



Bulletin – September 2015

ENCOURAGE · SUPPORT · SHARE

Windows into the Text

Opening the window to a fresh view of the Gospel of Luke.

Listening for the Gospel's ecological sounds.

A not to be missed opportunity for all who are engaged in preaching, teaching, and leading worship to begin planning for year C of the *Revised Common Lectionary*, which begins on the first day of Advent – 29 November, 2015. Year C is the year of the Gospel of Luke.



Led by Rev. Dr. Michael Trainor, we will gain insights that will inform our ministries. Why not encourage all members of your worship and Christian Education teams to come to the **free public forum on Sunday evening, 13 September**, and, if possible, the **full day seminar on Monday 14 September**, opening opportunities for ongoing discussion toward thoughtful and creative planning.

Sunday 13 September 7.00 pm

Public Forum
No charge

Heaven on Earth: Ecological Nuances from Luke's Gospel

Attuning ourselves to hear Luke's gospel from the perspective of Earth allows a freshness to emerge that resonates more readily with our ecological and environmental concerns.

Monday 14 September 9.30 am

Luke's Ecological Principles and Jesus' Ministry in the Garden of God's Earthly Delights (Luke 4–10)

We discover the evangelist's three ecological principles that guide Jesus' Galilean ministry of healing and teaching.

Earth Matters, Ecological Responsibility and Asceticism in Luke (Luke 11–19)

We journey further into Luke's ecological symphony in Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. A story as much about Earth as it is about Jesus and his disciples.

In Jerusalem: The ecological intertwining with Jesus' word (Luke 20–21)

Jesus moves into Jerusalem and Earth images permeate his temple teaching, preparing for the final chapters of the Gospel, already reflected upon the Sunday night.

Cost: \$40 - including lunch and refreshments*

*If cost is a concern, please contact Susan at susan@urbannetwork.org.au

The Church of the Trinity
318 Goodwood Road, Clarence Park

For a brochure, or to register online go to www.urbannetwork.org.au

If attending the Sunday night public forum, please reply to Susan Burt at susan@urbannetwork.org.au

Coming Events

Placements

Induction

Rev. Wendy Prior,
Mental Health Chaplain,
Lyell McEwin Hospital

On the afternoon of
Sunday,
27 September at
Playford Uniting,
Corner of Curtis Road
and Douglas Drive,
Munno Para
(time to be confirmed)

Conclusion of placement service

Rev. Wendy Prior
Sunday, 22 November,
10.00 am,
Prospect Road
Uniting,
174 Prospect Road,
Prospect

Urban Mission Network informal lunch

Thursday
12 November,
45 Kyeema Ave,
Cumberland Park

Summer gathering

Thursday,
26 November,
Rosefield Uniting
Church,
2 Carlton Street,
Highgate 6.00 for
6.30 pm.
Guests: *Beyond*
Violence Team

OBSERVE • ENGAGE

Coffee, Community, and Connecting

An early morning drive to the airport, but a new sign on the old video store did not go unnoticed. Coffee! Spinning around, I exclaimed, “hey a coffee shop is opening – and in walking distance from home!”

However, the joy experienced as I imagined morning walks to a new local coffee haunt was short lived with a text from Ken. “Just stopped at the old video store, unfortunately, they won’t be serving coffee; they are coffee roasters and suppliers only.” But that did not stop me heading toward the old video store on a morning walk soon after I returned home. “What are you talking about,” I texted. “They **are** serving coffee. Admittedly only in take away cups, but serving coffee none-the-less.”

Slowly, the community began to create what had not been on the original plan for the two owners – seeking to realise their dream of being roasters and suppliers of fine, single origin and blended coffees. Happy to provide a coffee to go to walkers or drive-bys, it wasn’t long before people were looking for somewhere to sit, and locals began offering old chairs, and tables. Lack of adequate plumbing required that coffee be sold in take away cups, but slowly a coffee shop with seating for many began to take shape around the very impressive espresso machine and coffee grinders that dispensed four, five, even six different single origin or blended coffees.

Lounge chairs and a floor rug were arranged around a “painted” fire place and mantle – a home away from home feel for mothers with infants. A long chalk board, chalk, and a box filled with toys for the more active children meant this became not only a community spot, but child and family friendly. As the business grew and the new owners found life busier, a neighbour could be seen wiping down tables, and, once plumbing had increased, washing dishes. When she noticed the owners working late into the evening she invited them in for home cooked evening meals. As well as tables and chairs, cups and mugs were donated -- adding to the eclectic feel of the place. A local (an interior designer) offered to arrange the furniture.

The new owners listened to, observed the needs of the community, and were willing to let go of their plans and respond. This was no longer their business, it is, as they say, “a community endeavour.”

I seldom miss a morning at this community gathering place, always welcomed by name, even by new baristas and servers, and good morning nods and smiles from familiar patrons. Can’t find a table or a seat? No worries, simply join with others at their table.

Amazing things can happen when we are willing to let go of our preconceived notions and plans, and invite others into the vision, the dream, and shared values.

As I sip my morning piccolo, I reflect on this community space and what it might teach about being church.

In what ways are we inviting community engagement, trends, and needs into the way we are shaping church? What is your story?



Engaging your local community

“Members of the Urban Mission Network have a sense of mission in the wider community and share a conviction that we must engage with that wider community in order that the Gospel may bring about both personal and social transformation” (www.urbannetwork.org.au).

Engaging the wider community to participate in social transformation can be difficult, given that, for a variety of reasons, church life is not within the general realm of interest for the majority of local residents.

The National Christian Life Survey is a valuable tool for each church, not only as a mirror to the church and its community life but also to engage with the community that resides around and near the church building.

Christ Church Uniting at Wayville examined and explored the NCLS Community Social Profile, which covers a 2.5 km radius around the church. The profile covers population structure, education, employment and income, households and families, housing, culture and religion. The data compares the location to the general Australian community, and also mirrors the church membership profile against the local community data.

Christ Church Uniting found the information useful in two ways:

1. Engagement with King William Road Traders association.
2. Understanding the profile of the community around the church.

The King William Road Traders Association did not have demographics of the area, so invited a representative from Christ Church and the Effective Living Centre (a community engagement organization sponsored by Christ Church) to present and discuss the profile.

This had the effect of the church being seen as contributing to part of the life of King William Road, and has resulted in support for activities of Christ Church, ELC.

The profile also highlighted interesting points, for example:

- Residents stating no religion is 33.6% of the local population, up 6% from last survey, and 11% above the national average.
- 1499 of local residents in the area stated, in the census, that they had an affiliation with the Uniting Church.
- Local residents with post graduate qualifications is 12.5% for the local area compared with the national average of 5.3%, and 35% of Christ Church members held post graduate qualifications.

Additional information in the NCLS survey includes family structure and care giving, providing an overall opportunity to enter into conversation with local councilors, service clubs, businesses and schools in the area. Ideas for relevant activities and programs for church life can be created.

The National Christian Life Survey, a powerful resource at our fingertips.

The Irian Project – North Luzon.

Many of our Urban Mission Network congregations have been developing relationships with our partners in the Philippines for many years. At the Spring Gathering on Thursday, 27 August, Adrian Nippress spoke about the opportunity for congregations to connect with those who have significant needs in North Luzon.

The Irian project in North Luzon began with a feeding program the Uniting Church SA has supported, along with the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) and Uniting World. It has since developed into a wider health education project addressing malnutrition, and conducting mother's classes on health, hygiene issues, and managing household waste.

UCCP have requested the Uniting Church SA support the extension of this capacity building project by raising funds over the next 18 months. Our fundraising will pay the cost of running the seminars aimed at

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training key community people and increasing literacy. It will make a direct contribution to transforming the lives of hundreds of vulnerable people in the Philippines.

Alongside these projects of health and education, the community leaders are recovering indigenous culture, particularly through the children's and youth program. The adults are handing on the stories of their culture to the children and strengthening traditional values.

If your congregation is interested in helping, please contact Adrian Nippres, International Mission Officer, Mission Resourcing on 8236 4203 (M: 046 329 191) or via annippres@sa.uca.org.au

E N G A G E

News from the congregations in the Urban Mission Network



Earth Spirituality Event September 11 – 13

Friday 11 September 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Earth Spirit Journey: I am an Earth Child!

An interactive workshop exploring our spiritual relationship with our Mother, the Earth with **Norman Habel**

**Effective Living Centre,
26 King William Road, Wayville**

Cost: \$20/\$15

Enquiries and bookings: <http://www.effectiveliving.org>;
office@effectiveliving.org; phone 8271 0329



Saturday 12 September, 9:30 am – 12 noon

Earth Spirit Pilgrimage

A leisurely reflective walk with opportunity for rest, meditation and creative expression with **Nicholas Rundle**

Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Meet at the northern Friends gate, Plane Tree Drive

Bring journal, pen, sketch book, tablet or similar. Optional lunch at your own cost at Simpson Kiosk.

Cost: \$15/\$10

Enquiries and bookings: <http://www.effectiveliving.org>; office@effectiveliving.org; phone 8271 0329

Sunday 13 September, 10 am

Red Centre Liturgy

Led by **Norman Habel**

Christ Church Uniting Church, 26 King William Rd, Wayville

Sandy Creek Uniting Church

162 Williamstown
Road, Cockatoo Valey
*Wildflower Walk in
the Local Bush*

- **Thursday
24 September, 2015**
Guided in an easy
walking area
Meet at the Church at
1.00 pm
Cost: \$10 including
afternoon tea
Bookings: Molly
Hughes 8523 7428
or
Hazel Afford 8524 4149

The Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts
is offering UCA congregations in South Australia
the opportunity to apply for the

Musician in Residence Program

with

Dr Michael Hawn

University Distinguished Professor of Church Music and Director of the Sacred Music Program
Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University,
Dallas, Texas, USA



May through August 2016

Contact Neryl to find out more:
neryl@cmla.org.au

Centre for
Music, Liturgy & the Arts

Download brochure at <http://cmla.org.au/pdf/Hawn2016Brochure.pdf>

Wesley Uniting Church, Kent Town

27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town
Community concerts

Celebrating 150 years, the landmark Wesley Church at Kent Town once again opens its doors to the South Australian Community for the church's increasingly popular concerts at Kent Town.

- **Wednesday 16 September, 2.00 pm**
*Prince Alfred College String Ensembles,
Camerata and Sinfonia, and solo
instruments*
Tickets at the door \$10.00
- **Wednesday 21 October, 2.00 pm**
*Bass baritone Robert Dawe and organists
Mark Symons and Graham Bell*
Tickets at the door \$10.00

Yilki Uniting Church

15 Tabernacle Road, Encounter Bay
Spring Fair

- **5 September 9 am to 2 pm**
A great day out for food, fun, and fossicking.
Proceeds support Yilki Uniting Church
outreach programs.

Pilgrim Uniting Church

12 Flinders Street, Adelaide

Symposium 2015

*Marriage, Equality and the
Church*

- **Wednesday, 21 October 2015,
7.30 pm – 9.30 pm**
Including the RUSSLR Law and Religion
Lecture by **Rev David Pattee**
from Kent United Church of Christ, Ohio
Topic: *Political and Theological
Reflections on Just Marriage, Queering
the Holy Estate*

and lectures by
Prof Carol Johnson
University of Adelaide
Topic: *Church and State: The Politics of
Same Sex Marriage*

Rev Dr Margart Mayman
Pitt St UC, Sydney.
Topic: *This History of Marriage*

Cost: \$20 (\$15 unwaged)
Bookings: e-mail office@pilgrim.org.au,
phone 8212 3295

The Symposium will be followed by supper
in the Pilgrim Hall.