



Welcome to our Multicultural Church

March Newsletter

February Council Report

The business considered by Council this month was focussed around Planning for 2023.

The Financial report for 2022 and the budget for 2023 were presented to us by Financial Officer Carole, discussed and approved for presentation at the Congregational meeting to be held on the 5th March. The PRUC Council booklet prepared on 2022 was approved for use through 2023, members being reminded about Safe Church matters, including Police Checks and the timing of Councillors' dedication was discussed. Meetings will continue to be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month so if you have any issues that need considering or any bright ideas let one of the Council Members know so we can follow them up.

Because of budgetary constraints Sharon is now working only 4 hours a week, Thursday mornings from 9-1, but the office continues to function as usual. And as usual we need volunteers to help with roster duties. Please contact Sharon if you can help.

The garden is starting to come into shape. We have installed a new tap to make it easier to water the garden and Craig is coming once a month to keep it nice and tidy.

In discussing plans for the year's fellowship, we agreed to support Board Game nights, thanks to Woody, a Winter celebration and the Organ Concert. Our first get together will be a simple lunch, BYO sandwich, on the 5th Sunday in April. If you have a bright Idea talk to someone on Council and we will help you organise it.

Sue is continuing to manage the shed. She will be opening the shed every Saturday morning in March 9am -12 noon for Clearance Sales and she needs your help. We are considering the option of repurposing the shed to hire as a storage or other facility.

I look forward to a productive year of worship and fellowship together through 2023.

Lesley Warner, Chair of Council

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Tongan Night Fun for Funds

A very successful night was held to raise money for our Scholarships for Tongan girls program - thanks to the hard work of organisers Heyeon and Kelly with support from our interior designer Jennifer, caterer Florence and muscle men Richard and Meng.

We entertained ourselves with party games including Heads and Tails (a version of the Australian gambling game Two Up but no money changes hands) won by Val, Pass the Parcel and What Song is This?

My table found out that they had all forgotten how to fold a paper boat. Nessie was voted the best dressed with her enchanting island costume.

Sadly the Tongan dancers didn't perform because they were in a time of mourning for their pastor who had passed away. They did send a platter of sweet treats and will also support the scheme with a donation.

The total raised on the night was \$804.



From the PRUC Shed

March has been designated as a Garage Sale Clearance month by Sale Organiser, Sue.

She will be opening the Shed from 9am to 12pm every Saturday during March.

If you can help out for an hour or so on any Saturday, please contact Sue.



Lenten Bible Study

It is not too late to join the Lenten Study lead by Rev Do Young.

It will be on Thursday nights in the Marg Folks Room (kitchen) at 6 pm from the 2nd March, finishing on Maundy Thursday.

Study materials will be supplied - just bring yourself and your Bible.





The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

UC e-News

2023 Lenten Resource

In Lent, we reflect on Christ's ministry, death, and resurrection. We slow down, and examine our internal spiritual lives as well as the way we live out our Christian faith in the world. This Lenten prayer and action guide will help individuals and congregations to cultivate public discipleship through taking time to learn, lament, repent, advocate, and take concrete steps to transform justice of God for coming reconciliation and renewal of the whole of creation.

For further information, please contact Paul Goh, Justice Officer, by emailing pgoh@sa.uca.org.au or phone (08) 826 4244. The resource is available for download (visit the Synod's website for more information).



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

2023 Lent Resource

Daily Prayer-Action to Cultivate Public Discipleship

Uniting World Lent Event 2023

UnitingWorld's Lent Event seeks to help us refocus our lives through prayer, simplicity and generosity.

Pray - Use our prayer guide to pray alongside our partners as they address the challenges facing their communities.

Live simply - Give up something in solidarity with people who have less.

Give - Donate or fundraise to help our partners fighting poverty and injustice.

Head to

<http://www.lentevent.com.au> today for a range of resources. In 2023, Lent is from 22nd February to 6th April.

Lent 2023 –

Oh, The Places You'll Go

Lent is often described as a journey. Through the gospel texts of these weeks we see Jesus traversing the terrain of Palestine, heading towards Jerusalem, as well as exploring the inner landscape of the human soul and the hills and valleys of human relationships. All of this is familiar territory for God as we see in the accompanying texts from the whole of scripture. Abraham wanders towards blessing; Moses runs headlong into conflict; Samuel searches for leadership; the psalmist gets stuck and cries for forgiveness; the Roman community scale the depths of sin and grace. Together we open these stories like maps for our own journey in community to find our way, following Jesus. In intergenerational faith community we make time to pay attention to the world around us, and the space between us, and oh, the places we'll go ...

To find more about the [Lent 2023: Oh, The Places You'll Go](#) resource, please visit the Synod's website.

Reflection

As we contemplate the Beatitudes in Matthew's gospel this month, the wisdom of Henri Nouwen can help us understand the compassion of Jesus. Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into the places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish.

Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Compassion requires us to be weak with the weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless. Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human.

'The world is evil only when you become its slave.'

Henri J.M. Nouwen, Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World

'When we say to people, "I will pray for you," we make a very important commitment. The sad thing is that this remark often remains nothing but a well-meant expression of concern.

But when we learn to descend with our mind into our heart, then all those who have become part of our lives are led into the healing presence of God and touched by him in the centre of our being.

We are speaking here about a mystery for which words are inadequate. It is the mystery that the heart, which is the centre of our being, is transformed by God into his own heart, a heart large enough to embrace the entire universe. Through prayer we can carry in our heart all human pain and sorrow, all conflicts and agonies, all torture and war, all hunger, loneliness,

and misery, not because of some great psychological or emotional capacity, but because God's heart has become one with ours.'

Henri J.M. Nouwen, The Way of the Heart: The Spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers



March Birthdays

2nd Mery H, Richard Y

6th Youngsoon K

13th Brenton T

20th Hannah P

24th Judy R

31st Michelle P



March Anniversary

10th Jackie & Ray

Please send any photos or stories/events that you would like to share with the congregation. Looking forward to hearing from many of you!