

Newsbeat



NEWSLETTER FOR THE PRESBYTERY OF PORT PHILLIP EAST

JUNE HEADLINES

GLEN WAVERLEY UC
ARE SHARING WITH
NEIGHBOURS NEAR &
FAR

UNITING AGEWELL: A
FORMULA FOR JOY

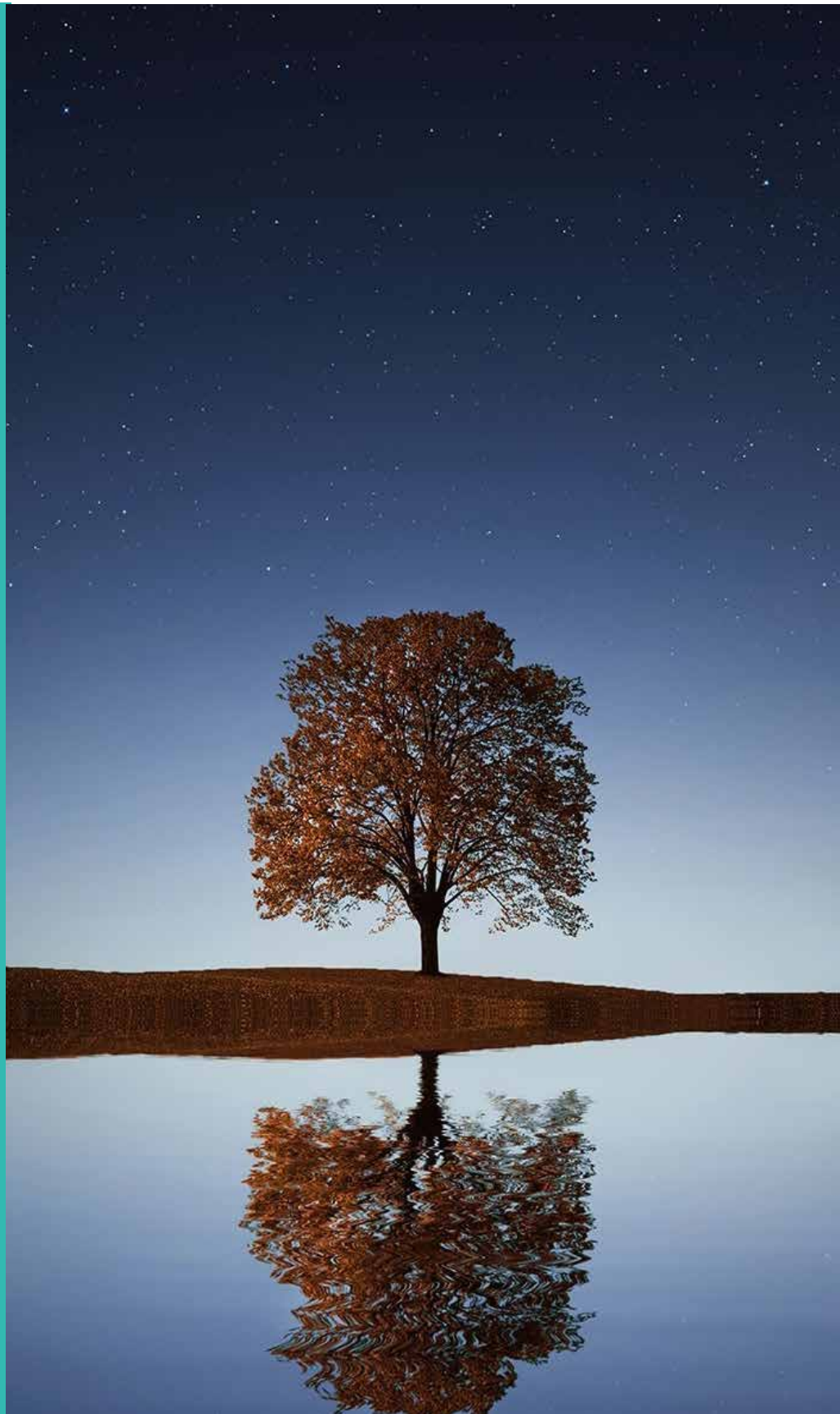
LCM EXPLORES GOING
BOLDLY INTO THE
COMMUNITY

DIVINE GUIDANCE:
EXPLORING THE
LANDSCAPE OF
CHAPLAINCY

CARING FOR CREATION
AT HAMPTON UC

FROM BABEL TO
PENTECOST WITH
TRACIE MULIA

JUNE 2023 ISSUE



DIVINE GUIDANCE: EXPLORING THE LANDSCAPE OF CHAPLAINCY

Peter Rivett our new appointed Chaplain at Wesley College, Elsternwick provides some insight into his life as a Chaplain.

Rev, who created God?

Rev, why is a white Christian man leading the reconciliation service, no offense, but weren't you guys the problem in the first place?

Rev, look how I can get a finger into each nostril!

Rev, I'm living on \$2 a day to get some perspective on poverty and how I take privilege for granted.

Rev, can we do something about spirituality and climate change? We are terrified of what the future holds.

Welcome to Chaplaincy at Wesley College, Elsternwick Campus. I am so grateful for the opportunity to minister in this place, but I also recognize that I hold a tension because of the privilege that is here.

The keynote speaker at one of the first events I attended here was a former Wesley student.

His key message to the year 12s was that fulfillment was to be found when one leveraged privilege into purpose. It was this message that resonated with me as I explore what it means to be called to minister here.

My task in my classroom is to help students develop rich spiritual practices that will underpin their purpose. While almost all of my students are not actively religious there are rich conversations of spirituality. We use Brené Brown's definition of spirituality, from her book, *The Gifts of Imperfection*, to ensure that all people can participate in the conversation.

"Spirituality is recognizing and celebrating that we are all inextricably connected to each other by a power greater than all of us, and that our connection to that power and to one another is grounded in love and compassion." ~ Brené Brown: The Gifts of Imperfection

This allows students to approach religious studies from the perspective of wisdom seeking, rather than a polarizing position of belief. For example, our year 9s discussed the Pearl Of Great Price (Matthew 13:45-46). This was approached as Holy Scripture by some, as wisdom teaching by another, as Rabbinic teaching by another and, most importantly, as a way of entering discussions about what in our lives is actually of value.

In this ministry I am invited into caring relationships with staff and students, invited to ask uncomfortable questions of meaning and purpose, to weep with, laugh with and somehow be a place of calm in the frantic speed of school life.



Wesley College, Elsternwick grounds



UNITING IN PRAYER



Want to take part in prayer?

All member's of the Uniting Church are invited to take part in Uniting in Prayer. It's a national time of prayer taking place between May 28 and June 22, marking the start of Pentecost and the 46th anniversary of the formation of the UCA. It has grown out of the Act2 Project, a process under way to help the UCA discern its future, which will report to the 17th Assembly in July next year.

Uniting in Prayer is 26 days of prayer and connection in the middle of the Act2 Project, which is currently grappling with the ferment and change we are experiencing as the Uniting Church like many other Christian communities around the world. As we seek to discern the outlines of our future life, this is a chance to pause, holding our Church before God and upholding each other in love and prayer.

All who call the Uniting Church home are invited to join together in thanksgiving and hope to pray and seek the leading of the Spirit for the years ahead.

For further details please go to teh ACT2 wesbite act2uca.com/unitinginprayer



PREACHFEST IN VIC



PreachFest is a festival focusing on the vocation of preaching. People gather from around Australia to hear from preachers and learn more about the craft.

PreachFest is a 3-day festival, from 1-3 November, held at Wesley Uniting Church in Lonsdale St, Melbourne. Some parts of the event will also be available to stream online.

This year we have a wonderful line-up of speakers, including keynote speakers: Stan Grant and Rabbi Amy-Jill Levine

Stan Grant is Vice Chancellor's Chair of Australian/ Indigenous Belonging at Charles Sturt University. He has worked in journalism for over 30 years and has authored several non-fiction books.

Rabbi Amy-Jill Levine is a professor at Vanderbilt Divinity School, in the areas of New Testament and Jewish Studies. She is also an affiliate professor in the Centre for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations, at the Woolf Institute, Cambridge UK. She has published many books in the areas of New Testament and Jewish interconnections, such as *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*, and *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*, among others. She was the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute.

As well as the keynote speakers, guest speakers will include Uniting Church President-Elect Charissa Suli, the hosts of the With All Due Respect podcast, Megan Powell Du Toit and Michael Jensen, together with Sally Douglas, Associate Lecturer and Honorary Research Associate at Pilgrim Theological College

For more information about Preachfest nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/preachfest-2023



ROBIN YANG IN A NEW PM ROLE



The PPEP team are pleased to welcome Rev Robin Yang as a Supply Presbytery Minister from June 1. With his experience, he will be a great addition. He will be working together with David Higham and the Presbytery Ministry Team. He will remain in this role until it is filled.

If you need to contact our Presbytery Ministers their details are below;

Robin's Contact Details (Part time)

Presbytery Minister: Supply

t: 0416 190 723

e: robin.yang.au@outlook.com.au

Alternatively you can contact:

David Higham (Part time)

Presbytery Minister-Supply

t: 0405 435 644

e: pm-supply@ucappeg.org

A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNICATION TEAM

Thank you for all your stories, events, workshops, testimonies that have been happening around our Presbytery. It is much appreciated.

Please note: When sending photos they need to be individually attached to the email so it can be downloaded easily, the filename is maintained and there is no quality reduction, the pixel-size remains as the original.

CRAIG COOKS RECEIPE: MUSCAT BRAISED GOAT

Let's get warm and cosy this winter, with one of Craig Mitchell's recipes from his blog *Craig Cook's*. For further details and to follow the recipe please [click here](#).

This warm and hearty dinner is based on a James Kidman recipe from his wonderful book *Renaissance*.

James Kidman's recipe had a shoulder of goat. I had a kilo of goat bits. My recipe is a bit of him and a bit of me.

You'll need:

Goat – you decide how much

1.5 to 2 litres chicken stock – heated (recipe said 3 litres for shoulder)

1 carrot, diced

1/2 leek, diced (recipe says 1)

1 medium brown onion, diced

2 sticks celery, diced

200ml muscat (the recipe said 300ml. I had no muscat so I used 200ml good sherry and 100 ml good tawny port. It really needed muscat. Adjust the overall amount to suit the meat.)

50g dried porcini mushrooms (we were out of porcinis! So I used several sliced swiss browns and a tsp of porcini powder)

olive oil



SYNOD GRANTS 2024 **DIARY DATES**

The Synod Grants Program for 2024 has just been announced. Applications are due shortly for the following:

1. Mission or Ministry Program – Innovation and Collaboration

These grants will come from the Mission Reserve Fund established in 2021. The purpose of these grants is “to assist innovative and collaborative projects that creatively address missional and ministry needs arising from congregations and presbyteries.” The focus of these grants is on projects that are regional or for multiple congregation projects rather than for single congregations.

2. Ministry or Mission Program – Kilmory Trust Fund, WJ Craig Memorial Trust, Harold Hughes Estate

These three funds are, broadly speaking, to assist children, youth or families who are disadvantaged, in necessitous circumstances, or have medical or high care needs. The purpose of these grants is “to assist UCA entities who are seeking funding to support mission programs and ministries and are unable to fully fund the program from their own resources.”

3. Capital Works Program

The purpose of these grants is “to assist UCA entities who are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of buildings on UCA property and are unable to fully pay for the proposed works including essential maintenance costs or compliance requirements.” Funds include the Early Childhood Building Maintenance Relief Fund and the Capital Works Fund.

4. Congregational Debt Relief Fund

The purpose is to assist congregations stressed by debt to reduce this debt to a manageable level.

[Download the Grant forms here.](#)

The presbytery can assist congregations in preparing grant applications, however we are unable to do all of the work for you. Completed proposals need to be submitted to the appropriate presbytery committee which then considers providing an endorsement. Once you have read and understood the grant criteria and application form, you may contact Craig Mitchell, David Higham, or Jeff Gardner to discuss your proposals. Congregations considering Capital Works Programs are also encouraged to contact the PPE Property Committee directly.

World Environment Day

Monday 5 June

[Click here for further details](#)

Creative Spiritual Practise – Endeavour Hills UC

Thursdays from 7-9pm

Hosting Cothumos spiritual art journalling

Details email cothumos@gmail.com

Uniting in Prayer

May 28- June 22, 2023

[Click here for further details](#)

Presbytery in Council meeting

Wednesday 21 June, from 7:15pm via zoom

Further details are to come via email

Listening to the Voice

Sunday 25 June, from 2-4pm

Murrumbeena Uniting Church

117 Murrumbeena Rd, Murrumbeena

Welcoming and Inclusive: Actions for Churches in response to people with disabilities and mental health issues

Saturday 29 July 2023, 9:15 am – 5 pm

Salvation Army Centre, 1010 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill or Online

Cost: \$40, includes catering.

[Click here for further details.](#)

PreachFest

1-3 November, 2023

[Click here for further details](#)

Vic/Tas Synod Meeting

18-21 November, 2023

Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill

Contact Synod Logistics Coordinator Sarah Manase sarah.manase@victas.uca.org.au



JOIN SYNOD 2023



Synod 2023 will be held from November 18-21 at Box Hill Town Hall.

The Synod meets about every 18 months to receive reports, discern proposals, and discuss matters that concern the general oversight, direction and life of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania.

The Synod meeting includes nominated representatives from all eight presbyteries and includes a Tributes Service, which honours ministers who, since the previous Synod meeting, have:

- been ordained, retired or been received from other denominations since the preceding Synod meeting (2021).
- celebrated 50, 60, 65 and 70 years since ordination or commissioning.

The meeting will also be live-streamed and most of the sessions recorded including the Opening Worship on the morning of November 18.

WHAT IS SYNOD?

These meetings are important in defining who we are as the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania. Synod meetings are sometimes faced with challenging matters and important decisions, such as discerning who will be our next Moderator-elect, and such decisions are best made when we gather together to discern God's direction for our Church, and listen to the varied voices that make up our Synod.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Brooke Prentis - Aboriginal Christian Leader, international speaker, writer, educator, and poet will preach during the Opening Worship.

Rev Associate Professor Robyn Whitaker - Senior Lecturer in New Testament, Pilgrim Theological College, will lead the Bible Studies.

YOU ARE INVITED!

If you would like to be a member and attend, speak to your minister and/or contact Anne Kim for details on how to nominate. Any confirmed member of the UCA can nominate as a Synod member.

FURTHER DETAILS

Contact Synod Logistics Coordinator Sarah Manase on 9116 1963 or at sarah.manase@victas.uca.org.au



Uniting in Prayer June

Each week congregations are encouraged to include their neighbours in their prayers. The Presbytery's prayer calendar covers congregations, schools and agencies of the Uniting Church in our Presbytery and Synod. You can check the calendar on the Presbytery website.

June 4 St Andrew's Gardiner congregation - Rev Ajub Jahja, Tracie Mulia, Chair Irma Aer

June 11 Glen Waverley congregation - Rev Neil Peters, Ms Dianne Paterson

June 18 High St Frankston congregation- Rev Ross Pearce, Ms Mandy Lake, Chair Ross Huggard Somers Camp

June 22 Synod of Victoria/Tasmania -Rev David Fotheringham (Moderator), Rev Dr Mark Lawrence (General Secretary) Ms Isabel Thomas Dobson (Associate General Secretary), Rev Duncan Macleod (Executive Officer eLM)

June 25 Hampton Park congregation - Rev Ric Holland, Ms Niki Oostwoud, Chair David Taylor



A prayer giving thanks and praise
for the work of Jesus Christ

*Gracious God, we
praise you for all
that you have
done through Jesus
Christ,
By giving him to
live and die for us,
you showed us love
without limit;
by raising him from
the dead,
you brought us life
without end.*

*For the assurance and
hope of faith, and for
those whom you have
received into your
eternal joy,
we give you thanks and
praise; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Prayer supplied by Sarah Manase from
our Uniting in Worship 2 published by The
Assembly of UCA

Send your articles and photographs for
Newsbeat, the Presbytery website and
Facebook page, and weekly email, to
Communications Officer Sarah Manase

comms-officer@ucappep.org



Visit the Port Phillip East Presbytery office
at 1 Allan St, Noble Park.



03 9558 4710



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