

# Beyond 2020 Vision

A Publication of Morialta Uniting Church

June 2021

Morialta Uniting Church—follow us on Facebook or check out our website at [www.morialtauca.org.au](http://www.morialtauca.org.au)

## Welcome to the June 2021 edition!

Colin Cargill, Editor and Helena Begg, Publisher

In this edition we bring you several items of news from Morialta UC, including a number of important dates for your diary. The Community Building & Fund Raising Team will be presenting our first concert for 2021 on 4<sup>th</sup> July with Emma Knights, followed in September by the Adelaide Male Voice Choir. Please support these fundraisers if you are able.

Don't forget that we welcome travel stories and reports of local and other events you may have attended, as well as enlightening stories about people putting their faith into action. Amusing stories about life experiences are also very welcome.

The cut-off date for our next edition will be 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Either drop a copy into Nicole at the Office or call or email Colin on 0427 122 106 or [snout-n-bout@bigpond.com.au](mailto:snout-n-bout@bigpond.com.au)

Go well!

## To a better 'climate of the heart'

Based on a reflection by Bishop Philip Huggins NCCA President.



Sometimes the title says it all! **"A Climate of the Heart: Only relatedness can save us"**. That is the title of a book by Ian Mills with a photograph of our planet on the cover.

But how can we cultivate the kind of relatedness that will save us from all that threatens humankind?

The theme of heartfelt relatedness resonates with the eternal and contemporary wisdom of the theme for Week of Prayer for

Christian Unity. "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit." John 15:5-9. "Love one another as I have loved you," Jesus continues.

Ian Mills wrote this book when he knew he was "at this far end of my life". Disquieted by what he saw ahead for those who would come after him, his book is a prophetic gift aiming to wake us up to the dire consequences of, in paraphrase, our hostile politics; our extractive indifference to our non-human companions; our divisive nationalisms with their foolish talk of even more wars.

As just one example of suffering, let us hold the image provided by Oxfam of a displaced Rohingya mother and child in a refugee camp at a time of pandemic. They have already been in the camp for three years.



The Greek word for selfless love - "Agape"- accords with Ian's focus on "relatedness". Who could dispute that a greater expression of a universal and unconditional love is needed? To prevent more domestic violence against women and children; to provide healing from racism; to co-operate and reach real zero emissions before the warming of the planet is entirely catastrophic; to provide diplomatic and peaceful settlements to any number of the divisions which otherwise fuel the arms trade and may lead to even more conflicts ...

Our abiding in Jesus love and our loving contribution to a better 'climate of the heart' is what we need to cultivate the kind of relatedness that will save us from all that threatens humankind.



## All One Race

Oodgeroo Noonuccal (aka Kath Walker)

Black tribe, yellow tribe, red, white or brown,  
From where the sun jumps up to where it goes down,  
Herrs and pukka-sahibs, demoiselles and squaws,  
All one family, so why make wars?  
They're not interested in brumby runs,  
We don't hanker after Midnight Suns;  
I'm for all humankind, not colour gibes;  
I'm international, and never mind tribes.  
Black, white or brown race, yellow race or red,  
From the torrid equator to the ice-fields spread,  
Monsieurs and senors, lubras and fraus,  
All one family, so why family rows?  
We're not interested in their igloos,  
They're not mad about kangaroos;  
I'm international, never mind place;  
I'm for humanity, all one race.



## Emma Knights presents “The Piano Men” at Morialta Uniting Church Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2.00 to 4.00pm

Emma is a well-known Adelaide artist, with an Honours in Popular Music and an Advanced Diploma in Classical Piano Performance. Her debut album, *Anticipate*, was released in December 2020. Emma’s music has been described as spirit music, contemporary art song, reflective and theatrical pop, where the piano accompaniments and lyrics tell the story equally.

Her latest original music show, “Myths, Legends and Fantasy” debuted at the Adelaide Fringe 2021 to sold-out crowds, and was part of the 2021 Gumeracha Medieval Fair. Her productions of “The Pirates of Penzance” on Popeye, “Oklahoma” on the farm, and “Edith Piaf” on the Port River, were an affirmation of her talent and creativity.

Emma’s description of *The Piano Men* starts with a question. Why is it when we think of the piano it is always men at the forefront? “Sing us a song, you’re the piano man...” Elton John, Billy Joel, Ben Folds, Tim Minchin: But where are the piano women?

Emma, a successful Australian piano woman herself, will explore the unknown stories of historic women pianists. In “*The Piano Men*” Emma takes a look at the history of the piano and its women throughout history, as well as a sharing her own experiences as a female pianist, without diminishing the works of the piano’s men.

*The Piano Men* is a journey through time and genres and hopes to inspire young pianists to pursue their passion in music.

The show, which premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2018, has received 4.5\* and 5\* reviews at sell-out performances in Adelaide, Perth, Melbourne and a return to Edinburgh.

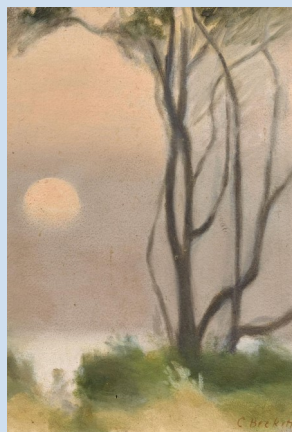
*The Piano Men* is an hour-long production and will be followed by a selection of songs drawn from Emma’s own compositions and previous shows, after an intermission.

Tickets \$25, available either through the Office or Trybooking – <https://www.trybooking.com/BRYEZ>. Tea/coffee is included and proceeds will be shared between Emma and Morialta projects.

## Art and craft excursion

From Alison Lockett

What an unexpected morning of sheer delight awaited seven members of our Art and Craft Circle when we met recently at the Art Gallery to view their special exhibition of 130 paintings by the Australian artist Clarice Beckett (1887-1935). The exhibition was arranged to take us on a journey through a day, from first light until nightfall, the paintings themselves having been executed during the last fifteen years of her short life.



Most were painted as if seen through a veil, resulting in a simplified, uncluttered impression, pale and muted. Her images were of the everyday: a lone figure on a pathway, a disappearing road marked out by telegraph poles, beach huts, cars on a wet street, seascapes and skyscapes, flowers. Hers was a unique and sensitive interpretation, as if the scene before her had stood for eons, slowly fading into a spiritual distillation of itself.

Given her life sat contemporaneously with Arthur Streeton’s, it seems strange that she is almost unheard of. We all felt that she and her singular artistic vision deserve to be far better known and admired.

And a second ‘sheer delight’ existed, too, for these Art Circle participants, that being in the shared friendship, animated engagement and warm chatter over refreshments.

## Fellowship news

Margaret Clogg

In May, Peter Rumbelow from Campbelltown Uniting Church spoke to the Fellowship Group about the history of Campbelltown.



It was a fascinating talk. Peter told us about Charles Campbell, who built Loch End House at the bottom of Hill Street, near the River Torrens. Campbelltown was named after Charles Campbell.

He mentioned the tiny little Irish Catholic Church on the northern side of North Street, Hectorville and the current Annunciation Church adjacent to it on Montacute Road, Hectorville, that now has a mainly Italian congregation.

Peter’s talk covered numerous old and beautiful historic buildings in the Campbelltown area.

At our next meeting on June 17th we will have a speaker from “My Aged Care”. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Ralph Holmes – 101 not out!

Ralph Holmes, who, with Dorothy, was a very valued member of Morialta UC until the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, now lives in Jamestown and will celebrate his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on 13<sup>th</sup> June.

Ralph still keeps up with life at Morialta through Vision and telephone chats with his friends, who share news with him.

On behalf of all his friends at Morialta we send Ralph warm greetings for this special day, as we remember him with fondness and love.

## News from Church Council

### Planning Day

After the Planning Day, which was held on 15 May, Church Council will give members of the congregation opportunity to 'rank' ideas and possible future directions which were brainstormed during the day.

Members of the congregation will have the opportunity to use stickers to provide some indication of their warmth towards ideas as well as another colour sticker to indicate willingness to contribute physically to the suggestion.

### Congregational Singing

From the beginning of June, Morialta UC will recommence congregational singing each Sunday. At its meeting in May, Church Council varied its original decision and agreed that the congregation would remain seated during any singing. However, Church Council will continue to monitor the situation and may vary these arrangements according to evolving circumstances. Members are asked to continue to observe our well-publicised COVID protocols.

### Ongoing relationship with Dawoodi Bohras

During the Islamic month of Ramadan Morialta UC hosted the Dawoodi Bohras group. Following informal conversations between Morialta UC and the Dawoodi Bohras, Church Council has agreed to clear the way for an ongoing relationship. Provided funding can be arranged, the group may use our facilities regularly during the year.

### Lunch on Chapel

Work continues on format and rosters for this important outreach activity. Volunteers are being approached and plans for Lunch on Chapel's re-boot continue.

### Church Council Minutes

As sometimes happens, agreed processes fall from regular use. Such an example is the provision of Church Council minutes for interested members of the congregation to view.

This is a reminder that Church Council Minutes, marked 'draft', will be available in a red folio box in the library as soon as practicable after each meeting. Following their confirmation, a new version will replace the draft document.

## Lessons from COVID-19 for the Climate Emergency

Adapted from UC E-news

'Lessons from COVID-19 for the Climate Emergency' is a series of videos developed by the Environmental Action Group (EAG) in cooperation with UCFAMS, with support from the SA Synod. The videos are accompanied by a discussion guide and are designed for use by congregations and small groups in responding to the Climate Emergency.

The videos are available at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KelfQhz4XY-sjDb-dcJjg>

Morialta folk were involved in writing, filming and producing the initial 5-video series.

When launching the series, Dr Palmer thanked the EAG for their leadership and their persistent and prophetic call to us as a church, to participate in God's healing and renewing of the whole creation.

This resource raises awareness of the climate crisis we face, encouraging conversation and reflection – personally and communally. Set within the context of our Biblical and

theological foundations, they encourage us to engage intelligently with the science, and to seriously question the way we are living our lives.

The opening video provides an introduction to the series and is followed by a segment called "Learning from Science" which highlights the important lessons we learnt from COVID-19. We also need to heed the science and listen to scientists who point to the evidence of global warming, and the effects of climate change. The third video is about "Compassion and Innovation" and the significant challenges we face. The fourth video is about our "Connectedness" – with a reference to our SA Synod Moderator's theme: *Connections - we are connected with God, with each other and the earth*. The last video challenges us to consider: "How much do we need?" – and challenges our 'over consumption' and 'disposable, throwaway' lifestyle.

As the Uniting Church and as followers of Jesus, we are called to take action to address climate change and renew and protect the life of our planet. We are called to move toward sustainable and non-exploitative living, embracing a relationship of mutuality and respectful interdependence with the whole creation.

## Moderator and friends support Schools Strike for Climate



Several members of the UCA joined with the Moderator, Bronte Wilson, to support the Adelaide Schools Strike for Climate. In his Pentecost message, Bronte had reminded us of our (Uniting Church) vision toward the goal of reconciliation and renewal of the whole creation. In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, our Church's confession that Jesus is Lord comes together with its interconnected

confession that, 'the earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1, NIV). Humanity is not the master of the earth but is responsible to care for the integrity of creation. We, as God's people, are called to participate in the mission of the Holy Spirit to renew the whole creation.

Our young students are calling on all Australians to demand that our governments take stronger action on climate change. In compassion and solidarity with the most vulnerable people, we encourage all members of the Uniting Church in South Australia to participate in the public mission of the Spirit through speaking out towards shaping our climate action plan.



## The making of “Streamed Worship”

Every Sunday at least 18 volunteers take Morialta Uniting Church to the world!

Thanks to all who use their time and talents to make this happen. If you would like to help with any of the tasks involved, please talk to Bruce or Nicole in the office to find out more.



## As you go today

From Mark Tidsworth

Do not give over undue loyalty to political figures or ideologies.

Do not exaggerate your struggles, believing they will last forever.

Do not buy the lie that those who wear different skin than you or pray differently or vote differently are your enemies.

Instead, as you go today, Embrace the Way of Jesus.

Embrace the radically counter-cultural way of faith, hope, and love.

Embrace the call to work diligently, pursue excellence, and tilt your corner of planet earth toward the new creation.

Embrace this day as a gift, turning the ordinary toward the sacred.

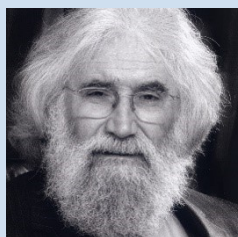
So go now, embracing and embodying the Way of Jesus this day and forever more. Amen

**Mark Tidsworth** is a pastor, author and therapist who enjoys exploring the intersections of faith, life, leadership, psychology, and the Christian movement.

## Turning the resurrection into reality

Leonard Boff

Whenever an authentically human life is growing in the world;  
whenever justice is triumphing over the instincts of domination;  
whenever human beings are thinking creatively and abundantly;  
whenever love is getting the better of selfish interests;  
and whenever hope is resisting the lure of cynicism and despair;  
there the process of resurrection is being turned into reality.



Leonardo Boff is a Brazilian theologian, philosopher, writer, and former Catholic priest known for his active support for liberation theology.

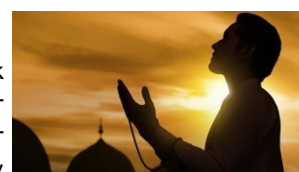
## Ask for forgiveness

When you pray ... Don't just ask for blessings, but also remember to ask for forgiveness. To ask for forgiveness you have to be fully aware of your feelings of regret. Before asking for forgiveness, we have to know what mistakes we have made. How do we know our mistakes?

Self-introspection, within the silence of our hearts, deep into ourselves and aware of everything that we have done. Then all ego will be lost and we come to the level of full awareness and can see and distinguish between black and white. But diligently asking for forgiveness and still making the same mistakes, it's also a lie.

May goodness come from all directions and all beings be healthy and happy!

This is a translation of a piece sent to me by an Islamic friend from Indonesia. It was part of his Eid-ul-Fitri greeting to me at the end of Ramadan. (Editor)



## A moment of peace...

by Emma from Act for Peace (adapted)

I'd like to share with you a story of change that begins with a question. A simple but bold question that came from one of our local program coordinators, Rabia, in Afghanistan.

"When I saw the Shura was all men, I thought, so who talks to the women?"

Rabia repeated this question to me during the time when rallies for women's justice were calling for change in Australia. It is an issue about cultural change: how it starts and what it can achieve for equality.

Rabia has been working with our local partner, Community World Service – Asia (CWSA) for nearly 15 years, and is now the Program Coordinator of their education portfolio, helping to break down barriers to girls' education.

Rabia grew up in Afghanistan and knows all too well the cultural barriers that girls and women experience there.

Afghanistan is a male dominant society... When I ask a man – "why don't you let your daughter go to school" – he will tell me that "my neighbours or my brothers will say that I have no shame, that I am letting my woman to go out".



Shuras, or Community Development Councils, have been set up by Act for Peace partner CWSA, as a step in shifting attitudes to girls' education. They include influential people – priests, mullahs and teachers – and they go to families and communities to educate and raise awareness.

Although widely effective, Rabia noticed that something was very clearly missing in this approach. The inclusion of women.

She challenged the team to have at least one woman on the committee. It was always thought that it is the man of the house who stops the girls, but a lot of time, it's the woman also.

Now, one of the committees includes two women and has been a huge success both in raising the profile of female community leaders and acknowledging the power of women in the home. Rabia hopes it will be a role model for other Shuras.

The ability to make a difference in this world can sometimes feel overwhelming, but ultimately, change is made up of small steps of boldness. Boldness just like Rabia's, and just like the women now posing questions to Australia's government.

## World Refugee Day

This special day falls each year on June 20<sup>th</sup> and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

It is a day to build empathy and understanding with their plight and to recognize their resilience in rebuilding their lives. The day shines a light on the rights, needs and dreams of refugees, helping to mobilize political will and resources so refugees can not only survive but thrive.

While it is important to protect and improve the lives of refugees every single day, international days like World Refugee Day help to focus global attention on the plight of those fleeing conflict or persecution. If you have concerns about the treatment of refugees, please share them with your MP.



God speaks in the  
silence of the heart.  
Listening is the  
beginning of prayer.

Mother Teresa



As the world fights to figure everything out, I'll be holding doors for strangers, letting people cut in front of me in traffic, saying good morning, keeping babies entertained in grocery lines, stopping to talk to someone who is lonely, being patient with clerks, smiling at passersby. Why? Because I will not stand idly by and live in a world where love is invisible.

Be kind to a stranger, give grace to friends who are having a bad day, be forgiving of yourself – today and every day.

BE the change, BE the light – start today and never stop.

Audrey Pary



## Influential Indigenous Australians



### Aunty Oodgeroo Noonuccal (1920 - 1993)

Aboriginal rights activist, poet, veteran, environmentalist and educator. Through her poetry she is best known as Kath Walker.

Born in Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) she grew up with a strong connection to her culture.

In 1942, aged 21, she enlisted in the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS) after her two brothers were captured in Singapore. She said "I joined the AWAS principally because I did not accept fascism as a way of life. It was also one of two places where an Aboriginal could get an education, the other being jail, which I didn't fancy!"

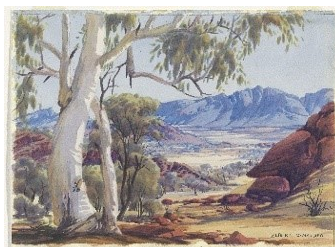
In 1947 she began her long career in political activism. She joined the CPA where she gained skills in writing, public speaking and political strategy. She also began to write poetry. In 1964, she became the first published Aboriginal poet in Australia. Her poetry strongly reflected Aboriginal culture and her political beliefs. She went on to win multiple awards.

While campaigning for the 'Yes' vote for the 1967 referendum, she was part of a delegation that met with Prime Minister Robert Menzies. The PM offered her a glass of sherry but she informed him that he and his staff could be arrested, because it was illegal to offer Aboriginal people alcohol. It is believed that this challenged Menzies to rethink some of his views about Aboriginal people.

In 1971, she started Moongalba, a learning centre that taught about Aboriginal culture and Country to the visitors who came to the island. She continued to publish books and poetry and campaigned for Aboriginal rights and the environment. In 1987 she famously returned her MBE in protest of the bicentennial celebration of Australia Day.

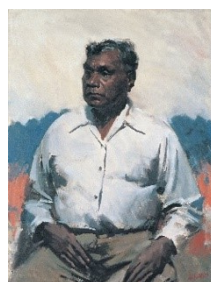
### Albert Namatjira (1902 – 1959)

Born Elea Namatjira, Namatjira was an Aboriginal artist from the MacDonnell Ranges and was the most famous Indigenous Australian of his generation.



A member of the Western Arrernte people, Namatjira was born and raised at the Hermannsburg Lutheran Mission outside Alice Springs. He showed interest in art from an early age but it was not until 1934 (aged 32), and under the guidance of Rex Battarbee, that he began to paint seriously. Namatjira's richly detailed, and Western art-influenced watercolours of the outback departed significantly from the abstract designs and symbols of traditional Aboriginal art, and inspired the Hermannsburg School of painting. He became a household name in Australia and reproductions of his works hung in many homes throughout the nation. While he was widely regarded as a representative of successful assimilation policies, later re-evaluation of his work showed that he combined many elements of traditional culture and art in his work.

In 1957 Namatjira was granted restricted Australian citizenship. This freed him from laws that made Aboriginal people wards of the State and gave him the right to vote.



Namatjira was awarded the Queen's Coronation Medal in 1953, and was honoured with an Australian postage stamp in 1968. In 1956 his portrait, by William Dargie, became the first of an Aboriginal person to win the Archibald Prize. His great grandson, Vincent Namatjira, became the First Indigenous artist to win the Archibald Prize.

## NAIDOC Week – 4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July

The theme for 2021 is **Heal Country – Heal our land**. It is a call for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage.



### Understanding country from an Aboriginal Australian's perspective

Country is inherent to our identity. It sustains our lives in every aspect - spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially, and culturally. It is more than a place. When we talk about Country it is spoken of like a person. Country is family, kin, law, lore, ceremony, traditions, and language. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples it has been this way since the dawn of time.

For generations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been calling for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of our culture and heritage for all Australians. We have continued to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

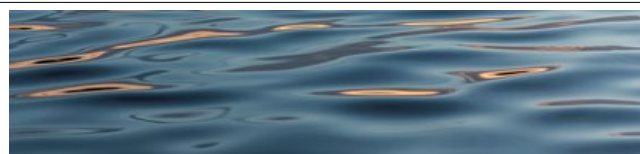
Healing Country means embracing First Nation's cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage. That the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders are respected equally to and the cultures and values of all Australians.

**"Heal Country, heal our nation."** It is time for us all to listen.

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/get-involved/2021-theme>

## A small act of kindness cannot exist!

Remember there is no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act – kindness or cruel – creates a ripple with no logical end.  
Adapted from Scott Adams



## Dates for your diary

**Sunday July 4th** – Emma Knights presents “The Piano Men” – 2.00 to 4.00pm (Details on page 2)

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August** – “Guess Who is Coming to Lunch”

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September** – Adelaide Male Voice Choir – 2.00 to 4.00pm

We are also planning a Quiz Night for October and a market, in some form, in November.

## Delving into the Vision archives...

What a busy place Morialta UC was back in June ten years ago, with so much energy! Here's a sample of what was reported in Vision:

- Keely (Wallace's predecessor) was complaining about the indignity of having to take a bath.
- The Gateways group were sharing memories of their recent retreat to the Kapunda area.
- Church Council had a presentation about decision making from Professor Steve Begg at their focus day.
- Morialta was buzzing with anticipation of the “Its about time” music hall and dinner event being prepared for August.
- The Community Centre was involved in providing morning tea to teachers at Magill Primary School, as well as promoting the Broadband for Seniors initiative at Morialta and supporting TAFE students in their placements, all under the guidance of our part-time Community Centre Coordinator, Christine Ostle.
- Our current version of the Morialta UC website was in it's early days, having come into being in February that year.
- A joint meeting organised by the Social Justice Team and Fellowship was centred on the theme of “Reconciliation” with guest speaker, Rev Bernard Clarke, who spoke about the history of Sorry Day and the complexities involved in responding to past wrongs and actions.
- Ray and Margaret Clogg celebrated the wedding of their daughter Melanie to Brant Newman at Morialta.
- We celebrated with a very young Casey Sullivan when she won the Allans Music Billy Hyde Junior Piano Competition in the five to eight year old category!
- Jill Thompson lamented the antics of her cat, Coco, who had brought home another eastern brown snake.
- The library team were looking forward to their high tea and literary delights fundraiser.

For more details you can re-read the June 2011 edition on the Morialta UC website at <http://www.morialtauca.org.au/vision/Jun%202011.pdf>

## Welcoming Australia – 10 years on



April 20, 2011 marked *Welcoming Australia's* official date of birth. We at Morialta celebrated this event with a welcome for, and recognition of, those in our community not born in Australia.

Welcoming Australia's journey began in response to a prevailing political and media narrative that was training Australians to fear their neighbour. A group of people were determined to cultivate a culture of welcome by calling out the best in Australians, rather than appealing to their worst side, by creating opportunities to offer personal and practical acts of welcome.

Welcoming is far more than how we greet people at the front door. Welcoming is about how we value, engage and interact with the people around us. Welcoming poses the question ‘whom do we want to be?’ and provides the answer to how we might get there.

The growth and scope of Welcoming Australia is testament to the generosity of people and communities across this country, and it is difficult to capture every person, moment, tear, joy, fear, frustration, or accomplishment. One example is “**Welcoming Centre in Bowden**”



The centre is a space of hope and refuge, providing support to people seeking asylum, refugees and new arrivals through service referrals, food pantry, English classes,

volunteer and work experience opportunities, and friendship.

Established in 2013, and based in Bowden, the Centre provides access to essential services, social support and intercultural connection – with a focus on building authentic relationships that help people to engage more effectively in the diversity of Australian life.

Facilitated by a part-time coordinator, the reach and impact of the centre relies heavily on the generosity of sponsors, donors, and community volunteers.

Services provided at the centre include emergency assistance such as:

- access to food pantry;
- limited financial assistance for those facing hardship;
- referrals to support services and employment pathways;
- homework help, social support and employment assistance;
- English language classes and conversational English practice.

The Centre also provides community dinners, volunteering opportunities, community picnics and participation in other social and sporting events.

**10 Years of Welcoming is a milestone worth celebrating!**

## Australia's housing system is broken

Adapted from an article by Kate Colvin  
from the Everybody's Home team



Skyrocketing house prices and rents mean that thousands of Australians are missing out on a place to live. Workers like nurses, police officers, teachers and childcare workers are commuting for hours just to get to work – or they're having to leave the city and communities they care for.

Current house prices are locking many Australians out of home ownership and there are almost as many renters as people who own their own home outright. In many Australian cities and towns rents have been rising much faster than people's incomes.

The number of Australians experiencing homelessness has increased by 13.7% in the last 4 years because of the shortage of affordable housing and skyrocketing rents. 40% of homeless people are under 25.

However, only 6% of the homeless actually sleep on the streets. Most of us wouldn't see or know they're homeless.

The Everybody's Home team are calling on governments to put together a national action plan to end homelessness that:

- addresses all the causes, including the lack of affordable housing, poverty and family violence;
- rapidly rehouses people who are homeless and helps them stay there;

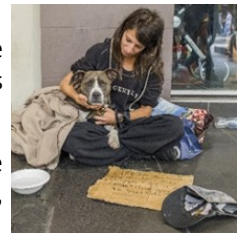
- addresses the over-representation of Aboriginal people in the homeless service system;
- commits to ending homelessness by 2030 by taking action to prevent homelessness and delivering rapid access to the housing and support people need if they do lose their own home;

With real effort we can halve homelessness in 5 years and end it in 10.

### Emma's story

"I was scared, I hadn't slept on the streets before, it was exhausting always looking for someone's house to stay at".

After Emma fled her violent father, she spent her teens sleeping on couches, moving among family and friends.



When her networks were exhausted, a homelessness service found her safe accommodation and gave her the support she needed to get her confidence back and reconnect with education.

"Having my own place is amazing, I am now working towards my future. I am rebuilding relationships with my family and setting goals for myself".

Now at 23, Emma has a place of her own and is studying. She has a bright future to look forward to, but many young people never get the chance to make a home base.

If you find these stories disconcerting – you can find out more about how you can help at <https://everybodyshome.com.au/>

## Moral discernment - WCC Faith and Order Commission

Current tensions within and between churches are often the result of disagreements over moral issues. All churches face challenges to preserve unity and meet obstacles to restore unity.

The World Council of Churches' (WCC) Faith and Order Commission has been helping churches find a way to deepen mutual understanding leading to dialogue. They have presented churches with two publications titled "Churches and Moral Discernment" – Volume 1 *Learning from tradition* and Volume 2 *Learning from history*.

Scholars and church leaders from different traditions including Eastern Orthodox and Oriental, Roman Catholic, Anglican and Old Catholic, as well as diverse Protestant and Pentecostal took part.

Volume 1: *Learning from Traditions*, provides self-descriptions on how 14 different church traditions engage in moral discernment processes. Each reflects on the sources they use, how these sources interplay with each other and who actually participates in the process.

Volume 2: *Learning from History*, examines concrete historic

examples where churches have modified or changed their understanding of a specific moral issue. Historians, theologians, and ethicists examined the occasions and criteria for making changes in their understanding of usury, slavery, freedom of religion, marriage, suicide, church – state relations and Christian involvement in war and in peace-building. The contributions display similarities and differences in the ways in which churches have approached these challenges in the past.

"When the questions we face today sometimes feel intractable and difficult, it is wonderful to find that we have resources already with which to understand each other more fully and to learn wisdom. These two publications are a true gift to the churches in our times."

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