

Uniting Presbytery of Tasmania



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

Issue No. 180

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Meet the Chairperson – Rev Caro Field

It's hard to believe it's almost a year since I returned to Tasmania to take up my current placement at Launceston North Parish. It's been great to settle back into life in Tasmania, after living on the Big Island for 13 years.

I grew up in Sydney, and first joined the Uniting Church in the early 1990s after I moved to Hobart to work with Fusion, a Christian youth work organisation. I worshipped at Sandy Bay congregation. I moved to Melbourne in 2006 after being accepted as a candidate for ordained ministry, and after completing my training have had my first ministry placement in the congregations of Myrtleford, Beechworth, Yackandandah and Stanley, followed by a stint as a Presbytery Minister in Gippsland.

I have enjoyed getting to know the people in the congregations around Launceston and the wider Presbytery, and being back in congregational ministry (I didn't realise how much I missed this when I was a Presbytery Minister).

In my spare time I enjoy singing with Vox Harmony Choir, and going to movies and the theatre.



I am looking forward with great anticipation to what the New Year will bring for the church in Tasmania. I am honoured and humbled that the Presbytery has elected me as its Chairperson, and I would like to thank Ann Perrin for the great job she has done in this role during the past two years. I look forward to getting around the Presbytery, meeting people and hearing what God is doing in your corner.

Caro Field

Opportunities



Next Presbytery Gathering

9.45am Saturday 15 February 2020
Scots-Memorial Uniting Church
29 Bathurst Street, Hobart

- Installation of Rev Carolyn (Caro) Field as the new Chairperson of Presbytery
- Visitors will include both the National President of the Uniting Church, Dr Deidre Palmer and the Moderator of the Victoria-Tasmania Synod, Rev Denise Liersch
- The next steps in understanding the Focus and Directions of the Presbytery as it helps congregations and faith communities around Tasmania to thrive and to use their resources well for mission

VICTAS LAY PREACHERS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2020 Conference will be held at the Centre for Theology and Ministry in Melbourne from Friday night, March 20th to Saturday March 21st. Some places have been reserved at Maclean House for Victorian Country and Tasmanian attendees.

Code of Ethics/Safe Church

- ✚ Thursday 12th March – Longford Uniting Church
- ✚ Saturday 28th March – Hobart Scots-Memorial Church

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 2017. All those in designated leadership positions are **required to attend** and others with Working with Vulnerable People Cards are **encouraged to attend**.

Our contemporary culture likes to change the names of things, places, and institutions.

Sometimes the name changes are for good, logical reasons. The English names for many Asian cities were changed to reflect the way that local people actually pronounced the city names. Peking became Beijing. Bombay became Mumbai.

Sometimes the name changes are made to mark a political or cultural change. When the city of New Amsterdam passed from Dutch to British control in the seventeenth century, it became New York.

Sometimes the name you use for a place reflects your cultural, political or religious loyalties.

Sometimes the name changes are merely for the sake of PR. The names of sports grounds and sporting events are changed with monotonous regularity with changing sponsorship deals. Some businesses change their names when advised to by their marketing gurus. (It's called "Rebranding", and it's often a sign of a marketing department that's run out of better ideas.)

For the most part, good name changes (supported by good logical reasons for the change) are accepted well: Uluru, Beijing, the AFL.

Name changes made for mere PR purposes sometimes take much longer to be accepted, if at all. For example, I believe the names of Bellerive Oval and York Park will be with us for a long time to come.

In our lesson from John's gospel (**John 1:29–42**), Simon was given a new name by Jesus. From then on, he was Cephas or Peter, depending on the language. By renaming him, Jesus was putting a claim on him and on his future actions, almost in the way a child would say "I bags this seat." By renaming Simon Peter, Jesus was announcing "I bags this person."

At a number of points in the Scriptures, in both Testaments, people were renamed at times in which their destiny was being claimed by God for God's purposes. In each act of renaming, God was announcing "I bags these people."

May we also be open to letting God "rebrand" us, not for any cynical public relations exercise, but so that God may "bags" us for the sake of God's purposes in God's world.

by Bob Faser from Connecting Community, newsletter of Hobart North and Scots-Memorial Congregations and Wesley Faith Community

Mission House

Hobart North Uniting Church A Live-In, Living, Intentional Christian Community For Young Adults 18 – 30



Hobart North Uniting Church have a vision to support 3 or 4 young people to live in a sustainable Christian community linked with Hobart North Uniting Church.

The Young People will receive training, mentoring, coaching and other support to engage in ministry with young people within the church and/or outreach into the wider community. All of this will happen while living as an intentional Christian community in the house provided.

They envisage a group of young adults, aged 18 – 30 years, who are passionate about growing in their faith and willing to commit to the values of responsible living (people, relationships, environment, self-care) in a shared house as part of this programme.

This is one outcome of the congregation's response to the results of a 2018 National Church Life Survey.

For more information about how this project is envisaged to work contact either

- Rev Jeff Savage jeff@hobartnorth.ucatas.org 0429 728 243
- or email the Convenor of the Faith Formation Ministry Team – David Reeve dareeve@inet.net.au

Uniting Church Micah 6:8 Award for Alysha Carins

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (NRSVA)



Alysha Cairns received the Uniting Church's **Micah 6:8 Award** at the end of year Celebration 2019, attended by the Uniting Church Moderator Rev Denise Liersch and Synod Liaison Minister Rohan Pryor. Alysha has completed Year 10 and boards at Scotch Oakburn College.

The Uniting Church supports this annual award for a student of Scotch Oakburn College who has a focus on what is 'just and fair', showing

neighbourly compassion, loyalty and love. Additionally, the student is one who questions and tests common practice.

As a senior student, Alysha volunteered extensively for service activities and programs within the College over the course of the year. She is an active 'WAVE ambassador' (Wellbeing and Values Education) and organised and led activities as part of the College congregation.

Of particular note has been Alysha's contribution to sustainability within Scotch Oakburn College and the broader Launceston community. She worked tirelessly as a founding member of the Waste Not Want Not Committee and co-ordinated and participated in all the composting and rubbish sorting done this year.



Alysha was a part of the Committee's efforts to have Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) bins installed at the College. The FOGO kerbside collection is for food and garden waste such as kitchen scraps, lawn clippings, small branches and garden debris. This was an ongoing project spanning many weeks and involved Alysha in numerous email communications with a range of stakeholders; required her to create a proposal document; as well as interviews with, and speeches to, members of Launceston Council. Alysha

did a lot of this work in her own time and showed determination and commitment, without ever seeking personal recognition. It was due to her dedication and hard work that the Council voted in favour of the proposal,

something recognised on Facebook by one local councillor. This was a genuine example of student leadership and an initiative truly being led by a student who passionately believed in a cause and was willing to put the work in behind the scenes to create change without seeking personal accolades.

Alysha is indeed a worthy recipient of this prize who is consistently positive in her relationships and focused upon making her College and her world a better place for all. She is a leader and positive role model within the College and her local community, though she is also very unassuming and generous in her conduct.

Some different translations of Micah 6:8

<i>What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (NRSVA)</i>	<i>God has told us what is right and what he demands: "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God." (CEV)</i>
<i>What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly/prudently with your God. (NIV)</i>	<i>God has already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbour, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously. (MSG)</i>

Emergencies Ministry

TCC Emergencies ministry will conduct their next training day for faith-based pastoral care in emergencies and disasters on **Monday 17th February 2020 at City Mission, 48 Frederick Street, Launceston from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm**



Cost \$100 or \$50 for anyone travelling from outside the greater Launceston area

Snacks, lunch and course materials are included!

There are further details and the registration form on our website (https://www.tccem.org.au/register_for_training). Please note that this training day requires 2—3 hours of pre-reading.

Contact Gus Yearsley gusy@tccem.org.au

Tasmanians amongst Graduates

Pilgrim Theological College farewelled 44 students at a ceremonial service on 31 October 2019.



Twenty one were able to attend the ceremony at the Centre for Theology and Ministry where they were recognised for completing, or almost completing, a variety of awards. Six were exiting candidates ready for ministry in the Uniting Church. Synod of Victoria and Tasmania Moderator Denise Liersch was among the valedictorians, having completed a Graduate Certificate in Leadership.

Tasmanians in the list of candidates were:

Graduate Certificate in Children and Families Ministry

Anthea Maynard and Jeffrey Savage

Master of Theological Studies

Annetia Goldsmith

Exit Candidate from the Formation Program

Annetia Goldsmith, for ordination to Ministry of the Word by the Presbytery of Tasmania.

Marian follows a new calling



Marian Bisset has now concluded a full-time ministry placement at Bridgewater-Gagebrook Uniting Church and moved to Melbourne in order to commence the formation program for ordained ministry in the Uniting Church. Marian has been the local minister / pastor in placement at Bridgewater-Gagebrook since September 2017. Marian commenced shortly before the arson attack which devastated the

former church and op-shop in Gagebrook. Ministry and outreach have been based in a rented house since that time.

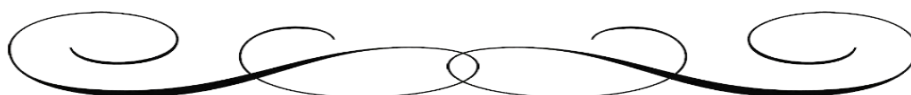
On 14 January 2020, a large group gathered in Gagebrook to recognise and release Marian and to express thanks and celebrate the next steps on the journey. Participants included local community and congregation members, local service providers, international friends, and wider Uniting Church networks. Chairperson of the Pastoral Relations Committee, Rev Fee Morrison, and Synod Liaison Minister, Rohan Pryor, invited people to share their appreciation and to give thanks for Marian:

The Presbytery believes that God has called Marian to formation for the ordained Ministry of Deacon in the Uniting Church. It has confirmed her call to the formation program based in Melbourne. The time has come to mark the end of her particular responsibilities in this place and with the Bridgewater-Gagebrook congregation, and to send her with God's blessing to this new place for further ministry and learning.

A final prayer of blessing:

*O God,
be with those who leave, and with those who stay;
and grant that all of us, by drawing nearer to you,
may always be close to each other
in the communion of saints;
through your Spirit, your Word and your Wisdom, Jesus Christ.*

Amen.



Ordination and Induction of Annetia Goldsmith



Life moves very quickly sometimes, especially for ministry candidate Annetia Goldsmith! After completing the three year formation program for ordained ministry in the Uniting Church late last year, within a few weeks Annetia's husband Steve had accepted a new job based in Melbourne, and Annetia had accepted a call to ministry at Werribee Uniting Church, in Melbourne's western suburbs.

Annetia will be ordained as a Minister of the Word by the Presbytery of Tasmania on Saturday 8th February at 2:00pm, at Pilgrim Uniting Church, Launceston.

All members of Presbytery are requested to attend, and everyone else is warmly invited!

The Presbytery of Port Philip West will then induct Annetia into the Werribee placement on the following weekend, and she will formally commence as minister with this inter-generational and inter-cultural congregation shortly after settling the family into new schools and a new home.

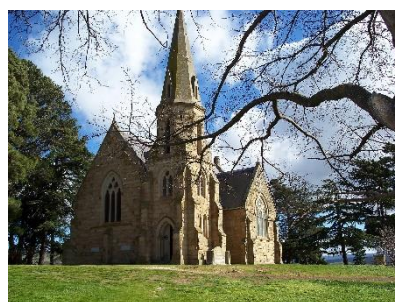
Please keep Annetia and Steve, their children Fergus, Keziah and Teaghan, in your prayers as the family relocates, and Annetia commences full-time ministry placement as a Uniting Church minister.

Historical Interest?

The Uniting Church Historical Society Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, and the Uniting Church National History Society, are keen to develop contacts with the Tasmanian churches and people.

We are looking for someone or some people with an interest in local church history who could be our contact person(s) for local Tasmanian churches and the two Societies.

If you are interested or would like further information, please contact me, Robert Renton—0427 812 606; robert.renton@bigpond.com; PO Box 5064 Hoppers Crossing, Vic. 3029.



This
'n
That

■ **Uniting Women 2020** in Darwin from Thursday July 9th to Sunday July 12th at Club Tropical Resort, Lee Point, Darwin. For more information check out <https://unitingwomen.org.au/> Why not apply for a Presbytery Grant if you are interested?

■ Have you heard of the terrible plight of the **Uygher people in NW China?** Amnesty International are bringing an outstanding speaker, Nurm Muhammad, to northern Tasmania on Thursday 27 February 6pm-8pm Macquarie House, 92-94 Cameron Street (Civic Square), Launceston. The local Hazara community are catering. For more information contact Roc Ives, 0439 592 897.

- **Sing Alleluia** A supplement to the Australian Hymn Book. The UCA Tasmanian Office has a number of copies donated and available. Please contact us if you are interested in acquiring some of these.
- **Longford Uniting Church** are holding a **Garage Sale** on **Saturday 29th February** 8am - 1pm in the Church Hall & carpark. Breakfast sausage sizzle, morning teas, Trash & treasure, produce & plant stalls. Anyone wishing to book a stall please contact either Glenys Thomas 6391 3145 or Martha Tymms 0417 526 346 tmtymms@gmail.com Stall with BYO table: \$10 Stall with table supplied: \$15
- **The Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)** is now available for download from [the UCA Assembly website](http://assembly.uca.org.au): assembly.uca.org.au
- There will be a **Presbytery Youth Camp** from 16th to 19th April 2020. More details to follow but put the dates in your local calendars
- **Farewell Service for Graham Sturdy** will be held at 2pm on Sunday 2 February 2020 at Scots-Memorial Uniting Church. All are welcome to attend.
- **Official Dedication Service - Devonport UCA Congregation** is delighted to announce that the **Official Dedication Service of its new Worship Centre** at 12 Forbes Street, Devonport will be held on Sunday 16th February 2020 at 2pm. The Moderator, Rev Denise Liersch will be conducting the Dedication. You are welcome, but come early to ensure a seat – or even put a fold up chair in your boot just in case. Enquiries to Merrill 0447245375 or Betty 0408032470

Praying for the Presbytery

This month please remember
in your prayers:

- For individuals, communities and the environment impacted by bushfire. For those whose bodies and hearts have responded to the need of others. For those whose work has only just begun. "May the God who walks with us, give us the strength, courage and hope we need, now and continuing over these coming days."
- Caro Field – for wisdom as she engages in leadership of the Presbytery
- Marian Bissett, Annetia Goldsmith and Graham Sturdy as they explore new ways of being from different perspectives along the pathway of/to ordained ministry.
- Devonport and Hobart North congregations as they explore new ways of being the people of God in their locations

Keeping Strong Let's Talk



An exciting opportunity coming up for all those interested! Relationships Australia are running a 5 week program to provide support to separated parents. Workshops exploring personal issues, healthy relationships, communication styles and much more include group discussions, yarning & art to assist individuals to develop self-care plans.

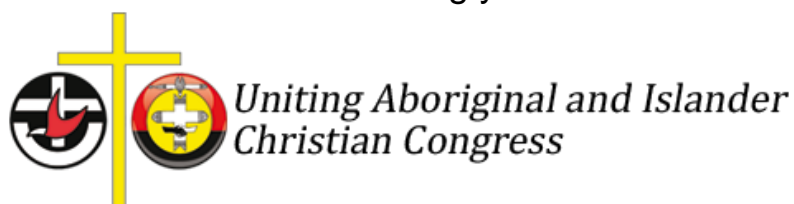
Dates: Thur 13 February – Thur 12 March 2020

Location: Leprena Aboriginal Community Centre, 280 Main Road Glenorchy

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Contact: Grace or Ayla on 6272 9234

Feel free to circulate among your contacts.



what's On

January

Thur 30 10.00am Presbytery Standing Committee

February

Sun 2 2.00pm Farewell and Retiring Service for Rev Graham Sturdy
 Mon 3 10.30am Resource & Development Committee
 Sat 8 2.00pm Ordination of Annetia Goldsmith, Pilgrim, Launceston
 Tues 4 10.00am Pastoral Relations Committee
 Sat 15 9.45am Presbytery Gathering, Hobart Scots-Memorial
 Sun 16 2.00pm Dedication of new Worship Centre, Devonport

March

Mon 2 10.30am Resource & Development Committee
 Tues 10 10.00am Pastoral Relations Committee
 Thur 26 10.00am Presbytery Standing Committee
 Mon 30 10.30am Resource & Development Committee
 Tues 31 10.00am Pastoral Relations Committee (Hobart)

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



For more information check out <http://www.nungalinya.edu.au/>

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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