



Payneham Road Uniting Church



Welcome to our Multicultural Church

MAY 2022

Church Council Report - April 2022

I am pleased to be able to report that we had a pleasant and productive meeting with lively discussion leading to agreement on the issues about which decisions were made.

Members are continuing to grapple with the system that has to be used to get the required police check, as part of the Safe Church initiative, with mixed success. I am now cleared to work with children (not something I am planning to do in the short term) Meng is lost somewhere in the system and others are in process.

'Treasurer' Carole presented us with the final accounts for 2021. It was pleasing to see that we finished up with a very slight surplus. Carole then presented us with a draft budget for 2022 which we discussed and then accepted pending some changes and further information. As it stands the expectation is that the budget will show a small deficit. Since this is not sustainable in the longer term concern was expressed and Council will be looking to you to help with fundraising activities. We are hoping George will have some useful contacts for getting grants.

The Hall will be hired as a polling booth on the 21st May. We plan to open the shed, fire up the BBQ and something else on the day. Any ideas?

Are you interested in finding out what Wimala (our) Presbytery can do for us?

If so why not volunteer to be our rep? The meetings are Saturday Morning once a quarter and I have been told they involve food.

You may have noticed that, thanks to Dennis, Council has finally trimmed back the tree that was dropping leaves on the Hall roof. The Property Committee is continuing to deal with that as well as keep up with minor repairs. With the increased use of the Hall we can expect some extra cleaning and small maintenance jobs.

Council is working on the establishment of Prayer Chains within the congregation to improve communication and care for each other. Planning for this is ongoing. Expect to hear more after Do Young returns from holiday.

Importantly we have also begun, working prayerfully, to revitalise and expand our children and youth programs. As our plans are developed, following the advice of Do Young we will be asking for your input and support.

Is our worship as heartfelt and meaningful as you would like it to be.. Do you have any ideas for improvement? How can we best celebrate Pentecost? Do you have some ideas? If so please talk to us about your them.

Lesly Warner, Chair of Council

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Biography - Russ Sheldrick

I was born in Burra, way back in 1945. In about late 1949, we moved to the city, and started attending Payneham Road Methodist; I remember sitting on the platform at a Sunday School Anniversary with about 300 other kids! We were made very welcome, and became fully involved in all aspects of the Church life. In due time I became a Sunday School teacher, teaching 13-14 year old boys - an interesting experience, since I was only 17 myself!

I attended Urrbrae Agricultural High School, and started work in the State Library. In 1966 I was called up for the 2-year National Service, which I spent in darkest Victoria.

Just before becoming a civilian again, I married Jan – one of my better decisions! – and was offered a job by a publishing company who wanted to expand to SA. I stayed with that company for 23 years, being responsible for SA, WA and the NT, which meant a fair amount of travelling. We built a house at Redwood Park where we still live, and raised a family of 3 kids, now all grown up, of course, with children of their own.

For a number of years we attended Hope Valley UC where I ran the Sunday School- another 300 kids! – but Payneham called me back and we have been here ever since. Along the way I continued playing basketball, which I had first started at Payneham – we had a Church team- and continued until successive knee injuries forced me into early retirement at age 49.

In 1980 I had helped start Fort Glanville Historical Association, and today I am still heavily involved with it. In the same year I joined Freemasonry, a wonderful organisation, and I have attained very senior rank.

After several take-overs, my publishing company became Random House Australia, and told me that my job had moved to Melbourne. I respectfully declined, and started up my own agency, which was very hard work and somewhat nerve-wracking. This lasted 25 years until I retired.

Things were going well until I contracted a rare disease in 2017, which nearly finished me. I survived, which I (and my doctors!) attribute to the power of prayer from my family and this Congregation. The illness and its violent medications has left me with a number of physical problems but – hey! I'm alive! This has been a brief account of a quite active life, and (hopefully) I'm not done yet, even if moving slower. Each day is a blessing.

Are you interested in
AKWAK Knitting Project?

Aussies Knitting for
War-Affected Kids
and crocheters, sewers, quilters and more



The brochure will be attached on
the pinboards for more information :)

Ukraine Appeal



\$245 was raised for the Ukraine Crisis Appeal from the Easter retiring offerings.



A word from Christy Capper (Director of Missiology)

Often at the college we are asked "why aren't more people studying theology and ministry?"

It is a great question, and one I often ask myself. If you have read these newsletters you will see from Simon, Ann and Elissa (below) that studying theology has been something that has brought them joy and deepened their love of God. So as Christians, why don't more of us study theology and ministry? Even just to audit (sit in a class without doing assessments or receiving credit towards a degree) a unit.

And sure, there are reasons. It takes time to do something like this, we are busy people. Studying also costs money, yes, if you enrol in a course of study you can get Fee-Help and not need to pay upfront, but the cost is still there.

For some it's that we don't feel a need to study. We read the bible, we go to church, we are involved there, we don't see a need to do more. But surely as Christians, if we have the opportunity to learn more about God, more about how to engage in ministry and share God's love with others... that's a good thing.

Most students who come to study at Uniting College come because they want to learn more AND because someone that they trust has suggested this kind of study to them. So as we look around our congregations are there people who might find joy in doing some study? Are there people who you can see are gifted in different kinds of ministry but don't feel confident to carry that ministry out but might if they had some study behind them?

God calls us all to different kinds of ministries uses the body of Christ and the gifts and skills within that body (including colleges and places of learning) to equip us for the work before us.

If you have people in your congregation that you think might benefit from doing some study, people who might find joy in their learning, we would love to speak with them. It may be that you have a small group at your church who could all go and audit a class together and bring what they are learning back to your congregation. There are always reasons not to study, just like there are always reasons not to exercise, but perhaps just as exercise builds muscle and endurance, study might bring us joy as we learn more about the God we worship and are equipped to love and serve God more.



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

UC e-News

Shaping the Future Strategic Priorities

In 2020 the Uniting Church Synod of SA embarked on a journey to identify its key missional priorities and directions for the next 3-5 years. Collaboratively we are all the Synod and there is a place for each one of us. Shaping the Future will work best if we are in conversation, if we can imagine ourselves as an effective team, if we are committed to a common purpose.

To help the church to engage with the priorities we have developed an A3 poster which sets out how to use the 'wheel' concept and how to fill in the accompanying 'action plan.' We invite all congregations to fill in a brief survey as to where they are at, at present with the Shaping the Future initiative.



Countdown to the 16th Assembly (reconvened meeting)

The 16th Assembly meeting will be reconvened and Assembly members will regather in person from 6th-9th May 2022 on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. Uniting Church in Australia President Rev Sharon Hollis invites the Church to pray for the Assembly meeting in this short video message.



God in every act photo challenge

What does God look like through your lens? Ahead of the reconvened 16th Assembly meeting, we're inviting you to snap and share photos that tell a story about how God is with you in your life. When do you see God in the world? How does the Spirit move in your world? Read our story for inspiration, post on social media using #godineveryact and tag us: @unitingchurchau.

Reflection

When Jesus spoke the words 'This is my Body,' I believe he was speaking not just about the bread right in front of him, but about the whole universe, about everything that is physical, material, and yet also spirit-filled.

Seeing the Eucharist as a miracle is not really the message at all. I can see why we celebrate it so often. This message is such a shock to the psyche, such a challenge to our pride and individualism, that it takes a lifetime of practice and much vulnerability for it to sink in—as the pattern of every thing, and not just this thing.



May Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Felicia and Dana!



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