

# Uniting



Presbytery of

# Tasmania

<https://www.victas.uca.org.au/tasmania>

Issue No. 150

April 2017



## Refresh with Rev Bill Loader

### Lay Leadership Conference

10.00am—3.00pm Saturday 29 April

Robert dean Centre, Scotch Oakburn College,  
85 Penquite Road, Launceston

Uniting Church in  
Australia  
Presbytery of  
Tasmania



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## Day for Lay Preachers

It's time to talk about the future of Lay Preachers in Tasmania.

How do we connect with each other?  
How do we connect with the wider church?

1 April 2017  
10 am to 3:30 pm

Longford Uniting Church  
Lunch Cost: \$5.00

RSVP: 25 March  
Presbytery Office  
tas.office@victas.uca.org.au  
6331 9174



**10am Saturday 1st April  
Longford Uniting Church,  
3 High Street Longford**

**RSVP 27th March** with attendance and any dietary requirements The cost for lunch is \$5.00.

You are invited to participate in a Day for Lay Preachers to engage in conversations around the future of Lay Preachers in Tasmania. The Lay Preachers Association has been in recess and it is time to open up the possibilities around what's next.

How will we connect, support and encourage those who are Lay Preachers in the Presbytery? What does the connection with the wider church look like? What do we do with the funds that are currently being kept in care by the Presbytery?

## Refresh with Rev Bill Loader

Bill is a minister of the Uniting Church in Australia and emeritus professor of New Testament (NT) at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia.

He invites dialogue with some of the difficult questions we may have, and to be respectful as we talk together with difficult issues. His approach to the NT, informs the way in which he encourages the church to continue to follow in the way of Jesus. Details of event on Page P1.

**Lunch: \$15.00** Please let us know of any special dietary requirements.

**RSVP 19 April, 2017** to [tas.office@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:tas.office@victas.uca.org.au) or 6331 978



## Launceston Alive Easter Festival

For more information  
<http://launceston.org.au/>

# Reflection

## Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees Art Installation “Are you ready?”



I would have answered that question with a ‘yes’ up until several minutes before standing up in front of several hundred people on Palm Sunday. With the help of many assistants, I had cut a couple of hundred pieces of paper into triangles, made a video tutorial of how to make the origami paper boats with candles in the centre, posted it on a variety of social

media sites and collected many orange and red pencils, crayons and felt tip pens. But as a sea of faces looked upon me, each holding a paper triangle, I suddenly wasn’t sure. Social justice issues have informed my art practice for several years now and I have a keen interest in exploring the affects of detention particularly on children and communicating the awful consequences of detaining asylum seekers through my art. I was delighted when Michelle Cook asked if I would like to create an art installation as part of the Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees.

Origami is a very peaceful, meditative art form with the origami cranes in particular developing into a worldwide symbol of a child’s want for peace. To design an installation with the themes of peace and hope in mind, and with the help of YouTube, I very quickly settled on one particular folding pattern for an origami boat with a paper candle standing upright on the inside.

The pattern was a bit more complicated to follow than I had maybe hoped thus each origami paper boat has a different appearance but there is something very special about this. The most memorable part of the experience was seeing different people coming together to create something beautiful; putting aside different views or ideas and creating a paper boat with a candle for hope.

I would like to thank Michelle Cook and fellow organisers for allowing me this experience.

**Frances Seen**  
**Pilgrim Uniting Church**



## *Leadership Formation*

One of the common conversations that is taking place across the church - and by that it is across the country, around the world, in other denominations - is how do we talk about Jesus with other people. How does the worship we offer, reflect those conversations we have about Jesus with other people?

An authenticity in the way we live out our faith is becoming critical. God matters, and it is important for ourselves to know that, and why. It is important in the way we talk with other people too. As a church, we are experiencing a faith crisis. There are all sorts of pointers that show us this. One of the keys is numbers. But it is just one. If we are real about our faith, then another story begins to grow in our communities. Not only in our congregations and faith communities, but the communities in which we live, work and play. The story that begins to grow is one of transformation, of love, of lives being changed, healing of the soul, relationships strengthened, justice for others and the earth being real.

So how do we talk to others about Jesus? How can our worship reflect these conversations?

Two events that you may like to consider are . . .

### **Makes You Wonder**

A training workshop for engaging Jesus' story not only in your own life, but the life of another also. An Australian learning opportunity from a very grounded Australian - Rev Dr Ian Robinson - who has asked question that have made us wonder about who Jesus is and how might we talk with others about who Jesus is. This training workshop will enable participants to also work with others in leading them in their wondering about Jesus.

Makes You Wonder is hosted by the Presbytery of Port Philip West, on 14th and 15th August, 2017. Contact Denise Savage if interested. Flights, accommodation etc can be arranged. Cost will be minimal apart from travel costs.

*Continued on page 6*

# Worship Leader News

**National Conference:** “This will be an excellent conference and all worship leaders are welcome. I have been to a number of these conferences over the years and can highly recommend them. Lay Preachers from across Australia will be attending. ‘Go Grant’ application forms are available on the Tasmanian Presbytery Website to assist with attendance. I hope the registration form will be available by the May UnitingTas.”

**Refresh Conference:** A Lay Leadership conference 29<sup>th</sup> April 10am to 3pm Scotch Oakburn College. Speaker: Rev. Bill Loader assisting discussions in the UCA on Judaistic and Christian attitudes to sexuality. RSVP by 19<sup>th</sup> April [tas.office@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:tas.office@victas.uca.org.au) or phone 6331 9784



*For Heather Cowled  
Tasmanian Rep on the Synod LP Committee of  
Management*

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## Bo Pennicott:



It is with great sadness that we inform you that Bo Pennicott passed away last week. Bo was a faithful member of Oatlands UCA, Presbytery and Synod and dedicated his life to serving God and his community. His gracious and cheerful presence will be greatly missed in Oatlands and surrounds, as well as in the wider Uniting Church. We particularly pray for his sister, flying in from the mainland, as she prepares for all that lies ahead.

Although I have only been here three years my favourite memory of Bo is him taking responsibility for keeping the fires burning at Presbytery camps at Camp Banksia as well as his ever welcoming presence at various presbytery events.

The funeral will be held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March in Oatlands.

*Michelle Cook*

# Praying for the Presbytery

## This month please remember in your prayers:

- For those who hold Bo Pennicott in their hearts
- For lay preachers as they explore options for their formal association
- For retiring, renewing and refreshing



## Leadership Formation *continued from page 4*

The other event is **Transforming Worship**, a gathering for preachers, worship leaders, musicians, artists, poets and anyone interested in exploring the formative and transformative nature of Christian worship.

The event is for both lay leaders and ordained Ministers. accredited Lay Preachers, worship teams – both those leading gathered worship and those planning or leading in informal or alternative settings.

We hope to reflect and encourage the breadth of the church– the many contexts and cultures in which we worship, rural, suburban, urban, large and small, all ages."

Themes for the time include: Making lifelong disciples across generations, Worshipping community and contextualization, Crafting and Leading Worship: Love and Care in the Making of Worship

For further information you can go online - google "Transforming Worship", or contact Denise Savage.

Transforming Worship will be held in Adelaide from 27th to the 30th July.

Please also remember that Refresh and Renew (School of Ministry) are Presbytery based events coming up. Recent mailings have taken place. Contact the office if you are needing further information.

If you would like Denise to visit your congregation, to listen and share around leadership formation, contact us via the Presbytery Office or Denise 0427 647 395 or [denise.savage@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:denise.savage@victas.uca.org.au)



- **What to Expect at Synod** booklets are available at the UCA Tasmanian Office.
- **Presbytery of Tasmania Grants Booklet** – copies of this booklet were distributed at the Presbytery Gathering in February. The Presbytery of Tasmania administers a number of Grants to enable the UCA in Tasmania to be faithful followers of Jesus, being transformed and facilitating transformation in our church and in the world. The reflection story in this issue is just one of many shared (most in the in the

Presbytery of Tasmania Grants 2016 booklet) and we hope it inspires you to look and listen for God's actions in the world and try out some new ideas. Further copies are available at the UCA Tasmanian Office.

- **Intensive Supervised Pastoral Education Unit** – Jun/August. Applications close 31<sup>st</sup> May. The venue is in Melbourne and more information is available from the UCA Tasmanian Office.

- **Centre for Theology and Ministry Scholarships**  
Information about these can be found at <http://ctm.uca.edu.au/resources/funding-scholarships/> for both lay and ordained people.

- **Hydro Tasmania's 2017 Community Grant Program** Six \$5000 grants for not-for-profit organisations to help fund projects that add value to communities in Tasmania showcasing grassroots organisations and volunteers working hard in their community to achieve great outcomes. Information from [kate.hickey@hydro.com.au](mailto:kate.hickey@hydro.com.au)

## what's on

### April

Sat	1	10.00pm	Lay Preachers Open Space Day, Longford UC
Sun	9	10.00am	Ordination Anniversary Cert Rev Jim Colville, Claremont
		2.00pm	Closure of Sorell Congregation. All welcome.
Sat	22	2.00pm	Farewell for Rev Carol Bennett at Pilgrim, L'ton
Sun	23	2.30pm	Farewell for Rev Colin Gurteen at Kingston
Sat	29	10.00am	REFRESH Lay Leadership Conference Scotch Oakburn College, Launceston -

### May

Mon	1	12.00pm	Resource & Development Committee, L'ton
Mon	1 to	Wed 3	School of Ministry at Bothwell- RENEW
Tues	9	9.30am	Pastoral Relations Committee, Launceston
Mon	29	12.00pm	Resource & Development Committee, L'ton

### June

Sat	3	9.30am	Presbytery Gathering, Launceston North UC
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Please check our Presbytery Calendar of events on the [Presbytery website](#)

#### Presbytery of Tasmania

### Invitation for Nominations to attend the Synod meeting 8 – 13 September 2017

Nomination forms for lay and ordained members, setting out the gifts and skills the individual will bring to the Synod meeting, have been sent to all congregations, church councils and presbytery members. *What to expect at a Synod Meeting* and Accommodation information accompanies the nomination forms. All nominations need to be received at the UCA Tasmanian Office no later than **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**.



**The Uniting Church Tasmanian Office will close** for an Easter break at 4.30pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April and reopen at 9.00am on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

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Presbytery of Tasmania website: <https://www.victas.uca.org.au/tasmania>