

Uniting Tasmania



Presbytery of

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

Issue No. 199

November 2021

Presbytery of Tasmania Gathering

Saturday 13th November 2021
Cam Rise Uniting Church, Somerset

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/>

Lectionary Year C 2021-2022

We have added this to our website for you to access. Please click this link to access the webpage

https://ucatas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-Year-C-Lectionary17_6_2021-2.pdf

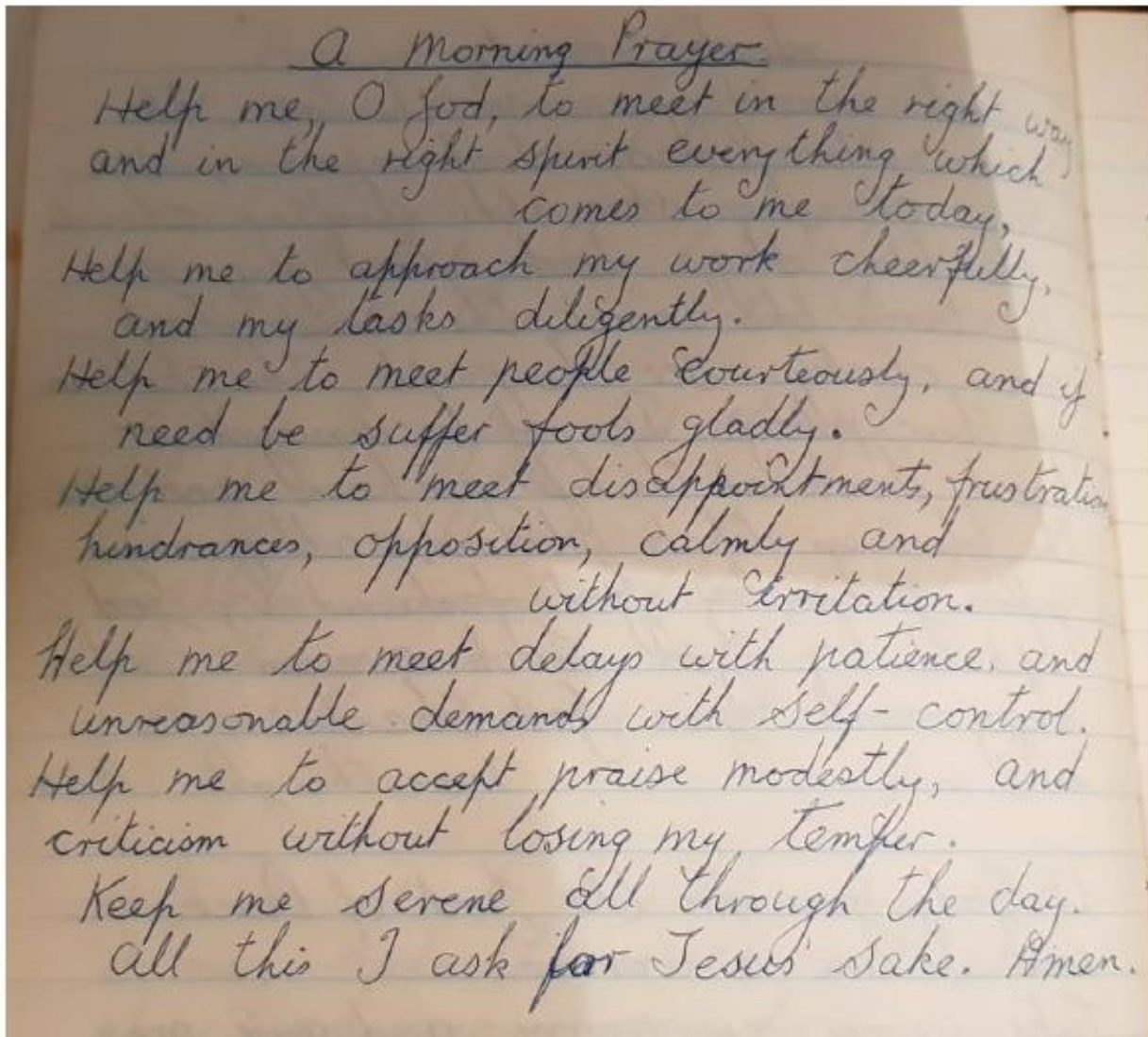
or click this link for the worship resources page

<https://ucatas.org.au/faith/worship/links/>

Reflection
Page 2

Social Justice
Page 4

Hymn for a Pandemic
Page 9



Morning Prayer from "A Book of Prayers and Quotations"

some collected, some written (including this one) by Edward Thomas Such (Jo Kelly's dad)

the original above may be difficult to read so I include a print version

Help me, O God, to meet in the right way and the right spirit everything which comes to me today. Help me to approach my work cheerfully and my tasks diligently. Help me to meet people courteously, and if need be to suffer fools gladly. Help me to meet disappointments, frustrations, hindrances, opposition, calmly and without irritation. Help me to meet delays with patience and unreasonable demands with self-control. Help me to accept praise modestly and criticism without losing my temper.

Keep me serene all through the day.

All this I ask for Jesus sake. Amen



16th November

3.30pm – 5.00pm

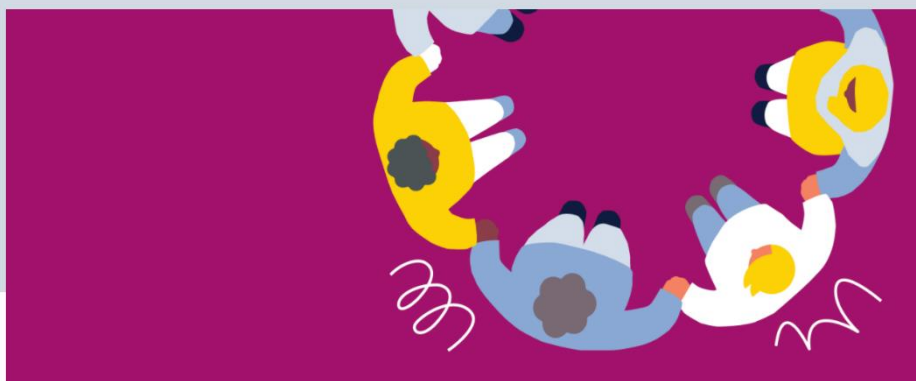
[Register for the Annual Public Meeting 2021 | Uniting Vic.Tas \(unitingvictas.org.au\)](#)

Annual Public Meeting

16

Nov 2021

3.30pm - 5.00pm



Your registration will allow Uniting to send you in early November, a link to the live-streamed event.

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 engagement around the Code of Ethics for Lay Preachers. 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

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

20th Nov (RSVP by 12th Nov)
Ulverstone UC
Each session: 9:30am – 2:30pm

30 October (RSVP by 22 Oct)
Hobart North UC

20 November (RSVP 12 Nov)
Ulverstone UC

9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Writing Prayers
and
Engagement with Lay
Preacher Code of Ethics

Led by Graham Booth and
Rev Denise Savage



Social Justice

Some years ago we had the privilege of participating in an agricultural tour in South America, our first stop was in Santiago and a quick introduction to the city, the people a history of Chile & history. From thence we proceeded to various aspects of agriculture. This was all impressive but what impacted our group of Australians was the value almost all people expressed for their democracy. This was about thirty years after Chile had escaped from the autocratic rule of Augusto Pinochet an evil despot who, with the aid of the American CIA had stolen leadership from a democratic administration. This was a wake-up call to we Australians who tend to take our democracy for granted, even to express negativity about our leaders. Certainly our value of democracy is not or is rarely a feature of conversation.

But there is always an undercurrent trying to erode all that we hold good, including our democracy. Our attention was recently drawn to the pre-release streaming of a documentary video, *“Our Democracy is a Big Deal”* to precede a zoom panel discussion and Q&A session around the subject of the video on Sunday Oct. 10. Many readers shall have subsequently seen the ABC presentation on Oct 19 & 26.

The key message from this presentation is that our elected parliament can only function as a democracy if our representatives are fully and regularly informed from the electorate. Whilst much of that information is conveyed via the public service, that service operates in a bubble. The citizens of the electorate share the most important and influential voice. The collective term for that process is “lobbying”, communicating with our representatives. (I guess it arises from the custom, from ancient times, of hanging around to administration building lobby to catch the ear of key people. Mordecai in the story of Esther may be an early example) Anyways it is important that our elected leaders hear from the electorate. Here may I share the wisdom of one Argentine farmer who expressed no hesitation in sharing his experience with Australian farmers, *“If you have a ripe apple and I have a ripe apple and we swap apples we shall each still have one apple; but if you have a good idea and I have a good idea and we swap ideas, we shall each then have two good ideas.”*

A problem arises if a rich and powerful entity seeks to promote their own interest and has cash in the back pocket. This is not for the elected member, most of our Australian politicians are above direct bribes, indeed most go into public service with virtuous ideals. Such moneys become contributions to the relevant political party, this lifts the status of the individual within the party and contributes to re-election. A bribe which is not a bribe!

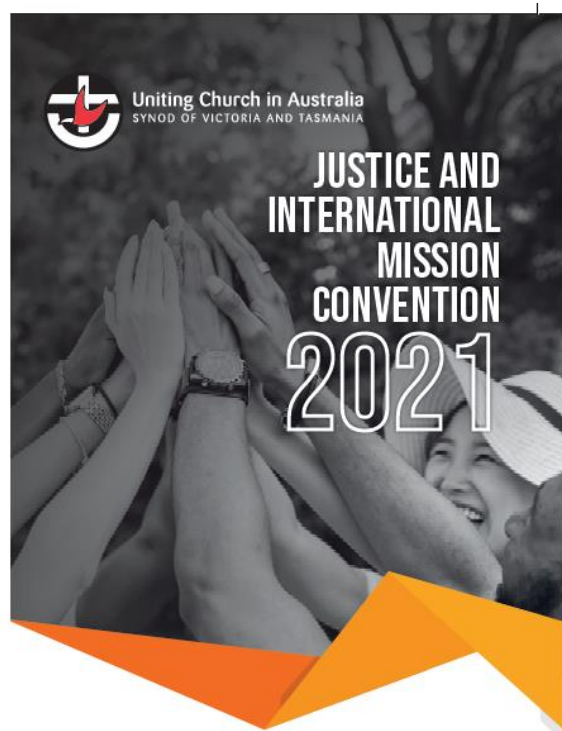
The *“Our Democracy..”* video makes it clear that this practice is rife in Australia, subject to limited control and demonstratively more widespread than in almost any western country. The message is that our regulations in this area are such that our democracy is under threat from vested interests with the means to pay.

One approach is legislate for alternative funding methods for political parties, this would be just one step.

Step two is the powerful one. That is that more and more citizens communicate their ideas with their representatives, this may be by personal contact, written or e-mail contact, group presentation, supporting local or wider interest groups including political parties of choice. My own life experience includes several worthwhile constructive outcomes which continue to benefit the wider community and which have been achieved by sharing our ideas with our representatives. It does happen, it does work, good things do happen – good ideas shared build better, greater outcomes. AND strengthen our democracy. **“They order”** should not be part of our vocabulary.

Our Democracy is a Big Deal” is a reminder that threats to democracy are real and may even steal all that we value. Our option is to choose to be active thoughtful citizens.

Ian R F



OUR FAITH IN DEMOCRACY:

HOW DO YOU HAVE A MEANINGFUL SAY?

SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2021



equipping Leadership for Mission

Justice & International Mission

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>

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:

ASSEMBLY STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2023

FIVE STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

RESPOND TO
THE CHURCH

IDENTITY

INNOVATION

INTER-
GENERATIONAL

INTER-CULTURAL

INTER-CULTURAL

Learn from and enable
diverse cultural groups
within the church to
flourish together

Engage National
Conferences

Develop A Vision for
Intercultural Ministry

Collate and Publicise
Language Resources

Support Engagement of
Congress with National
Conferences

Our Vision: We are a nation of diverse cultures, languages, faiths, ethnic groups and experiences. We celebrate and value the strength of this diversity. We see this diversity reflected in our leaders, key decision makers, institutions, industry, sports and media. We are a compassionate nation, where every person who seeks refuge here is treated fairly and made to feel welcome and safe – regardless of their country of origin or mode of arrival.“

From: A Welcoming Compassionate and Diverse Nation [A Welcoming Compassionate and Diverse Nation | UCA Assembly](#)

Welcome/G'day

English

ԲԱՐԻ ԵՎԱԶ

Armenian – Pari Yegak

歡迎

Chinese – Ni Hao

မိမိကလေး

Burmese - Mingalaba

Ni sa bula

Fijian

Salam Sejahtera

Indonesian

어서 오세요

Korean – Anyong Haseyo

Ki ora

Maori

Fakaalofa atu!

Nieu

Zdravo

Macedonian

Noa'ia 'e māuri

Rotuman

TALOFA LAVA

Samoan

Mabuhay

Tagalog

Goeie dag

Afrikanas

مرحباً

Arabic - Murabak

Community Connections for Seasonal Worker Program update - October 2021

Making great community connections with seasonal agricultural workers

Taua Ritiata is the Community Connections Worker employed by the Uniting Church for the Australian Government's [Community Connections project](#) and [Seasonal Worker Program](#), under the oversight of the Uniting Church's Senior [Social Justice Advocate](#), Dr Mark Zirnsak. Taua has been employed with the role of connecting seasonal agricultural workers with local community groups including churches, and working to facilitate meaningful connections between them – all in two days per week! Groups of agricultural workers live in the local community for 6-9 months, and significant relationships can be built up over time, bringing mutual benefit, enjoyment and encouragement.

This summer promises to be a very busy time! Already a group from Kiribati have been connected with the Ulverstone Uniting Church, contributing to worship and making community connections. A group of 50 Ni-Vans (from Vanuatu) have connected to Penguin UC, and another group of Ni-Vans have participated in worship at Longford UC, and appreciated the local op shop being specially opened so that new arrivals can get some warm clothing for the fresh spring weather. A group of 70 from Samoa has very recently arrived in the Legana area, and further groups of 60 from Samoa, 20 from Timor-Leste, 20 from Tonga are expected in coming weeks. In early November a group of over 200 are expected in the East Devonport area.

Taua would love to make contact with you about visiting the local Uniting Churches in these areas sometime soon, introducing the connections program and finding ways of connecting some of the seasonal workers to church and community activities in the area. This is a great opportunity for the Uniting Church to express Christian hospitality and potentially involve seasonal workers in the life of the Church and local community while they are here to build connections and share mutual support and encouragement.

Taua can be contacted by e-mail taua.ritiata@victas.uca.org.au, and his mobile at the moment is 0482 609 187.



We look forward to hearing more stories about the connections being made between seasonal workers and local church communities, and with the wider communities across Tasmania that host and benefit from the seasonal workers and the Community Connections project.

CAN CLIMATE APOCALYPSE BE AVERTED?

GLASGOW NOVEMBER 2021: A DATE WITH DESTINY



Will the Glasgow Summit usher in a just, free carbon economy?

If not, what next?

Will governments deliver on their promises?

What if they don't?

Join us on Thursday 11 November as we address these questions at an online international forum with leading thinkers and passionate advocates. Featuring:



Professor Robyn Eckersley (University of Melbourne) is a leading authority on the politics of climate change and has written extensively on green theory and green democracy.



Professor Tim Flannery is Chief Councillor of the Climate Council, an internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer, conservationist and author of the book *The Climate Cure*.



Marinel Ubaldo is the Philippine Country Coordinator for the UN Youth Climate Conference in Glasgow. She addressed world leaders at the Climate Change COP 21 in Paris and COP 25 in Madrid.



Kavita Naidu is an international human rights lawyer from Fiji-Australia, specialises in feminist climate justice, working with grassroots women across Asia and the Pacific. She is a Board member at Greenpeace Australia Pacific.



This event is presented by Conversation at the Crossroads
Learn more at www.crossroadsconversation.com.au



Thursday 11 November 2021 via Zoom

7:30pm Melbourne / 2:00pm New Delhi / 8:30am Glasgow / 8:30pm Fiji
9:30pm Auckland / 12:30am Los Angeles / 9:30am Berlin / 3:30pm Jakarta
4:30pm Manila / 10:30pm (Honolulu)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

A Hymn for a Pandemic

Tune: Tree of Peace (11.10.11.10), AHB 503(ii)

We wash our hands because we love our neighbour.
This simple task we frequently repeat,
recalling Jesus' meal with his disciples,
he took a bowl and towel, and washed their feet.

We sanitise because we love our neighbour,
to stop transmission of a source of harm.
In times of crisis, let us be determined
to share compassion, rather than alarm.

We space ourselves because we love our neighbour,
in public sitting distant and apart.
But even if we're looking isolated
and far in body, still we're close in heart.

We've stayed at home because we love our neighbour;
we've tolerated lockdowns out of need.
Although it's been - for some - a painful hardship,
we've borne it as a sacrificial deed.

We've met on "Zoom" because we love our neighbour,
embracing new technologies with grace
and humour (and a measure of frustration),
'till once again we're meeting face-to-face.

We've worn a mask because we love our neighbour,
in hope we'll still each other recognise,
greeting each other with mask-muffled voices,
and hope we'll be seen smiling with our eyes.

We all check in because we love our neighbour,
through "apps", or registers, for safety's sake.
We check in through the peace of our Creator,
whose Spirit knows each movement which we make.

We vaccinate because we love our neighbour,
and with the hope our world will quickly heal.
Each "jab" becomes a psalm of celebration,
each lollipop a sacramental meal.

We sing with thanks, with love of God and neighbour,
our voices blending to infinity.
We sing to Christ, the Spirit, and Creator,
We praise with joy the blessed Trinity.

Robert J. Faser, 2021

*Permission is granted for congregations to use this hymn in worship with
acknowledgement of the author.*

AUSUK security pact: a story of recklessness and delusion

By Joseph Camilleri Sep 20, 2021

The AUSUK security pact is another provocative alliance that can only end in blood and tears. And for no good reason other than a nostalgic addiction to imperial power.

How ironic that we should choose to sign up to a new security partnership at this time, scarcely two weeks after America's ignominious exit from Afghanistan and a costly 20-year war that has left little but destruction and anguish in its trail. The irony will not be lost on China — the villain in the piece that the pact is meant to counter and intimidate.

For more go to [AUKUS security pact: a story of recklessness and delusion - Pearls and Irritations \(johnmenadue.com\)](https://johnmenadue.com)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The VicTas Uniting Church Historical Society is seeking a Tasmanian resident to join our Committee.

We aim to promote interest in and study of the history of the Uniting Church, and its antecedents, especially in Tasmania and Victoria.

The Society has four public meetings a year and has a policy to share all meetings by zoom so physical participation is not a limitation.

The Committee meets bi-monthly to plan these events and encourage the research and publication of historical material. It believes participation by Tasmania will enhance its activities.

The role is voluntary and the Committee meets by Zoom.

Please submit a short statement about your interest in the Church's heritage and your CV.

Email your interest to the President: ken.barelli@bigpond.com

Enquiries: Ken Barelli on Mobile 0418 317 942

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.

■ The Tasmanian Office does not have access to its usual sources for Christmas Cards this year.

Praying for Everyone

- For the work of Lay Preachers and other lay leaders who maintain connection and the vitality in our worship spaces
- For the leaders meeting to discuss Climate Change and the rest of us as we deal with the consequences
- For creativity given and shared and creativity nurtured and ready to bloom
- For our Presbytery as it gathers this month and those on Presbytery Committees – for the joys and the concerns
- For our descendants and in thanksgiving for our ancestors – by blood and by faith



Give a Flynn, Give Hope

For just **\$20** you can support Aussie farmers, today!

For details visit <https://frontierservices.org/the-great-outback-bbq-2020/>

What's On

November

Tue 2	10am	Pastoral Relations Committee
Tue 9	11am	Resource and Development Committee
Tue 23	11am	Resource and Development Committee
Thu 25	10am	Presbytery Standing Committee

The following Prayer was written by a small group of lay preachers at the annual Lay Preacher workshop in the North, spinning off from John 1: 1-18.

God of grace, the Word

Open our eyes

Open our hearts

Open our minds

To receive blessings from Jesus Christ

Who came into the world to live as one of Us.

Shine truth, shine light

Into our world and into our lives

That we too might reflect the light of Christ. Amen

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