

# Uniting Tasmania



Presbytery of

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

Issue No. 196

July 2021

## Uniting Church Assembly: 17-18 July



*Colleen Geyer, Assembly General Secretary, and Rev Sharon Hollis, President-elect*

The 16th Assembly is the triennial decision-making meeting of the national Council of the Uniting Church, which guides the life of the Church and its advocacy over the next three years. This year, for the first time, the triennial Assembly meeting will take place online from 17-18 July 2021, a decision made to protect the health and safety of members in the context of COVID-19. The Assembly meeting will then reconvene in 2022 when a face-to-face meeting is possible.

For reports and resources, live streams & more: <https://uniting.church/16thassembly/>

**SAVE THE DATE: October 15th Family Getaway** - Simon Gurteen, Anthea Maynard, and Jeff Savage are putting their heads together to take advantage of a booking at the Scotch Oakburn camp site in the Fingal Valley. The leadership team would appreciate your ideas and perspectives. If that is for you, please contact Simon at [skgur@internode.on.net](mailto:skgur@internode.on.net) or phone 0433 843 070.

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# *Walking with First Peoples in lutruwita*

## **NAIDOC EVENT**

**Time:** 11:30am - 2pm

**When:** Friday the 9th of July, 2021

**Where:** Rowallan Park Community Centre  
(42 Jindabyne Road, Kingston 7052)

- *Cultural performance by Nita Education*
- *Cultural activities*
- *Cultural lunch provided*
- *Promotional launch*

RSVP BY C.O.B MONDAY 5TH OF JULY  
VIA EMAIL [LEPRENA2015@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LEPRENA2015@GMAIL.COM) OR  
VIA OUR FACEBOOK PAGE 'LEPRENA  
UAICC TASMANIA'



The translation of biblical passages can be an interesting thing. It can sometimes tell more about the translator than about the meaning of the original Hebrew.

The *Sacred and Profane* podcast, a project of the Religion, Race and Democracy Lab of the University of Virginia, (Season 3, episode 2) featured a conversation with Dr Renita Reems about a short passage from the Song of Songs exploring the translation of one tiny word. <https://religionlab.virginia.edu/podcast/black-and-beautiful/>

The passage explored was Song of Songs 1:5. The conversation concerned the way in which translators approach the tiny Hebrew word between the word black and the word beautiful.



For example, the King James Version renders this, "...black, but comely..." implying that the beauty is despite the skin colour. The New Revised Standard Version renders the phrase, "...black and beautiful..." implying that there is no hesitation between the two states.

Both of these translations are possible, but the way in which you accept the translation can have flow on effects for the rest of the passage and one's understanding about issues of race and life.

This is yet another example of the importance of using more than one translation of the Bible when exploring meaning and guidance.



The Just Act website from the Justice and International Mission cluster of the Victoria and Tasmania Synod has a number of basic action ideas that are achievable in minutes by your congregation, family or friends:

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

These include access to letter writing campaigns on issues that provide a form letter that you can adapt for your own. There is access to postcards that can provide an even easier way to have your voice heard. You can find resources of many types to inform and direct your action towards making this world a better place.





# ***Covenanting Together in a Covid World.***

6<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
9.30 – 4PM

An opportunity for listening, learning and sharing ... A one day workshop for people who are interested in exploring new ways of working collaboratively together as churches... being the Body of Christ in new ways

This is an online or in person workshop  
THIS WORKSHOP WILL INCLUDE PRESENTATIONS FROM:

Dr Antonia Pizzey Australian Catholic University Brisbane  
Rev Dr Ray Williamson author of Australian Churches covenanting Together  
Ms Liz Stone, Executive Officer National Council of Churches ☐

Insights will be shared by people who are in leadership in cooperating Church communities within Victoria

This event is free



This event is facilitated by the  
Faith and Order Commission of  
the Victorian Council of Churches

to register:

[www.trybooking.com/BPUMP](http://www.trybooking.com/BPUMP)

## Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC)

Below is a picture of the current members of the Presbytery's Pastoral Relations Committee "captured" in a recent Zoom meeting. In case you have difficulty reading the name captions they are:

Top L-R; Fiona Morrison, Rohan Pryor, Margaret Wilson.

Middle L-R; Gospel Ralte, Alison Claridge, Chris Duxbury.

Bottom L-R; Sherrin Jackman, Caro Field.



**Responsibilities (see Reg 3.7.3) :** Oversight of ministers, oversight of placements, oversight of complaints processes, and oversight of lay presidency

### Delegated Responsibilities:

- Oversight of ministers, lay preachers and candidates (including pastoral and administrative oversight of specified ministers and pastoral charges; maintaining and reviewing annual roll of ministers; role in selecting, pastoral care and oversight of candidates for specified ministry as required by Synod and/or Assembly; dealing with applications for change between Minister of the Word and Deacon; oversight of lay preachers; extent to which minister who is designated as on leave of absence, retired or not available for placement shall be limited in the exercise of all or any of the functions of ministerial office.)
- Oversight of placements (including supervision and filling of vacancies; placement of lay pastors and youth workers; appointments for ministry of

pastor and recognising and commissioning pastors; oversight of congregations with no minister in placement [Presbytery liaison person; Associated minister]; lay presidency.)

- Conducting consultations on life and witness of the congregation (see Reg 3.4.1)

Fiona Morrison is the current Chair of this group and contact can be made through Alison Claridge, the current Secretary, via the Tasmanian Office. At each of its meetings the PRC spends time praying for the congregations and people within its areas of responsibility. Each meeting has an allocated in depth interview with regard to a place or person. When the group is involved in the oversight of a complaints process they always find their task easier when they are involved in this from the earliest point possible.



### **Next TCCEM Training Day**

Face-to-face training day in Campbell Town on a Saturday in September. This will double as training for new volunteers and also refresher training for existing volunteers.

### **Introduction to CPE**

The *Tasmanian Association for Supervised Pastoral Education* is offering an 'Introduction to Clinical Pastoral Education' in Hobart on Wednesday mornings from Aug 4th to Oct 27th. Contact Paul Hueston on

[Paul.Hueston@ths.tas.gov.au](mailto:Paul.Hueston@ths.tas.gov.au) for more information.

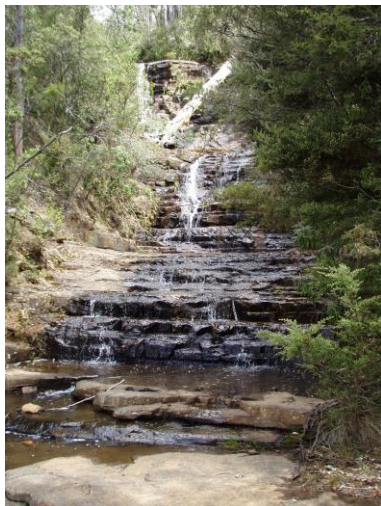
UCA website for disaster recovery: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/disaster-recovery>

USA based website for resources in crisis care: <https://www.crisisresponse.org>

### **New Phone Number**

The TCCEM general phone number recently changed to 0455 840 050 (from 0428 573 715). Our Executive Team members can be contacted on: Gus Yearsley (0432 620 253), Margaret Savage (0409 843 756) & Paul Hueston (0400 422 009).

Supporting donations are requested: \$2 and above tax deductible. **Tasmanian Council of Churches Emergencies Ministry BSB 067103 Account 1064 1483**



## Presbytery and Synod Grants

Available from the Tasmanian Office is a booklet on Presbytery Grants program for 2020.

This booklet outlines the types of grants available including:

- New and Innovative Ministry,
- Education and Training,
- Children, Youth, Young Adult and Family areas of ministry.

These range from “simple to apply for” Go Grants up to \$500, and more complex grants for more complicated requests.

Synod Grants such as those from Board of Mission and Resourcing (BOMAR) and Small Rural Grants are currently on hold.

The booklet also gives examples of the way in which grants have been used recently such as: assistance for book and other study costs by those involved in further ministry study or supporting a period of discernment, support for the introduction of Messy Church, providing worship items for a nursing home and other new and innovative ministry projects.

The booklet ends by outlining the beginning of the process for applying for grants, below. Go Grant application forms are available online: <https://ucatas.org.au/forms/>

Have you got an idea that needs just a little bit of money to get going?

If you and/or your community of faith is wanting to apply for grants please contact:

UCA Presbytery of Tasmania —the UCA Tasmanian Office

E: [tas.office@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:tas.office@victas.uca.org.au)

P: 03 6331 9784

Bronwyn or Kate will direct you to the Presbytery Minister who can best help you:



Denise Savage

Presbytery Minister—  
Leadership Formation



Hoon You

Presbytery Minister—  
Mission Development



## Rod Fraser – Order of Australia Recipient



Re-published in part with thanks to THE EXAMINER Newspaper from Monday June 14, 2021 [examiner.com.au](http://examiner.com.au)

### Honouring dedication

THE Order of Australia is a prestigious award across the nation. It recognises Australians who have demonstrated outstanding service or achievement.

#### **RODNEY FRASER OAM**

For service to the community through a range of organisations Helping others and volunteering is a way of life for some people. It is in their every action and how they choose to spend their time. One Norwood man has been recognised for his significant service to the community with a Medal of the Order of Australia. Rodney Fraser OAM has held many positions with Rostrum Australia – an association that seeks to help people with public speaking training - and its connected clubs.

"Volunteering has been a really rewarding activity for me," Mr Fraser said. "I certainly appreciate the opportunities I've been given for leadership in community organisations." Mr Fraser has held the national vice-president title, as well as state president and vice-president, national treasurer, committee member, regular guest adjudicator, accredited critic, and was granted Freemanship in 2014. He has also held president, treasurer, and representative roles with Rostrum Launceston Club 9, and national administrator and treasurer titles with Rostrum's Voice of Youth program.

"With Rostrum in particular, you see people benefit so much from getting confident in public speaking," Mr Fraser said. "It can make such a difference to people." However, it has not only been Rostrum that has benefited from Mr Fraser's passion for volunteer work. He is vice-president of the Tasmanian Debating Association and has held many positions with Uniting Church Tasmania, Scotch Oakburn College, the Australian Junior Chamber, and other organisations.

Mr Fraser said he was very appreciative of the recognition through the award, but was conscious there were many people in the community who volunteered too. "It was a bit of a surprise, you don't go looking for recognition," he said. "I think many people don't expect to be recognised and they certainly don't seek it, but it's pleasing to be recognised."



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# Worship & Preaching ONLINE TRAINING 2021

## ACCESS 3 POINTS OF TRAINING:

- ▶ **Online delivery across the Synod – 2 hours per week**  
Join others in Zoom delivery of Worship and Preaching workshops, combining a tutorial based on the online units, and input from a variety of church leaders.
- ▶ **Access to online Worship and Preaching units**  
Access online units written around the Assembly W&P competencies for Lay Preachers and Ministry of Pastor.
- ▶ **Local assessment**  
For those who opt for assessment, this will occur within their Congregation/ Faith Community/Hub or Presbytery.

## WORSHIP AND PREACHING TRAINING FOR COMMUNITIES AND LAY LEADERS

The world has and is changing and we are seeking new ways of leadership and being in church, including worship and proclaiming God's Word.

Join us for multiple options of engaging with 6 Worship Units and 6 Preaching Units.

Participants can choose their level of input and connection. Have a conversation with your faith community, congregation or Presbytery about what would be good for you and them.

Units are engaging and creative. Assessment is both theoretical and practical.

**WORSHIP** May 5, 12, 19 & June 2, 9, 16

**PREACHING** September 1, 8, 15 & October 6, 13, 20

**TIME** 7-9pm each night (will also be recorded and made available for learning)

*See over for more information on sessions.*

**Register at:**

[Worship and Preaching Online Workshop - WORSHIP](#)

[Worship and Preaching Online Workshop - PREACHING](#)

For more information, contact your Presbytery or: **Mel Perkins**, Lay Leadership Development, eLM

[mel.perkins@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:mel.perkins@victas.uca.org.au)



equipping Leadership for Mission



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA



that area



The Worship Zoom sessions for this training have finished with time for those who wish to be assessed now available.

The Preaching sessions will begin in September and the topic outlines of those sessions are here.

You can join for interest or for assessment. Tasmanian assessment is arranged via Denise Savage.

## PREACHING

**1 Sept Exploring Preaching – What is Preaching?/The place of preaching in different cultures**  
*with Mel Perkins & Rev Dev Anandarajan, Intercultural Leadership Development, eLM*

**8 Sept Understanding Preaching 1 – Interpreting Biblical texts/working with difficult texts**  
*with Mel Perkins & Rev Dr Sean Winter, Head of Pilgrim Theological College*

**15 Sept Understanding Preaching 2– Responding to the Word (as Preacher and hearer)/ Preaching for the senses and multiple intelligences**  
*Mel Perkins & Gordon Wild, Presbytery Minister, Southern Region, Presbytery of Loddon Mallee*

**6 Oct Preparing to Preach - Putting bits together/The art of Preaching**  
*with Mel Perkins & Rev Linley Liersch, Mission Development Strategist, Presbytery of Port Phillip West*

**13 Oct Preaching as Leadership 1 – The ethics in and of Preaching/ Getting your message across: Communication in Preaching**  
*with Mel Perkins & Rohan Pryor, Synod Liaison Minister (Tasmania)*

**20 Oct Preaching as Leadership 2 - The challenges and joys of preaching as yourself/ Preaching with Creativity and Imagination**  
*with Mel Perkins & Rev Deacon Peter Batten, Mission and Education Resourcing Minister, Presbytery of Gippsland*

## This 'n That

■ Have you read a **good book** lately that has extended your understanding of God, spirituality, theology, the Bible? Send us a review.

■ Good home available for a free standing Communion Table Cross for Strathaven Chapel. If you have a spare cross, perhaps from a closed church, and would like to donate it to a good home, the gift would be very much appreciated. Please contact Chaplain Heather Cowled 6272 3096 [answering machine always comes on, so

please identify yourself and I may have made it to the phone to answer by then, if not please leave a message].

## Praying for the Everyone

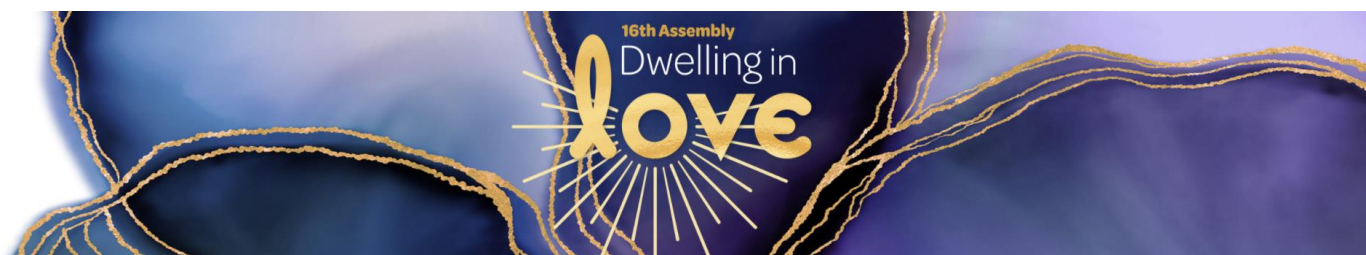
- For all those from Tasmania and across the country who are participating in the 16<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Uniting Church – that they may be aware of the leading of the Spirit and the needs of others.
- For those responsible for responding to the changing roles and needs of congregations.
- For the blossoming of new and innovative ministry and mission ideas
- For the members of the Pastoral Relations Committee, individually and together, for the knotty problems they sometimes have to help sort out and for the joys that they hear about.



## What's On

### July

Tue 6	10am	Pastoral Relations Committee
Tue 13	11am	Resource and Development Committee
Wed 14 – Mon 19		16 <sup>th</sup> Assembly meeting of the Uniting Church in Australia
Thu 22	10am	Presbytery Standing Committee
Tue 27	11am	Resource and Development Committee



For reports and resources, live streams & more: <https://uniting.church/16thassembly/>



### Fridays in the Tasmanian Office

*Which lenses do you see the world through?*

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Editor: Graham Booth, 36 Paterson Street, Launceston, 7250

or (03) 6331 9784 or [tas.office@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:tas.office@victas.uca.org.au)

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](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Australia_Tasmania_location_map_blank.svg)