

Uniting Presbytery of Tasmania



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

Issue No. 177

October 2019

Have we retreated.....



.....to the waterholes?



See photos and report on National Presbytery Ministers' Conference on pp3 - 4

Opportunities

Lay Preachers Day

30 November 2019

10am – 3pm

Longford Uniting Church

BYO Lunch



Mel Perkins – Lay Leadership Development Co-ordinator at eLM

will look at ‘how we do Theology in Worship’.

Please mark the date in your diary – more details next month.



KIDS CAMPOUT 2019

when? 28 — 29 SEPT 2019

**where? SCOTCH OAKBURN COLLEGE,
VALLEY CAMPUS, FINGAL**



Next Presbytery Gathering

9.45am Saturday 9 November 2019

Ulverstone Uniting Church

(NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE)

National Presbytery Ministers' Conference: August 2019, Alice Springs

National gatherings of Presbytery Ministers along with other regional and national leaders in the Uniting Church are terrific opportunities to share experiences and learn together. Almost fifty leaders gathered at White Gums retreat centre at the foot of *Tjoritja* / the West MacDonnell Ranges during August, exploring together how to 'build the team' in a variety of ways. The Tasmanian team of Presbytery Ministers attended together, and took a lot of photos!

The conference program included a welcome to country from a local indigenous leader and listening to the water coursing up the trunks of white gums growing along the edges of an apparently dry creek, worship & preaching by three leaders from the Northern Synod, input on leadership from Rev Dr Jenny Byrnes and Mr Craig Bailey, prayer triangles with other Presbytery Ministers to share challenges and support, fun and deeper conversations with other Uniting Church leaders (across Presbytery, Synod and Assembly roles), space for reflection in the central-Australian landscape, and the fun of a concluding boat race on the dry Roe Creek as well as a shared communion service.

Photos by Rohan Pryor; *many* more photos are on the Tas Presbytery Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/ucatas/>



...photos continue on next page.



Presbytery Office Bearers

The Search Group for our next Presbytery Chairperson now has a wider brief. As the Presbytery Office Bearer Search Group its task is to help find suitable nominees for 3 positions:

Chairperson	Vacant November 2019
Secretary	Vacant February 2020
Treasurer	Currently vacant

We seek Expressions of Interest and names of people the Group could approach, not only because these are roles essential to the leadership of the Uniting Church in Tasmania, but also because they offer opportunity for growth and development in skills and in Christian discipleship.

We are not necessarily seeking people who already have all the skills and experience to step into these roles, but people who sense the call of God to serve and are open to learn and grow within a leadership team.

The Search Group is open to conversation about how these roles might work and to what extent some remuneration from the Presbytery may be required.

We invite members of the Uniting Church across Tasmania to pray for discernment for the Search Group and for the Presbytery, which elects the chairperson, and to consider your own involvement.

Please direct comments and suggestions or Expressions of Interest to the Convenors of the Search Group:

Brian Cole bmcole1@bigpond.com

David Reeve dareeve@iinet.net.au

The 'Bible and the Basis'

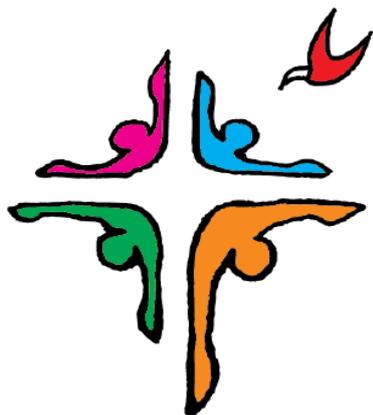
at St Helens Uniting Church



St Helens Uniting Church hosted the workshop, 'The Bible and the Basis' on Saturday 24th August. This is a 'hands on' event where participants seek out biblical sources for the Basis of Union. The event at St Helens followed up the work of the earlier event at Ulverstone, finding biblical references for key statements in the Basis, paragraphs 1, 4 and 9.

Andrew Dutney reports that the Basis of Union is less about abstract doctrine and more about 'the concrete, imaginative language of the Bible'. He says of drafter, J. Davis McCaughey: 'It was McCaughey's conviction that the words of the Bible *do* something in the community that hears and uses them, just as much as they *mean* something.' McCaughey wrote: "*A way must be found whereby the Word, and that means the Biblical words – or at least the dominant Biblical images, the scriptural words which have revelatory power – can be released into the life of the Church. A Church which lives by the Word of God must be content to be shaped and reshaped by these images.*"

The 'Bible and the Basis' workshop operates in this spirit.



GOSPEL YARNING 2019

NOVEMBER Sunday 17, 5pm – Wednesday 20, 5pm , at the
Centre For Ministry, North Parramatta

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

HOW CAN WE BE THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IN A SECULAR WORLD?

See the 2017 video www.vimeo.com/218120986

COST: \$200 each. Lunches included. No evening meals included. Those on the leadership team will be half price.

REGISTER: on the [UME website](http://www.ume.org.au) where you will also find the full version of this flyer. No limit to registrations, they close Nov 10.

MORE INFORMATION: Rev Dr Ian Robinson. Phone him on: 0417 687 746 or email: ianr@nswact.uca.org.au



Leadership Formation

We all experience shifts and changes across the span of our life. Each time we enter a new decade of life, something within us has to grow and develop. As we age, we carry different and deepening experiences of life. The wisdom of the older generations is important for the exploring minds and curiosity of the younger generations as they make meaning from life's emerging challenges. We can share stories across the generations. It is important to share our stories across the generations.

How do we do that? Who do we do that with? The family meal table, a car trip, sharing holiday photos, going through you tube to find clips of old TV shows. Remember when conversations Are all moments when important stories can be shared.

I used to love hearing the stories my Grandfather told us about life for him as a young person. The challenges and decisions he faced. I used to love sitting in amongst the uncles as they shared stories and laughter of times in the Northern Territory and working with people of a difference culture. Their laughter at some of the situations they found themselves in always drew me in. Sitting underneath those stories was a sense of something or someone holding the value and meaning of it. These stories were important, they mattered. They were pivotal, growing moments. They were moments of knowing God's presence, place and call. They were moments of living in relationship with God. The responses made in those stories told of a way of engaging with others, that reflected something of the Kingdom of God. The spoke of an underlying capacity to express the gifts and fruit of the Spirit in ordinary, everyday life moments.

What are our stories that we carry? How do we tell them? When and to whom do we tell them? As you tell them, pay attention to the under storyand see if you can spot just how and why the story matters as being part of who God is in your life

To do this is a part of understanding, owning and articulating something of our faith. It is part of being a disciple of Christ, of sharing the faith that lies within us, of being missional. Think of your children, your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, young people who are part of your life as you walk the streets, do your shopping, walk into a doctors' office. A simple sentence with those people can be the beginning of sharing a moment of story telling, where God passes something deeper to the other.

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This
'n
That

■ **Uniting Church Studies**, 20 – 22 Nov at CTM, Parkville. Equipping you for ministry, work or leadership in the UCA. Cost \$150 – apply for a Go Grant, contact UCA Tas Office.

■ **What lies within you that God is encouraging to grow?** A silent retreat with daily spiritual direction at the Emmanuel Centre in Launceston from 25th October (Friday evening) to 1st November (Friday morning). Cost: \$550. Information: 6334 1082 or emmanuelcentre@AOH.ORG.AU

■ **Emotions: Guardians and Supporters of the Soul** workshop led by Dr. Peter Bentley exploring the connections between emotions and our spirituality will be held at the Josephite Mission and History Centre, 67 Clare St, New Town from 9.30am-3.30pm on Saturday October 12th. Cost is \$30 – byo lunch. RSVP by 30th Sept to josephite.mission@sosj.org.au

■ The Lay Preachers' Committee of Management is supporting a **history of lay preaching** in the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. If you have any biographies of lay preachers that you can provide email Daryl Pedler at darylmargpedler@bigpond.com

■ A Brighter Tomorrow: Scripture Union Tasmania's Fundraising Dinner 2019 on Saturday 19th October at 6.30pm with speaker, Nicola McDermott who is a high jumper and Commonwealth medallist. Tickets \$50pp from <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid+532269&>

Praying for the Presbytery

This month please remember
in your prayers:

- For kids, youth and other leaders at **Kids Campout**.
- For Presbytery discernment with regard to leadership positions.



JENSEN David Frederick 8.3.1934 - 9.8.2019

David served the church for 54 years as a lay preacher and pastored many churches during that time. We give thanks for him and the service that he and his late wife Dini gave to the Lord and the church.



what's On

October

Thur 17	10.00am	Presbytery Standing Committee
Mon 21	11.00am	Resource & Development Committee
Tue 22	10.00am	Pastoral Relations Committee

November

Sat 9	10.00am	Presbytery Gathering at Ulverstone
Mon 25	11.00am	Resource & Development Committee
Thu 28	10.00am	Presbytery Standing Committee

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

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You can explore this further through engaging with “Makes You Wonder”

<https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/resources/makes-you-wonder/>

Or through Here2Stay

<https://here2stay.org.au>

Or through some articles with Lifelongfaith Journal

https://www.lifelongfaith.com/uploads/5/1/6/4/5164069/lifelong_faith_journal_1.3.pdf

Or you can contact the Presbytery Ministers, and even other local ministry leaders who can assist your community as they are able.

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.

Published and distributed in the week before the last Sunday of each month.

Contributions received seven days prior to publication.

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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
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Australia_Tasmania_location_map_blank.svg