

Uniting Tasmania



Presbytery of

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

Issue No. 198

October 2021

'Ordiversaries'



Did Presbytery Chairperson, Rev Caro Field, just make up that word?

Ordiversaries = Anniversaries of Ordination

Those in the photographs above celebrated big Zero ordiversaries this year: Rev Bob Hollander 40, Rev Kathryn Richards 30, Rev Michael Duke 20, and Rev Jeff Savage 10. Kathryn provided a reflection on ministry over 30 years. Congratulations and many happy returns to each of them.

Reflection

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Reflection

Flock, from 'Aimless Love: New and Selected Poems' by Billy Collins

It has been calculated that each copy of the Gutenberg Bible required the skins of 300 sheep. - *from an article on printing*

I can see them squeezed into the holding pen
behind the stone building
where the printing press is housed,

all of them squirming around
to find a little room
and looking so much alike

it would be nearly impossible
to count them,
and there is no telling

which one will carry the news
that the Lord is a shepherd,
one of the few things they already know.

Anybody who has anything to do with preparing and leading worship is welcome at **Lay Preacher Hub Days**

This year, there will be time for Code of Ethics engagement around the Lay Preacher Code of Ethics. There will also be learning and equipping for writing prayers.

The day will be led by Graham Booth: Lay Preachers' Association Committee of Management Rep for Tasmania, and Rev Denise Savage: Presbytery Minister for Leadership Formation. With Covid Safe guidelines still in place, lunch is BYO. Please register your intention to attend to ensure we are working with COVID-safe numbers.

Further details contact Graham Booth: boothgll@bigpond.com

Rev Denise Savage: denise.savage@victas.uca.org.au

Lay Preacher Hub Days

Writing Prayers
and
Engagement with Lay
Preacher Code of Ethics

Led by Graham Booth and
Rev Denise Savage

23rd Oct (RSVP by 15th Oct)
Launceston North UC

30th Oct (RSVP by 22nd Oct)
Hobart North UC

20th Nov (RSVP by 12th Nov)
Ulverstone UC

Each session: 9:30am – 2:30pm



Christians unite for Afghanistan

One way to make your voice heard amidst the noise of radical change in Afghanistan is by signing up to the campaign launched by Christians United for Afghanistan. [SIGN THE CALL: Christians United for Afghanistan](#)

This campaign is aiming at the following tasks:

1. Welcome Afghan Refugees: Declare an intake of an additional 20,000 refugees focused on those most at risk from the Taliban (just as they did for people fleeing Syria in 2015 and as the UK and Canada have announced).
2. Protect Afghans in Australia: Grant permanent protection to all people from Afghanistan in Australia on temporary protection visas or currently awaiting application outcomes.
3. Reunite Refugee Families: Make immediate arrangements to bring the families of refugees from Afghanistan to Australia.
4. Support through Humanitarian Aid: Provide additional emergency and long-term support through reputable NGOs and organisations working in the region.

People of the UCA can also contribute to an emergency appeal providing funding to assist uprooted families in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries.

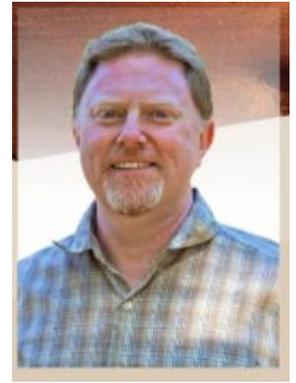
[Humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan \(unitingworld.org.au\)](#)



The wisdom of older people

‘The first UCA Older Persons Sunday is on 3 October. Older people are a vital part of the Uniting Church. UnitingCare Australia National Director Claerwen Little said, “This is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of older people, and to challenge any expressions of ageism.”’

For more including a President’s Reflection: [Older Persons Sunday President Reflection - Uniting Church Australia](#)



You are invited for a virtual walk with Rev Dr Garry Deverell to listen and engage with his story and reflections as an Indigenous person.

Garry is a Trawlolaway man from northern Lutrawita (Tasmania), an Anglican priest, and the Vice-Chancellor's Fellow in Indigenous theologies at the University of Divinity. Garry has had a diverse ministry for 30 years including in the employ of the Uniting Church in Victoria and Tasmania. He is the author of *The Bonds of Theology* and *Gondwana Theology*, and is a regular contributor to radio, podcasts, and conferences on Indigenous matters.

Garry will be speaking on:

- Who are the First Nations/First Peoples of this country, and what is our traditional spirituality or way of life?
- What happened between First Peoples and (mainly European) colonists in the period 1788-1960? How were the churches involved?
- What is the result of this history when it comes to First Nations' health, well-being and socio-economic status?
- What do modern-day Indigenous people want?
- Who are the Second Peoples and how can they be good allies in the Indigenous struggle for something resembling justice?

Tue, 12 October 2021 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM AEDT.

To register follow this link: [Meet the First Peoples of Gondwana Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

Notes from the August meeting of Presbytery

Marion Bisset, who is currently a ministry candidate from this presbytery, gave an update on her progress towards ordination. She appeared by Zoom from Melbourne.

Presbytery confirmed the closure of the Faith Community at Wesley UC, Hobart. The Museum continues under the auspices of the Synod Archives and the No Bucks Café continues with Uniting. Members of the former Wesley Faith Community are being encouraged to connect with other local church congregations of their choice.

A service of thanksgiving for the Wesley Faith Community will be held on Sunday 26th September, following a day of reflection on Saturday 25th September.

Liam Miller of the podcast Love-Rinse/Repeat had a conversation with newly inducted President of the Uniting Church, Rev Sharon Hollis. They discussed her call, and issues, challenges and hopes as she takes up the role.



Find this at [Ep99. The State of the Union, President Rev Sharon Hollis — Rinse & Repeat \(loverinserepeat.com\)](https://loverinserepeat.com)

Or [LRR: The State of the Union, President Rev Sharon Hollis - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LRR: The State of the Union, President Rev Sharon Hollis)

Podcasts can be a way of exploring issues and learning that doesn't require having to travel long distances and can be listened to when and where you want. They can also be fast forwarded, rewinded and turned off as needed.

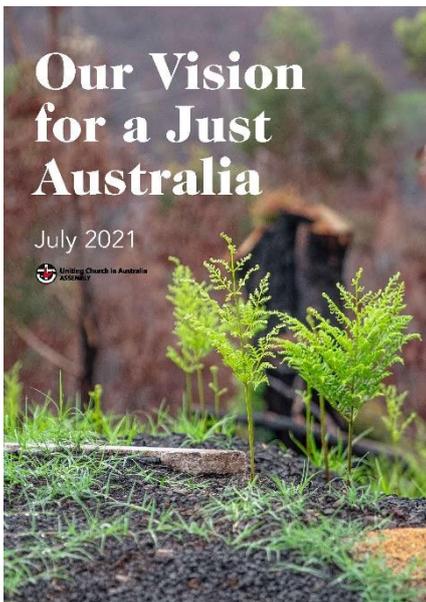
Other examples of podcasts with a Uniting Church feel (not that you should only listen to voices from the Uniting Church) include:

By the Well: [By the Well - A preacher's guide to the lectionary with Fran Barber and Robyn Whitaker](#) You don't have to be a preacher.

Gunghalin Uniting Church from the Canberra region has a list of other helpful Podcasts for Faithful Development at [Podcasts for Faith Development \(gungahlinuniting.org\)](https://gungahlinuniting.org)

Social Justice

Motoring home and listening to the Radio National Music show I heard an interview with the Irish musician Conner O'Brien which proved to be, as is frequently the case with RN, something of a treat. Conner reflected on the history of injustices experienced in Ireland and how that this has heightened his awareness of world trends which, after a period of hope with progressive gains in achieving the millennium goals toward a more just world community, is now trending back to ever greater injustices. His catchy Irish voice, expressed in both conversation and his song "*The more I know the more I care*," delivered an appeal to all to get involved, to make an effort to know and identify with the people and places where injustice abounds, and to act for peace.

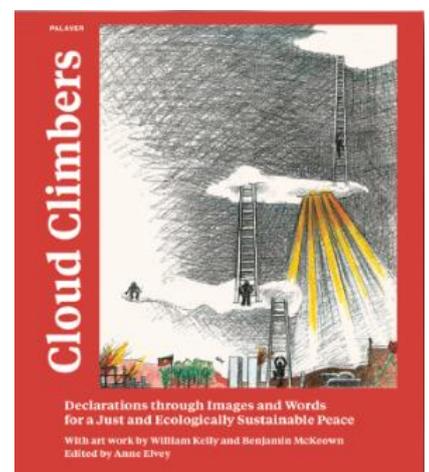


This was followed by the recent mailing of the Uniting Church publication, "*Our vision for a just Australia*." This vision is commended to all Uniting Church members. As the title states the focus is on Australia and this as it should be because we are following that trend backwards in terms of equity within our borders as well as in our relations with other people. Following Conner O'Brien's advice in "*The more I know, the more I care*" this UCA publication is timely as we enter spring and 'The Season of Creation' when nature bursts into renewal and growth. In the foreword of this vision statement we are reminded of the Old Testament account of the Hebrew dream time where we are told that humanity came into being 'in the

image of God', the context there is creation, this is telling us that we image a creative God. Creativity is the overarching quality which distinguishes humanity. In living that creativity "*Our Vision for a Just Australia*" is a valuable resource for renewal and growth for all congregations and members.

In our household we are presently reading the Pax Christi publication "*Cloud Climbers*", '*Declarations through Images and words for a Just and Ecologically Sustainable Peace*' which expands the vision to the 'uttermost parts of the earth,' here is an excellent vehicle for finding "*The more I know, the more I care*". The UCA Vision concludes, in the final chapter, with an expanding vision for a 'Just and Peaceful World', "*Cloud Climbers*" transports our minds for the stars of hope and justice.

Our family includes 14 year old twin girls, without doubt I am biased, but they are as delightful a pair of young ladies as one may wish for. Quite different, but quite kind and caring; one an early riser, the other a sleeper inner; one dresses in style, the other jeans & shorts; both are diligent students, both are



enthusiastic soccer players and are selected in state representative teams as they pass through the age groups; one expresses creativity in art, the other in cooking; both are troubled by the news coming from Afghanistan especially relating to the prospects for young women. One is able to accept the limitations to what we can do in this situation, the other has difficulty letting go and releasing her mind of that anguish. We are challenged to show to our children, our church, our community a way of hope, a way in which each day ends we are able to answer the question, 'what did I do today to make the world a better place?' We can show a way in which each small step makes the whole that much better. One word of hope and encouragement lifts the whole that much, one piece of litter picked up is one less, one morsel of food not wasted reduces waste that much. One can only speculate what hope and creativity our young Australians may achieve but we may be confident that big things are offering.

We are called now to adopt the UCA Vision for Australia, to climb to the clouds, to know more and care more.

For more information on Our Vision for a Just Australia:

<https://uniting.church/a-vision-for-a-just-australia/>

For more information about Cloud Climbers:

<https://vox.divinity.edu.au/event/cloud-climbers-online-book-launch/>



OUR FAITH IN DEMOCRACY:

HOW DO YOU HAVE A
MEANINGFUL SAY?

SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2021



For more info visit the Uniting Church 'Just Act' website

<https://justact.org.au/> or download a flyer directly from

<https://justact.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-JIM-Convention.pdf>

Andrew Glenn steps down as Uniting World Chair



Dr Andrew Glenn (pictured above, left) is a member of the Hobart North Uniting Church and a past Chair of the Presbytery of Tasmania. The text below is part of an article dealing with the end of a three year program for the Board of UnitingWorld, the UCA's international aid and development agency.

Andrew's engagement with UnitingWorld has spanned nine years. As Chair, Andrew has spearheaded the recruitment and induction of new Board members, as well as playing an active role in both Board committees.

In the Board room, Andrew has brought structure and discipline to proceedings, championing the use of the consensus process; encouraged robust debate, never shirking complex challenges; and fostering a generous and inclusive culture where all participants felt welcome and safe to make their contributions.

Andrew's contributions to UnitingWorld outside the boardroom have been as significant as those inside. He has been a tireless advocate for UnitingWorld within the other structures and councils of the church, leading our engagement with the Assembly Standing Committee, the Assembly Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, and the Assembly Investments Advisory Committee. It is a tribute to Andrew's leadership and vision that UnitingWorld's relationships with these councils have been both productive and supportive.

His warm pastoral concern for the staff of UnitingWorld has made him well-loved by the team, as has his generosity with his time and expertise. He will be sorely missed.

During his tenure, Andrew has undertaken several additional projects for UnitingWorld above and beyond his role as Chair. He has played a key role in maintaining our quality systems by regularly auditing our compliance with policies and procedures, and once travelled to Papua New Guinea to conduct a hugely successful workshop on the 'Theology of Good Governance' with our partners the United Church of PNG.

For the full article see [Appreciation for the UnitingWorld Board](#)

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Worship & Preaching ONLINE TRAINING 2021

PREACHING

- 1 Sept Exploring Preaching – What is Preaching?/The place of preaching in different cultures**
with Mel Perkins & Rev Dev Anandarsjan, 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 Battier, Mission and Education Resourcing Minister, Presbytery of Gippsland

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.

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



equipping Leadership for Mission



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

that area

Did you know the UCA Assembly has a strategic plan?

A strategic plan is no good if it gathers dust in Sydney. [Assembly Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023 - Uniting Church Australia](#) This plan has the following five elements:



INTER-GENERATIONAL

Welcome, equip and hold together the different generations, in the life, Ministry, decision making and leadership of the church

Develop Models for Growing Emerging Gen Faith/Leadership

Develop an Intergen Ministry Framework

Support and take part in National Youth Events as negotiated with Synods

Partner with Congress in enabling Work with Emerging Generations

In [Three takes on an Intergenerational Church - Uniting Church](#), Janine MacDonald in Western Australia says:

"... ministry with children, youth, young adults and families is inextricably linked with all other ages and forms an integrated approach to enable, build and nurture the whole faith community....

"Intergenerational ministry highlights the truth that all people are valuable and important members of the Body of Christ (Romans 12:4-5)."

"It nurtures Christ-centred community, bringing together two or more generations in planned and purposeful settings, where multiple generations are mutually invested."

Janine then shares from GenOn Ministries a quick snapshot to evaluate Intergenerational Ministry in your context:

1. List all the worship, study, service and fellowship activities that your church currently offers.
2. Based on the definition of Intergenerational ministry, above, circle any that meet those criteria.
3. Star the options that you think have potential to include more generations.
4. Choose one of the starred options.
5. Note down the ways you could modify it to become inter-generational.

Sunday 10th October



Share Sunday Appeal - All are Welcome.

Worship and other resources available at [Share Sunday | Uniting Vic.Tas \(unitingvictas.org.au\)](https://www.unitingvictas.org.au)

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.

■ Beryl Osborne from George Town asks if there are any spare copies of the large print version of Together in Song available as they are out of print and her congregation has a need.

■ Regional Lay Preacher days will be coming up in October and November. Keep a look out for these if you lead worship or are an accredited lay preacher.

Praying for Everyone

- For the people of the recently closed Wesley Faith Community as they mourn the past and connect with other congregations.
- For the members of Presbytery who had to deal with the difficult decisions that have led to the closure of the Wesley Faith Community.
- For the ongoing work of Uniting World and for Andrew Glenn as he navigates life after that considerable commitment.
- For those who have celebrated significant “ordiversaries” as they reflect on the ambiguities and joys of the past, present and future.

What's On

October

Tue 5	10am	Pastoral Relations Committee
Tue 12	11am	Resource and Development Committee
Tue 26	11am	Resource and Development Committee
Thu 28	10am	Presbytery Standing Committee

Uniting Church Tasmania Events

We have been working hard on keeping our website up to date with events and other information. Events include all key information including dates, locations, any costs as well as links to booking pages where available.

Please have a look from time to time to see what is coming up. Click on the link below

[Upcoming Events – Uniting Church Tasmania – ucatas.org.au](https://ucatas.org.au)

or copy and paste this link into your browser

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

Next Presbytery of Tasmania Gathering

Saturday 13th November 2021 at Cam Rise Uniting Church, Somerset

Family Getaway Camp postponed until March 2022

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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