



26th May 2021

Notes and news for Yarra Yarra Congregations and Institutions

As usual, the newsletter contains a number of items which may be of interest to your congregations. Please identify other items relevant to your community, and promote the issues and events listed below through your own newsletters and other communication channels as appropriate. There is much going on, so please take a few minutes to review. Please ensure that items for the next edition are sent in by the end of the month. It is helpful if you can provide text, rather than copies of fliers which need to be transcribed and summarised. Please include contact information for those seeking more information.

PRESBYTERY NEWS

COVID-Safe arrangements for Congregations

All congregations will have received information about the current new restrictions in place in Victoria. Please watch for updates from Synod and download the [Synod FAQs](#) for full details as it is released this week.

Presbytery Meeting

The next meeting of the Presbytery will be on Saturday 26th June, via Zoom. More details, including the link for registration will be sent early in June, but please reserve this date in your diary if you are a member.

Annual Reports

We thank all of the congregations who have already sent copies of their 2020 Annual reports, and remind every congregation that it is a requirement that a copy be sent to the Presbytery. Doing so is also a good reminder to the 19 congregations who have not yet done so to send in an update of contacts and membership numbers.

Presbytery Staffing

As mentioned last month, Rob Nosko is now working with Yarra Yarra Presbytery for two days each week. Rob should now be your primary contact for any issues related to property, including enquiries about submitting properties for investment in the Money for Mission programme. Rob may be contacted at Rob.Nosko@victas.uca.org.au.

Chairperson	Lisa Carey	03 9857 1006	lisa.carey@pyy.victas.uca.org.au
Presbytery Ministers	Liz McMillan	0419 884 736	liz.mcmillan@victas.uca.org.au
	Sunny Chen	0423 273 813	pyy.pmc@victas.uca.org.au
Secretary	Geoffrey Grinton	03 9857 1003	pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au

ENGAGE ALL GENERATIONS (ON-LINE BOOK LAUNCH)

[Engage All Generations: a strategic toolkit](#) is the latest book from Cory Seibel. It will be launched at a special event on 9th June at 11am. This very special **FREE Zoom launch event** will include the opportunity to find out more about the book, engage with a number of the number of the contributors and connect with others interested in intergenerational ministry. The launch will also include information on a series of Book Groups being set-up for those interested in exploring the content further and implementing the ideas presented. [Click here for more information and to register](#)

NORTHEY LECTURE: RED OCHRE THEOLOGY

Hear the viewpoint of an Australian First Nations Theologian. Dr Pattel Gray has spent 20 years decolonising biblical narratives and developing theology that draws on Australia First Nations creation stories and experiences. Come and hear her speak about her theology at the first of the 2021 Northey lectures.

DATE: Thursday 22nd July at 7 pm.

VENUE: Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville, or online via Zoom. Registration (for attendance or joining via Zoom) is at

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/northey-lecture-with-dr-anne-pattel-gray-red-ochre-theology-tickets-153277020695>

YOUTH WORK AND THE COMMUNITY: A SHARED JOURNEY

Young people are often viewed as problems that need fixing and youth workers have often assumed the role of fixing them, almost separate to the rest of the community. What if there was a better way to see young people flourish? A way that benefited from the strengths of the community and invited youth workers and young people in from the cold. Join Tim Evans (UK), Andre Van Eymeren (Aus), and Cormac Russell (Ireland) for an online conversation about how youth workers and the community can work together to benefit all young people.

When: Friday, 11th June at 3 pm.

Registration: <http://bit.ly/YthWkAEST>

Cost: \$24.19

GROWING UP UNITING

MediaCom Education's latest book 'Growing up Uniting' is now available for [pre-order](#). Edited by William Emilsen (author of 'Charles Harris – A Struggle for Justice') and Elizabeth Watson, *Growing up Uniting* features narratives

from 20 individuals who share their personal experience of being formed in the Uniting Church. The book will be officially launched at the Assembly's National History Conference to be held at the Centre for Ministry in Sydney from Friday 11th June to Sunday 13th June.

"This collection of lively and thoughtful essays is instructive reading for anyone who cares about the present and future of the Uniting Church in Australia. The contributors write with candour about their experiences of "growing up Uniting." The UCA's contribution to their lives—its open and welcoming style, its encouragement of their questions and its capacity to respond with conversations that open up rather than close down further enquiry, its provision of loving and practical mentoring, its embrace of diversity and inclusiveness, its witness to radical gospel values of justice, compassion, servant leadership and rejection of oppression—is enthusiastically acknowledged." Dr Judith Raftery, President of UCSA Historical Society

More information: <https://historicalsociety.unitingchurch.org.au/events/>

HOW THE CHURCH'S SONGS SHAPE US

Our Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian musical heritage has given the church a very rich resource for community singing. Rev Dr D'Arcy Wood, a leader in church music in Australia, will introduce hymns that continue to enrich Christian worship. Hear invited choristers from Wesley Church Lonsdale Street, and join in community singing.

When: Sunday 20th June 2021 at 2 pm

Where: Stonnington Uniting Church 57-59 Burke Road Malvern East

Register to attend by email: ken.barelli@bigpond.com

Enquiries: Ken Barelli – Mobile 0418 317 942

*If you have information that you wish to have distributed through this newsletter, please ensure that it is submitted by the start of the month in which the item is to appear. I plan to try to send newsletters out in the third week, so that means if your event occurs early in the month, you will need to have it submitted by the start of the **previous** month.*

The newsletter is sent to Church Council Secretaries and Presbytery members. If you should not be receiving it, please contact me at pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au with the name of your congregation and the name of the correct person.