



Uniting Church in Australia  
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania  
Presbytery of Yarra Yarra

PO Box 4308  
Balwyn East VIC 3103

4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## 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

#### Presbytery Ministry

##### Presbytery Minister Ministry

You will have read in the last newsletter about the appointment of Rev Ray McCluskey as our new Presbytery Minister Ministry. Ray started with Yarra Yarra on 15<sup>th</sup> October, and is already heavily engaged in his new role. You can contact Ray using the information at the bottom of this page.

Now we look forward to an induction service. This will be the first part of the November Presbytery meeting, to be held on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Burwood Heights church**, on the corner of Burwood Highway and Blackburn Road, Burwood East. **The service will start at 9:30 am**, and everyone is welcome. Please share this information with your Church Council and others who may be interested.

##### Presbytery Minister — Secretary and Administrative Leadership

In another development, it is pleasing to be able to report that approval has now been given for Yarra Yarra Presbytery to proceed with the next steps required to fill the new position of Secretary/Presbytery Minister Administration. This will be a full-time position, and will combine the two roles which, until now, have been separate appointments.

The person appointed to the role will be a key member of the leadership team, working with two other Presbytery Ministers to provide support to the Presbytery, its leadership and committees, and to congregations to live out the Presbytery strategy of Looking, Learning, Leading and Loving. The appointee will have responsibility for the administration of the Presbytery,

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Presbytery Ministers	Ray McCluskey	03 9857 1002	<a href="mailto:ray.mccluskey@victas.uca.org.au">ray.mccluskey@victas.uca.org.au</a>
	Sunny Chen	03 9857 1001	<a href="mailto:pyy.pmc@victas.uca.org.au">pyy.pmc@victas.uca.org.au</a>
Secretary	Geoffrey Grinton	03 9857 1003	<a href="mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au">pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au</a>

and will have the role of Secretary as defined in the Uniting Church in Australia Regulations.

The position has been listed with the Synod Placements Committee, and is open to both Ministers and lay members of the Uniting Church. It is being advertised, and a copy of the advertisement is included in this newsletter. You are invited to share this information with anyone who you believe may have the gifts, skills and qualifications for the role.

### **Presbytery Meeting**

As indicated above, the next meeting will be on **26<sup>th</sup> November, at Burwood Heights, starting at 9:30 am** with the induction of Rev Ray McCluskey. A preliminary agenda will be sent to members of Presbytery shortly, but please ensure this date is in the calendars of all who need to know.

We are still conscious that there are some congregations who have not appointed a member to be their Presbytery Representative. If that is the case, we ask that the Church Council Secretary accepts that as one of the responsibilities of their office, and attends the meeting to ensure that the congregation is represented. Participation in the life and decisions of the Presbytery is important for every congregation, as Presbytery decisions can have an important impact.

### **Presbytery Leadership**

The Call for Nominations for Presbytery Leadership positions was sent to all members of Presbytery and to Church Councils on 21<sup>st</sup> October. This commences the annual process to appoint Committee Chairpersons, members of committees, and other roles. **Nominations are due by 7<sup>th</sup> November.** Please look again at the nominations material, which is attached again to this email, and think again about who you would like to be involved in leadership in Yarra Yarra Presbytery. Nominations may be made by members of Presbytery and by Congregational leaders.

### **Annual Mission and Service Giving**

With the approaching end of the year, now would be a good time to check that your congregation's Mission and Service Giving is up-to-date. We know that some congregations prefer to make lump-sum payments, and while this is quite acceptable, it is important that the payments be made before the end of the year.

## **Yarra Yarra Presbytery**

### **Presbytery Minister — Secretary and Administrative Leadership**

The Yarra Yarra Presbytery of the Uniting Church in Australia invites applications for the full-time role of Presbytery Minister — Secretary and Administrative Leadership.

Yarra Yarra Presbytery includes over sixty congregations, and covers a large wedge of the majority of the north-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It has an extensive varied demography, from high density inner city living, to the medium density living of the Eastern suburban sprawl, to low density housing of the outer semi-rural country side surrounding the Dandenong ranges.

The position combines the positions of Secretary and Administrative Leadership. The person appointed to the role will be a key member of the leadership team, working with two other Presbytery Ministers to provide support to the Presbytery, its leadership and committees, and to congregations to live out the Presbytery strategy of Looking, Learning, Leading and Loving.

The appointee will have responsibility for the administration of the Presbytery, and will have the role of Secretary as defined in the Uniting Church in Australia Regulations.

For further information or to apply, contact:

Rev. Sue Clarkson, Placements Secretary

Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

EMAIL: [placements.secretary@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:placements.secretary@victas.uca.org.au)

Applications close 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 and should include a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a Uniting Church profile if appropriate, and the names of three referees.

## **YOUNG ADULTS IN LEADERSHIP**

Applications are now open for the 2023 National Young Adult Leaders Conference, which will be held from 26–29<sup>th</sup> January 2023 on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria. Hosted by the President of the Uniting Church in Australia and the National Chair of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, NYALC is for Uniting Church young adults aged 18-30 who seek to grow their leadership skills, faith and discipleship in a supportive and empowering community. Applications close on 7<sup>th</sup> November. Head to the NYALC website for the application form and a video with a message from the President which can be shown in congregations. <https://nyalc.org.au>.

## **CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE) COURSES IN BANYULE**

The Banyule Network of Uniting Churches CPE Centre will run two CPE Units commencing early in 2023.

Dr Graeme Gibbons and Carolyn Daggers will Supervise a Zoom Unit and Rev Tom Rose will supervise an in-person Unit at Heidelberg. For more information and applications, visit the information page at <http://banyuleuc.org.au/connecting-with-community/cpe/>

## **BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH STORY**

The next instalment in the Building Bridges Series, on **19<sup>th</sup> November from 1:30 pm**, will focus on First Nations People's stories, the Uluru Statement from the Heart and the campaign for a Constitutionally-enshrined Voice to Parliament.

This is an opportunity to delve deeper as Thomas Mayor, participant in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and one of the First Nation's leaders of the Referendum Working Group, shares with us his story and perspectives around these important issues.

The event is free but it is important to register early so you don't miss out. Register via <https://buildingbridges.events/>, [buildingbridges@manninghamuc.org](mailto:buildingbridges@manninghamuc.org) or by phoning 9846 2012.

## **PREPARING FOR MATTHEW**

As we head into the next Lectionary year, we prepare ourselves for the Gospel of Matthew. Come along on Saturday **19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm** to explore the many degrees of the Gospel of Matthew. **Held at Manningham Uniting Church & Community Centre, 109 Wood St, Templestowe.**

Led in the morning by **Rev Dr Sean Winter** (Academic Dean, Coordinator of Studies in New Testament, and Associate Professor within the University of Divinity) we will then move into your choice of workshop covering music, liturgy, intergenerational or everyday action. We will also unveil an Icon of Matthew, painted by **Rev Dr Peter Blackwood** from the Uniting Church Icon School.

The workshop is free, but your rsvp would be appreciated. For information, visit <https://manninghamuc.org/matthewgospel>, telephone 9846 2012, or email [info@manninghamuc.org](mailto:info@manninghamuc.org)

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*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](mailto:pyy.secretary@victas.uca.org.au) with the name of your congregation and the name of the correct person.*