



Bulletin – October 2016

**Encouraging each other in ministry and mission,
sharing resources, providing mutual support.**

November Gathering

**Thursday
24 November**

**Morialta Uniting
Church
26 Chapel Street,
Magill**



6.00 pm for 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm

*Ministry on the Edges:
Mental Health*

Guest presenters:

Rev Wendy Prior and Rev Mark Boyce

People with mental illness are often marginalized in a way not done to those affected by other forms of illness. Fear of it creates a wall of silence around people with mental illness and leaves them isolated, with feelings of possible rejection and discrimination, and with little or no help. To overcome the fear, education on mental health is important, as community support is essential to maintain health.

At the November Gathering, we will hear stories from people who have experienced mental health problems, what worked, what didn't, how faith was important in their recovery, and how people might be assisted in their recovery.

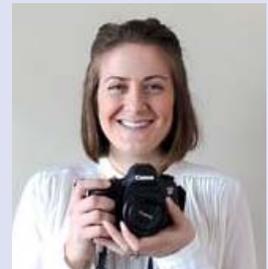
As with other gatherings, this time will include a meal, stories from our host church, music and celebrative worship, and a time for congregation representatives to meet, relax and share ministry achievements.

Donation to cover the cost of the meal.

RSVP on, or preferably before, Friday 18 November to susan@urbannetwork.org.au.

Please advise of any dietary needs.

A relaxed afternoon tea with Alexandra Bingham



Stories are powerful. They can be a window to new worlds; connecting us, opening our eyes to different perspectives and revealing new opportunities. That's why **Alexandra Bingham** left Australia to spend one year in Northern Philippines working with Indigenous communities and partner churches. Over the course of 2016, she has facilitated group and one-on-one training to build capacity in photography and video production. The end goal being to increase awareness of issues of injustice and strengthen advocacy campaigns.



Alexandra is on assignment, as an Australian Volunteers for International Development volunteer, with the Uniting Church partner church, United Church of Christ in the Philippines, where she is working

in communications and media. This event is supported by **International Mission (SA Synod), Pilgrim Uniting Church, and SAVR (SA Volunteers Returned)**.

Pilgrim Uniting Church

12 Flinders Street, Adelaide

Tuesday 11 October

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

No RSVP required but would be helpful for catering purposes
(Sandy Boyce boyce@pilgrim.org.au)

News from congregations and centres



Maintaining the momentum to act in response to global environmental change

PCNet and the Synod's Environmental Action Group (EAG), with the support of the Urban Mission Network, Pilgrim Pathways, the Morialta Social Justice team, and the Effective Living Centre will host

Kitchen Table Conversations

(a method for exploring concerns & expectations about the future)

with **Professor Bob Douglas**

Focusing on Pope Francis's encyclical, "Laudato si," which states that we can, and must urgently transform our relationship to nature and our understanding to care about "the common good."

Saturday 8 October

9.30 am – 12 noon

Morialta Uniting Church

26 Chapel Street, Magill

Cost: \$10

Bookings: www.effectiveliving.org,
phone 8271 0329, or
e-mail office@effectiveliving.org

See September bulletin for more information

An evening of Asian delights at Yilki

**Saturday
15 October
at 6.00 pm**

Yilki Uniting Church Hall

28 Giles Street, Encounter Bay

Superb Asian gourmet meal and Musical entertainment

(tea/coffee included).B.Y.O. Drinks.
\$20 per person (Special family rates)

As space is limited bookings are essential.

Phone 0418 845 989 or
email: dawn60@tpg.com.au



All ordained ministers, their families, and friends are invited to participate in a

Celebration of Ordained Ministry Thanksgiving Service

incorporating

50th Anniversary of Ordination

Special recognition of 50 years of ordained ministry of:

Rev John Maddern, Rev Jim Murton, and Rev John Woodhouse
will be made on this occasion

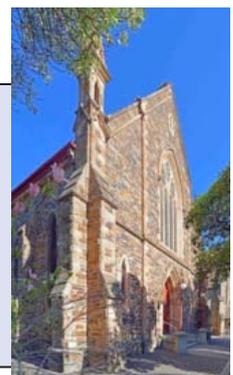
Worship leaders:
Rev Sue Ellis, Rev Jim Winn

Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town

Sunday 13 November, 2.00 pm

afternoon tea served in the hall following the service

Going back to the past, all Methodist ministers were ordained at Wesley Kent Town and each year all ministers gathered there to find out where they were being placed that year.



Concerts@KentTown continues...

**2 pm
Wednesday
19 October**

with

**Celebrated
Opera Star
Robert Dawe,
Bass Baritone**

and

**Damian Mansfield,
Pianist and Organist**

at

Wesley Church Kent Town

Cnr. Fullarton Road and Grenfell Street,
Kent Town

Tickets at the door \$10 and includes
afternoon tea





A brief history of Community Classes: Blackwood Uniting Church

In the 1970's the Blackwood Uniting Church recognized, as the area developed and new homes were settled, the need to address the isolation

being experienced by many people in the Blackwood and surrounding areas. As a result, the Community Program was established by the then Methodist Church using its key location on the roundabout to provide an opportunity for social interaction through the provision of a range of activities aimed to provide friendship, support, and care to the broader community beyond its congregation.

Initially, a limited range of art and craft activities was offered and proved to be very popular. Due to the program's success, these activities were expanded over the years to satisfy the ongoing needs expressed by the community. Approximately 300 people are attending our classes in 2016, and the program currently offers 29 different art, craft, and special interest classes and activities each week. These activities are held in the mornings and afternoons of each Wednesday and Thursday of the school term. Additional short courses/workshops such as mosaics, crochet, overlocking are held throughout the year if sufficient interest is shown. A crèche is provided at no extra cost on Wednesdays, as is tea and coffee.

Since the inception of the community classes, hundreds of participants have learnt new skills and made new friends. Many of these have gone on to pass on their skills as tutors to others, both in the Blackwood UC classes and elsewhere. Others have continued to pursue their activities as ongoing hobbies and to seek new skills in other crafts.

The continuing success of the program is due to the ongoing support of the church community

which provides not only the facilities but also the many volunteers necessary to undertake the various "behind the scenes" tasks. This enables the program's activities to be provided on a small budget allowing minimal fees being charged.

A highlight of the program's year is the Display Day held at the end of the last term of the year in late November. The Display Day offer an opportunity for the students and tutors to exhibit and sell their works to the public. The Display Day is an ideal opportunity for prospective students to become acquainted with the various activities offered, and to judge the quality of work produced.

For further information, contact Jacqui Harrison, Coordinator, Community Classes Blackwood Uniting Church, 266 Main Road, Blackwood (the Church at the Roundabout) **Tel: 8278 7699.**

The Church Office is open Monday – Friday (9.00 am to 2:30 pm)

Blackwood Community Classes

Craft Fair and Exhibition

**Saturday 19 November
9.00 am to 4.00 pm.**

Handmade crafts for sale, workshops, art exhibition, and community café

Blackwood Uniting Church

(The church at the roundabout)

Ph: 8278 7699 or

e-mail: office@blackwooduc.org.au



Reflect, Rest, Renew Quiet Days at Stillpoint

Fourth Wednesday and second Saturday of each month, up to and including November

Wednesdays

26 October

23 November

Saturdays

8 October

12 November

There is **no charge** for these days but you are invited to make a donation according to your means to help the ministry of Stillpoint.

For more information, phone:
(08) 8178 0048 (Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 am – 1:30 pm)
or Gary Stuckey on 0488017187

What are we expecting?

Planning and Resources for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany

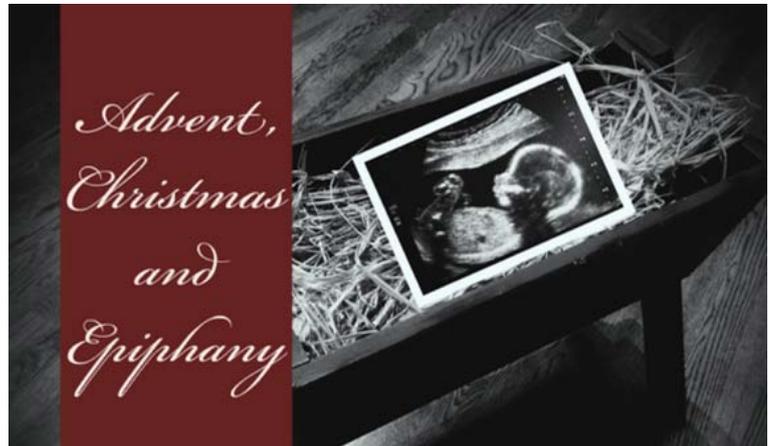
Save the Date!

**7.00 pm Wednesday
19 October**

**Christ Church Uniting
26 King William Road, Wayville**

Do you have any Advent wreath liturgies, visual art, music, or children, intergenerational or family resources around the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany? The Centre for Liturgy and the Arts would love to hear from you.

Email CMLA admin@cmla.org.au



FEAST

21 October – 6 November

Pride march

Saturday, 22 October.

Gather in Light Square from 5.30 pm ready for the March to set off at 6.30 pm. The march will continue via Morphett Street and Gouger Street to Victoria Square. If you are part of an open and welcoming church and can bring your congregation's banner, that would be terrific. (p8)

Queer Christian worship service

Sunday, 30 October.

Brougham Place Uniting Church, 7 pm, followed by supper. (p38)

Picnic in the park

Sunday, 6 November.

Pinky Flat (corner War Memorial Drive and Montefiore Road (between Adelaide Oval and River Torrens). From 11 am – 6 pm. (p12)

For many years, Unity and Friends have participated in FEAST by:

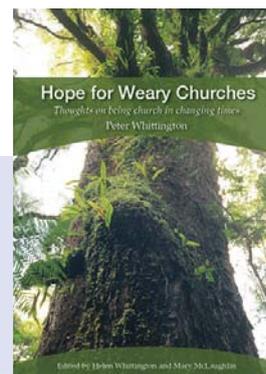
- Taking part in the Pride March
- Organising an inclusive worship service
- Having a stall at the Picnic

Unity and Friends extends an invitation to any or all of the following events.

Further details are in the FEAST Program book, available at <https://www.feast.org.au>. The page numbers in brackets are the clues.

Book Review

Hope for Weary Churches *Thoughts on being church in changing times*



Rev Peter Whittington wrote this book in 2002-03, from his experience in local ministry and as the UCA SA Synod mission consultant, but was unable to complete the work needed. It has been edited and published by his family to make Peter's insights available to congregations, their ministers and leaders. To order copies contact MediaCom Education Inc. www.mediacom.org.au 1800 811 311 or Helen Whittington hpwhitt@hotmail.com 0417877812. Cost is \$17.50

Review by Rev Dr Dean Eland

Peter's book is a gift to us. It's a gift because Peter took time to stop and reflect on a lifetime of ministry in SA. His reflections are not about easy answers, paste on solutions, propositions or arguments for this or that mission strategy.

While Peter set out to comment on various theories, the book is biographical because Peter documents his experiences of working with congregations and helping them to face their future. He is writing to assist local church leaders who are coping with change and begins with an assumption that, *many leaders feel tired out from the effort of keeping their church going over many years. They are aware of the need to discover new directions if their church is to flourish or even survive but wonder where they can ever find the energy for fresh initiatives.*

Our first impressions on reading the title are confronting because of the assumption that the UC is tired and confused about our response to the changing context, a new world where the values and priorities are so different from the core gospel themes. Reading about Peter's journey and meeting this challenge then becomes an invitation to us to draw on theological and reflective sources.

In the introduction I included two verses of the poem, *Easter Experience* by Bonhoeffer, to remind us that in the face of sorrow and loss, the in-between Easter Saturday, there is the power of love's embrace,

*Sorrow and joy,
striking suddenly on our startled senses,
seem, at the first approach, all but impossible
of just distinction one from the other,
even as frost and heat at the first keen contact
burn us alike.*

*O you mothers and loved ones – then, ah, then
comes your hour, the hour for true devotion.
Then your hour comes, you friends and brothers!*

*Loyal hearts can change the face of sorrow,
softly encircle it with love's most gentle
unearthly radiance.*

As we read on, we come to affirm again that those on the faith journey are always dealing with the sense of loss that comes with change. The church's 2,000-year journey reminds us that the cultural and historical settings are the given realities and that the call to renewal emerges out of the experience of exile, sorrow and loss.

This then is not the work of a detached scholar, the view from the balcony, but draws on the view from below. In responding to this challenge, we hear Peter's voice coming through in the phrases and in the references he makes to those who were the source of his inspiration. It's a gift to us also because Peter is inviting us to do the same.

These memoirs are about engagement and a willingness to learn from varied sources, a search that comes from identifying with and walking alongside leaders of congregations and not telling them what to do.

We are thankful that Peter took the time to record his thoughts and set out his convictions about a *people on the way to a promised end*. In meeting this challenge, Peter does not ignore the mood of the times, the weariness that accompanies those who over the years have done their best and given their time and energy in leadership positions. His gift to us comes from both his experience and by sharing the struggle he had in identifying core principles, the ingredients that make up an effective mission plan. In struggling to identify these principles we are led to adapt and employ the insights we discover on the way rather than adopting one single conceptual framework. Peter's book then is a prompt for us, a resource encouraging us to respond to new social realities by drawing on our own experiences, our best insights in a positive and affirming way.



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