

# Uniting Tasmania



Presbytery of

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

Issue No. 170

March 2019

Uniting Church in Australia Presbytery of Tasmania

## Refresh

### Building Consensus, Managing Conflict

Presented by Rev Terence Corkin, ex General Secretary UCA Assembly



9.30am—4.30pm

Saturday 6 April

Scotch Oakburn College,  
85 Penquite Road,  
Norwood

**What:** A day to equip, strengthen and resource church councils in their decision making processes and management of conflict.

**Who:** Terence Corkin is an ordained minister in the Uniting Church in Australia, and has served for 15 years as the Assembly's General Secretary. Terence will share his experiences and insights in leading churches through decision making processes, moments of conflicts, and change to better practice being God's people in a world that is very different to 20 years ago. He will equip churches with skills and resources to conduct business, and take on their responsibilities in leadership with integrity and respectful valuing of all. More @ <http://makingchurchdecisions.com>

**Who For:** ★ Church Leaders

★ Elders/Church Councils

★ Worship Leaders

★ Ministers & Ministry Workers

**Cost:** \$35 includes a great speaker plus morning & afternoon tea and lunch

# Opportunities

## Code of Ethics/Safe Church

✚ Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Hadspen UCA

✚ Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Claremont UCA

Code of Ethics 9.30am-12.30pm

Safe Church 1.00pm – 4.00pm



**Safe Church Training** is for anyone who has not yet attended a Safe Church session or one since June 2017. All those in designated leadership positions are **required to attend**, and others with Working With Vulnerable People cards / registration are **encouraged to attend**.



## Presbytery of Tasmania Grants

Grants are available in three areas:

Innovative Ministry, Education and Training and Children, Youth, Young Adults and Family Ministry.

Grants up to \$500 have an easy application and approval process.

A booklet outlining the grants used and reported on during 2018 is available from the Tasmanian Office. This booklet also outlines the process for applications and information about Synod Grants, including Small Rural Grants.



## Presbytery Gatherings 2019

9.45am Saturday 1 June 2019

Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston

*(This reflection was presented by Chris Duxbury at the conclusion of the Presbytery Meeting in Hobart on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019)*

“Psalm 1 comes up on our lectionary tomorrow. It seems to be connected with today’s presbytery meeting.

It gets us to think about what in our life bears fruit. What in our life leads to life abundant? Where have we planted the deep roots of our life and are they bringing life to us or zapping us of life and energy and inspiration?

It’s been a long day at presbytery. Perhaps some of you are feeling zapped of energy. But, as we reflect over the day there will times when you have felt enthusiastic, encouraged, a sense of rightness, a warming of your heart.

### **Some of the signs of the Holy Spirit at work:**

As a presbytery we have collectively and prayerfully worked together to make decisions that we hope will bear fruit in the lives of individuals, communities and the wider church.

Today, in reports and in the stories we have heard, with eyes of faith we can see good fruit forming from the faithfulness of God’s people who continue to step out in faith.

We have also made significant decisions that we trust will bear more fruit. We have sought God’s wisdom, discerned God’s leading and been open to the Holy Spirit as we have engaged our hearts, minds and imaginations. Hopefully we have been like trees that grow beside a stream. With our roots deeply imbedded into the life giving soil that comes from our relationship with God. The soil that brings life, nurtures our hearts and inspires our minds as we have tried to listen for God’s direction.

We have voted members into committees and positions.

We have been privileged to hear something of Marian’s (Marian Bisset) faith journey and call to ministry and voted in favour of Marian’s application to proceed in applying to candidate.

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We have listened deeply to Rohan and the JNC members in their journey of discernment for our new presbytery minister for mission development. We have discussed what matters most as we meet as presbytery.

We have listened to the pain and courage of the Korean Church. Your sharing was a gift to us.

We have acted in faithfulness, compassion and understanding which stems from our relationship with God.

The rightness of our decisions will be seen in the fruit that comes from our decisions, all in God's timing."



**Just Earth** is a new App for Apple and Android devices, from the Uniting Church in Wayville, South Australia.

A 40 day journey for those who care for all aspects of the created world and its beauty and wonders. This app combines wisdom from many traditions and ages, contemporary prayers and potential actions. It is designed to challenge, inspire and encourage all who love the earth and wish to express their love more effectively.

Android app: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app.earthapp>

iTunes app: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/just-earth/id1451886485>



*Stephen Burns is coordinator of ministry studies at Pilgrim Theological College and professor of liturgical and practical theology in the University of Divinity. Stephen has written recently about a new website he and others have been developing. This article contains edited extracts from <https://crosslight.org.au/2018/08/19/site-for-rituals/>.*

The website, [www.exploringliturgy.org](http://www.exploringliturgy.org), has many strands, but concentrates on five aspects of worship:

- The distinct perspectives and rituals that emerge in Aboriginal-Christian communities
- The experience of worship traditions in diaspora, as they migrate with people – which often brings great resources for renewal with them
- Emerging and experimental approaches to worship
- Interfaith adventures in prayer (sometimes called “inter-riting”)
- Neo-Pentecostal styles of worship, which is perhaps Australia’s most significant “export” in terms of contributing to Christianity worldwide (think Hillsong).

Collaborating with me on this exciting project has been Pilgrim faculty member (and regular *Crosslight* contributor) Katharine Massam and Pilgrim research associate Catherine Schieve. We also plan to publish a companion book called *Futures of Worship*.

The Exploring Liturgy website also documents the rituals and communities we encounter where one or more of the above five factors are found. The website uses methods employed in liturgical studies – such as making “ritual surveys” of the assembly, leaders, worship space, ceremonial scenes – so it relates closely to what goes on in liturgy classes at Pilgrim Theological College, as well as other places.

The website also has an archive, which has gathered all sorts of things, from prayers and poems (for example, feminist renderings of *The Lord’s Prayer*) to videos of song (such as Tongans singing in an almond orchard), to photos sent from pilgrims in Ireland, Spain and India.

You can visit the Exploring Liturgy website at [www.exploringliturgy.org](http://www.exploringliturgy.org).

To visit the Pilgrim Theological College courses in liturgy, leadership and other disciplines, go to [www.pilgrim.edu.au](http://www.pilgrim.edu.au).

# The Kiekie Cross



This feminine cross is made from copper wire and real amber and is made in the image of a Tongan Lady. With beads mimicking the bracelets and crowns of flowers that women wear on important celebrations. Around the waist of the cross is the traditional kiekie for semiformal ware.

I created my cross inspired by the elegance and femininity of the Tongan Christian women I have met.

I have been looking for feminine images of God and have been disappointed by a lack of contemporary Christian feminine images in the Uniting Church in Australia.

Based on the precept that Christ is seen best in the face of our neighbours, I created this cross with the most beautiful metal and beads that I could think of and dressed it in the simple elegance and beauty of the Tongan Christian women I have been privileged to meet.

*Annetia Goldsmith*



A wide variety of Lenten Study suggestions for 2019 prepared by eLM (equipping Leadership for Mission) are available at <https://ctm.uca.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/0168-Lenten-Studies-2019-Webdoc.pdf>

## Leadership Formation

As I move about and work with various communities and individuals, I am deeply encouraged by the rising stories of God at work in small and ordinary ways. The faithfulness of those who seek to serve is great. We have much to celebrate about who we are and the way in which we engage with those in need the world.

I recently received a story from Rev Jim Colville about what happened with the young people from Claremont's Sunday School, and has given permission for this story to be shared. Jim wrote saying,



“At Claremont Uniting Church is a small Sunday School. The children wanted to help people in need to have a happy Christmas. Two wonderful teachers, some Church members, friends, parent and families donated nearly 50 presents.

The children assisted by the teachers wrapped all the presents and decided to give them to Colony 47 to distribute within Colony's many services and to those attending the Christmas Day lunch.

It is pleasing to see children discovering the real essence of Christmas is love, thinking of others, generous sharing, and the birth of baby of Jesus.”

This may have been a small action, a moment in time. However, it is these collective actions of love and service that grow as seeds of God's Kingdom in our world. Bringing transformative love to hearts and minds of many who are in need. It is this kind of engagement that we are challenged to time and again as faithful followers of Christ. Children and young people grow in their faith when they are given service opportunities that cost them something. It deepens meaning and purpose. It invites them to see the world through

different eyes, through the eyes of Jesus. It invites them to think of a world outside of themselves.

Where does your congregation/faith community engage in service with local needs? How does it help you grow in your faith? How does it help your community/faith community to grow in faith? Is there something different to what you are doing now that God might be calling you to? How might you begin to lean into that challenge? Do you need to let go of something else in order to pick up a new thing? What can you celebrate about where and how you and your faith community/congregation are already engaging with needs in the local community?

If you would like Denise to visit your congregation, to listen and share around leadership formation, contact us via the Presbytery Office 6331 9784 or Denise 0427 647 395 or [denise.savage@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:denise.savage@victas.uca.org.au).



The graphic features a yellow background. On the left, the text 'Fun PAN CAKE DAY 2019' is displayed, with 'Fun' in purple script, 'PAN CAKE DAY' in large white block letters with a purple underline, and '2019' in purple. At the bottom left, '5th March 2019' is written in white. On the right, a circular logo contains a black silhouette of a pancake on a frying pan with a spatula, surrounded by the text 'Pancake Day' at the top and 'Flip for a good cause' at the bottom. Below the logo, a white box contains purple text: 'Find useful information about running an event of your own or joining with an event in your area at <https://victas.pancakeday.com.au/>'.



This  
'n  
That

■ President of the National Assembly Dr Deidre Palmer has asked Uniting Church members to keep residents in disaster-affected areas, such as fire devastated areas of Tasmania and flooded regions of Northern Queensland, in their prayers. The Assembly's National Disaster Recovery Officer Rev Dr Stephen Robinson says support is available for presbyteries and congregations through Uniting Church disaster relief funds. Find out more [here](#).

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## U Ethical

From April 1, U Ethical will be the new name for UCA Funds Management, however we will still uphold the same values that have made us one of Australia's largest ethical investors, striving to create a better world by investing with purpose.

For over three decades we have delivered financial returns and community impact through our commitment to ethical investment and social justice. This won't change. And as an entity of the Uniting Church, we are a leading not-for-profit social enterprise, becoming a B Corporation in 2018.

As well as changing our name, you will see changes to our website, branding and messaging. It is important to note that the changes do not affect the policies, processes and people that are entrusted to manage the monies you invest with us.

The change to U Ethical is driven by the desire to take our message about ethical investing to a wider audience and demonstrate that you don't have to compromise your values to generate returns. The 'U' is the recognition that our values derive from the history and position of the Uniting Church; the addition of 'Ethical' makes it clear how we go about making a difference.

U Ethical will continue to be strong supporter of community, as we contribute most of our annual surplus to support the mission and agencies making a difference to society. To date, we've granted over \$59 million towards advocacy and impact in areas as diverse as asylum seeker support, kindergartens and soup kitchens. By attracting new clients to U Ethical we aim to increase our grant and the impact for the programs funded.

For further information contact:

David Patterson, Development Manager UCA Funds Management  
t (03) 9251 5470 e [David.Patterson@ucafunds.com.au](mailto:David.Patterson@ucafunds.com.au)

# TCC Emergencies Ministry Training



The recent (and ongoing) fires in Tasmania have reminded us all of the need to be prepared. Our Pastoral Care ministry in evacuation centres and the like is seeking new volunteers to be trained and accredited for future deployment.

Registrations for **March 30<sup>th</sup>** training in Smithton are open at [https://www.tccem.org.au/register\\_for\\_training](https://www.tccem.org.au/register_for_training). This training day is generously supported by the Tasmanian Christian Fund and is therefore half the cost of our usual courses. The course will be held at the **Circular Head Christian School from 9 am to 3.45 pm**. Three or four hours of pre-reading is required in the week leading up to the training.

The training day covers Psychological First Aid and Emotional Spiritual Care. Specific topics include:

- ◆ Introductions to the emergency setting and TCC Emergencies Ministry
- ◆ Impacts of emergencies on individuals and communities
- ◆ Stress
- ◆ Community and individual recovery after disasters

There are also practical exercises around caring for vulnerable people and practising Psychological First Aid.

This training day is a prerequisite to becoming an accredited Emergencies Ministry volunteer. If you would like to participate in the March 30<sup>th</sup> training, please go ahead now and register online.

If you would like more information, please contact Gus Yearsley at PO Box 175, Rokeby TAS 7019 or 0428 537 715 or [gusy@tccem.org.au](mailto:gusy@tccem.org.au)

## Synod eNews

Synod eNews is an electronic newsletter intended for congregations and ministers (in or out of placement) but it can go to anyone interested in what's happening in the Synod and email addresses can be added on request by contacting David Southwell, Media Communications Officer, Communications and Media Services, equipping Leadership for Mission  
P: (03) 9251 5968 E: [David.Southwell@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:David.Southwell@victas.uca.org.au)

# Praying for the Presbytery

This month please remember  
in your prayers:

- Ongoing work with people affected by recent fires and floods across the country.
- For the positions of Presbytery Treasurer and Chairperson of the Resource and Development Committee.
- For the following lay preachers and their accreditation milestones: Ian Farquhar (60 years), John Beswick (60 years), David Wright (60 years) and Heather Cowled (30 years).
- Rev. Caro Field and the people at Launceston North
- Hobart Cheil Korean congregation

Please contact the UCA Tasmanian Office if you would like some of the A4 flyers below for your church.

*A · SAFE · PLACE · FOR · ALL · PEOPLE*

*The Uniting Church is committed to providing safe environments where everyone is cared for, respected, nurtured and sustained by:*

|   |   |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|
|  <p>Promoting strong leadership and governance and a culture of child safety</p> |  <p>Promoting access, equity and diversity</p> |  <p>Promoting appropriate behaviour</p> |  <p>Recruiting, training and supervising workers well</p> |  <p>Managing risk, promoting safety and responding to concerns</p> |  <p>Promoting child, family and community participants</p> |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|

.....  Uniting Church Synod of Victoria and Tasmania  
..... For more information: <https://ucavictas.org.au/keepingchildrensafe/>

 **Keeping Children Safe**



## what's On

### March

|         |         |                               |
|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Thur 14 | 10.00am | Presbytery Standing Committee |
| Sat 16  | 9.30am  | Code of Ethics, Hadspen UCA   |
| Sat 16  | 1.00pm  | Safe Church, Hadspen UCA      |
| Tues 19 | 9.30am  | Pastoral Relations Committee  |

### April

|        |        |   |
|--------|--------|---|
| Sat 6  | 9.30am | <b>Refresh</b> at Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston<br>on <b>Building Consensus, Managing Conflict</b> with Rev Terence Corkin |
| Tues 9 | 9.30am | Code of Ethics, Claremont UCA   |
| Tues 9 | 1.00pm | Safe Church, Claremont UCA  |

### July

|                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Fri 5 to Tues 9 | Synod Meeting, Melbourne |
|-----------------|--------------------------|

Please check our Presbytery Calendar of events on the [Presbytery website](#)

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## Lay Preachers' Association Conference

The 2019 annual Lay Preachers' Association of Victoria and Tasmania conference will be held on Friday 15 March from 7pm to 9.30pm and Saturday 16 March from 9am to 4.30pm at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, Parkville. Cost is \$30.

Accommodation is available at MacLean House, adjacent to the Centre for Theology and Ministry. Email [macleanhouse@ctm.uca.edu.au](mailto:macleanhouse@ctm.uca.edu.au) for more information.

The annual general meeting of the Lay Preachers' Association will follow the conference program on Saturday from 3pm to 4m.

Find more information email [lpasecretary@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:lpasecretary@victas.uca.org.au) or Graham Booth at [boothgll@bigpond.com](mailto:boothgll@bigpond.com)

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Presbytery of Tasmania website: <https://ucatas.org.au>

The map of Tasmania including King and Flinders Islands has been adapted from a Creative Commons file  
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