

Uniting



Presbytery of

Tasmania

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

Issue No. 155

September 2017

KUCA Campout 2017

21 - 22 October, 2017,
Scotch Oakburn Valley Campus,
Fingal.

KUCA Camp Out is a 24 hour statewide Uniting Church camp in tents, for all children in grades 3 to 6 in 2016. Youth leaders, grades 7 to 12, are also encouraged to attend and lead.

Promotional material has been sent to all congregations.



Please contact us should want to know more. UCA Tasmanian Office 6331 9784 or tas.office@victas.uca.org.au

Opportunities

Page 2



Bridgewater

Gagebrook Mission

Page 4



Pre-Synod

Opportunity

Page 6



Reflection

Equality is a word that has been tossed about a lot during the past few weeks. It is defined as the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities. It is a word that provokes very different responses from people in different walks of life. As I read through the lectionary reading from Matthew 15 last week I find Jesus coming face to face with equality... or the lack of it.

He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

Matthew 15:26-27

A few weeks before this incident with the Canaanite woman Jesus received word that the King of the land had executed his mentor/friend/cousin John the Baptist. How could it be that the King of Israel could misuse power this way? Perhaps it was politics or culture, maybe it was a lack of self-examination or faith. In contrast, this week we read of Jesus and his encounter with the Canaanite woman. A woman who needed his help for her sick daughter. There seemed to be no limitation on the healing power that Jesus could call upon, nor were there any apparent time constraints to make him too busy to help. How could it be that Jesus would misuse power in this way, to withhold the aid he could give. Perhaps it was politics or culture, maybe it was a lack of self-examination or faith..... seeing her faith he was moved to compassion "Let it be done as you wish!" he exclaimed at her great faith.

You might recoil in a combination of doctrinal and theological horror at this very human portrait of the character Jesus. You might have your own theories about his motivations and ideals that don't involve human flaws and cultural norms, but I invite you just for a moment to suspend your reaction and ask what it might mean to follow a Christ who can be transformed in this way.

How seriously do we take equality? How ready are we to examine ourselves? Are we willing to rise above our culture, our politics? Can we consider what equality of mission means in our regions of Tasmania?

Who are the dogs forced to beg for the crumbs of our table?

It seems to me, as is often the case we have some self-examination to do?

Rev Will Nicholas



Bridgewater Gagebrook Parish Mission



invite you to the

Commissioning of Marian Bisset

as Pastor to the Parish Mission

Wednesday 20th September 2017

5.30pm followed by shared light meal

For further information Rev David Parker 0407 544 542 or
revdparker@gmail.com

Volunteers for Op Shop needed

Bridgewater Gagebrook Op Shop

Open Week Days 9.30 till 2.00

Interested? Further information can be obtained by ringing Pauline at 6263 5100 or Rev David Parker 0407 544 542 revdparker@gmail.com



Applications are now open for About Face 2018. About FACE is about **expanding** your faith and **exploring** outside the lines. It's a program that has been running in the Uniting Church in Australia for over 30 years now, and is about building meaningful relationships with Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress communities, and in many ways experiencing the time of your life! <http://aboutface.org.au/2018-application-form/>

'Are our young people Here 2 Stay?'

HERE 2 STAY FOLLOW UP CONVERSATION

FREE EVENT

COFFEE AND DESSERT PROVIDED



DATE: Wed 6th Sept 17
TIME: 7pm - 9pm
HOBART NORTH UNITING CHURCH

OR



DATE: Thurs 7th Sept 17
TIME: 7pm - 9pm
LAUNCESTON NORTH UNITING CHURCH

ENQUIRIES:

James Oakley 0407 325 275

RSVP online by Friday 25th of August

<https://here2stay-hobart.eventbrite.com>

<https://here2stay-launceston.eventbrite.com>

You are invited to tell
your story, share your
successes and struggles in
the pursuit of establishing
FAITH FOR LIFE

Join the conversation; bring your story and questions to an engaging conversation. Time will be spent in 'context groups' so as to maximize the expertise and experience in the room.

The programme has been planned around 4 areas of focus:

- REFOCUSING** on the Here2Stay strategy
- REFLECTING** on the journey, highlighting the successes, barriers and challenges
- REVISITING** the 3 major Here2Stay pillars
- RECALIBRATING** the next steps

We need you to continue the conversation, to continue the journey, to continue to shape a different future for those with whom we walk alongside.

**HERE
2stay.**

www.here2stay.org.au



Children's Ministry Network, TAS

&

Input by:

TERRY WILLIAMS

Children's Ministry Consultant
Scripture Union International

Praying for the Presbytery

This month please remember in your prayers:

- Synod Meeting in Melbourne, 8 – 13 September.
- Hobart Wesley Uniting Church
- Families in our churches, agencies, communities.

Find out key proposals for Synod:

On the **28th August from 6pm-8pm** via web conferencing, members of the Synod Review Implementation Team and the Presbytery Transition Team will be giving us information on proposals coming to the Synod meeting in September.

The Synod Review Implementation Team will provide details of the new governance structure, and introduce proposed changes to Synod Standing Committee by-laws that are going to be presented to the September Synod meeting for decision.

The Presbytery Transition Team will be presenting draft proposals that will go to Synod regarding presbytery resourcing. They are interested in hearing our feedback

Those elected to go to Synod are expected to attend this briefing. It is especially important for members of Presbytery to attend. Others are very welcome to attend.

The locations will be at:

- Hobart North Uniting Church
- Launceston North Uniting Church



If you cannot travel to these locations you can join by 'Zoom' by contacting the UCA Tasmanian Office. **Please RSVP by Friday 25th August to UCA Tasmanian Office and indicate which venue you will be at or whether you may join from your home.**

This
'n
That

■ **Assembly of Confessing Congregations (ACC)** Southern Cluster will be holding their next Gathering for Worship and Word on Sunday August 27th at 2 pm in Wesley Church Hall, Melville Street. 3 of our members will each be sharing a 5-10 minute reflection on a (favourite) Bible passage. We will be sharing ACC news and spending time in prayer and singing. We would love you to come along and join us to find out more about who we are.”

- **Uniting AgeWell is holding a FREE community information session about Funerals and what you need to know to plan ahead.** 2pm – 4pm **Wednesday 30 August** Uniting AgeWell Kings Meadows Community, Aldersgate12-22 Hobart Road, Kings Meadows What do we REALLY need to know when someone dies? This session covers everything from arranging a funeral, ceremonies, costs and preplanning so family members do not have to make rushed decisions during a difficult time of grief and loss. Presented by Uniting AgeWell chaplains and local funeral providers, this session helps seniors and families understand the process and be better prepared.
- **Tas Council of Churches AGM** will be held 10.00am **Saturday 16 September 2017** at Church of the Apostles, 44 Margaret Street, Launceston. Guest speaker this year is Bishop Phillip Huggins, the current President of the National Council of Churches. Please let the UCA Tasmanian Office know if you are interested in attending as a UCA member. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- **Launceston South Esk Crafty Corner Quilt Extravaganza** .will be held on **Saturday 21 October** from 10am – 4pm at Balfour Street Uniting Church, Launceston. Gold coin donation. There are also paintings on display by Richard Klelociuk as well as organ recitals during the day. Delicious afternoon and morning teas for \$5.00.
- **Covenanting Updates:** If you're online and interested in keeping up-to-date with the Synod's covenanting work, there's a specific Facebook group that you can be part of <https://www.facebook.com/groups/covenantinginvicatas>

what's on

September

Fri	8	7.00pm	Synod Meeting, Melbourne (until Wed 13 Sept)
Sat	16	10.00am	Tas Council of Churches AGM, Launceston
Wed	20	5.30pm	Commissioning Marian Bisset as Lay Pastor, Bridgewater Gagebrook Parish Mission
Thur	21	10.00am	Presbytery Standing Committee, Launceston
Sun	24	2.30pm	Induction Rev Michael Duke, Kingston UC
Sat	30	2.00pm	Bushwalk for families, Lenah Valley Rd, Lenah Valley

October

Mon	2	12.00pm	Resource & Development Committee, L'ton
Tues	10	9.30am	Pastoral relations Meeting Launceston
Thur	12		UCA Tasmanian Office Closed (Lton Show Day)
Thur	19	10.00am	Presbytery Standing Committee Launceston
Sat	21	12.30pm	KUCA Campout, Fingal (until Sunday 22 Oct)
Sun	29	2.00pm	Farewell to Balfour Street (Trinity UC)
Mon	30	12.00pm	Resource & Development Committee, L'ton

New Presbytery Chairperson



At the Presbytery Gathering on Saturday 19 August, **Rev Ann Perrin** was elected Chairperson of the Presbytery. Ann is currently the minister of the Clarence Uniting Church on Hobart's eastern shore. She has a passion for building resilient communities of disciples encouraging curiosity around who we are called to be as a church in our local

context and as a presbytery. She is enthusiastic about helping to enable people to recognise the spiritual gifts they can bring to this task.

Ann has had ministry experience in both rural and urban settings and is very keen to discover what God might be saying to the church at this time and in this place.

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