the annual Food Truck Christmas party.

Volunteers and clients joined together to celebrate the relationships and friendships which have been forged over the year past. A great time was had by all.

It is a humbling experience especially at this time of year to see humanity at its best as neighbour extend the hand of friendship to neighbour, in a hand up and not a hand out.

Yes our community has its share of challenges but the work of the



Cranbourne Regional Uniting Church and her sister church and community organisations tell a deeper story of compassion and caring for those who find themselves on the edges of our society and those who are in need. The Mission statement of Cranbourne Uniting and the work of the Food Truck tells

us that we are to be Christ's living bread to the community we serve.

This Christmas then we do not celebrate the birthday of a baby two thousand years ago, but the living Holy presence of Jesus seen in each kind act word and deed extended by one to another, this is the work of the Truck.

In Cranbourne we can celebrate our diverse religious, cultural and ethnic differences, in our call and duty to care for our neighbour.

Congratulations to the many community volunteers, admin staff, organisations and other generous donors who make the work of the Food Truck possible with over 38,000 people served over eight years.

Thank you one and all for your support of the Truck and may you have a blessed Christmas.

by Rev. Ray McCluskey

Reflections on Faith



Superhero panto and school choir light up Christmas in Southport



A fun filled couple of days with Carols by Candlelight with the wonderful choir from Port Melbourne Primary School and our Pantomime - Captain Oh My Goodness Saves Christmas - in the Southport Parish!!



Food for Friends' brings Christmas cheer



by Margery Kennett

DUE to the generosity of the shoppers in Mt Waverley Village a total of 175 boxes of food were collected outside Ritchies IGA in five days at the end of November. In addition there were cash donations of over \$1,300. These donations have been distributed to agencies nominated by the churches represented by the Mount Waverley Chadstone Inter Church Council and will support families in need.



Sonder send-off celebration by the bay



What an amazing night it was to finish out the year with a picnic, op-shop KK and hanging out across #sonderbayside and #sondermurrumbeena. What an awesome year 2019 has been and we are looking forward to seeing you all come 2020!

Some highlights from our family Christmas dinner (pictured right). It is one of our favourite times of year at the Village Church, Mt Eliza, and this year's dinner was no exception! Such a wonderful evening of community, of sharing in a lovely meal together, singing some favourite carols and enjoying lots of laughs.

by Rev Cameron McAdam



Ann is welcomed at Hampton



IT WAS a happy occasion at Hampton on Sunday, December 15, when the Presbytery Chairperson, Rev Andrew Boyle inducted Ann as minister in the Hampton Congregation.

Ann is well known to many in the Presbytery as she was the minister at Pakenham for the last six years.

Rev Judith Watkins, Chair of the Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) preached and the Prayers of the People were led by Wendy Adams another member of the JNC.

Ann is enjoying being close to the Bay and I'm sure the short walk from the manse to the church is also attractive.

Following a challenging time with her health all in the Presbytery will be wishing Ann well as she ministers to this loving and caring congregation. *by Ian Firth*



Pictured left from top: Rev Ann Simons delivers her opening message, presbytery guests join the congregation and Hampton UCA stalwart, Ian Menzies, speaks at the service.



CELEBRATING LIFE IN SMALL WORKS JO REITZE



Kinross Arts Centre
part of Toorak Uniting Church

You and your friends are invited to
CELEBRATING LIFE IN SMALL WORKS - JO REITZE

Jo Reitze is an award-winning artist who creates small works alongside her major works. Kinross Arts Centre is showing these little gouache or pen gems of garden glimpses and impressions of the beach, bay or away. This is the first of two exhibitions in 2020 to mark Jo's significant year. 'Celebrating Life' references this personal milestone as well as her joyous, expressive works inspired by nature.

Free Opening Event
Thursday, 6 February 2020
6.00pm - 8.00pm
To be Officially Opened by
Jacquie Nichols-Reeves,
Senior Arts Officer, Whitehorse Artspace
All welcome

Venue Kinross Arts Centre
Rear, Toorak Uniting Church
603 Toorak Road, Toorak
Free Exhibition Hours
Monday - Friday 10.00am - 3.30pm
Friday 7 - Thursday, 27 February 2020

Gouache painting workshop with Jo Reitze - Cost: \$95 per person
The session will give participants experience working in gouache (opaque water colour). This very forgiving medium relies less on accidental effects than traditional watercolour. It is an ideal medium for travelling. The strong tonal contrasts of oil can be achieved without the mess as it is a water based medium. At least one post card sized flower study will be completed in the session.

Date and Time:
10am - 3.30pm Wednesday 19 February
Bookings:
Bookings are essential and can be made with payment on 9829 0340 or at Kinross Arts Centre
Max. 12 participants. Please book early.

www.kinrossarts.org.au

Image: Epiphyllum gouache 2019 15cm x 15cm

Dates for your diary! - For details and to book tickets for important Presbytery events in 2020 click on <https://ucapppep.eventbrite.com.au/>

Here's to a peaceful, healthy and happy New Year from the Port Phillip East Presbytery team - and so many other

valued supporters and contributors throughout the year...



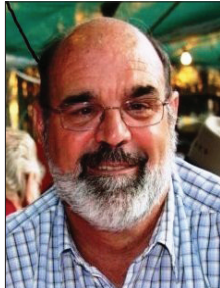
Ian Firth



Tom Spurling



Rev Tony Floyd



Jeff Gardner



Rev Robert Johnson



Rev Ray McCluskey



David Higham



Rev Anneke Oppewal



Rev Duncan Macleod



Dr Craig Mitchell



Rev Andrew Boyle



Rev Cam McAdam



Gavin Faichney



Rev Fiona Winn



Rev Greg Fry

Rev James Douglas



Rev Ineke Gyles



Rod Dungan



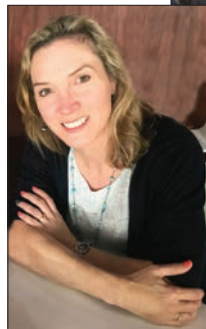
Rev Jay Robinson



Jason Wakely



Rev Bill Pugh



Helen Beeby

Presbytery meeting date for 2020

• Saturday, 22 February

The next Presbytery in Council meeting will be on Saturday, February 22nd, at a venue to be confirmed. Resources will be available to take home. All ministers and presbytery reps are asked to attend regularly. Thank you.



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.

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