



# Uniting Tasmania

Issue No. 241 | August 2026

**UCA Tasmania**

*Charting Our  
Way Together*

**Journey Plan 2026**



This year, we are inviting communities of faith across lutruwita/Tasmania into a conversation that matters deeply:

***What do we need to do, and who do we need to be as a church, to faithfully live out our call to discipleship here in lutruwita/Tasmania?***

We have listened to some feedback asking for more clarity about the Presbytery's Charter Journey.

This is a chance to be heard, to hear others, and together write down what faithfully following Christ looks like in Tasmania right now, and into the future, as we seek community, compassion and justice for all creation.

***What you share will help shape what the vision and shared goals of Faithful Futures look like, lived out in your communities.***

Read the **Listening Phase reports** here:

<https://ucatas.org.au/about/charter/>

or phone us at the UCA Tasmanian Office on 6331 9784 for a printed copy.

## **Your next opportunity to engage and contribute: 'Refining' the draft Charter**

**Who:** all leaders and members of Uniting Church congregations and faith communities, walking together with Leprena UAICC Tasmania.

Location, date and time: save the date and plan to join one of three gatherings across Tasmania (with catering provided!)

In the registration form choose the venue that suits you:

- **Friday 21 August, 1:00–4:00pm: Cam Rise UC: 3 Wragg Street, Somerset**
- **Saturday 22 August, 10:00am–1:00pm: Longford UC: 3 High Street, Longford**
- **Sunday 23 August, 1:00–4:00pm: Clarence UC: 2 York Street, Bellerive**

Registrations are now open – please RSVP so we can cater for your needs.

Register here or phone us at the Office:

<https://ucatas.org.au/about/charter/>



Over four Tuesday nights; 1st - 22nd September, 2026,  
6:30 - 9pm (come from 6 for a BYO dinner and chat)

Register: <http://presentpeoplesept.eventbrite.com.au>

The Present People course itself has been put together by Sports Chaplaincy Australia [City Mission Chaplaincy is delivering the training], and while it is a good base line for those stepping into chaplaincy, Present People is not actually a chaplaincy course – really its valuable for any Jesus follower who is serious about living for Christ wherever they are. I say this is a great course for anyone who desires to engage with people and gently and authentically share the gospel, not for the sake of gaining a convert, but because they truly love the people around them.

Not only do we encourage people to come along, but to consider whether this course would be something that your church could benefit from engaging with – either this time or another. Or there may be a home/small group in your church who may benefit from doing this as a group?

If you want more info, email [chaplain@citymission.org.au](mailto:chaplain@citymission.org.au) or ring Ben Hallam (6335 3000 | [0491 134 220](tel:0491134220)) Cost: \$50 per person. If this is a concern, please get in touch to discuss.

## Here and There

UK writer Matthew Hall reflects on revealing his [Christian faith](#) in a secular creative industry. Anticipating backlash, he instead found curiosity, connection and a renewed confidence to speak openly about his faith and the freedom that came with it.

You can add your voice towards justice for refugees. More information and a link to a letter writing guide can be obtained at <https://justact.org.au/people-seeking-asylum/letter-writing/>

# HYMNS AND PSALMS ON JUSTICE AND HOPE

JOIN IN SINGING AT STONNINGTON  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

All are welcome to join us for this free event on

**SUNDAY 12 JULY AT 2.30PM**

**59 Burke Road, Malvern East**

**Pianist Bruce Macrae, organist Colin Prohasky and  
guest choir**

Attend live or email for a link to:

**[ken.barelli@bigpond.com](mailto:ken.barelli@bigpond.com)**

For enquiries, contact **0418 317 942**

VICTAS UNITING CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Synod of Vic-Tas  
Lay Preachers' Association



Equipping Leadership  
for Mission/CTM

## Lay Preacher Sunday An Open Letter to all Church Councils and Congregations

The Lay Preachers' Association of the Victorian and Tasmanian Synod, with the eLM/Centre of Theology and Ministry, has set the month of August each year as Lay Preachers' Sunday. This is to be one Sunday during the month when we celebrate the role and contribution of Lay Preachers and lay worship leaders who help build up the life of our Church.

We encourage all congregations to celebrate this occasion on one of the Sunday services in August 2026.

We also recognise that there are many who faithfully lead their people in worship and preach without any formal recognition as a preacher. The church recognises this reality but without their faithful service there would be many congregations on any given Sunday with nobody to lead their worship. So in this celebration we thank God for the dedication and the gifts of accredited Lay Preachers, but also all people, Lay and Ordained, who bring us each week their insights and the life experience of their faith.

We pray the blessing of God on all who accept the call to spread the Good News..

Resources compiled by Alastair Davison are available at

Here and There



**COST**  
**\$50**

**SEMESTER 2 2026**

## Uniting Learning Units

Uniting Learning offers accessible, **Zoom-based units** delivered **7-9pm**, designed to support discipleship and leadership development in the Uniting Church. Units are **\$50 each** (with a **free orientation session**), providing flexible, low-intensity opportunities to grow in faith, theology, and ministry skills.

### Introduction to Uniting Learning July 20 (free session)

Orientation session covering LMS, library access, assessments, and support. [Register by July 10.](#)

### Understanding the UCA July 27 | Aug 17 | Sept 14 | Oct 12

Explore the identity, history, theology and structure of the UCA. [Register by July 17.](#)

### Exploring the Old Testament Aug 5, 12, 19, 26 | Sept 16, 23, 30 | Oct 7

Discover key themes of the Old Testament and its role in faith and history. [Register by July 27.](#)

### Exploring Worship in the UCA Oct 26 | Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Learn to plan and lead meaningful, engaging worship services. [Register by Oct 9.](#)



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



# NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER **CHILDREN'S DAY**

Leprena invites families and community to  
come together to celebrate National  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Children's Day.

**When: Tuesday 4 August 2026**

**Time: 11am - 1pm**

**Where: Dru Point Bicentennial Park**

This year's theme, Living Our Truth, celebrates  
the voices, stories and knowledge of Aboriginal  
and Torres Strait Islander children, families and  
communities. It honours truth-telling, cultural  
strength, and the knowledge passed down  
through generations.

**BBQ lunch provided  
Cultural activities**

**All families and community welcome**

## WEAVING CHRIST'S LOVE AS A LAY PREACHER



### NATIONAL LAY PREACHERS' CONFERENCE

Friday 4 September – Sunday 6 September 2026

# Why not apply for a Presbytery grant to assist with your attendance costs?

Find text or tools 🔍



## Conference Details

### When?

Friday 4 September – Sunday 6 September 2026

Conference opens: 12.00 pm Friday – registration and welcome.

Official welcome: 1.30 pm

Opening worship: 2.00 pm

Conference closes: 1.15 pm Sunday – home in time for any Fathers' Day get-togethers

### Where?

Centre for Theology and Ministry (CTM), 29 College Crescent, Parkville 3025

Located within the precinct of the University of Melbourne Colleges, CTM is also the home of Pilgrim Theological College – one of the twelve Colleges of the University of Divinity, Melbourne (Naarm).

### Cost

Conference Cost of **\$360** include all meals, drinks and materials.

- Early Bird discount will be deducted until Monday, 17 August
- Accommodation and travel expenses not included
- Special rates for One Day and Half-day participants and online.



## Register Today

Registration is now open. Book your place via the link below or scan the QR code. Complete this Registration before booking accommodation at **Park Inn** to receive discounted rate.

[events.humanitix.com/2026-national-lay-preachers-conference](https://events.humanitix.com/2026-national-lay-preachers-conference)

For more information, please contact the Conference Coordinator, Alastair Davison at [nclp2026@gmail.com](mailto:nclp2026@gmail.com)



# **FAITHFUL FUTURES**

## **Expressions of Interest now open**

Join us to help shape the future of ministry and mission **with hope and faithfulness.**

**Join one of five goal groups:**



**RESPECTING  
COUNTRY**



**COORDINATED  
MINISTRIES**



**ALL-AGE  
GROWTH**



**NEW  
COMMUNITIES  
OF FAITH**



**INTERCULTURAL  
LEADERSHIP**

**No committee experience needed.**

We are seeking people who bring a combination of **lived faith, relevant experience, passion and collaborative skills.**



**Scan the QR code to register your interest**  
or visit [victas.uca.org.au/ff-eoi/](https://victas.uca.org.au/ff-eoi/)

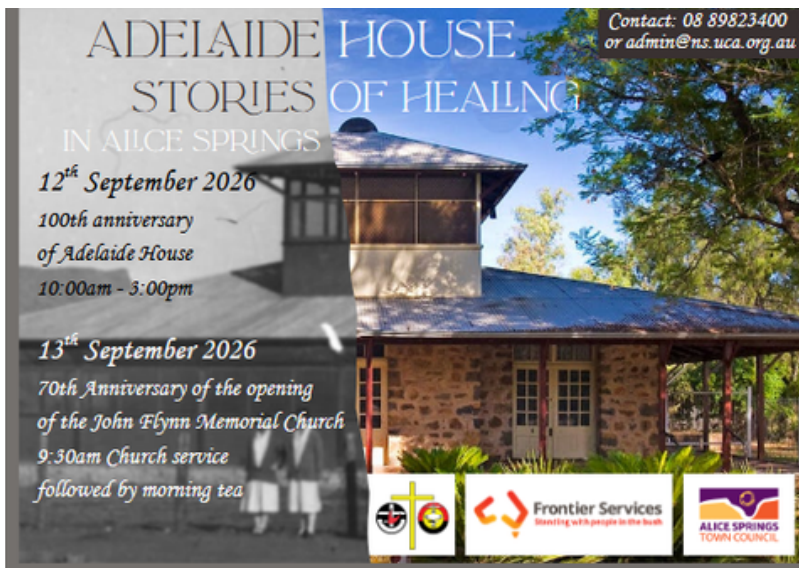
**EOIs close: July/August 2026.** Visit the Faithful Futures webpage for more information, including the Terms of Reference for each of the goal groups at [victas.uca.org.au/faithful-futures/](https://victas.uca.org.au/faithful-futures/)

Questions? [FaithfulFutures@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:FaithfulFutures@victas.uca.org.au)



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA





## John Flynn Memorial Church, Alice Springs 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This September, Alice Springs will host celebrations marking two significant milestones in the legacy of Rev John Flynn. On 12 September, the Northern Synod, Frontier Services and Alice Springs Town Council will commemorate the 100th anniversary of Adelaide House, the town's first hospital. The following day marks the 70th anniversary of the opening of the John Flynn Memorial Church. The events will celebrate his enduring contribution to healthcare, faith and the development of remote Australia. All are welcome to attend.

| ADELAIDE HOUSE CENTENARY CELEBRATION |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2026           |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 10am                                 | Morning tea Provided by the Country Women's Association (CWA)                                                                                                                     |
| 10:30am                              | Official Ceremony - Stories of Healing                                                                                                                                            |
| 11:30am                              | Displays and activities in Adelaide House                                                                                                                                         |
| 12:00pm                              | BBQ Lunch                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1:00pm                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mapping Project</li> <li>The Opening Service photo and First Peoples</li> <li>'What was it like to live in Adelaide House?'</li> </ul> |
| 3:00pm                               | Close of event                                                                                                                                                                    |



## Disability Access and Awareness Training

**Advanced Notice: please put these dates in your diary now and plan to learn more!**

This is being offered in the North and in the South.

The training is being offered by Elga Rodriguez, Synod Disability and Inclusion Advocate.

DATES:

- North: Sat 10 Oct for 2 hours
- South: Sun 11 Oct for 2 hours (this will be afternoon)

# Are we compliant?

## Who needs to hold a Working With Vulnerable People card?

Ministry Workers, Worship Leaders inc Lay Preachers, Bible Readers, Sunday School leaders, KUCA leaders, Messy Church Leaders, Stewards and Welcomers.

Church Councillors, Elders, Congregation Executive, Pastoral Visitors, Musicians/Choir members. Please ensure everyone that is listed on a roster has current cards and has attended the Safe Church Training sessions. The dot points below contains information regarding compliance benefits for Church Council/Congregation information

Uniting Church Insurance policies cover each local Congregation and their Church Council, including local appointed leaders, where the requirements for compliance with the Church's policies are met.

- These requirements include our Safe Church policies which oblige all leaders to maintain current Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration and Safe Church Training, and for all active ordained ministers twice-yearly attendance at Ethical Ministry Refresher (EMR or Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice) sessions, either in person or online.

Are we compliant?

- If an appointed leader does not hold current WWVP registration or has not completed Safe Church Training within the last three years, the Uniting Church Insurance policies may not cover the local activities of the Church. Personal liability falls to the local individuals who comprise the Church Council, Executive or Ministry Leaders group, and the personal legal consequences are very serious.

- If a Church Council is unable to ensure compliance with the Church's policies, this raises 'red flags' around the capacity of the Congregation to meet the requirements for keeping everyone safe, and meeting the legal obligations of our community standards and Uniting Church Regulations.

- For support in meeting the requirements of the Church's policies and Regulations, please contact the UCA Tasmanian Office or your Presbytery Minister.



## PROGRAM

|                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>9:30 am</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>12:30 pm</b>                                                                                                    |
| <b>Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Worship</b>                                                                                                 | <b>Lunch</b>                                                                                                       |
| <b>9:45 am</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>1:30 pm</b>                                                                                                     |
| <b>Plenary Session</b><br>Theological reflections on peace-building – Matthew Anslow                                                                  | <b>Workshop Session 1</b>                                                                                          |
| <b>10:45 am</b>                                                                                                                                       | <b>2:20 pm</b>                                                                                                     |
| <b>Morning Tea</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>Workshop Session 2</b>                                                                                          |
| <b>11:15 am</b>                                                                                                                                       | <b>3:05 pm</b>                                                                                                     |
| <b>Half the Story, None of the Power:</b><br>Women, Exclusion, and the Failure of Israeli-Palestinian Peace – Nilda Shoughry and Tsameret Levy-Daphny | <b>Afternoon Tea</b>                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                       | <b>3:30 pm</b>                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Plenary Session</b><br>How to build support for non-violent peace-building and the direction of the JIM Cluster |
|                                                                                                                                                       | <b>4:30 pm</b>                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Closing Worship</b>                                                                                             |

## DETAILS

|              |                                                                                                                 |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WHEN</b>  | Saturday 25 July 2026, 9:30 am – 4:45 pm                                                                        |
| <b>WHERE</b> | Centre for Theology and Ministry,<br>29 College Crescent, Parkville                                             |
| <b>COST</b>  | <b>\$50</b> for metropolitan participants<br><b>\$25</b> concession and non-metropolitan Melbourne participants |



To register go to  
[events.humanityuk.com/2026-jim-convention](https://events.humanityuk.com/2026-jim-convention)

## THE WORKSHOPS

- 1. Swords into ploughshares – Campaigning against the arms trade, including autonomous weapons and biological weapons**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 2. Non-Violent Strategies versus Armed Conflict – How do we assess the alternatives?**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 3. Move the Money Campaign – Increasing funding for peace-building and human security**  
**Facilitator:** Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- 4. Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel – Practical non-violent involvement in conflict zones**  
**Facilitator:** John Wardlaw (who recently returned from a placement in East Jerusalem and the West Bank) and Rev Sandy Boyce, Executive Officer, Victorian Council of Churches
- 5. What does peace-building look like in real communities today? The experience of UnitingWorld's partner in Maluku, Indonesia.**  
**Facilitator:** Antony McMullen, Church Engagement Manager at UnitingWorld
- 6. Peace-building in Myanmar**  
**Facilitator:** Tim Molineux
- 7. Solidarity with peace-builders in Palestine and Israel**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 8. Peace-building in the Philippines**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 9. Correcting the historical injustice of the colonial conquest of Australia**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 10. Addressing family, domestic and sexual violence**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak
- 11. Conflict resolution in congregations**  
**Facilitator:** Mark Zirnsak



**BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS – BUILDING A PEACE CHURCH**

Justice and International Mission  
 Convention 2026

**SATURDAY 25 JULY, 2026**



Uniting Church in Australia  
 SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

**JUSTACT**

ACT WITH JUSTICE IN MIND



The 1982 National Assembly affirmed the Uniting Church in Australia to be a peacemaking body and encouraging alternatives to war. However, the resolution did not rule out the use of "Just War" in exceptional circumstances. With a number of serious armed conflicts around the world, and increased polarisation across communities, the following statement from the World Council of Churches is highly relevant:

***We are convinced: A clear witness to peace and nonviolence grounded in justice is what the world needs today from all the churches together...***

***As Christians, we are motivated and encouraged by the Gospel message of the peace of Christ and the rich Biblical tradition of peace and justice... We want to engage in constructive efforts to build a culture of peace.***

True peace-building must seek to create socially just outcomes, not simply aim for the absence of violence. Without addressing underlying injustices, the chance for lasting peace fall to near zero.

An assessment of civil resistance movements between 2010 and 2019 found 34% of non-violent struggles succeeded compared to 9% of violent campaigns. Thus, in practice, non-violent campaigns are, on average, four times more likely to be successful than violent ones.

The focus of the 2026 Justice and International Mission Convention will be to explore how Uniting Church members can build greater engagement on non-violent peace-building.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### **Dr. Nida Shoughry**

Co-Director, Center for Women, Peace and Security, Ilach-Ma'aki

Dr Shoughry is a scholar-practitioner working at the intersection of feminist peace-building, conflict transformation, and women's political participation. She has co-trained and accompanied over 100 Palestinian and Israeli women leaders in preparation for peace negotiations. She has collected more than 2,000 online accounts of Palestinian women documenting survival, resistance, and visions for peace.



### **Dr. Tsameret Levy-Daphny**

Strategic Advisor and Lecturer; Fellow, Forum for Regional Thinking

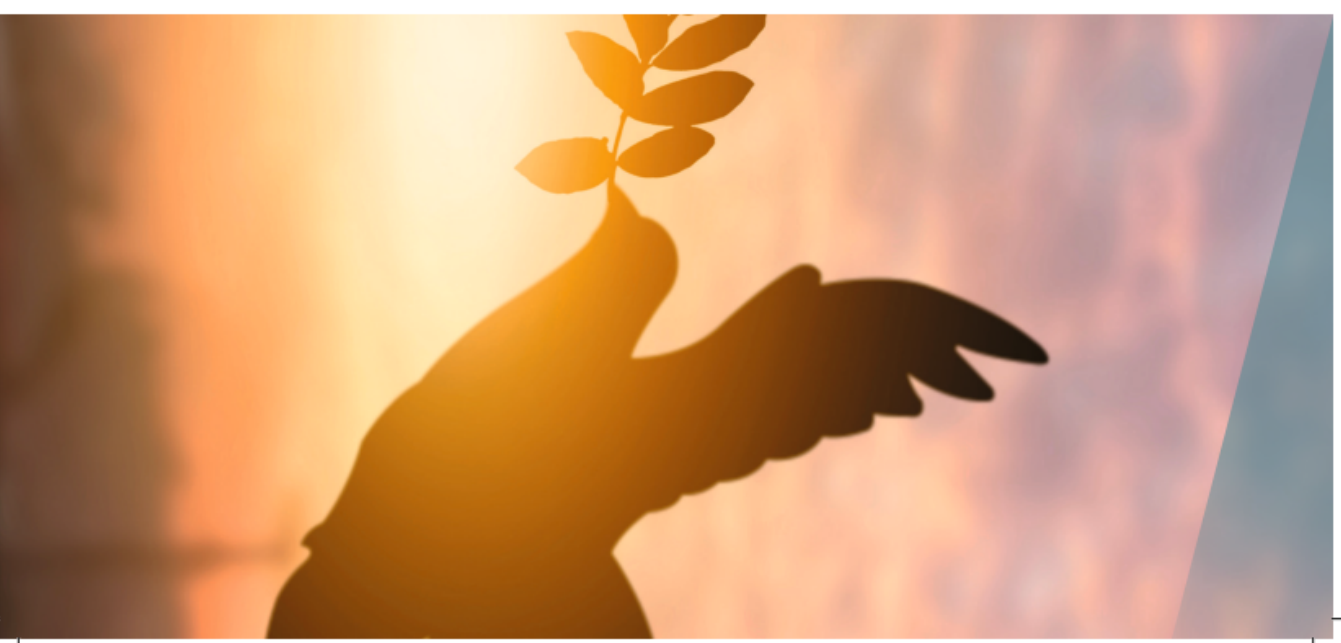
Dr Levy-Daphny is an expert on Turkey and the Middle East, and a lecturer and strategic advisor with over 25 years of experience in Israeli academia and civic initiatives. She previously headed the Turkey Forum at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, where she led research programs and regional collaborations.



### **Dr. Matthew Anslow**

Matthew is a biblical scholar and theologian, activist, author, and preacher

Matthew's first book, *Fulfilling the Law and the Prophets*, was published in 2022 and he has published numerous academic and popular articles on subjects such as peacemaking, nonviolent activism, agriculture, biblical studies, preaching, and philosophy.



# Reflection

30 August, 26

Frontier Services Sunday

Romans 12:13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Imagine that there is only one grocery store in the town that you live in. You will know what day of the week the fresh food comes in. You will also know if a shelf is empty, that it will be many days before that item can be restocked.

Then imagine that you need shoes, clothes, child or dog toys which are not available in the town that you live in. Your options – go to a big town and have a shopping spree or order online – without seeing, feeling or fitting the item first.

Then imagine a helicopter coming into town at night and leaving half an hour later. You know that someone is sick or hurt and has to be taken hundreds of kilometres away for treatment. By morning the entire town will know who the person was and what happened. The person concerned is now far away from family and friends and eventually will have to work out how to get back home.

Then imagine a mail run of about 100 kilometres with 10 letterboxes, which closes every time there is even a shower of rain on it or a mail run that takes all day in a small plane visiting a small number of homesteads. Both of these runs happen weekly only.

Then imagine the local airport. There may be a commercial flight in a couple of times a week. The planes landing at the airport are more likely to be small planes from homesteads where it is quicker and easier to hop into a plane and come to town for supplies and mail than to drive. Something that they may only do weekly or fortnightly.

This is the reality for rural and remote Australia. It is a very different world to the one that we live in where we are in or near a major town. Today is a time to celebrate and reflect on the work of Frontier Services – a branch of the Uniting Church in Australia – that assists people in rural Australia. Their work is not about leading worship services or providing care and leadership to one or a couple of congregations. The Patrol Ministers of Frontier Services travel hundreds of kilometres; they walk beside people during droughts, floods, fire and personal crises. The patrol Minister may be the only person that they see in many days. For these Ministers it is not about converting more people to be Uniting Church members, it is about showing and providing care and support to all that they meet.

My invitation is that as you attend a service of celebration and reflect on the work of Frontier Services today, perhaps take some time to consider how very different the life of a rural and remote person is to the lives that we lead.

View of the land  
just out of Winton Qld  
at the Age of Dinosaurs

*Shirley Bowers*



**BOOK REVIEW**


**BOOK REVIEW:**  
**'A LINE IN THE SAND: BRITAIN, FRANCE AND THE STRUGGLE THAT SHAPED THE MIDDLE EAST', JAMES BARR (2011)**

James Barr's "A Line in the Sand" provides a detailed analysis of how the British and French Empires from 1915 to 1949 played a significant role in generating and exacerbating the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For more read at: <https://justact.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/7853-UCA-JustAct-newsletter-Digital-FA.pdf>

## 2026 Uniting Church Anniversary message

UCA President marks Uniting Church's 49th Anniversary with message of hope and Jubilee



**Uniting Church President Rev Charissa Suli** has released a special video message to mark the 49th anniversary of the Uniting Church in Australia on 22 June, reflecting on the Church's journey and inviting members to look ahead with hope toward its Jubilee year in 2027.

Drawing on the image of a fala (Tongan woven mat) shared at her installation, Rev Suli describes the Church as a community still being woven together through the love of Christ. "A mat still on the loom is not a lack, but a promise that there is more love still to weave," she says.

In her message, Rev Suli gives thanks for the faith, courage and vision of those who formed the Uniting Church in 1977 and acknowledges the enduring Covenant relationship with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. She also recognises the challenges many congregations and leaders are facing, encouraging the Church to remain grounded in prayer, worship and service. Reflecting on the recent season of Uniting in Prayer, Rev Suli says the Spirit is calling the Church "back to depth, back to prayer, and back to a people shaped not by fear or scarcity, but by trust in the abundance of God."

Looking toward the Church's 50th anniversary next year, she invites members to embrace the biblical vision of Jubilee as a time of renewal, reconciliation and justice.

"The threads of God's love are still being woven through our life together," Rev Suli says. "May God weave us together in love."

The anniversary video message is now available to download and share in worship services, along with a PDF transcript.

This article from <https://uniting.church/uca-presidents-49th-anniversary-message/> where you can also find the video and transcript.

# WHAT'S ON!

## AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2026



**AUG 04** | **Pastoral Relations Committee**  
10.00am - 3.00pm

**SEP 01** | **Pastoral Relations Committee**  
10.30am - 3.00pm

**AUG 21** | **Presbytery 's Charter strategy workshop** 1.00pm - 4.00pm Cam Rise UC, Somerset

**SEP 24** | **Presbytery Standing Committee**  
10.00am - 3.00pm

**AUG 22** | **Presbytery 's Charter strategy workshop** 10.00am - 1.00pm Longford UC

**AUG 23** | **Presbytery 's Charter strategy workshop** 1.00pm - 4.00pm Bellerive UC

**AUG 27** | **Presbytery Standing Committee (Zoom)** 10.00am - 3.00pm

What can you contribute to this newsletter from your place as part of the community that is Uniting Tasmania?

To lay preachers in the Presbytery of Tasmania, lay worship leaders and any lay person interested in leading worship.

You are invited to the next ZOOM gathering for lay preachers and lay worship leaders. Focus: Music and Singing

Aug 21st, 7.30-8.30pm  
Links will be sent a few days before to lay preachers and others who express interest to the Tasmanian Office.

From Checklist for UCA Congregations - July

- Make the final check in your Annual Maintenance Log Book and return one copy to the Presbytery Office to ensure compliance.
- Notify UCA Tasmanian Office of any changes to Presbytery Directory – office bearers, worship times
- Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registrations for all leaders are up to date

The next issue will be distributed in the week before the end of September. Contributions to be received at least seven days before publication. Contact Graham Booth, editor, by [email](#), phone 6331 9784 or 36 Paterson St, Launceston, 7250.

# Jesus Feeds Five Thousand Word Search



[www.BibleGamesCentral.com](http://www.BibleGamesCentral.com)

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Read the story below. Find and circle the words that are underlined.  
The words can appear in any direction: horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwards.

## Jesus Feeds Five Thousand – Mark 6:30–44

The apostles gathered around Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Many people were coming and going, so they did not even have a chance to eat. Then Jesus said to his apostles, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place. You need to get some rest.”

So they went away by themselves in a boat to a quiet place. But many people who saw them leaving recognized them. They ran from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus came ashore, he saw a large crowd. He felt deep concern for them. They were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Late in the afternoon his disciples came to him and said, “It’s already very late. Send the people away. Then they can go to the nearby countryside and villages to buy something to eat.”

But Jesus answered, “You give them something to eat.”

They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s pay! Should we go and spend that much on bread? Are we supposed to feed them?”

“How many loaves do you have?” Jesus asked. “Go and see.”

When they found out, they said, “Five loaves and two fish.”

Then Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of fifty or a hundred. Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke the loaves into pieces. Then he gave them to his disciples to pass around to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. All of them ate and were satisfied. The disciples picked up twelve baskets of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of men who had eaten was 5,000.



Scan this QR code for fun, ready-to-play games for home and church!

[www.BibleGamesCentral.com/shop/](http://www.BibleGamesCentral.com/shop/)

