

New Times

The voice of Uniting Church SA

August/ September 2018



Perseverance



Uniting Church. **Uniting People.**

15TH ASSEMBLY

Summary and key highlights
pp. 6-9

RUNNING WITH FAITH

Eloise's Olympic and
spiritual journey pp. 14-15

Contents

FEATURES

15th Assembly	6-9
Igniting Adelaide's revival	12-13
Running with faith	14-15
St Andrew's Hospital: We care	17
A church planting mindset	23

REGULAR PAGES

Moderator's comment	4
CEO/General Secretary's comment	5
Getting to know	18-19
Diary	20

Editor-in-Chief: Bindy Taylor

Advertising: Communications

Design: Winaya Kamaputri

Print: Graphic Print Group

For editorial inquiries:

p. (08) 8236 4230

e. newtimes@sa.uca.org.au

m. The Editor,

New Times GPO Box 2145

Adelaide SA 5001

For advertising bookings:

p. (08) 8236 4260

e. newtimesad@sa.uca.org.au

w: newtimes.sa.uca.org.au

f facebook.com/UnitingChurch.UnitingPeople

ISSN 0726-2612

New Times is the voice of Uniting Church SA. Published bi-monthly, February through December, *New Times* represents the breadth, diversity and vision of Uniting Church members in SA. Articles and advertising do not necessarily reflect the views of the New Times Editorial team.

Print circulation: 8,500



Uniting Church SA

Level 2, 212 Pirie St, Adelaide

p. (08) 8236 4200 f. 8236 4201

country callers. 1300 766 956

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018 EDITION:

Friday 21 September

Cover details:

Australian Olympian Eloise Wellings training with her friend, Ugandan Olympian Julius Achon, during a trip to Uganda. Eloise is the keynote speaker for the upcoming UnitingWomen event occurring from 27-30 September. Read more about the way faith has sustained Eloise to reach her Olympics dream on pages 14-15. Photo credit: Eloise's husband, Jonathan Wellings.

Good Old Fashioned Sound Advice

Morgans can help you with -

- ◆ Self Managed Super
- ◆ Investment Structures
- ◆ Investing For Income
- ◆ Superannuation
- ◆ Share Investments
- ◆ Financial Security
- ◆ Wealth Creation
- ◆ Estate Planning



Our company has been helping Australian investors since our beginnings in 1937. While our reputation was established in stockbroking, we now cover all aspects of investing including financial planning, superannuation, insurance, cash and fixed interest, portfolio management, lending strategies and much more.

Barbara has been in the stockbroking industry for more than twenty years and has experience in all aspects of the equities market.

Contact Barbara today on (08) 8464 5000 to find out how she can help you.

Level 1, 70 Hindmarsh Square ADELAIDE SA 5000

(Morgans A.B.N. 49 010 669 726 A.F.S.L.235410)

Participant of ASX Group, A Professional Partner of the Financial Planning Association of Australia.

Morgans IN ALLIANCE WITH **CIMB**



IVAN BUTLER

Family Funeral Directors

8261 8211

All hours

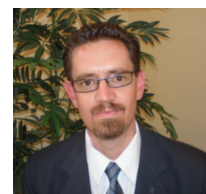
www.ivanbutlerfunerals.com.au

enquiries@ivanbutlerfunerals.com.au

26 OG Road Klemzig SA 5087



**AUSTRALIAN
FUNERAL
DIRECTORS
ASSOCIATION**



Geoff Lewis
General Manager

Return to Contents

Strength in Unity

This year I attended my third Uniting Church Assembly meeting, making up the South Australian contingent of the Communications Team. This year for me was the most awe-inspiring meeting to date. The more I learn about the Uniting Church, the greater the understanding I develop around the Rules and Regulations, Basis of Union, Code of Ethics and core values – it really is a complex beast!

This year a lot of my learnings came together and I watched the complex beast meld together and perform as it was intended in 1977 at the time of Union. This year's meeting was expertly led by Dr Deidre Palmer who demonstrated grace, diplomacy and intelligence as some of the church's biggest decisions were navigated.

One of most anticipated decisions was whether the Uniting Church would conduct same gender marriages. The Assembly Communications Team was asked to leave the majority of the member-only discussions around the marriage proposals but we were privy to one of the introductory sessions.

It was incredibly moving to hear some testimonies that elected members shared at the microphone during the session. The vulnerability, the grace and honesty and the way people felt safe to share extremely personal testimonies was admirable. What I witnessed was a loving church: people being sensitive and courteous even when they may have not agreed with the viewpoint their sister or brother had bravely shared. This humility is reflected in the scripture found in Romans 14:15 "If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died."

It was a long meeting, it was emotional and it played heavily on the hearts and minds of everyone who attended. As everyone would now be aware, the Assembly decided to hold two equal and distinct statements of belief on marriage. This decision now allows ministers and celebrants in the Uniting Church the freedom to conduct or to refuse to conduct same gender marriages.

What I appreciate about this complex beast is the way it is organised, allows us to tackle the hard stuff that other Australian churches may refrain from: marriage, assisted dying, domestic violence. The Uniting Church doesn't shy away from the big issues that are very real in our society today. Our non-hierarchical structure, consensus decision-making and ability to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit as one in the Body of Christ makes us truly unique.

Lately I have been asking people what they like about the Uniting Church. Their answers are often very similar. They appreciate the diversity, the community and the ability the church has to live together in the diversity that is present within the Uniting Church.

I myself appreciate the way we sit in this diversity, the way we show respect to one another without judgement. The next section of the Romans scripture (14:17) reads "For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval". This verse reiterates



Members gather at the 15th Triennial Assembly at Box Hill Town Hall.

God's calling on our lives, the call to love and not to judge or to be insensitive to the views of others who are our sisters and brothers in Christ. We are all able to experience peace and joy in the Holy Spirit as the one Body of Christ that is the Uniting Church.

BTaylor

Belinda Taylor

Placements News

Placements finalised as of 7 August 2018

Lynne Aird, (MoP) to Adelaide West UC (Intentional Interim Ministry) from 20 July 2018

Rev Alan Biglow to Woodville UC from 1 August 2018

Rev Benji Callen to Burnside City UC from 15 January 2019

Rev Ian Dow to Region Minister (PR&MP Team) from 1 August 2018

Brian Dunstan (MoP) to West Lakes United (0.5) from 1 October 2018

Rev Paul Goh (Presbyterian Church of Korea from Synod of Vic/Tas) to Justice and CALD Multicultural and Cross Cultural Officer (MR) from 1 August 2018

Rev Anne Hewitt to Seadiff UC (Intentional Interim Ministry) from 1 October 2018

Rev Greg Pearce to Sunset Rock UC (0.7) from 9 October 2018

Rev Tim Hodgson (Deacon) to Executive Officer, UnitingCare from 1 January 2019

Rob Morgan, Lay Pastor to Barossa Congregations from 1 January 2019

Vacant placements

The following is the list of vacant (or soon to be vacant) approved placements:

Profiles available – Blackwood (two ministry placements to total 1.4 FTE, negotiable), Burnside City, Burra (0.7), Dernancourt (from March 2019), Enfield, Glenunga, Malvern and Unley, Maitlands and Districts (0.6), The Vines, Uniting Churches of Tatiara (0.8) (Bordertown, Mundulla, Buckingham), Waikerie.

Profiles not yet available – Adelaide Korean UC (0.2), Adare (from 1 February 2019), Flinders Congregations (0.6) (Booleroo Centre, Booleroo Whim, Melrose, Wirrabara, Wilmington), Mannum (0.3), Port Lincoln (from 1 January 2019), Prospect Road (from 1 January 2019), Southern Yorke Peninsula (from 1 January 2019), The Grove (0.3).

Ordination and induction services

Linda Forsyth (candidate for Minister of the Word) at Kadina Uniting Church on Saturday 11 August at 2.00pm

Rev Alan Biglow at Woodville Uniting Church on Sunday 12 August at 2.30pm

Dianne Holden (candidate for Minister of the Word) at Adelaide West Uniting Church on Sunday 19 August at 1.30pm

For more information about any of these placements, please visit sa.uca.org.au/pastoral-relations-mission-planning/placements-vacant-and-finalised

Bridging the Gap

I recently journeyed to the Riverland to undertake the final preparation for the Living Water tour, which I will lead in conjunction with the Berri/Barmera Uniting Churches from 11-14 September 2018.

As we travelled around the Riverland visiting organisations and iconic sites, we crossed the infamous Berri Bridge. This bridge made headlines in 1997 when the \$17 million structure attracted an estimated 10,000 people to its official opening. The bridge was officially opened by the Premier of South Australia and a huge media contingent was present. Locals were excited about the opening of the bridge and the realisation of their hopes and dreams; the media, however, were only interested in reporting the Premier's announcement of the date of the next election. The community were disappointed that the reporting of their joy was overridden by the media's own agenda.

We are in a time of contemplation as we resonate on the decisions of the 15th Assembly meeting. In South Australia the Assembly's potential decision on marriage dominated pre-Assembly discussion. I was pleased to host Listening Forums across Mission Networks and other groups, where I could hear from members of the Uniting Church in South Australia. This was accompanied by a 'Tell the Moderator' form which people used to document their views and queries. Thank you to the people who attended, shared, and communicated hopes and concerns.

I can assure our Presbytery and Synod that there was strong participation from our South Australian elected members at the Assembly meeting. Our representatives demonstrated a vital commitment to the Uniting Church in South Australia amid a demanding Assembly meeting. This began with the installation of the new Uniting Church President, Dr Deidre Palmer, right through to the many deliberations and decisions that were required, the remaining business on Saturday and finally the closing Communion.

I hope and pray that as a Church we can bridge the gap of emotional turmoil that has been evident over the past few months, through our commitment to love one another and by trusting in Jesus to lead his Church.

The Assembly marriage decision lifts up our love and commitment to our Christian sisters and brothers who identify as LGBTIQ+. At the same time, the marriage decision honours traditional beliefs, enabling marriage to be held, taught and practised as it has been in the past. This careful decision by Assembly will help bridge the gap in discipleship beliefs and practices, and is to be received with prayerful humility and joy.

The Assembly made many other decisions, among them was 'For the Whole Creation' which encourages the Uniting Church to take action to address climate change. The Living Water tour is a great example of how we will celebrate this fresh and renewed direction of the Assembly.



Officials walk across the Berri Bridge to mark its opening in 1997. Pictured (from left): Former Transport Minister Diana Laidlaw, former Premier John Olsen, former Berri Barmera Mayor Margaret Evans and former Member for Chaffey Kent Andrew.

The strong statement on domestic violence and its effect on our church family members will be a catalyst for progressing work on the 'Beyond Violence' campaign. The cry of those suffering is heard and acknowledged, alongside the cries of people through the Royal Commission into the sexual abuse of children in institutions. Together we are working to bridge the gap in our discipleship beliefs and practices to create a safe church place for all people.

Our First Peoples were recognised as sovereign peoples through their unique spiritual connection to this continent's land and waterways. The covenant between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Uniting Church affects all congregations. It invites later arrivals to this land to be initiators of bridging the gap towards reconciliation and advancement of the First Peoples.

Some ancient traditions will not use bridges over dividing waters. The Christian tradition celebrates that the waters of baptism do not divide but unite us into the Body of Christ. The Cross of Christ becomes the bridge between us and God that justifies us all. The gift of the Holy Spirit sanctifies us as disciples and we respond to the invitation to be the Body of Christ together, helping us to grow, nurture and flourish in the Kingdom of Heaven to the glory of God.

Rev Sue Ellis

View more information about the Living Water tour at sa.uca.org.au/nurture. Spaces on the tour are limited and final payment is due on Wednesday 15 August 2018. Contact Tim Molineux on 8236 4221 for further information.

Discernment of the Spirit

Like several others in the Presbytery and Synod of South Australia, I have just returned from the meeting of the 15th National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia. At the meeting our own Dr Deidre Palmer was installed as President. This was a great celebratory occasion, which had the feel of the whole church coming together, including the many people who travelled from South Australia just for the occasion. It was encouraging to see so many surround Deidre with love and prayers. A great night was had by all!

The Assembly is the national council of the Uniting Church in Australia, led by both the President (Dr Deidre Palmer) and the General Secretary (Colleen Geyer). The role of Assembly is to promote the mission of the church. It has responsibility in matters of doctrine and worship, government and discipline, establishing standards of theological education and the reception of ministers from other communions or denominations.

There were approximately 265 members who attended the Assembly meeting. Members are elected by all Synods and Presbyteries across the country. These elected members join with office holders (President, ex-President, General Secretary, Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress members and youthful members) to form a national decision-making body. Overall, the number of lay members shall not be less than the number of ministerial members.

The meeting had a strong cross-cultural presence as the large national councils of our ethnic congregations were represented from within their own Synods. This added a very special dimension to the diversity of people who gathered. The other very strong emphasis was the worship that flowed through each day of the meeting, with contributions from each of the Synods. Creativity abounded!

The particular responsibilities of the Assembly mean that significant issues that will guide the Uniting Church for many years into the future are discussed. At this Assembly a few of these key issues were: a strong response against domestic violence; a statement regarding our responsibility to care for the whole creation was introduced and referred to the Assembly Standing Committee for further development; a day of mourning was agreed to, enabling congregations to offer support to our First Peoples around the time of what we now know as Australia Day; recognition was given to the sovereignty of First Peoples (in which sovereignty is defined as the spiritual connection of the First Peoples to the land rather than an understanding of legal ownership); the church addressed various aspects of our response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse; and yes, two equal and distinct beliefs regarding marriage were affirmed!



Rev Rob Brown participated in the installation service of Dr Deidre Palmer. Rob will be one of Deidre's chaplains throughout her 3 year term as President.

All of these issues were discussed robustly and, generally, respectfully. Members elected to represent South Australia at the Assembly made strong contributions to the various conversations.

I was pleased to represent the Presbytery and Synod of South Australia at this important occasion. I appreciate the way the Uniting Church comes to decisions through this national body, seeking the discernment that only the Holy Spirit can bring.

We now move into God's future.

Rev Rob Brown

Ministry and service

Adelaide West Uniting Church hosted the June 2018 Presbytery and Synod meeting from Friday 22 to Saturday 23. The more noteworthy events from the meeting have been summarised in this article. Full reports and proposals are available at sa.uca.org.au/pres-synod-meetings



Pictured left to right: Linda and Dianne are upheld in prayer by Moderator, Rev Sue Ellis

Recognition of ordinands

Dianne Holden and Linda Forsyth were officially recognised at the South Australian Presbytery and Synod meeting. Members of the Presbytery and Synod had an opportunity to pray for the women, their ministry and their upcoming ordination services.

Read the profiles of Dianne and Linda on pages 18 & 19. This also includes date and times of their upcoming ordination services.



Pictured left to right: Stephen Albrecht, Rev Sue Ellis and Rev Mark Boyce share church regeneration stories

Church Regeneration Stories

Rev Mark Boyce shared information about church regeneration at Grange Uniting. He mentioned new initiatives including 'Community Table', a once a week social event where people are invited to gather for tea or coffee, play games or create a project for charity.

Stephen Albrecht provided an update on church regeneration at Cummins and Western Eyre communities. He mentioned the growth of New Beginnings at Cummins Uniting Church, which has blossomed from a small ageing congregation to a regular intergenerational gathering of 40 people.

For further information about Grange Uniting Church visit facebook.com/GrangeUniting



Frontier Services National Director, Jannine Jackson provides an update on the ministry of Frontier Services

Frontier Services update

Jannine Jackson spoke to the members of the Presbytery and Synod with an update on the work of Frontier Services. Jannine talked about the 13 Bush Chaplains who work to provide ministry and support to those residing in remote communities throughout outback Australia.

Frontier Services are looking to grow this ministry by increasing the number of volunteers and active Bush Chaplains to 25.

For further information visit frontierservices.org

Deidre's Installation

Dr Deidre Palmer was installed as the 15th President of the Uniting Church in Australia in a moving service at St Michael's Uniting Church on Collins St in the heart of Melbourne. The former Moderator of South Australia received the symbols of ministry from outgoing President Stuart McMillan.

The installation service featured lots of South Australian talent including Dusty Feet Mob and singers from the MiniM choir.

The new President preached on John 4 - Jesus and the woman of Samaria. A full transcript of Deidre's sermon is available from uniting.church/president-palmer-sermon

Members from Dusty Feet Mob (pictured top) and MiniM choir (below) performing during Dr Deidre Palmer's installation where Assembly leaders, ex-President Stewart McMillan, and President-elect Sharon Hollis prayed over Deidre (pictured page 7).



[Return to Contents](#)



Grace in abundance, hope liberated

Matt Pulford

Members of the Uniting Church's 15th Assembly have returned home to share the news of the landmark decisions made at the 15th triennial meeting.

Over seven days from 8-14 July, more than 260 Assembly members shared prayer, worship and Bible studies with ecumenical and interfaith friends, church partners and each other.

The following sections outline some of the important decisions reached:

Marriage and same-gender relationships

After six years of formal consideration and more than 30 years of conversation Assembly members decided to move forward on the issue.

Meeting for the first time since last year's change to Australian marriage laws, the Assembly resolved to allow Uniting Church ministers and authorised celebrants the freedom to conduct or to refuse to conduct same gender marriages. They did this by agreeing to hold two equal and distinct statements of belief on marriage to honour the diversity of Christian belief among members.

The Uniting Church's existing statement of belief on marriage is retained - that "Marriage for Christians is the freely given consent and commitment in public and before God of a man and a woman to live together for life".

Alongside it, a new additional statement of belief has been adopted. That statement reads: "Marriage for Christians is the freely given consent and commitment in public and before God of two people to live together for life."

"We affirm both these understandings of marriage as faithful to the gospel of Christ. I want to reassure all members of the Uniting Church - your rights to follow your beliefs on marriage will be respected and protected," said Dr Palmer.

Church Councils will have the right to determine whether or not marriage services take place on their premises. An additional liturgy will be developed for the new statement of belief.

"This decision follows many years of reflection, prayer and discernment, and I want to thank Assembly members for the way they have responded with grace to what is a difficult conversation for many people of faith," said Dr Palmer who acknowledged the ministry and struggle of LGBTIQ+ people in the Uniting Church over many years. "I know that this conversation is painful and difficult for you," said Dr Palmer, addressing LGBTIQ+ Church members directly.

"We also acknowledge those who are not able to support this change - and your pain and difficulty in this space."

"I thank you all for modelling a loving Christian community, holding together and caring for each other, across our diversity of strongly and faithfully held views," said Dr Palmer.

During the meeting, members heard advice from theological and legal experts and had the opportunity to speak to proposals for and against the changes.

The final proposal on marriage was adopted by a significant majority by formal agreement. An unconfirmed minute (<https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/2853-unconfirmed-minute-resolution-of-the-15th-assembly>) of the proposal has been posted on the Assembly website (uniting.church).

A resource including frequently asked questions about the implications for authorised celebrants, Church Councils and congregations will be made available by Assembly and will be distributed in the coming weeks.

An approved marriage liturgy is expected to be available for same gender weddings in Uniting Churches by the end of September.

Sovereignty for First Peoples

The 15th Assembly affirmed Australia's First Peoples as the sovereign peoples of Australia.

Former Church President Stuart McMillan introduced the proposal, calling it an opportunity to bring moral leadership to the nation.

"We determine by this affirmation to seek a new way to live together in this land based on mutual respect," said Mr McMillan.

"With state governments beginning to enter into treaties that recognise First Peoples as sovereign peoples, we could bring moral leadership to the nation if we affirm this."

After consultation within working groups and further discussion, the proposal reached a definition of sovereignty as the "way in which First Peoples understand themselves to be the traditional owners and custodians of the land."

Referring to the Statement from the Heart at Uluru, the Uniting Church recognises that sovereignty is understood by the First Peoples as "a spiritual notion, reflecting the ancestral tie between the land and the First Peoples."

Rev Garry Dronfield, the President of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian

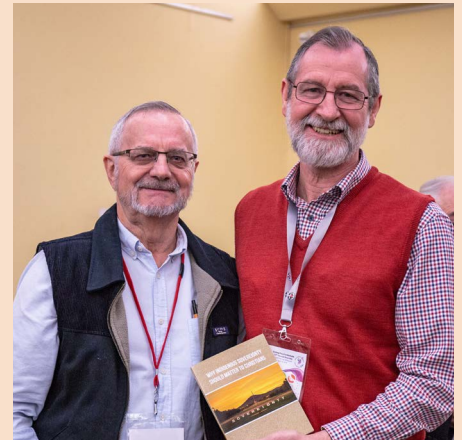
Congress (UAICC) said the affirmation would further strengthen the spiritual bond between First and Second Peoples.

"Sovereignty refers to who we are and how we relate," said Rev Dronfield. "We speak with a passion, and we seek a continuation of the Covenant between the UCA and our members."

"Let us all commit to make these words into actions."

Uniting Church members will also be asked to observe a Day of Mourning on the Sunday prior to 26th January every year, with reflection on the profound effect of invasion and colonisation on First Peoples during worship services on that day.

Later proposals on the recognition of UCA languages including Aboriginal languages and National Conference conversations with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Conference were referred to Standing Committee.



Top: Nelson Varcoe

Below: Stuart McMillan (right) joined Rev Dr Chris Budden (left) to launch his book 'Why Indigenous Sovereignty Should Matter To Christians'.

A New Climate

The 15th Assembly continued the Uniting Church's tradition of taking strong environmental action to address climate change.

A document *For the Whole Creation* was presented to members by Assembly Associate General Secretary Rob Floyd and Zac Hatfield-Dodds.

Hatfield-Dodds noted the Uniting Church's history of strong environmental action, dating back to the 1977 Statement to

the Nation which urged "the protection of the environment and the wise use of energy."

For the Whole Creation will be developed into a discussion paper by the Assembly Resourcing Unit.

On climate change, Uniting Church members, Synods, Presbyteries, Congregations, Organisations/ Agencies and schools will all be encouraged to:

- inform themselves and their communities about climate change

- advocate for government policies and political action
- listen to and learn from the voices of vulnerable people across the world who are experiencing the impact
- consider ways to reduce their own contribution
- tell stories of best practice in remote, rural and urban areas.

Waitlisted

Voluntary Assisted Dying. No decision was made on a Church consultation process on the issue of voluntary assisted dying.

Other proposals. Several proposals including one on Pastoral Support for Seasonal Workers, Powers of a Presbytery Standing Committee, and Recognition of UCA languages were referred to the

15th Assembly Standing Committee for further consideration.

The new Assembly Standing Committee meets for the first time in Sydney from 24-26 August.

Domestic and Family Violence Statement

The 15th Assembly adopted a statement that commits the Uniting Church to repudiating all teaching and theologies that are used to justify domestic violence.

Assembly members heard testimonies from some of those affected by violent acts.

Assembly Standing Committee member Bethany Broadstock brought the resolution to tackle what she called a worldwide social “epidemic” of domestic violence and “one of the most urgent and pressing social issues of the nation and time”.

A number of members gave strong statements of affirmation that the Church needed to be doing more in this area.

The Assembly Standing Committee was asked to create educational, theological and liturgical resources for distribution to the wider church and encourage UCA councils and members to carry out the commitments found in the statement. The proposal was approved by consensus.



Bethany Broadstock addresses the Assembly with a resolution against domestic violence.

Elections

Rev Sharon Hollis was chosen as President-elect. Rev Hollis will be the third woman to be President and the first ordained woman in the role.

Rev Hollis will begin her term as President at the 16th Assembly in Queensland in 2021.

Members of the Assembly Standing Committee were also elected to serve for the next three years. The successful candidates were: Felicity Amery, David Baker, Rob Brown, Hayden Charles, Steve Francis, Geoffrey Grinton, Andrew Johnson, Jason Kioa, Elaine Ledgerwood, Clare Ligtermoet, Fie Marino, Kath Merrifield, Nicole



Mugford, Catherine Pepper, Elaine Rae, Geoff Thomson, Yuko Tonai-Moore, and Ian Tozer.

President Dr Deidre Palmer (right) praying over the President-elect Rev Sharon Hollis (left).

Disability Access

The 15th Assembly adopted a Statement of Access and Welcome to guide conversations about justice and equality for people living with disabilities.

The Statement from Proposal 30 affirmed that in seeking to be a community of reconciliation, the Uniting Church acknowledged that for many people with

disability, its life and faith have not always borne witness to this vision.

It goes on to ask the Church to embody a community life, that in its theology and practice is accessible to all people; to ensure that within its own life people with disability are treated justly and to advocate for justice and equality for people with disability in the

wider community.

The Assembly Standing Committee was also asked to develop disability access guidelines for use at all events and activities overseen by the Assembly, and to encourage each Synod to develop similar guidelines.

Working and praying for peace in Korea

The 15th Assembly committed its support to the peace process on the Korean peninsula.

In the wake of the meeting between the North Korean and South Korean leaders earlier this year the Uniting Church pledged to support moves towards a peace

treaty by prayer, through partnership with Korean churches and the World Council of Churches and by engaging with the Australian Government and the Leader of the Opposition.

General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Korea Rev Chang Bae Byun thanked the Assembly for the resolution and joined with UCA President Dr Deidre Palmer in a prayer for peace.



LINCOLN

STUDYING AT UNI? LIVE AT LINCOLN

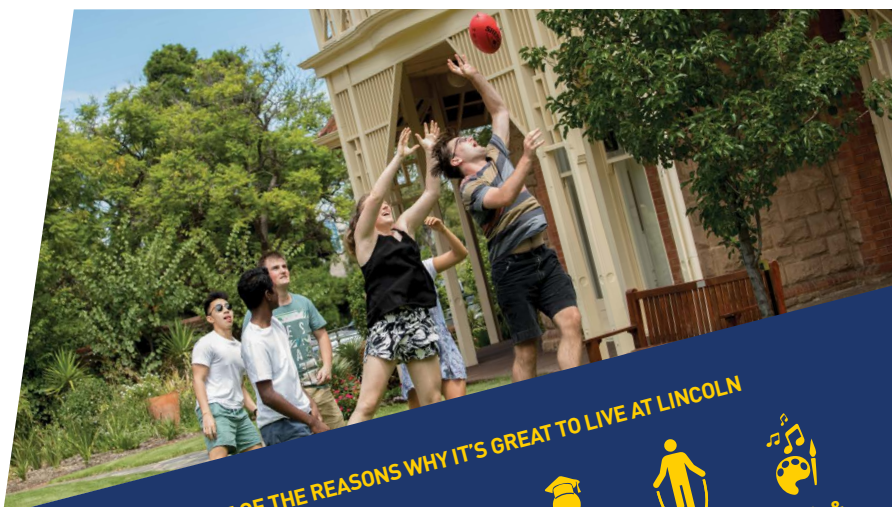
University accommodation
that gives you an **edge**.

liveatlincoln.com.au

08 8290 6000

Where you live while you study plays a big role in your university experience, getting your degree and your future job prospects. At Lincoln, we aim to help you achieve your academic goals, help you get your dream job and have a lot of fun in the process. We focus on giving you an **edge** over other applicants, to help you get your career started once you complete your degree.

ADELAIDE



HERE ARE SOME OF THE REASONS WHY IT'S GREAT TO LIVE AT LINCOLN



Great location



Extensive social & sports calendar



Professional development initiatives



Tutorials & academic support program



Global Alumni network



Free group fitness training



Music & Art Spaces

WHAT YOU GET AT LINCOLN



Your own furnished room



21 meals per week



Onsite gym



Unlimited internet



24/7 library



Room cleaning

APPLY NOW

Education with Uniting Church Schools



Annesley Junior School
Values Matter

28 Rose Terrace
Wayville, 5034
P: 8422 2288

F: 8422 2284
www.annesley.sa.edu.au



PEDARE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
An Anglican & Uniting Church School

2-30 Surrey Farm Drive
Golden Grove, 5125
P: 8280 1700
F: 8289 2677
www.pedarecc.sa.edu.au



Pilgrim School

Campus Drive
Aberfoyle Park, 5159
P: 8270 3033
F: 8370 7734
www.pilgrim.sa.edu.au



PRINCE ALFRED COLLEGE

PO Box 571
Kent Town, 5071
P: 8334 1200
F: 8363 0702
www.pac.edu.au



SCOTCH COLLEGE ADELAIDE

Carruth Road
Torrens Park, 5062
P: 8274 4333
F: 8274 4247
www.scotch.sa.edu.au



SEYMOUR COLLEGE

546 Portrush Road
Glen Osmond, 5064
P: 8303 9000
F: 8303 9010
www.seymour.sa.edu.au



Westminster School

Alison Avenue
Marion, 5043
P: 8276 0276
F: 8276 0277
www.westminster.sa.edu.au

Our seven independent schools provide education for around 6,000 students in South Australia from Early Learning to Year 12.

They offer a variety of learning environments, and a world-class standard of excellence in facilities and academic standards.

While these schools respect the faith diversity of all students, the story, values and practices of the Christian faith are expressed with integrity in order to nurture young lives for sound learning, faith, compassion and responsible service.



Breathe. Breathe again: SAYCO 2018

SAYCO is a chance for South Australian youth to connect, build friendships and explore their faith.

‘Don’t worry about everyday life.’

It sounds bizarre, doesn’t it? Those words just don’t seem to make sense when thinking about the constant stream of news, or about issues our loved ones deal with day after day, or about the pressures of those major life moments. ‘Don’t worry’ just doesn’t seem to make sense. Why would anyone believe that? How would anyone take those words seriously?

These words might not sound serious, but they are the same words Jesus spoke.

For over twenty years, SAYCO (South Australian Youth Camp Out) has been providing the youth of the Uniting Church SA with an opportunity to spend a long weekend exploring who they are today and their future as disciples in today’s world. Again this year, young people from churches across the state will gather together for a weekend of community, worship and transformation at this iconic event.

In previous years, church groups had to provide their own camping accommodation and catering for the weekend. This year,

SAYCO will offer an indoor accommodation and catering option for the entire weekend. There will be an all-inclusive camp/catering/accommodation fee, which Mission Resourcing hopes will assist small groups and churches who previously found the logistics of camping to be challenging. This all-inclusive option provides a solution for those wishing to attend without the hassle of organising tents and food.

Of course, if camping is something your group loves about SAYCO, this option is still available. Groups can continue to provide their own tents and own catering. It is your choice.

The theme for this year is ‘Breathe. Breathe again.’ The reality is that life is frantic and challenging. But the question Jesus asks us is: ‘Is this frantic pace what life is all about? Or is that what we have made it? Does it have to be that way?’

Rev Mark Schultz, Team Leader for Mission Resourcing reflects on the theme. “A world out of control is not a new thing. In Jesus’ time, they were living, struggling and

dying at the whim of a foreign power with completely contradictory views on life - including how it should be lived and who was in charge.

“But rather than letting that get on top of him, Jesus offered a way of doing life that was life-giving and enabled people to experience again what it was really all about in the first place.

“Jesus doesn’t tell us to stop worrying (as if that ever does us any good!). He offers an alternative that works.”

If you would like to bring a group to SAYCO or know someone who you would love to attend, get in touch with the SAYCO event office. Campers registration closes on Friday 21 September.

For more information about SAYCO 2018, please visit sa.uca.org.au/sayco or contact the SAYCO event office on 8236 4270 sayco@sa.uca.org.au



Igniting Adelaide's revival

When Laura, Adam and Dave spoke to each other about what God was pressing on their hearts years ago at SAYCO, they didn't realise how quickly things were going to change. They all expressed a stirring to reach young people through their shared love of worship to provide encounters with God.

Without the contribution and support of Ignite Ministries other Core Team members – Andy Story, Nathan Story, Simon Story, Douglas Burne, Lauren Andris, and Josh Baldwin – Ignite Ministries would have been considerably harder to actualise. Dave Shepherd, Spiritual Overseer, says, “The team have all played significant roles in helping make Ignite happen in different ways. We each play our role and God does what he wants with our best.”

In February 2016, they started Ignite Ministries with Jared Hunter and held their first Worship Night at an apple orchard in Verdun, South Australia. Ignite Ministries was born – an ecumenical organisation providing worship events aimed at young people.

“We set up a few pallets and festive lights, we grabbed a bunch of our local worship friends from different churches and God just rocked up in a massive way. There were 300 people that ended up coming. We thought, ‘if we got something like 50 we’d be happy’,” said Adam Williams, the Ignite Ministries Worship Logistics Manager.

Since Verdun, Ignite Ministries has only continued to grow. Their latest event at Woodville Town Hall on 2 June 2018, attracted a sell-out crowd just shy of 1000 people and now they're seeking venues to hold even more.

“I think young people are hungry for the presence of God,” says Dave Shepherd.

“People are having genuine experiences with God at our worship nights, and they're going off to tell people about that encounter,” explains Laura Williams, Ignite's Operations Manager, on the success and the momentum Ignite has built since Verdun.

“We can do the best we can with the set-up, marketing, spreading

the word and making it look appealing, but at the end of the day it's that genuine real-life transformation that's going to draw people to come.”

Freedom in worship is a topic regularly discussed by Ignite's Core Team members. They have a desire and an expressed need to allow Worship Night attendees the freedom to worship in their own ways.

“Freedom looks very different for different people. For someone it might be waving a flag and running around in circles, but for someone else it's lighting a candle, or sitting in a posture of reverence,” says Dave, “It's a very hard tension to hold, but that's our heart, to provide that tension and provide a space for all of that.”

Jared, the Marketing Director for Ignite, says that they started Ignite Ministries to bridge the gap between denominations. “We found that worship is the key that brings all congregations together, regardless of preferences or style.”

“If there's one thing that [unifies Christianity], then it's the cross,” says Dave.

“What's so unique about Ignite is that very tension it tries to hold. Our three key statements are Encounter God, Edify the Church, and Engage in Community. There aren't many places where Uniting, Pentecostals, Lutherans, Catholics, and Anglicans alike can worship together.”

By centering Ignite Ministries as a parachurch organisation Laura, Adam, Dave and Jared have the unique ability to connect with and reach further than they would have by identifying solely with a singular denomination.

“It gives people the permission to join the team and feel as though they have ownership over the service,” says Adam.

“Anyone can come on board and know they are not just helping out but are able to bring their unique gifts and add who they are to the ministry because it's for the church, not just one denomination.”

“God desires an intimate relationship with us; the church goes beyond four walls,” Laura adds.



Dave continues, “The church wasn’t created to be in silos... people should come to things [like ecumenical events] because it does remind you that you’re part of a greater whole. If your heart’s fixed on Jesus then you have brothers and sisters all over this state.”

As a member of Encounter Church Adelaide, the first church launched as part of the Uniting Church SA’s Generate 2021 project, Jared expressed his love and appreciation for the opportunity to worship with people who aren’t a part of the Uniting Church.

“Our individual churches and denominations seem to be so separate from each other. We are often so focused on what we are doing, and what the mega-churches are doing, but not what our neighbour is doing!” he says. “We hope that people who come [to Ignite’s worship nights] are inspired, encouraged and get a chance to meet other people their own age who love God.”

However, ecumenical cooperation and worship is not the only interest of Ignite Ministries – they also want to support the revival that’s awakening in Adelaide.

“We want to see people come and have an encounter with God. Just to see them have a revelation of how much he loves them and what they mean to him. I’d like them to take that revelation back to their local churches and see those local churches carry that flame, ignite them,” says David. “We want Adelaide to be known as the city of the church, not city of churches.”

*The next Ignite Ministries event is scheduled for 1 December, 2018 at a venue to be advised. Follow Ignite on **Facebook.com/IgniteAdelaide** or visit their web page, **igniteministries.org.au***

*Pictured top: “We hope that people are inspired,” Ignite Ministries Spiritual Overseer, Dave Shepherd spoke at Woodville Worship Night
Below: Laura Williams, Operations Manager, leads worship at Flinders University event in 2016.*



Live Life Loud burst out this winter all over South Australia! Young people in six locations (Northeast, West, Hills, North, South and Eyre Peninsula) heard empowering messages alongside great musical performances.

Speakers were Jake Toogood, Jordan Gauci, Dave Shepherd, Tim Littleford, Tash Harvey, Ashlee Littleford, and Anne Baker. At each event young people were encouraged that “when you are a part of something as big as the mission of God, you’ve got to *Think Small*.”

Live Life Loud events pictured above: Adelaide West Uniting Church (West) and below from top to bottom: Hills Christian Community School (Hills), Hope Valley Uniting Church (North East), Yeelanna Uniting Church (Eyre Peninsula).





Running with faith

Australian elite runner, Eloise Wellings, is the Keynote Speaker for the upcoming UnitingWomen Conference. Eloise spoke to New Times about her road to the Olympics, her faith journey and how she began LoveMercy, a foundation empowering impoverished communities in Northern Uganda.

Sowing seeds of hope

Two-time Olympian, Eloise Wellings, began to feel an inkling of her potential when she was just 10 years of age. She had participated in Little Athletics since she was five, played a number of sports during school, and regularly ran the running trails that wound through her local national park with her mum.

At 13, Eloise decided to focus on running and through tough training and the pressures of juggling high school obligations, she eventually qualified for the Sydney 2000 Olympics at the age of 16. However, her excitement was short lived as she missed out on the Olympics due to a stress fracture. Though this was a disappointing setback at the start of her professional athletic career, over the next 12 years Eloise successfully qualified for two more Olympics, four Commonwealth Games, and two World Championships.

Finding her faith

Eloise's relationship with God had a rocky beginning. While she attended church every week with her family, her understanding of God was what she considered to be 'warped'.

"I thought he was this huge thing in the sky that people cared about and who knew the intricate details of my life. I thought he would punish me for anything I did wrong."

It wasn't until Eloise became friends with a new girl at her high school that she began to view God in a new light. Her new friend shared that she had been praying for Eloise's recovery and invited Eloise to attend church with her.

"I went to her church and heard the gospel; I guess a light went on. At that point, I had a revelation of who Jesus is. That was a pivotal moment in my life. From then, I've never looked back."

Becoming a Christian didn't make Eloise's Olympic dreams a reality as she battled injury, missing two Olympic Games in Athens and then Beijing.

"Life didn't become suddenly super rosy, it didn't all of a sudden become super easy after becoming a Christian," says Eloise. "But I had a rock that no matter what happened I wasn't shaken because I had Jesus."

"I had that truth as my foundation that, no matter what happened, in my running career or with what I did, I knew who I was in God,

I knew who made me, and I knew that God had a good plan. I've always believed that."

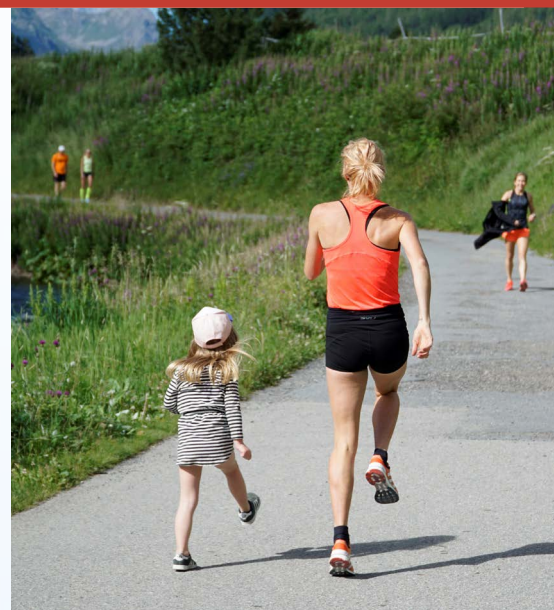
Her Christian faith has been a big part of her ability to overcome injury and anxiety in order to compete at both the London and Rio Olympics. As the Games drew closer, she was reminded of her injury woes of the past and felt the pressure of potentially missing yet another chance to compete.

"In the lead-up there was post-traumatic stress, a real anxiety about 'would I make it to the starting line'," she said. "But I just had to daily give it back to God and hand it over, and think, 'I've worked hard for this'... so I enjoyed it as much as I could despite the pressure I felt. It was an amazing experience."

Foundations built on empowerment

Another pivotal moment in Eloise's life was meeting fellow runner, Julius Achon (pictured on cover), a Ugandan Olympian and former child soldier. Eloise considers learning about Julian's journey to be the catalyst for starting her foundation 'LoveMercy Australia'.

"His journey was the reason we decided to go to Uganda. I've built a relationship and a friendship with him. And it was when I



Running isn't a lonely sport: Eloise is often joined by a friend (left), competitors (centre) and even her daughter (right).

was in Uganda with my husband Jon for his wedding that I saw how much his community needed help.”

Ongoing civil conflicts in Uganda have left many people struggling in poverty, so with the help of Julian, Eloise created *LoveMercy* as a way to empower and help communities in Northern Uganda.

Eloise established a food program ‘Cents for Seeds’ which enables women to provide for their families through a seed loan scheme. For a \$30 donation, Cents for Seeds provides women with a 30kg loan of seeds, which can turn into a harvest of around 150kg.

“The soil in Uganda is incredibly fertile and if it was used to its full capacity it would relieve famine in all of Africa.”

The program empowers families to create their own cash flow in a sustainable way. Funds raised enable families to pay school fees, buy household items and also put kids through education after school. *LoveMercy* is also offering agricultural education and has started village savings and loans programs.

“The goal is to have 20,000 women in the program by 2020. This year we’ve had 13,800 women in the program. It’s exciting!

We’re excited to have that level of impact. The potential of women and families that this program could reach is incredible. Cents for Seeds has the ability to directly affect their futures as well as their hope for the future.”

More information about LoveMercy including how to donate can be found on the website lovemercyfoundation.org. The 2018 UnitingWomen conference will run

from Thursday 27 September to Sunday 30 September and will be held at Somerville House in Brisbane. For more information and to register for UnitingWomen 2018, please visit unitingwomen.org.au

Insurance for a Cause

COTA Insurance is one of Australia's only not for profit insurance providers.

All surplus funds generated by COTA Insurance are directed to COTA. These funds support important programs to improve the health and wellbeing, social connectivity and participation of older people. COTA gives older people a voice in shaping their community, protecting their rights and helping them make informed decisions about their lives.

COTA Insurance was Australia's first, therefore most experienced, insurance specialist for older Australians. Policies were developed in conjunction with globally respected insurance underwriters specifically with seniors needs in mind. These include quality cover for home, car and travel.

Our expertise and quality cover makes choosing COTA Insurance, and the causes COTA supports, an easy decision.

We spoke with maybe 6 staff members over several days as we negotiated our Travel ins with pre-existing medical issues. Everyone with whom we dealt was courteous, competent & extremely helpful & positive. 10 out of 10!!

Robert & Deirdre

Over 13,000 Australians nationally are with COTA Insurance, supporting the cause.

Customers return knowing that our experienced and knowledgeable staff love helping them with their insurance needs, driven by the wonderful cause that stands behind them.

Special offer for Uniting Church members

The insurance market is highly competitive these days – and our quality cover won't be priced to suit everyone. However, we would love to see Uniting Church members at least give us a try!

To help with that, we've developed a special offer for Uniting Church members for each new eligible policy you purchase over the phone including **travel, home, car, boat and caravan insurance**. See below for details.

Have always been happy with interactions. Have used COTA throughout my professional career & now retirement. Only claimed once & was instant response, no questions asked.

Patricia

I will never purchase Travel Insurance from anyone else following the service you provided after breaking & dislocating my ankle in Spain. From daily phone calls in hospital, payment to hospital, organisation of travel home. Excellent service provided.

Nigel

Even if your insurance is not due for renewal just yet, let us know the renewal date and we'll contact you nearer the time with the same offer.

Thanks for learning a little more about COTA Insurance – I hope that we hear from you soon!

Daryl Bateman



Chief Executive Officer,
COTA Insurance



www.cota.com.au

Giving Back

Especially for being a Uniting Church member

Get a **\$50**
WISH Gift Card

For each selected COTA Insurance policy you take out over the phone by 31 December 2018

Conditions apply

Before you renew your insurance,
call COTA Insurance

1300 1300 50

and quote the code: **UNITED50**



We care, we create, we deliver

Julianne Rogers

Peter assists St Andrew's Hospital coffee shop volunteers, Helen Harvey (seated) and Heather Temby (standing), with an ongoing puzzle.

Julianne Rogers speaks to Rev Peter Morel, Coordinating Chaplain at St Andrew's Hospital, about the role of chaplaincy at St Andrew's and the exciting new building developments which have just been completed.

Over peppermint tea and a flat white, we sit down in the newly refurbished hospital coffee shop which is a hive of activity. The re-developed space is the result of a generous bequest from a special friend of the hospital. Completely run by volunteers, profits raised by the café go directly towards the St Andrew's Hospital Foundation, generating funds to support exceptional health care at St Andrew's. The café provides a friendly and relaxed space, with great coffee and food, along with on-going puzzles and knitting for people to pick up while they wait for others, take a break or seek a place of calm.

The coffee shop is a real pillar of the St Andrew's community. To a visitor, staff member or a frequent patient, the sense of warmth and belonging in this community is palpable. It begins with the hospital concierge, Evelyn, who assisted by volunteers, welcomes patients and families to the hospital. This same level of hospitality continues through admission, treatment and after-care.

In Peter's day-to-day work as Coordinating Chaplain, he is constantly reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 25:31-45 "The righteous will answer him, Lord, when was it that we saw you sick and visited you?" In other words, this is the sandpit in which Chaplains play.

Not only does Peter view his own role as a missional one, but also the role of those he works alongside, "God is ever present in the hospital's provision of hospitality and care. Healing happens through doctors, nurses and staff, and also through prayer. We are all a part of God's healing mission."

Peter takes me on a tour of the facilities. The St Andrew's chapel appears to be warmly nestled in the cradling arms of the sleek, newly built hospital wing. The chapel has been a constant in the life of St Andrew's since 1876 when it was first built. Peter has fond memories of conducting services for staff, patients, volunteers and the wider

community. Although the chapel is his base, you usually won't find him there. He is out-and-about chatting and visiting with others.

Looking around at the hospital campus I feel a real sense of continuity: the continuity of a shiny hi-tech future that cherishes its past and underpins every activity at St Andrew's. It's the continuity of relationship and hospitality that Chaplains bring to connect staff, volunteers, families and patients. The hospital's values 'We care, we create, we deliver' are at the forefront of providing Medical and Surgical Excellence.

As we enter the gleaming new wing, it isn't the building that Peter focuses on but the relationships fostered within it. "Relationships matter. Sometimes I get to speak with medical students. I like to be sure that they take time to think about each person as a person: a person who has their own life narrative. Being in hospital can quite often change that narrative. If you don't learn about and have respect and care for the life story of another, you've missed the point of what we're doing here."

When asked to sum up his life as a Chaplain, Peter reflects, "It's not about whether you have the 'right belief', but about whether you are willing and able to be a story-gatherer and story-bearer of the people you're in relationship with - whether it's for a few moments or a few years. It's a privilege to be serving within this community where the culture truly shows that relationships matter."

St Andrew's Hospital celebrated the formal opening of their new development on Thursday 31 May 2018. The \$50 million Eastern Clinical Development comprises a new procedural unit consisting of 3 x Endoscopy Suites, 2 x Angiography Suites and 2 x Operating Theatres together with a 35 bed recovery unit, a state of the art 28 bed cardiac unit, a 200 bay underground car park and a staff gymnasium. His Excellency, the Honourable Hieu Van Le, Governor of South Australia formally opened the new building.

Being led to ministry

Linda Forsyth has been active in ministry for many years. She shares the ways others encouraged her in her faith and leadership and how she came to be a Minister of the Word.

Can you tell us about your faith journey?

My parents had a hunger and a passion for God, so growing up, our family attended two church services. We went to a morning service at Owen Church of Christ in the mid-north of South Australia and then twice a month we went to an evening service at Klemzig, which became Paradise Assemblies of God (AOG).

In 1985, I moved to Adelaide as a young and naïve 19-year-old. I was so excited to study nursing and live at the Nurses' Home as it was full of people I wanted to pray for and share my faith with. However, I wasn't prepared for the influence of living with people whose lifestyle didn't involve God; what they considered 'normal,' over time began to seem 'normal' to me. Eventually I started to use shift work as an excuse for not attending church and then one day I stopped going entirely. That was until I met Grace, an agency nurse who was a member of Paradise Church and we developed a friendship that continues today. As I returned to church, I joined a small group and found that the passion and desire I had for God as a teenager returned.

Would you like to share some of the hardships and triumphs you have experienced throughout your life?

In 1996 my Mum died and I felt the need to leave work and return home to help Dad on the farm. When I returned home, I also returned to the local church for the morning service and then drove to Adelaide for church at night. I remember sitting in the church at Owen realising I couldn't just sit in a pew anymore. Rev Richard Winen encouraged me to begin a Period of Discernment, which led me to complete a Lay Preacher course. With a couple of friends and their children, we began to travel around the parish and other rural churches with a guitar, drums and a keyboard, leading worship, preaching and praying for several years.

In 2001, I made a permanent move back to Adelaide and followed the guidance of Rev Sandy Webb who encouraged me to take part in leadership roles and regular preaching. Sandy and the Salisbury Uniting Church congregation were really supportive! Sandy suggested I test a call to ministry, so I went to the Selection Panel in 2009, however they said 'no'. I was devastated, but I knew God was calling so I studied the Bachelor of Ministry. I finally heard a 'yes' from the Selection Panel in 2015.



Soon to be Minister of the Word, Linda Forsyth (right) with her husband, Ian.

What are your hopes for ministry and the Uniting Church in the future?

I've felt God calling me into different ministry areas since 1996, but I have also struggled with the idea of becoming a Minister. However, he knows the gifts, strengths, and weaknesses I have and now I'm trusting in God to continue to guide me step-by-step as he has in the past.

My hope for the Uniting Church is that we will 'fix our eyes on Jesus' and keep Christ at the centre of all we do. I hope we find new ways to engage with those who are disenfranchised, welcome them into our communities, allow them to grow in faith and love for Jesus and empower them to become active disciples of Christ.

Ordinations

The ordination service for Linda Forsyth will be held at Kadina Uniting Church on Saturday 11 August at 2pm. Dianne Holden will be ordained on Sunday 19 August, 1.30pm, at Adelaide West Uniting Church. All are welcome. Dianne is currently in placement at Rosefield Uniting Church and Linda is currently in placement at Kadina-Wallaroo Parish.

Inspired by others

Dianne Holden spoke to New Times about her faith journey and the way others have encouraged her to pursue leadership and ministry opportunities. She shares her hopes and aspirations for the Uniting Church and how she plans to live out these desires as Minister of the Word.

Can you tell us some of your background in the Uniting Church?

I grew up in the small country town of Karoonda, and I vividly remember when I was six, the sign out the front of our church read “Methodist one week and Uniting Church the next!”

There were a couple of periods in my life where I’ve worshiped with other denominations out of convenience, but I always kept coming back to the Uniting Church. When my brother came to study in Adelaide, we connected with Brooklyn Park congregation, which is one of the churches that formed Adelaide West Uniting Church, and it’s where I’ve stayed ever since. It’s where I met my husband and where my kids grew up.

Over the years I’ve been involved and participated in activities such as KCO, Kairos Youth and Young Adult Ministry, NCYC, Strengthening Life and Witness Consultations and I’ve been a part of various committees of the church. At this point the Uniting Church is pretty much in my DNA!

When did you start taking on more leadership roles within the church and what inspired you to pursue ministry further?

It was probably in my early to mid-teens when I began assisting with worship. There were quite a few people when I was at Brooklyn Park who encouraged me to try worship leading, and from there I became heavily involved in it.

Worship leading then developed into small groups and pastoral care, and through my passion for these areas, I took on more and more leadership roles.

Pursuing leadership roles was inspired very strongly by others. I’ve come to realise that people tend to recognise my gifts and graces before I do. I think God speaks to me quite openly through others. Without people’s encouragement and guidance, I wouldn’t have recognised my calling to ministry and been where I am today.

Can you tell us about your faith journey?

I often say my testimony is pretty boring, I grew up in church and I’m still here! I didn’t have a breathtaking conversion experience, but when I was 12 I made the personal and quiet decision to become a Christian. However, the first real test of my faith was when I left home at 15 to study in Adelaide. I was homesick but the small groups at the church I attended became a vital part of my growth and care.



Soon to be Minister of the Word, Dianne Holden, is pictured with her family.

The first stirrings of ministry began when I was at Brooklyn Park. I studied my Bachelor of Ministry at Tabor and the ecumenical education and access to both academic and spiritual information led me to reconsider some aspects of my faith and theology which can never be overlooked.

My husband and children, family and friends, grief situations, health scares and more study opportunities have also deeply influenced my faith and spiritual journey.

Do you feel that becoming a Minister is your calling?

I would suggest that there is no way I would have become a Minister if it wasn’t my calling! Though I would say it’s not necessarily something you would do by choice; it can be messy, stressful and difficult but if you’re called, then that calling will sustain you through the tough times.

A calling to ministry is both a very personal and yet corporate process. While an individual may feel called to ministry, there is a whole system which involves you being ardently tested and discerned by the wider church. You get laid bare, you have nowhere to hide.

Initially it did catch me off guard but in the end I felt grateful. There was never another option for me, I was called to ministry and that was all I wanted to do.

What are your hopes for the Uniting Church?

I hope desperately for unity: that the world will know the Uniting Church by our love. I hope we can maintain diversity and I hope we keep wrestling with transparency.

Personally, one of my core passions is working through what it might mean to minister ‘stuck’ churches – stuck in the past, stuck in expectations or longings, stuck in whatever way. My hope is that we can, as a movement of the Holy Spirit, respect our past and traditions and be faithful and bold enough to find new and creative ways of expressing them which better serve our community.

PRAY FOR PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. Sunday 12 August, 4pm-5:30pm. Adelaide Korean Uniting Church. Nuclear weapons have caused such a serious threat to peace, not only on the Korean Peninsula but worldwide. Negotiations have only just begun; seeds are just beginning to be sown. We believe that God wants peace for the world. Let us pray together for peace on the Korean Peninsula and the world. The PROK Partnership committee warmly invites you for prayer and worship at the Adelaide Korean Church. Refreshments provided after the service. For more information, please contact Rev Do Young Kim on 0430 458 456 or email doyoungkim.uca@gmail.com

INTEGRITY, PASSION, CALL: PREACHING TO THE SACRED, SCARRED AND SCEPTICAL. Monday 13 & 27 August – Monday 10 & 24 September, 10am. La Scala Café. A conversation series presented by The Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts and UCLT. If you are a preacher in your community join in this series of conversations on developing and strengthening preaching skills. Each session includes reflection on preaching practice, conversation on a thought-provoking topic and preparation for a sermon two weeks ahead. Cost: \$10 per person or \$20 for all four sessions. For more information, please contact Jennifer Hughes on 8267 2657 or email admin@cmla.org.au or visit the CLMA website at cmla.org.au

SEMINARY OF THE 3RD AGE: RABBI JESUS – A THEO-POLITICAL READING OF PARABLES OF JESUS. Thursday 16 August, 7pm-9pm. Effective Living Centre, Christ Church UCA. Christ Church UCA will host the third session in the series “Re-thinking the Bloke called Jesus” presented by Bruce Grindlay on the topic of ‘A Theo-political Reading of Parables of Jesus’. Cost of \$15 per seminar per person. For more information, please call the Effective Living Centre on 8271 0329 or to book visit trybooking.com/SBHO

MONSTER GARAGE SALE. Saturday 18 August, 8am-12:30pm. Payneham Road Uniting Church. Payneham Road Uniting Church are having a MONSTER garage sale to celebrate their new sheds which were rebuilt after an arson attack. All are welcome to attend and enjoy the BBQ. Come and take a bargain! For more information, please email administrator@paynehamroaduc.org.au.

ORDINATION SERVICE: DIANNE HOLDEN. Sunday 19 August, 1:30pm. Adelaide West Uniting Church. All are welcome to come and support Dianne as she becomes a Minister of the Word.

SEMINARY OF THE 3RD AGE: FINDINGS FROM THE JESUS SEMINAR. Thursday 23 August, 7pm-9pm. Effective Living Centre, Christ Church UCA. Christ Church UCA will host the fourth session in the series “Re-thinking the Bloke called Jesus” presented by Don Hopgood on the topic of ‘Findings from the Jesus Seminar’. Cost of \$15 per seminar, per person. For more information, please call the Effective Living Centre on 8271 0329 or to book visit trybooking.com/SBHO

URBAN MISSION NETWORK – AUGUST GATHERING. Thursday 30 August, 6pm-9:30pm. Location TBA. The August Gathering will allow attendees to connect, collaborate and celebrate our presence in our multi-cultural neighbourhoods. Donations to cover the cost of the meal are suggested. Please advise of any dietary needs. For more information contact Susan Burt on 0412 552 703 or email susan@urbannetwork.org.au

RED DOVE CAFÉ: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Volunteers are needed to fill three shifts per day at the Red Dove Café during the Royal Adelaide Show, August 31 – September 9. Shifts include: 6am-11am, 11am-4pm, and 3:30pm-8:30pm. Those interested are asked to email Zoe Hessling at red dove2018@gmail.com. Volunteers will receive free entry.

CHILD SAFE ENVIRONMENTS: REPORTING CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT. Saturday 1 September, 9:30am-4:30pm. Athelstone Uniting Church. The Child Safe Environments: Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect courses educate participants about their legal

obligation to report reasonable suspicion and concerns about child abuse and neglect. All church leaders, including Elders and Church Council, are encouraged to participate in training and to maintain their knowledge in this area. It is a requirement for those in ministry placements, paid leadership roles to undertake and maintain this training. Full day courses are offered for those who have never participated before and or have not attended within the last 4-5 years. For more information, please contact Called to Care on 8236 4248. Bookings can be made on the website at sa.uca.org.au/safe-church

MEDITATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WORKSHOP. Thursday 6 September, 9:30am-3:30pm. The Monastery Function Centre. Hosted by The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) Australia, Meditation with Children and Young People is a workshop for teachers, school chaplains and anyone who would like to teach children to meditate. Cost: \$100 and includes morning tea and lunch. Bookings are essential. For further information and to register visit wccmaustralia.org.au or email Mirella Pace at mirellapace49@gmail.com or call 0408 470 114.

CONTEMPLATIVE CHRISTIANITY AND MEDITATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE. Friday 7 September, 7pm-9:30pm – Saturday 8 September, 9:30am-3:30pm. St Saviour's Anglican Church. The 2018 Australian Christian Meditation Community National Conference will feature input from guest speaker Rev Dr Sarah Bachelard with a pre-recorded presentation by Laurence Freeman OSB on “Contemplative Christianity”. For more information, please contact Australian Christian Meditation Community SA via email at chr.med.southaust@gmail.com or visit wccmaustralia.org.au

PORT MACDONNELL 150TH ANNIVERSARY. Sunday 16 September, 10am. Port MacDonnell Uniting Church invites you to come and celebrate their 150th anniversary. The church is seeking old photos, memorabilia or other memories from people with a connection for a historic display. For more information or to share photos, please contact Les Walters on 0418 844 631 or email ucasouthern@bigpond.com

HYMN FESTIVAL. Sunday 23 September, 2:30pm-5pm. The Vines Uniting Church. The Vines Uniting Church is holding their annual Hymn Festival. This is a free event and includes afternoon tea. For more information contact Christine De Caux on 0414 543 134 or email christinedecaux@aussiebb.com.au

WILDFLOWER WALK IN LOCAL BUSH. Thursday 27 September, 1pm. Sandy Creek Uniting Church. Sandy Creek Uniting Church is hosting a guided walk in the local bush. The walk will be held in an easy walking area and will cost \$15 which includes afternoon tea. Numbers are limited. To book your spot contact Leslee Carle on 8534 4086 or 0417 863 325 or email leslyncarle@chariot.net.au

SURRENDER ADELAIDE: SAINTS AND CITIZENS. Friday 12 – Sunday 14 October. Marion Church of Christ. The Surrender Adelaide conference will be held on Friday 12 October (10am-9pm), Saturday 13 October (10am-9pm), and Sunday 14 October (10am-1pm). Pastor Ray Minniecon, Melinda Cousins, and Kim Hammond are the guest speakers for the Adelaide Surrender Conference. For more contact Sophie Gerrie on 0431 555 778, or adelaidecoordinator@surrender.org.au. Registrations can be made via the website at surrender.org.au/adelaide/

Diary events are submitted online and featured on the Uniting Church SA website (sa.uca.org.au), in UC e-News and in New Times (deadline permitting). To submit your event please visit sa.uca.org.au/events/submit-an-event

classifieds

RESTORE your phonographic records or tape to near original quality & preserve them on CD
Restore your faded 35mm slides to bright colour and preserve them on DVD. Ask us about VHS or MiniDVD video tape & 8mm film to DVD conversion, SA MEDIAWORKS, Kent Town SA Ph: **8362 2251**
samediwor@sountrack.net.au

GRAVE BUSINESS 2.0: Navigating the final journey - By Walter Sholl. A book of resources for Funeral Services. This publication is packed with resource material for arranging and conducting funeral services. It is the complete manual suitable for both clergy and celebrants seeking material to complement traditional church liturgies as well as for the non-religious style. Copies at RRP \$20.00 plus \$5.00 p.p. available from Jacob's well, 41 Roberts Street, Horsham, 3400 or P/Fax. 03 5382 3769 or E: **jacobswell41@bigpond.com**

In the previous edition of New Times (June/July 2018) an advertisement appeared on page 21 for **Ezydance Studios**. The printed mobile phone contact for this advertisement was incorrect. The correct phone contact is **0412 699 646**.

classifieds

MORIALTA CHARITABLE TRUST FUND

Morialta Charitable Trust Fund has been supporting disadvantaged children, young people and their families in South Australia through its annual program of distributions for 40 years. To enable the Fund to continue this support through community organisations in South Australia, Morialta Charitable Trust Fund seeks donations from the public. Donations of \$2- and above are tax deductible and can be forwarded to the Morialta Charitable Trust Fund at PO Box 92, Crafers SA 5152.



TOTAL ELECTRONIC
CONTRACTING

Visual Presentation Systems Public Address

Church - School - Board Room - Retail Display - Hospitality
Data Projection - Plasma - LCD - Projection Screens - Accessories

Sale - Installation - Service

"TEC - Everything Electronic installed with Excellence"

Greg Hallam 0411 550417 - Keith Ellison 0411 556075

Unit 2/650 North East Rd, Holden Hill

Phone: **08 8369 1964**

Web: **www.tecsa.com.au**

Fax: **08 8960 5511**

GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES.

3.33%

per annum

fixed for 18 months on balances between \$1,000 and \$250,000 with interest paid six monthly

Our fixed term investments allow you to achieve a sweet return by investing for a set period of time, so no matter what you're saving for you make a commitment to reach your savings goal with UC Invest. Now that is good news!

Contact us on 1300 274 151 to find out more or visit **ucinvest.com.au** today!

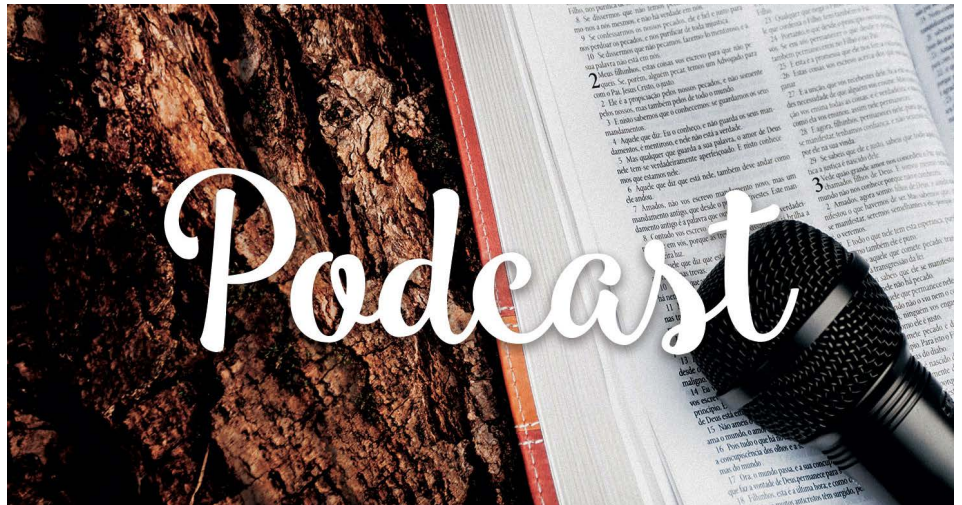


Special offer available from 1 July 2018 and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Minimum investment is \$1,000. Interest paid six monthly. Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Ltd ACN 620 095 472 AFSL 501022 (the Fund) is a public company, limited by guarantee and registered under the Corporations Act 2001. The Fund exists for the charitable purpose of advancing religion by supporting the mission of the Uniting Church in Australia. The Fund is not prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. Therefore, an investor in the Fund will not receive the benefit of the financial claims scheme or depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959. Investments in the Fund are intended to be a means for investors to support the charitable purposes of the Fund. The Fund is required by law to advise investors that investments in it are only intended to attract investors whose primary purpose for making their investment is to support the charitable purposes of the Fund, that investors may be unable to get some or all of their money back when they expect or at all, that investments are not subject to the usual protections for investors under the Corporations Act 2001 or regulation by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), and that the investment is not comparable to investments with banks, finance companies or fund managers. The Fund holds an Australian Financial Services licence (AFSL) number 501022 authorising it to deal in, and provide general financial product advice in relation to, securities (which include debentures) and non-cash payment products. It also operates under an instrument made by ASIC the effect of which is to exempt it from the requirement to comply with Parts 6D.2 and 6D.3 of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to offers to issue debentures (ASIC Corporations (Charitable Investment Fundraising) Instrument 2016/813). Our Charitable Investment Fundraiser Identification Statement provides more information and explains how investment funds are used to support the charitable purposes of the Fund.

UC Invest
Securing your future

Intrigue, whimsy and easy listening

This edition, *New Times* has curated reviews of three different podcasts and a television series 'You can't ask that!' which appears on the ABC. The podcasts can be accessed via iTunes or Google Play and the TV series via the ABC iview website or app.



🎧 Conversations

(ABC Listen app Australia)

Conversations is a podcast where Richard Fidler and Sarah Kanowski interview a range of people who have experienced some life changing experience. The podcasts feature some interesting and/or confronting experiences, including one from someone who was shot, the way someone became an award-winning writer, what it was like to film the liberation of a Nazi concentration camp, and more. The interviewers allow each guest to share their story in detail. I feel my world has been opened further and my understanding has been enriched by listening to such unique stories and perspectives. Podcasts are released every weekday and are around 50 minutes in length, which is perfect timing for me to listen on my daily walk.

Judith Roberts

🎧 The Bible Binge

(knoxandjamie.com/thebiblebinge/USA)

The Bible Binge podcast uses pop culture to retell Bible stories in such a way that it not only enhances your Bible literacy but also feels as though you're listening to a recap of your favourite TV show. For example, have you ever thought about Martha and Mary in terms of sibling rivalry or about what would have happened if the evil serpent had been a Labrador puppy? The 60-90 minute show, hosted by Knox and Jamie, takes popular stories from the Bible and shares them using refreshing humour and insights. The show will have you chuckling while you learn about your favourite Bible characters.

Chris Jaensch

🎧 The Happy Hour

(jamieivey.com USA)

Hosted by Jamie Ivey, each week Jamie invites a really engaging person to come and chat with her about "anything and everything". Each podcast generally touches on topics such as marriage, faith, children, parenting, grief, justice, books, what they are loving that week, and so much more! Listening to The Happy Hour is like hearing your two best friends chatting. As a warm, funny and caring Christian host, Jamie really keeps the conversation flowing by encouraging and engaging with her guests.

Chris Jaensch

You can't ask that!

Season 3 of the popular ABC television show *You Can't Ask That* featured the Uniting Church's own Rev Denise Champion in the episode themed *Priests*.

You Can't Ask That asks marginalised or misunderstood Australians anonymous questions sourced from the public, which are often blunt, controversial and uncomfortable.

Following on from episodes that focus on sexual assault survivors, former cult members, and drag performers, the episode on *Priests* asked religious leaders from Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Uniting Churches, various questions that address their personal sex lives to their views on hell.



Photo credit:
Tim Molineux

To watch Rev Denise Champion's response and for all three seasons of *You Can't Ask That*, please visit iview.abc.net.au/show/you-cant-ask-that

Tash Crumpler

A church planting mindset

Ric Thorpe and his wife, Louie, are passionate about re-imagining and growing the church.

“New churches, new places, reaching new people in new ways” Ric Thorpe repeated this mantra as leaders gathered for the Uniting Leaders Church Planting Training Day at Hope Valley Uniting Church.

Ric Thorpe and his wife Louie have been instrumental in growing the Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB) church planting program which first began in England in 1985.

Ric has now been appointed to oversee church planting for the HTB Church in his role as Bishop of Islington in the Diocese of London. He is supporting the church’s bold vision to plant 100 new worshipping communities by 2020.

Ric is studying a Masters of Church Planting and was able to provide Uniting Church SA representatives with both practical and academic wisdom in the day-long training session.

The Church of England shares a similar story to that of the Uniting Church, having experienced congregations ageing and declining for many years. A new church planting model has rejuvenated the church and is now delivering a growing network of churches across the UK.

Having a customer-centric focus has helped Holy Trinity Brompton begin to think about the way non-Christians view the Christian faith which is essential for church planting success. This mindshift has enabled the development of intentional strategies to reach a growing proportion of people who previously haven’t attended church.

Ric and Louie provided encouragement for the Uniting Church to plant more churches. A brief summary of some of the main points for those considering church planting include:

- Begin with a goal, think big goals. Cast your vision, dream big. Large goals encourage different thinking about how we as the Uniting Church will reach these goals e.g. why not plant 50 churches by 2021?
- Always have the mindset that the church plant will plant more churches. Church planting is all about multiplication, planting churches and growing disciples to plant more churches and disciple more people.

- Think about the people who are not currently attending church. Why isn’t the church reaching them? How do we reach them?
- Start mapping – where are the areas in Adelaide and South Australia that need church plants?
- Pray over the map. God, where are you leading the Uniting Church to plant more churches?
- Pray for a church planting team. Ask for a one year commitment from the team, have a level of expectation that they will attend all leadership meetings and will serve. Ensure they commit to tithing, ensure they participate in devotions and prayer time each day and that they commit to discipling someone else.
- Think about your context. If you are going to plant in a café, how will this be different to planting in a school or a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community?
- Pray for resources: money should never stop you from doing what God is calling you to do.
- Prepare for chaos. The first 100 days of any new initiative are always chaos. Be prepared.
- Have patience. Don’t do everything at once. Go easy in the first two years.
- Have a long term focus. What will the church look like in five years’ time?

Ric outlined the many diverse church planting models which now exist within the HTB Church. From workplace churches, to French speaking congregations, to café style, young adult only, home churches – the combinations and the locations for planting are limitless. As long as the church is focussed on “new people, new places, new ways” the opportunities to plant churches are everywhere.

For more information about Generate 2021 or church planting, phone 8236 4200 or email generate2021@sa.uca.org.au



Creative community engagement at Adelaide West

Adelaide West Uniting Church (AWUC) is collaborating with their local community to help transform their shared space with the Uniting College of Leadership and Theology into a practical space of reconciliation. The Church was recently awarded an Environment and Community Engagement Grant by the West Torrens Council to be used for community engagement around reconciliation. *New Times* spoke to Ruth Harbinson-Gresham, Adelaide West Uniting Church member and creative supervisor for the community engagement project, on how the church has engaged community and spent their grant money.

What motivated you to apply for the grant?

I believe an outward-focused church is an alive and growing church. Engaging with the community is a great start. When I was applying for grants, most of our ideas were centred on refugees and asylum seekers, reconciliation, and indigenous plants. We were awarded \$2,900 by the West Torrens Council to create free community engagement opportunities.

What projects were able to be funded through this?

Our main project is *community engagement around (re)conciliation* where we organise events, cook food using indigenous spices, and hold workshops together with Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) in order to create art for our shared public space. I think the local council wants to see concrete art in public spaces made by, and for, the community. They love the idea of intergenerational activity where people can come together, learn and create permanent art for public spaces.

Originally, the grant outlined that it was to be used for paint-based activities but after a meeting with community representatives, it was decided to focus on more durable projects such as mosaics. The Council accepted the proposal and now we have beautiful art and practical items, like our coolamon shaped fire pit.

The *community engagement around (re)conciliation* workshops have provided the opportunity for individual growth in understanding the impact of assimilation and colonisation on Indigenous families. That's another big reason why we wanted to start this project.

Was there anything unexpected that came out of this experience?

Yes! Lots of interest from other congregations and from people messaging and posting on Facebook. People have been asking if there is a similar project being run in their area.

The UAICC also wants to progress and initiate more conversations around how we can formally recognise Adelaide West Uniting Church's commitment to reconciliation.

This project has been so exciting and encouraging and now we're thinking of extending it. One idea that has been gaining momentum from different community members is to send painted stones as a message of love to different leaders, communities, churches and Indigenous people in prison.

For more information about the 'community engagement around (re)conciliation' project and how to get involved, please visit awuc.org.au or contact Ruth Harbinson-Gresham at the AWUC office on 8234 1199 or email office@awuc.org.au

Sean Weetra, an Ngarrindjeri man, leads participants on an exploration of Aboriginal art designs at one of the community engagement projects of Adelaide West. Participants then created their own rock art designs (pictured top left) and mosaics (bottom left).