



Magill Inter-church Council (MICC)

Report to the Annual Meeting of Morialta Uniting Church 25th March 2018

ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Ecumenical Walk – To celebrate 70 years of ecumenism in South Australia, 34 people (including 10 from Morialta UC) participated in an “ecumenical history walk”, sponsored by the MICC on Sunday 15th October 2017. The walk began at the Magill Church of Christ and proceeded to St George’s Anglican for a guided tour of this beautiful historic church and cemetery. St George’s Church was the first Anglican Church consecrated in the colony of South Australia. The walk ended with afternoon tea at Pilgrim Lutheran and a brief review of the history of ecumenism in South Australia by Geraldine Hawkes, the Executive Officer of the South Australian Council of Churches.

World Day of Prayer – This year Morialta Uniting Church hosted the World Day of Prayer Service on Friday 2nd March. The service, which was prepared by the women of Suriname, was led by Carole Lyons supported entirely by volunteers, and attended by around 50 lay members from 6 of the 7 churches that make up the MICC. Pilgrim Lutheran will be the host in 2019.

LOCAL ECUMENISM

“**Seeing the Word Project**” is an initiative being developed by Pilgrim Lutheran Church as an ecumenical outreach to the deaf community of Adelaide. The aim of the project is to provide deaf Australians with videos of the Scriptures, Bible resources and sermons, signed in Australian Sign Language (Auslan). Pilgrim has received a grant from the Lutheran Church of Australia to produce videos on site at the church, following professional consultation with Lutheran Media. The Adelaide Deaf Christian Community, whose members come from a wide range of traditions, now meet regularly at Pilgrim as the Pastor, Michael Prenzler, is competent in Auslan. The videos will be available on YouTube to members of the deaf community around Australia.

SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Year 7 Cafe (Kat’s Café) has been established at Magill Primary by Katherine Shanahan, the Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) at the school. This new venture, which will run before school, will provide hot chocolate and toast to Year 7 students. The MICC are seeking donations from their member churches for long life milk, milo or hot chocolate, vegemite, jams or other spreads (no peanut butter) for Kat’s Café. Stephanie Roach (Chairperson of MICC) has generously donated a toaster and Carole Lyons (Treasurer MICC) an electric jug. Donations can be left at Morialta UC between 9.00 and noon, Monday to Friday.

Morning Teas for Staff – MICC regularly provide a morning tea each School Term for the staff at the three schools where we provide pastoral support for PCWs. These include Norwood Morialta HS (both campuses), the Cavan Youth Training Centre and Magill Primary. These gatherings give the staff an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with members of the churches that make up the MICC. The next morning tea will be held at Magill Primary on Tuesday, April 10th. If you would like to attend or provide food, please contact Carole Lyons.



Support for Chaplaincy Program – As the current round of funding for school chaplaincy is due to end in December 2018, the Schools' Ministry Group (SMG) are developing a political strategy to convince Government to continue the program. SMG are engaging with Ministers of Education at both a state and national level and letter templates are being distributed to schools, churches, groups and individuals to complete and send to the Prime Minister and Education Ministers. Currently 340 schools in SA have PCWs and 92% principals support the scheme. Over 200 Principals will be writing letters to the PM asking that the program be continued. A social media campaign called "thumbs up for School Chaplains" is also being organised.

Members of the Morialta Uniting Church are urged to actively campaign for the Chaplaincy program to continue and letter templates are available from Carole Lyons or Colin Cargill.

THE FUTURE OF MAGILL INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL

Due to a general lack of interest in the activities of the MICC by member churches, several members have expressed the view that it is time to assess the future of the group and consider other options that may serve ecumenism in the Magill area more effectively.

As a result Peter Skurray (senior member of SMG administration) will be invited to a future meeting of MICC to address the group and to speak specifically to the following questions:

- Is it time to disband?
- Have any other Inter-Church Councils disbanded?
- If MICC is disbanded, what would happen to our funds?
- Can SMG administer all funds for PCWs?
- Should a meeting of chair persons from our member churches be convened?

Colin Cargill and Carole Lyons - Morialta UC Representatives in the MICC