



# Morialta Vision

A Publication of Morialta Uniting Church

Volume 9 Issue 4 August 2016

## Inside this issue:

Celtic Christianity	2
Prayer at Council	
Morialta Events	3
Sporting Heroine	
Paws for Thought	4
Prof. Bob Douglas	5
CHOICES	6
Did You Remember This?	
Creation Time	7
Alternative Lord's Prayer	
Jing and Family	8
Dietrich Bonhoeffer	
Clare Milne	9
Baptism of Angus Zerner	
Companion Litany	
Two Views on Justice	10
Interfaith September	
Nuclear Waste Forum	11
UCA History	
Homelessness	12
NAIDOC Week	13
Plastic Numbers	
Morialta Magpie	14
Library	15



## From the Chairperson

Am I peculiar? No, don't answer that!

The Olympics are still fresh in our memory.

There is an elitist component of Olympic competition that, arguably, has come from the increased commercialisation of the event, but this year I have been almost overwhelmed by the constant reference to 'failure' when commentary refers to expectations not being met. Our swimmers are a case in point.

Comparing the commentary from the swimming pool with the coverage from the athletic track interests me. We know our athletes will strive for personal best performances whenever they compete on the track and are encouraged by their efforts. But, we accept that our athletic prowess is generally no match for other ethnic blends. Why should it be any different in the water?

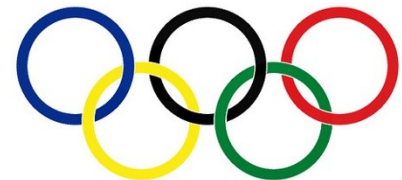
'Higher, stronger, faster' should not be a catch cry that derides efforts. However, the phrase, which encapsulates the original Olympic ethos, might be used to encourage us in areas of our lives.

Jesus calls us to strive in our relationships and our actions to be more than we are. In our Faith Journey, as with the other parts of our lives, we are encouraged to do, and be, the best we can. But, there should never be any sense of failure when, after doing all we can, as individuals, or a group, we haven't achieved what was imagined. As long as we have tried to go and be **'Higher, Stronger, Faster'** in our response to God's Covenant with us we should be at peace.

If God is on the side of life and if we live and love life abundantly we will go **'Higher, Stronger, Faster'** than we had ever expected.

The only way we can fail is if we don't try.

Bruce Ind



## Update from Steve Thompson

Hey, long time no see! Just thought you might like an update on how things are going.

Well today I planted a couple of tomato plants – a sign of hope, or too early? Hmm...

That pretty well sums up how I am travelling health-wise.

The good news is that I seem to have better control of the pain from both my Trigeminal Neuralgia and my chronic migraines. However, this involves a fair bit of heavy medication – which means I am a bit slow in the mornings.

I have been maintaining a fairly regular daily routine of meditation in the mornings and a walk along the creek in the afternoon. If I intersperse activities with rest periods, I can usually have a pretty good day.

But – if I go places that are noisy, or full of bright light, or more than 15 minutes on the computer, or talking too much (which as you know I am apt to do!) I pay the consequences of severe pain.

Sometimes this pain is delayed and hits me the next day, causing me to spend the day in a dark, quiet room. Other times the pain is sudden, and if I am out and away from home... augh – it's not pretty. Sometimes the pain is so overwhelming that I need to go to hospital to gain relief.

As you can imagine, my not being able to do what I love, (ie ministry), frustration with living with a chronic, life changing condition and uncertainty as to my future, sometimes leaves me in despair.



I must add that this has not been easy for Lockie either.

He is an amazing support and fiercely protective.

So, back to the tomato plant. Time will tell if I planted too early. All I can do is hope that the warmth of the sun, good soil and a bit of TLC will bring fruit to enjoy.

The same is true for me. I wait, hoping that the treatment, rest and TLC will bring the fruit of health and healing. Or maybe, it is not the time or season and I will need to re-think my future.

Thank you for your support and mindful prayers.

Steve (and Lachlan)

## CELTIC CHRISTIANITY ~ THIN PLACES

This term comes from pre Christian cultures particularly from Ireland and refers to the place where the veil between this world and the eternal world is thin. Lakes and rivers were the dwelling places of gods and entrances to the other world. Wells and springs were sacred and had healing powers.

Sylvia Maddox (a pilgrim to Iona) writes in an article entitled Where can I touch the edge of Heaven,

"In the Celtic tradition such places that give us an opening into the magnificence and wonder of that Presence are called "Thin Places." There is a Celtic saying that heaven and earth are only three feet apart, but in the thin places that distance is even smaller. A thin place is where the veil that separates heaven and earth is lifted and one is able to receive a glimpse of the glory of God."

The Rev. George MacLeod, who founded the Iona Community in 1938, led a group of trainee ministers and some unemployed craftsmen to Iona to restore the Abbey. He described a thin place as only a tissue paper separating the material from the spiritual.

I particularly love the words of the contemporary poet Rev. Sharlande Sledge who also was once a pilgrim to Iona.

*"Thin places," the Celts call this space,  
Both seen and unseen,  
Where the door between the world  
And the next is cracked open for a moment  
And the light is not all on the other side,  
God shaped space, Holy."*

Now I don't know how others, or if all pilgrims are, but the experience that I had last year was life changing.

I have many times and in many places experienced what I now recognise as Thin Places, but they had only been for moments or minutes, but going to Iona for a week I was totally immersed in the experience of a thin place. From worshipping in the Abbey at least twice a day, peeling vegetables in the kitchen, walking alone or with friends along narrow lanes among sheep and cattle, wandering through the ancient graveyard, so old that it is said that MacBeth and Duncan are buried here with some 30 Scottish Kings, many Irish ones, as well as monks, nuns and saints, chatting to others in the common room, discussing the Westleyian Quadrilateral, serving others at meal times and being served by new friends from all around the world.

Everywhere I felt this wonderful peace descend on me. Words cannot describe the overwhelming feeling of being in a holy place. Not an Out of World experience, trance or hypnotic state, but some of that certainly, not losing sight of things and people or my own body but seeing things differently, an overwhelming sense of peace, contentment, assurance of the presence of the God I named as Holiness.

I believe that these places exist because of a sense of the past where prayers have been offered to make a place where one can more clearly recognise the divine presence.

Again to quote from Sylvia Maddox "Iona seemed to whisper Jesus words, "I am with you." These words could be said in a book, in a classroom, in a sermon, but in a thin place there is an immediacy of experience where words of faith become words of life. In this hallowed space and time, heaven and earth for a moment are one. We return from thin places refreshed and renewed. We are graced with a new awareness of the thin places in all of life. We begin to see glimpses all around us."

While in my imagination I can always travel to that place but there are many places where, we can find a thin place. At Morialta we have one very close to us. Travel there and recognise the place where you can be on Holy ground. I so treasure the opportunity I had to be able to recognise thin places and find in them a peace that is beyond all human understanding.

And now a prayer from an unknown writer

Loving God we thank you for the gift of each other and of community. Help us to see and welcome you in all people and to dare to reach out to others no matter what the cost. Give us the courage to share our true selves. Teach us to live in harmony with all people, greeting your image within them and sharing their joys and sorrows. Weave us together into your pattern of love. Amen

Bev Tredrea

### A CELTIC BLESSING

Deep peace of the running wave  
Deep peace of the flowing air  
Deep peace of the quiet earth  
Deep peace of the shining stars  
Deep peace of the Son of Peace



### **A prayer, based on the writing of John Humphries: Prayers that Unite, used by Christine Secombe at a recent Church Council Meeting.**

Holy One,

We join together as Morialta's Church Council. We know that the Spirit we celebrate at Pentecost is with us.

Rushing wind, burning fire and still small voice, we gather to listen, to discern, to exercise our various gifts in one common purpose- progressing the mission and ministry of this congregation through the items that lie before us in our agenda.

In our meeting

Many words will be said.  
Many questions asked and answers found.  
Many opinions formed, perhaps frustrations built.

In all things,

May your Spirit inspire us.  
May we give more than we take.  
May patience abound.  
May wisdom flourish in listening and understanding.  
May the trivial and superficial not overtake or overcome the deep and important.

May circles of conversation and debate, not drown out your still small voice.  
May the greater good overtake our self-focused wants and wishes.  
May we have the strength of purpose to make right decisions.  
May we listen for you as much as we listen to each other.

In all things, may your will be known, your love be shown, and may we be your own – one body utilising all its parts on behalf of the people of this congregation, whom we love and serve.

May it be so.

Amen



### Morialta Master Chef

Jordan, Casey and Kenny made Kimchi during Sunday School on 24<sup>th</sup> July. It was shared with all Morialta newcomers during the welcome lunch on the following Sunday. Yummy! But spicy.☺



### Square Knitters - Margaret Dix reports

Claire Milne is the latest volunteer to join the "Square Knitters". In the photo Claire is displaying one of her creations. So far this year our Square Knitters have donated 32 rugs and 13 Quilts to the "Save the Children" Op Shops. Well done Square Knitters and Quilters!

### Singing Recital, Sunday 10 July 2016

The beginner students of Jane Feast Singing Tuition participated in their first public performance at Morialta. The five singers - Matilda, Eliza, Oliver, Vinuri and Brigette gave their all to a very appreciative audience. Jane and the students were heartened by family, friends and Morialta folks, all wishing them well. They are all looking forward to performing their Christmas Concert in late December.



The singers with their teacher Jane Feast (middle, back).



### Friendship Birthday Lunch

A good crowd came together to enjoy a special lunch and entertainment for the Friendship Club's birthday in July.

Special thanks to the kitchen crew, who worked hard to make this a successful and enjoyable afternoon.



### Newcomers' Welcome Lunch

What a delight it was to be able to share lunch and a warm welcome with so many of those who have joined us here at Morialta!

## Our own sporting heroine is off to Sydney on October!

Adapted from the Advertiser July 11 2016



Jenny Hosking will be going to Sydney in October, where she hopes to receive the record for the over 70's 100m and 200m sprint double at the Transplant Games. She currently holds both the Australian and World Records in these events for the over 60's, and the Australian record for the over 50's.

Jenny has already competed in several World Transplant Games, including Sydney, Hungary, Japan, France, Thailand, and the Gold Coast. Next year she hopes to participate in what may be her last Games as a sprinter in Spain.

She has always been a keen sportsperson but Jenny also likes to participate as a way of "saying thank you to our donor family in a positive way". It is like saying "We're here; we're living life to the full."

When not running, Jenny also works as a volunteer at "Donate Life" and talks to people about organ donation. To quote Jenny "Whatever your age, you can still donate". "Some people think that as they get older their organs are past their 'use by date'. That may be true, but some may still be in good working order. Corneas never date and can be given to someone so that they have their sight again".

Congratulations Jenny and our thoughts and prayers go with you for the over 70's sprint double in Sydney. Enjoy the moment!

## "Donate Life Week" July 31 - August 7 Statistics to make you think!

### How many Australians are registered donors?

One in three, or just over 6.2 million Australians have registered on the Australian Organ Donor Register.

However, in South Australia the figure is almost 2 in 3 people registered as donors.

### How many actually donate each year?

South Australia has the highest rate with 24.7 donors per million people.

17 South Australians became living kidney donors in 2015 and 156 people donated corneas, improving the sight 156 people.

### How many recipients are waiting?

As of June 2016 – 1,409 patients were on the organ transplant waiting list.

### How many receive a transplant?

1,241 people received an organ transplant in 2015, a record for Australia.

In 2014 there were 1,909 patients on the kidney transplant list, but only 630 received a kidney.

A total of 1,549 people died while on dialysis, including 530 patients who withdrew from therapy. Another 9 died while waiting for a transplant.

57% of those on the waiting list for a kidney were under 54.

If you are interested in becoming a donor you can register online at your <myGov Medicare> account. If you wish to learn more about Donate Life, or download a registration form – log onto [www.donorregister.gov.au](http://www.donorregister.gov.au) call 1800 777 203.

### 1 Corinthians 9: 24-27

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.*

## Paws for Thought.....

Since Wallace has been taking Bruce to the football I haven't been as interested in the games, but this year it seems the Crows are doing pretty well. I can tell.

When Wallace brings Bruce home after the matches, Bruce is much happier. I hope it continues. It seems that the Crows are in the Finals this year which means that there may be even more games for Wallace to go to. At least it is getting warmer.

I remember when I used to go to the football there always seemed to be far too much noise. I guess humans need that when they are watching the game to keep themselves awake.

That's another thing. I'm not really sure why they call it a game. A lot of the spectators took it far too seriously for a game I thought!

Keely



Keely: I notice you have your coat on. When is the next game?

Wallace: In a couple of days.

Keely: Well, why have you got the coat on already?

Wallace: I just want to be ready, besides, I want others to know they are my team.

Keely: It was different last year!

Wallace: well, they weren't in the finals then.



## A Rare Opportunity to meet with Professor Bob Douglas

**Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup> - 9.30am to 12 noon  
at Morialta Uniting Church**

This event is jointly sponsored by PCNet and the Synod's Environmental Action Group (EAG) with the support of the Urban Mission Network, Pilgrim Pathways, the Morialta Social Justice Team and the Effective Living Centre. The aim is to further the imperative to **MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM TO ACT IN RESPONSE TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE.**

Professor Bob Douglas from Canberra will replicate his highly successful presentation, which he used at a Canberra Region Presbytery meeting in July 2015. At that meeting he focused on Pope Francis's encyclical, "Laudato si" which is directed to all humans and not just to Catholics or Christians. It states that we can, and must, urgently transform our relationship to nature and our understanding and care about "the common good". Bob introduced the highly effective **Kitchen Table Conversations** as a tool to engage ordinary people in time - limited discussions about issues that matter to them. He will do this for us as well.

### Who is Professor Bob Douglas?



Bob Douglas is a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University and was the founding Director of its National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health. His 40-year medical career spanned work as a specialist physician in Papua New Guinea, being Dean of the Medical School at University of Adelaide and Chair of a Geneva based World Health Advisory Group.

Following his retirement, he established Australia 21 with five colleagues from various walks of Australian life. Australia 21 asserts that, in addition to greater understanding of the technical aspects of climate change, governments need to build deeper public understanding of the need and scope for changes in policies and behaviour that address the causes and effects of climate change. The challenges of climate change are exacerbated by the lack of understanding in the general community of the different goals of science and risk management, and by the nature of human behaviour and societal institutions and norms.

*Climate change has been described as a diabolical issue because much of what we would like to know in order to manage the risks it presents is uncertain, the issues are complex and, without action, there is potential for dangerous consequences.*

In a letter to the Editor Canberra Times on Wednesday 25 June 2015, Bob wrote "We urgently need a new Australian story. We have been brainwashed into believing that the modern economic framework is the only one that makes sense. Francis gives the lie to that. The problems facing humanity are dire but soluble. Until we accept those two realities (both dire and soluble) we will stay locked in to the current story."

### Put this date (8<sup>th</sup> October) in your diary!

Registrations will be available (cost \$10 per person) through the Morialta Uniting Church Office, or you can call the ELC office at **8271 0329** or email [office@effectiveliving.org](mailto:office@effectiveliving.org)

## Uniting to GREEN

The "Uniting to Green" program is a key component of the Uniting Church Synod of Victoria and Tasmania's commitment to reduce energy use at church sites by 20% by 2020.

GREEN is an acronym representing five key stages of energy efficiency action:

- Generate awareness:** effective measurement of energy usage;
- Reform behaviour:** human behaviour change;
- Ensure efficiency:** appropriate renewal of inefficient appliances;
- Enhance buildings:** improve the thermal performance of building envelopes;
- Normalise renewables:** safely generate remaining energy needs;

If you or your group would like more information about this challenging program go to:

<https://www.victas.uca.org.au/getinvolved/Pages/Uniting-to-Green.aspx>

## Winter

*I have been complaining about the cold winter ....  
..... until I read a poem by Michael Leunig (Ed.)*

We give thanks for the blessing of winter:  
Season to cherish the heart.  
To make warmth and quiet for the heart.  
To make soup and broths for the heart.  
To cook for the heart and read for the heart.  
To curl up softly and nestle with the heart.  
To sleep deeply and gently at one with the heart.  
To dream with the heart.  
To spend time with the heart.  
A long, long time of peace with the heart.  
We give thanks for the blessing of winter:  
Season to cherish the heart.  
**Amen.**

## While so many in the world go hungry!!

*Adapted from "Food rescue facts" OzHarvest*

### The Bad (and the Ugly!)

One third of all global food production is wasted or lost, ending in land fill or just thrown away. 20% of groceries purchased by Australians are thrown out, much of which ends in land fill. This equals \$1,036 worth of groceries per Australian household per year. Combined with commercial food wasted, that adds up to \$8-10 billion every year in Australia.

### The Good

OzHarvest rescues 3,668,940 kg of food nationally in a year and delivers 11,006,820 meals to hungry Australians. If this tweaks your interest, more information on how you can help or become involved can be found at [www.ozharvest.org/](http://www.ozharvest.org/)



# CHOICES

## Art Circle

Our Art Circle is now well established on Friday mornings, with participants working with their water colours, crayons, oils and more. New members are always welcome on a regular or casual basis. Come and be creative in a friendly environment!



## In Stitches

This new initiative from the Community Centre Team started on Tuesday 23rd August and will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 10am. Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, quilting and more to work on in a friendly atmosphere. Share your ideas and expertise with others as you work. Tea and coffee available.

## Coffee and Chat

We continue to offer tea, coffee and company in the foyer on Friday mornings from 10.30 to 11.30. It would be great to see a few new people drop in occasionally to talk with those seeking company and conversation.

## Bus Trip to Hahndorf

Several members of the church and community recently enjoyed a day trip to Hahndorf on the Burnside Community Bus, organised by the Community Centre Team.

Look out for further trips to other destinations in the coming months!

## Artist in Residence Author Kate Llewellyn



Taking place at the Effective Living Centre, Christ Church Uniting Church, 26 King William Road, Wayville.

## Program:

Friday 23 September 7.30 - 9.30pm

**An evening with Kate Llewellyn**

Saturday 24 September 2.00 - 4.00pm

**Creative Writing Workshop with Kate Llewellyn**

Monday 26 September 7.30 - 9.30pm

**Poet's Corner with Special Guest Kate Llewellyn**

Please bring a poem of your choice to share.

**Cost for each event:**

\$25 Adult, \$20 Concession \$15 Friends of ELC

## Bookings Essential!

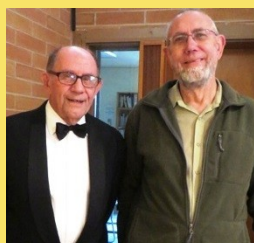
Book online at [www.effectiveliving.org](http://www.effectiveliving.org) or call the Effective Living Centre on 8271 0329.

## Did you Remember This?!



On a nostalgic afternoon in August forty people at Morialta sat down to enjoy memories of movies and TV at the Morialta Palace Theatre.

Favourites included clips from Singing in the Rain, My Fair Lady, Roadrunner, The Addams Family, Gilligans Island, MASH, Mavis Bramston and many, many more, as well as some classic adverts from days gone by.



Special thanks to John Secombe and David Purling for selecting and presenting the material that was enjoyed!

## The Carer

*reviewed by Jan Thornton*

This comedy/drama gives us laughter when in other hands we could be in tears, in a cast headed by Brian Cox playing the part of Sir Michael Gifford, an aging thespian. Bitter at the way his body is letting him down, Sir Michael fights everyone as they try to persuade him to accept help, and is locked into an acrimonious war of words with his estranged daughter (Emilia Fox). Cox dominates with both his character and dialogue, elevating this heart-warming tale into something which will be hard to forget.

He portrays the frustrations of old-age and the indignities of infirmity, while never conceding defeat, and though the language used is at times vulgar, it's always appropriate to the pathos and rage felt.

His young co-star is an unknown actress, Coco König, who is a beautifully calm foil to all the anger Cox shows, and has her own brilliant moment when she 'socks it to' a patronising group at an audition. However this is Cox's film and his finest moment is in the last scenes where he gives a performance that Shakespeare himself might be proud of.



## Creation Time 2016: Followers of Jesus, Caring for Creation

Published by Eco-Congregation Scotland  
Registered Charity SC041287

Creation Time started in the Orthodox Church in 1989 and has been supported by a growing number of churches across Europe since then. The European Christian Environmental Network urges churches to adopt a Time for Creation, stretching from 1 September to the feast of St Francis on 4 October. This was endorsed at the European Ecumenical Assembly in Sibiu, Romania in 2007, when it was agreed that Creation Time "be dedicated to prayer for the protection of Creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles that reverse our contribution to climate change".

**The Readings for week one are** Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1: 1-21; and Luke 14: 25-33

All of these texts lead us to reflect about the choices we have. Whose words and ways do we listen to, and how? What priority do we give to actively choosing God's ways in our lives? What outcomes might we expect? Do we choose life in all its fullness, for all God's children? Within that broader framework, two strands could be explored.

### **Consequences of our choices:**

Psalm 1 spells out those consequences in terms of ourselves, our personhood and fruitfulness, but using a metaphor of growth that is grounded in creation's flourishing.

Deuteronomy 30 broadens out the consequences to include future generations, the land that has been given, and wider struggle and adversity.

In Luke 14 we find the personal and political all implicated in our choices of the way to follow. Here the blessings are less clear, but the potential costs of discipleship are spelled out.

If we look ahead with any wisdom, whether from these texts, lived experience, or listening to others, then we can inform our choices. With creation, there are many voices to listen to – firstly those living with the consequences of climate change and environmental destruction right now, but also scientists, economists, campaigners, theologians, and future generations. The costs of inaction are becoming clearer every day – because inaction is a path of "business as usual", not a path of transformational love. The blessings from listening to God's call to care are tangled up in struggle and costs to our current way of life – but the invitation to follow, and find new fruitful life, is there too.

### **Motivation:**

In Deuteronomy 30, living by the covenant may be motivated by dire warnings, as well as hope of blessings. Psalm 1 offers flourishing and nurture when God is followed willingly, in every moment of life. Paul tries to persuade Philemon based upon love for fellow Christians, and the strength of personal relationships.

To explore the motivation to follow Jesus, Luke 14 needs to be put in the wider context of Jesus' love – otherwise we just

find the cost of rendering discipleship inexplicable. However, even in these verses there is evidence of the love that motivates Jesus to forewarn the crowds, and a reminder of the love that leads to taking up the cross.

Why do we seek God's ways? Why should those ways include caring for creation? Why should we therefore make the huge changes to our lifestyles that are necessary for climate change to be slowed down?

We find answers in the generosity that we inherit through creation, and relationships in which we flourish and learn. There is also the written word, alongside the bigger book of creation.

We find more answers when we recognise as sisters and brothers people from all across the world. We can listen to their stories, as they tell us now how their lives are affected by climate change and environmental destruction, as they bear witness to death and adversity because of issues around land and water. Even if we can't find such positive motivation, there should also be enough fear of the dire consequences for the world, including our part of it, if we do nothing.

For more about Creation Time, and to obtain information on weeks, 2, 3 and 4 visit

**[www.ecocongregationscotland.org/creationtime](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/creationtime)**

## An Alternative Lord's Prayer

*Source: 'Prayers of the Cosmos: Meditations on the Aramaic words of Jesus', by Neil Douglas-Klotz (Harper Collins San Francisco, 1990)*

The book's topic is the richness of expression present in the native Aramaic language of Jesus. The author argues that, according to Middle Eastern and Hebraic mysticism, each statement of sacred teaching must be examined from at least three points of view: the intellectual, the metaphorical and the universal (or mystical). He goes on to demonstrate this using each individual line of the Lord's prayer, and of the teachings known as the Beatitudes. In our meeting we heard the resulting interpretation of the line "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled", and one possible new translation from the Aramaic of the Lord's Prayer (p. 41), as follows.

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,  
Focus your light within us – make it useful:  
Create your reign of unity now –  
Your one desire then acts with ours,  
As in all light, so in all forms.  
Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.  
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,  
As we release the strands we hold  
Of others' guilt.  
Don't let surface things delude us,  
But free us from what holds us back.  
From you is born all ruling will,  
The power and the life to do,  
The song that beautifies all,  
From age to age it renews.  
Truly – power to these statements –  
May they be the ground from which all  
My actions grow:  
Amen



## Morialta Community

Each edition of Vision we plan to bring you interviews with members of the Morialta Community, old and new. For this edition Kathryn Powell interviewed Jing Luo, who is one of the new members of Church Council and Jan Thornton interviewed Claire Milne.

### Jing, (Mike and Kenny) Luo

*Interviewed by Kathryn Powell*

#### **Please tell us about your lovely family:**

Mike and I married in 2003 in Beijing, China. Kenny came to join us in 2007. Due to the poor air quality, Kenny had to frequently visit the hospital every year. We worried about his health. We did a lot of research and decided to move to Australia. I came to Melbourne first in 2013 as an international student at Monash University. At the same time, we applied for immigration. Thanks be to God, we received sponsorship by the South Australia government and came to Adelaide in the following year. (the family photo is attached)

#### **What were your first impressions of Australia in your first week of being here?**

When we arrived in July 2014, we lived in a quiet area very close to Kenny's school. The sky was crystal clear; the air was fresh; the wind was gentle; it was not crowded in the street. At night, we could see many stars in the night sky. The feeling was very similar to that when I was very young at my hometown in Yunnan province. My boy loved his school and would like to go to the school even on Saturday. I asked him what he did at school. The answer was "play, play, and play". I was surprised to know that there was no textbook in the school. Anyway, we were very happy Kenny settled in the new routines very quickly. The most important thing was that he was very healthy and strong in the new environment, which made us believe that we have made a right decision for the overseas relocation.

#### **What are you studying and is there a job you are hoping to do when you finish your studies?**

I am doing Master of Teaching degree specializing in Early Childhood at UniSA as I wanted a career change from an engineer to an educator. To be an educator is my childhood dream. After graduation, I hope I could be used to serve the children in the way our Lord wants me to. I look forward to exploring some opportunities to integrate my previous experience of ICT into teaching and learning.

#### **How do you spend your time on weekends?**

Weekends are our family time. We love playing with Kenny and visiting around Adelaide. Morialta Conservation Park and Thorndon Park are our favourite places. Usually on the sunny days, we love to gather with friends and enjoy BBQ in the natural environment.

#### **Is there anything you would like to say about the Morialta Church community and why you feel drawn to the Uniting Church?**

I love the idea of "uniting" which is embraced by Uniting Church. I love Morialta people who actively act out their belief. We are very grateful there are a group of sisters and brothers who made their effort to help us with learning English as the second language, and also with the growth of our Christian beliefs. As part of this community, I and my family always feel welcomed, supported and inspired by the preaching.



## Prayer & reflection...

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Sorrow and joy, striking suddenly on our startled senses, seem at the first approach, all but impossible of distinction one from the other, even as frost and heat at the first keen contact burn us alike.

Joy and sorrow, hurled from the height of heaven in meteor fashion, flash in an arc of shining menace o'er us. Those they touch are left stricken amid the fragments of their colourless, usual lives.

Imperturbable, mighty, ruinous and compelling, sorrow and joy – summoned or unsought – processionally enter. Those they encounter they transfigure, investing them with strange gravity and a spirit of worship.

Joy is rich in fears; sorrow has its sweetness. Indistinguishable from each other they approach us from eternity, equally potent in their power and terror.

From every quarter mortals come hurrying, part envious, part awe-struck,

swarming, and peering into the portent, where the mystery sent from above us is transmuting into the inevitable order of earthly human drama.

What, then, is joy? What, then, is sorrow? Time alone can decide between them, when the immediate poignant happening lengthens out to continuous wearisome suffering, when the laboured creeping moments of daylight slowly uncover the fullness of our disaster, sorrow's unmistakable features.

Then do most of us sated, if only by the monotony of unrelieved unhappiness, turn away from the drama, disillusioned, uncompassionate.

O you mothers and loved ones – then, ah, then comes your hour, the hour for true devotion. Then your hour comes, you friends and brothers! Loyal hearts can change the face of sorrow; softly encircle it with love's most gentle unearthly radiance.

## The wisdom of Michael Leunig Man and his device

Man standing looking down at a man lying on his back and looking up at the sky:

What are you doing?

Man on ground (MG): I am using my device.

Man standing (MS): What is your device?

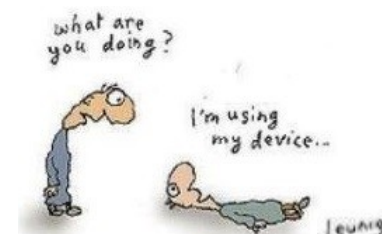
MG: My device is the sky.

MS: Does your device have any apps?

MG: Yes it has sun, moon, clouds and birds.

MS: And do you have to recharge your device very often?

MG: I don't ever have to recharge my device. It recharges me.







## Clare Milne

*Interviewed by  
Jan Thornton*

When Clare was born in 1933 her parents were

working hard to support what would eventually be a family of six children. In a time when many suffered the deprivations of the recession years, her father, who'd served in the Great War, always ensured his children had good food and clothes.

Clare remembers her father as a hard man who was probably damaged by wartime experiences and found emotions difficult. Her mother on the other hand is remembered as a wonderfully warm woman who kept the family together, industriously made their clothes, and created great meals out of whatever was available.

Clarice Lorraine, which is her actual name, was brought up on a farm some miles outside Maryborough in Queensland and remembers her eldest sister riding a horse to school eight miles away. When it was time for Clare and her youngest sister to be educated, they were kept at home and educated by correspondence lessons, before being

sent to a Catholic boarding school when Clare was fourteen. They were years that Clare remembers with fondness and she has vivid memories of how hard the young nuns worked in the care of their young charges. She was so impressed that at one point she considered becoming a Roman Catholic, but before she made her decision she was offered a job at the Post Office.

After a time she decided that Post Office work wasn't enough of a challenge, so she applied to train as a nurse and was accepted into the Maryborough hospital. On graduation she did midwifery training at Gympie where she discovered a lasting passion for the work involved, but on completion she discovered that the hospital did not have any vacancies for more midwives.

Clare had to find work to support herself, and pay off the loan she'd taken to buy a small car and as she already knew people in Adelaide she decided to travel here. The resolve to begin work at the Ashford Hospital (which was then not much more than a large house) was life changing as she met her future husband, Kevin, who was a GP administering anaesthetic in the operating theatre.

Clare and Kevin had a wonderfully happy life and she has nothing but praise for the way he supported her decision to

continue working during their marriage. She said that he always helped with the two children they had within the first three years of marriage, and never tried to stop her living life as she wished. Clare's only regret about anything that's happened in her life is that Kevin, eleven years older, died when he was only seventy one. However, her memories of their time together are warm and vibrant, and her children and many talented grandchildren, continue to bring pleasure and pride into Clare's life.

Once she retired Clare enthusiastically involved herself in many voluntary organisations like the Red Cross, Meals on Wheels and Riding for the Disabled, to name a few and is very proud of the fact that she donated blood for forty years.

She now lives in the Magill Estate Retirement Home but still aids charities by knitting squares which are then turned into blankets. However, though life is now much quieter, she can regale you with past adventures (many done in her sixties and seventies) when she explored things like sky diving, abseiling, camel trekking and much more.

It's been a long journey for a Queensland country girl who now resides in Adelaide, but we're so glad she came.



## Baptism of Angus Zerner

On Sunday 21st August we were delighted to welcome Angus Harvey Zerner and his family for the sacrament of baptism at Morialta. Angus is the son of Adam and Karen (nee Palmer) and brother of Charli. He is also grandson of Rusty and Ken Palmer, who used to worship here with us.



## A Companion Litany to our Social Creed

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace to be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world.

*Today is the day*

God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, and weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness. *And so shall we.*

*Today is the day*

God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, and favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends. *And so shall we.*

*Today is the day*

God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace. *And so shall we.*

*Today is the day*

God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly. *And so shall we.*

*Today is the day*

God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb. *And so shall we.*

*Today is the day*

*God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captives, gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free. And so shall we.*

From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2012.

Copyright 2012 by The United Methodist Publishing House.

## Two views on Justice

### What is Social Justice?

Mick Dodson, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, 1993.

"Social justice is what faces you in the morning. It is awakening in a house with adequate water supply, cooking facilities and sanitation.

It is the ability to nourish your children and send them to school where their education not only equips them for employment but reinforces their knowledge and understanding of their cultural inheritance.

It is the prospect of genuine employment and good health: a life of choices and opportunity, free from discrimination."

### Justice

Rev Dr Chris Walker, National Consultant Christian Unity, Doctrine & Worship.

I have been reflecting on justice, a concept that has a number of connotations. It has to do with fairness, rightness, even-handedness, honesty and reasonableness. While impartiality is meant to be involved, inevitably there is a subjective element. The desire for justice often arises out of experiences of injustice and unfairness. If violence and dispossession are involved, the sense of being treated unfairly and of loss are strong. Seeking justice can mean wanting to see the perpetrator punished. Revenge is a strong motivation to get back at those who have inflicted violence and injustice. Justice and the law do not always go together well despite the intention to do so. Three words associated with justice

that I find helpful are: punitive justice, distributive justice and restorative justice. So I will expand on each of these.

I begin with 'punitive' justice, which is about punishing the person for a crime committed or because they are not conforming to the law. This is more than 'retributive' justice which considers punishment, if proportionate, to be an appropriate response to crime. This holds that the severity of a penalty for a misdeed or wrongdoing should be reasonable and proportionate to the severity of the infraction. Punitive justice however, goes beyond this and leads to suffering on the part of people who often have few avenues for addressing their situation. Here I am thinking of the high incidence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in prison and the plight of refugees and asylum seekers in off shore detention centres. The detention centres on Nauru and Los Negros Island, Manus Province in PNG are operated by Transfield Services and have notorious conditions for people who have not committed a crime but are not welcome in Australia.

In the past decade there has been a 20% increase in the Australian prison population driven by a political will to be seen to be strong on law and order. As at June 2015 there were 36,134 prisoners in Australian prisons, a 7% increase in one year. Over a quarter, (27% or 9,898 prisoners) were un-sentenced. There were 9,885 prisoners who identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander which was over a quarter (27%) of the total Australian prison population, again a 7% increase in one year. Yet they represent approximately 2% of the Australian population aged 18 years and over. Australian society is failing and punishing these indigenous people by putting them in prison so readily.

'Distributive' justice concerns the allocation of goods and wealth in a society. This also relates to the process by which goods are distributed and allocated to members of the society. It has to do with fairness in relation to how rewards and costs are shared. For example, workers should be paid a fair wage for their work and there should be equal pay for equal work, whether the person is male or female. Often workers are exploited and are forced to accept unhealthy conditions. If cost cutting is required they are the ones to lose their jobs or have wages reduced. Workers in third world factories and farms are obvious instances of this especially women.

Restorative' justice is an approach that focuses on the needs of the victims and the offenders, as well as the community. This contrasts to more punitive approaches which aim to punish the offender or satisfy abstract legal principles, such as national sovereignty. Victims have an active role in the process. Offenders are expected to take responsibility for their actions. This involves apology, returning stolen money and repairing the harm they have done where possible. The restorative justice approach aims to lead the offender into a productive life that avoids future offences. Restorative justice that fosters dialogue between the victim and offender has shown the highest rates of victim satisfaction and offender accountability. The Christian faith favours a restorative justice approach.

Jesus' life and teaching show a concern especially for the least and a criticism of those who misuse their wealth and power. For Jesus the reign of God was one in which God's justice, compassion and peace would prevail. We are to seek that now.

### What is Interfaith September?

From the UCA Assembly

Interfaith September is an opportunity to build understanding and friendship with people of other faiths.

As Christians, we believe diversity is a part of God's creation. Our faith in Christ calls us to live together in peace and love and to engage in genuine dialogue with people of other faiths.

In Australia today, there is much work to do healing divisions caused by ignorance, fear and poor understanding. But by reaching out to people of other faiths, we can make a difference.

When we come together, we realise how similar we are. We appreciate our differences in a much more nuanced way.

The friendships we make can transform and enrich us.

Standing together, we send a strong message to those around us about our shared desire for peace and harmony.

We invite you to get involved in Interfaith September in any way that suits you.

You may follow the worship resource each week, theme a sermon, use a suggested hymn or host an event. You may choose another time of year that is more suitable.

Four resources have been produced to help you participate:

**Lectionary Guide** – A week-by-week reflection on the gospels contained in the Lectionary for September with four different interfaith themes.

**Worship Resource** – Alongside the

Lectionary Guide, the worship resource includes sermon starters, links to other resources, an Order of Service and other ideas.

**Videos** – Six videos sharing stories of interfaith friendship. These are matched with the four weekly themes of the Lectionary Guide and could be shared during worship or community gatherings. They are well fit very nicely in to your group's activities.

**Interfaith Action** – Ideas and tips for how you can reach out to people of other faiths and build on understanding and friendship.

The resources were prepared by UCA theologian Rev. Dr Clive Pearson and are available on the Assembly's website. Open the website and type **Interfaith September 2016** in the search box at the very bottom of the home page.



## Nuclear Waste Forum Update

Members of the Presbytery and Synod gathered at Adelaide West Uniting Church to learn more about the impacts of nuclear waste repositories in South Australia.

Uniting Church SA Moderator, Dr Deidre Palmer reiterated the importance of the church gathering to discuss impacts and issues, particularly in regards to the proposed site at Barndioota in the Flinders Ranges. The Moderator reminded us of our stewardship for God's creation and for future generations. She also reminded us of our covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) who have highlighted issues with a proposed nuclear waste repository on Adnyamathanha land. The church stands in solidarity with our Indigenous Sisters and Brothers and together as First and Second Peoples.

Uniting Church SA CEO/General Secretary, Rev Nigel Rogers shared a scripture reading from Ephesians 4:1-7;11-16. The Moderator followed in prayer for God's renewing work through the Holy Spirit as those gathered discerned issues as members of the Presbytery and Synod.

The forum consisted of eight speakers, Ms Cat Beaton from the Conservation Council of SA, Prof Ian Olver AM – Translational Cancer Researcher and Sansom Institute Director, Mr Paul Manning – Environmental Scientist (discussed State/Federal proposals), Rev Denise Champion – Adnyamathanha Elder and UAICC Chair, Rev Mark Kickett, Development Officer UAICC, Ms Vivienne McKenzie – Adnyamathanha Person, Rev Dr Amelia Koh-Butler – Executive Officer, Mission Resourcing and Mr David Noonan, Environmental Campaigner.

Each speaker brought different elements to the discussion including our Indigenous Sisters and Brothers who encouraged members to hear the cries of the Adnyamathanha people to keep their country free of nuclear waste. The forum of eight speakers responded to questions from the floor. Audio and video from the presenters will be available in the coming weeks.

The forum closed with Rev Prof Andrew Dutney reminding the gathered members of the church's commitment to a covenanting relationship with the UAICC which fosters just, inclusive and equal relationships, recognising the place of First Peoples in Australia.



## A New Future for History in the Uniting Church in Australia



The Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia has decided to establish a National Historical Society. This is good news for the UCA and for the cause of history! Those of us already engaged, through state UCA Historical Societies, through the teaching of religious/church history or through regional or local church history groups and programs, welcome this move and look forward to what it will contribute to the important processes of understanding, recording, debating and celebrating our history and allowing that history to inform our future journey as a pilgrim people on the way.

**To formally launch the new national society, and also to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the UCA (not to mention the five hundredth anniversary of the Protestant Reformation!) a conference is being planned for 9-12 June 2017 (the Queen's birthday long weekend). The conference will be held at Pilgrim Uniting Church in Adelaide, starting at 5.00pm on Friday 9 June and finishing by 12noon, Monday 12 June.**

It will feature a mix of

- major contributions from specially invited keynote speakers and panel discussants
- short papers presented by conference participants (who will be academics, non-academics, local historians, archivists, former missionaries, members of UAICC, clergy, laity - in fact anyone interested in and engaged with UCA history)
- workshops and field visits
- plenty of opportunities for networking and conviviality.

Please plan to come. Save the date and start planning your paper or workshop. Expect to see further information and a conference registration brochure via your usual UCA communication channels soon.

### Questions? Please contact

Leanne Davis, Admin. Officer, UC Historical Society SA  
[admin@historicalsociety.unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:admin@historicalsociety.unitingchurch.org.au)

OR

Dr Judith Raftery, Chair, Conference Organising Committee:  
[judith.raftery@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:judith.raftery@adelaide.edu.au)

## Homelessness in Australia – Social Justice Sunday 2016

***"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat"***

National Homelessness Week is held annually in the first full week of August – this year it was from Monday 1st to Sunday 7th August.

At Morialta, Homelessness will be the theme for Social Justice Sunday, which will be observed on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October. The following article is published by the SJMMT to provide background to the economic cost of youth homelessness to our society. This aspect has often been ignored as we focus on the social costs and reducing welfare budgets.



### New homelessness report shows the cost of waiting for early intervention

*Adapted from the Conversation*

#### Who are the homeless?

During 2013-14, around 250,000 men, women and children in Australia were homeless. Their family status is provided in the table. During the same period, just over 44,000 of the 76,000 single individuals, were young people aged 15-24 years – or nearly six out of every ten single clients.

Single individuals	Sole parents with children	Other families	Non-related groups of people
30%	33%	29%	7%

#### Research and action on Youth Homelessness

New findings from research into the Cost of Youth Homelessness in Australia shows the rising costs of health and justice services associated with homelessness. There was a significantly higher prevalence of adverse health issues in homeless youth than the general population, or even other unemployed job-seeking youth. This amounted to (on average) an additional cost of \$6,744 per person per year compared with other unemployed youth.

Homelessness also resulted in greater contact with and involvement in the justice system, at an average cost of \$8,242 more than for the unemployed group. Hence the total average extra cost for young people becoming homeless is \$14,986 per person per year.

Based on 2014-15 figures, where there was an estimated 41,780 homeless young people between 15 and 24, the total annual cost to the Australian economy of additional health and justice services is an estimated \$747 million – or \$626 million annually more than for unemployed youth.

For decades social workers and governments have talked about early intervention as a way to reduce youth homelessness. In fact the debate started in the 1990s following several research projects that produced evidence that demonstrated it was possible to intervene successfully and reconnect homeless youth with families. This resulted in the launch of a pilot "early intervention program" for at-risk and homeless young people called Reconnect.

But apart from Reconnect, little has been done to develop Australia's early intervention capacity. This is despite "youth homelessness" having had a visible profile in the media and in public debate, due in part to the 1989 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission inquiry into youth homelessness.

Twenty-five years later, an independent National Youth Commission Inquiry into Youth Homelessness revisited the same issue in much the same way. It found the problem had not been substantially redressed.

In December 2008, a federal government white paper placed "early intervention" on the policy agenda as a means of "turning off the tap". But little was done by governments until a roundtable on prevention and early intervention convened in 2014 by then-social services minister. However nothing has been done to date to give effect to the framework that was so positively received following the roundtable.

#### Widening the debate

The debate about responding to homelessness has mostly been confined to "increasing homelessness services or reforming (reducing?) homelessness services". The overall costs and benefits are not considered. The huge demand-driven costs associated with young people becoming homeless are not factored in. Based on this economic rationale, policies that respond to homelessness in ways that avoid these costs have to be more seriously considered. The report's findings provide a strong economic rationale for investing in early intervention to stem the flow of young people into homelessness.

And for those young people who become homeless despite early intervention – or who were already living independently prior to homelessness – the policy imperative is to support them to exit homelessness as quickly as possible. However, a rapid and agile response has proved difficult to deliver because it requires quick access to some form of appropriate youth housing. The most important issue is wrap-around integrated support for young people to remain in education, training or employment as a way of replicating – as well as can be achieved – the all-inclusive support that families provide.

Waiting for early intervention and an adequate response to youth homelessness feels like "waiting for Godot", as the two homeless men did in Samuel Beckett's famous absurdist play. But, as the findings of the research show, while waiting, not only do young people suffer, but the Australian community are paying a substantial cost for the status quo.

#### James 2: 14 – 17

*What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed" but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*





## NAIDOC Week

Jenny Swanbury

NAIDOC Week is a special time for all of us to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support and be informed by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

This year NAIDOC Week was held from 3 – 10 July with the theme “Songlines: the living narrative of our nation”. NAIDOC originally stood for “National Aborigines & Islanders Day Observance Committee”

Colin Sampson and I were pleased to join in the NAIDOC SA Ecumenical Church Service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at Pilgrim Uniting Church. Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue gave the opening address, Mrs Mona Ollson the opening prayer, Rev Mark Kickett from Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress read the Bible reading, and the first Indigenous Anglican Bishop Rev Chris McCleod preached. Music included well known old favourite hymns along with guest artist Mrs Vonda Last, 'Gully Winds' Aboriginal Elders choir, The Aboriginal Christian Band and of course, the magnificent Pilgrim pipe organ.

I was also pleased to join in the NAIDOC celebrations at the Tandanya exhibition. Works included weavings and paintings from artists on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Ngaanyatjarra lands, and the Western Desert region as well as video of dance and song demonstrating the storyline of Kungarakalpa (Seven Sisters Dreaming).

An added delight is that the 'colourful and vibrant' *Seven Sisters* painting by the indigenous Ken family from Amata in South Australia won the Wynne Prize for landscape in the prestigious Archibald Prize for 2016.

## What do the numbers and symbols on plastics mean?

Adapted from Recycling

While we are being encouraged to recycle as many items as possible, it's important to remember that not all plastics which show the plastic symbol (see the table below) mean that the item is automatically recyclable in a kerbside collection system.

If you use a yellow-lid bin for recycling, a handy tip to remember is that if the plastic container holds its shape when crumpled, and/or would hold liquid, then that item is suitable for recycling and can be placed into your yellow lid bin.

All rigid plastics labelled from 1 – 6 can be put in the kerbside recycling bin. However, lightweight polystyrene, such as used for meat trays, packaging (including foam packing 'peanuts') and hot drink cups should not be put in kerbside recycle bins.

Here's a quick guide to plastics that can and cannot be placed in recycling bins.

### ALLOWED:



Carbonated soft drink bottles, detergent bottles



Squeeze bottles



Milk and cream bottles, shampoo bottles, cleaning product bottles



Ice cream containers and lids, plastic takeaway containers



Clear cordial and juice bottles

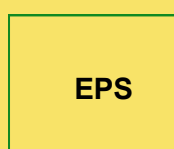


Yoghurt containers, margarine and butter containers

### NOT ALLOWED:



Includes all other plastics and soft plastics including acrylic and nylon



Packaging, meat trays, hot drink cups, foam packing 'peanuts'



# Morialta Magpie



Soraya Yearsley  
1 year old!



Roger Whibley  
70 years old!



Colin Sampson  
70 years old!



Lachlan Mackenzie  
21 years old!

## A plethora of birthdays ....



Margaret  
Pittman



Jey Edwin



Jan Collins



Matthew  
Mackenzie



Jill Kerr



Merv Boundy



Sharon  
Mackenzie



Kingsley  
Stephens



Margaret  
Peckham



Bev Hopkins



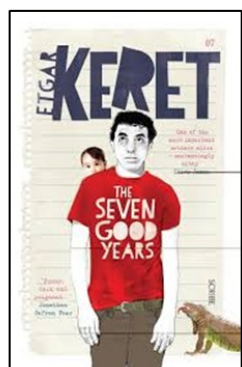
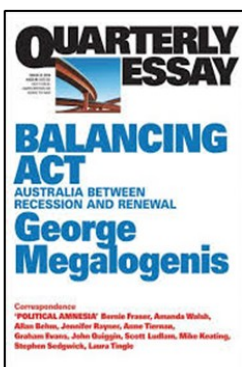
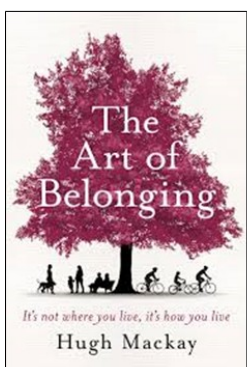
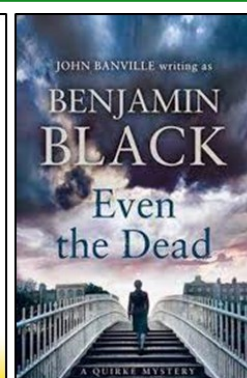
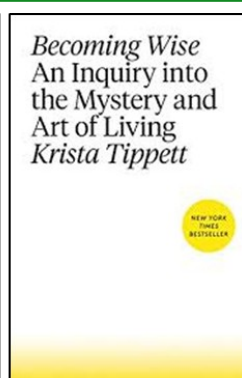
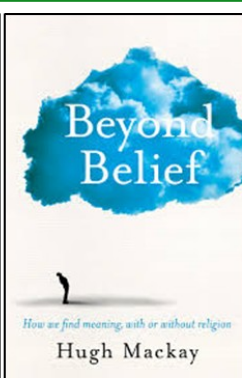
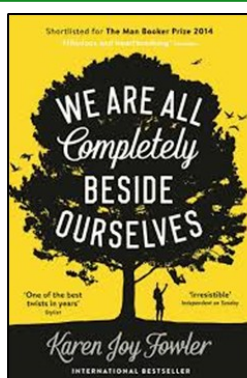
Brian Corrigan



Steve Begg

**COME IN  
AND SEE  
OUR NEW  
LIBRARY  
RESOURCES!**

For book reviews go to  
<http://www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library>





# Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

## 2016 Writing Competition Winners



### BELONGING

by Jan Thornton

It was done.

Callum reached to the soil beneath his feet, seeing crumbled peat fall like black tears. His promise was fulfilled now he'd brought her back and buried her, where she would rest with many other Macleods of Lewis, looking out over The Minch.

As children they'd seen the headstone here in Aignish, of William Mackenzie, the Bard of Shader who'd buried one of his teeth in his wife's grave before leaving for Canada. It was just an old story when they were young, and they'd never thought their own travels would lead them to that same place in Ontario. Poor William, a man of his time, had never been able to return; at least he had been able to give that homecoming to Maggie.

His eyes glazed with recollections of their thirty years in Canada and her insistence of returning to be with her 'ain folk'. Well, those last weeks hadn't been easy, but Maggie had been radiant at reconnecting with friends, and smiled most days. Difficult moments were best forgotten, though his jaw ached with managing painful memories.

A hand touched his shoulder and his brother said, "Come awa, bonnie laddie and let her be now. Jeannie has a bite at the house and I've a drop of Abhainn Dearg you'll be needing."

He turned, reluctant to leave but grateful for the concern and knew Maggie's instinct had been right. In this land of their belong, family and old friends had seen her welcomed, then farewelled, and were all here for him now, which was just as she would have wanted. He brushed a forearm over wet cheeks, feeling the rough tweed scrape his skin.

The heather would be blooming soon, perhaps he'd stay until then and lay some on her grave. Maggie would like that.

### THIS IS WHY I BELONG

by Kenny Xu

I belong to the church  
I belong to the cubs  
I belong to the school  
I belong to my family  
I belong to my basketball group  
Because I feel love and care.  
Because I learn at school.  
I belong to the cubs because I'm eight years old and I fit in the group.



Special thanks to Adam and Tiffany for running the competition and to all who participated. All entries in the competition are available to read in the library.

## From the Librarian...

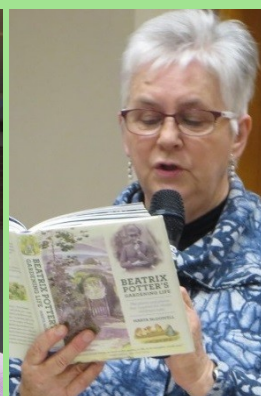
### Peter Rabbit Birthday Party

BUNNIES galore were to be seen! Amazing memorabilia and first rate party fare were enjoyed at the Peter Rabbit Birthday Party.

Thank you to all who helped to make it such a memorable occasion.

The Literary delights were varied and interesting and our guest speaker Valerie Volk entered into the spirit of things, ably informing us of her experiences as a writer.

The Library raised \$400 which will be put to good use purchasing new resources.



## Be the Church

*Adapted from Enfield UC "Update"*

*Care for the poor  
Forgive often  
Protect the environment  
Reject racism  
Fight for the Powerless  
Share Earthly and  
Spiritual Resources  
Embrace diversity  
Love God  
Enjoy life  
Respect all peoples  
Follow Jesus*



Morialta Uniting Church  
26 Chapel Street, Magill  
Phone: 8331 9344  
office@morialtauca.org.au  
www.morialtauca.org.au

Minister: Rev Steve Thompson  
(on leave)

Minister in Supply (part-time)  
Rev Jonathan Barker  
0438 012 227  
jkjmbarker@bigpond.com

Minister in Association:  
Rev Christine Garner  
0437 525 606  
christine@garner.cx

## Diary Dates

Saturday 3 September 9.00am onwards	Working Bee at Church
Sat 10 & Sun 11 September	KCO
Saturday 10 September 8.00am onwards	Garage Sale of surplus items from the Men's Shed
Saturday 10 September 6.00pm	Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Sunday 11 September 9.30am	Mission Sunday followed by Meeting of the Congregation
Thursday 15 September 9.45am	Fellowship
17 - 22 September	From the Flinders to the Gawler Ranges Tour
Sunday 18 September 12.30pm	Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Tuesday 20 September 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 25 September 5.00pm	Pot Luck Tea (Peter & Mary Thornley)
Saturday 8 October 9.30am - 12 noon	Professor Bob Douglas Kitchen Table Conversation (See page 5)
Sunday 9 October 8.15 & 9.30am	Social Justice Sunday - Homelessness (See page 12)
Saturday 15 October	Church Garden Party Details to follow soon!
Tuesday 18 October 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 30 October 5.00pm	Pot Luck Tea (Jennie Hosking)

## Living Streams ~ Giving Life



**Deadline**  
**for the next Edition**  
**1 October 2016**

To discuss ideas for Vision articles  
contact the editor, Colin Cargill

### Acknowledgements

Brian Corrigan,  
and others for photos  
throughout this edition.

Stories and texts from those  
identified throughout.  
Thanks to all who have contributed.

Editor: Colin Cargill  
Publisher: Helena Begg