



Welcome to our Multicultural Church

October 2022

September Council Report

Council met as usual on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. If you have any matters you think we should know about or do something about please contact me or any of the other Council members and tell us.

Unfortunately, Heather is still needs time out to rest and heal and has asked to be relieved of the responsibility of representing us at Synod and Presbytery. We are pleased to tell you that George has volunteered to take her place.

We were sent the latest National Church Survey forms. The Uniting Church has been a strong advocate for the NCS since its establishment so Do Young and I completed the forms on your behalf. We hope that the information provided will inform Synod, and the wider Church in their future decision making and lead to a better understanding of our community.

Council approved the revised Welcome Brochure. It will be available by the end of the month.

October is Stewardship Month: a time

when we review our time and financial commitments to the Church. We ask you all to prayerfully consider how you can best use your talents to fulfil God's purposes for you and support the work and worship of our congregation. In his sermon on the 25th Doug Hosking asked us to reflect on how rich we are in comparison to the rest of the world. The pledge envelopes for November 2022 to October 2023 will be available at the end of the month.

We plan to set up a Reading Table each Sunday morning so that you can browse through the brochures and other information we are sent each month during morning tea.

Have you thought about being one of our GARDEN SPONSORS? Please contact me if you want to be involved with this initiative to make our grounds more beautiful.

Coming up: Our next congregation meeting will be in November when we will be voting for the Council for 2023. We will be looking for volunteers.

Lesley Warner, Chair of Council

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Biography of Valerie Watkinson (nee Paterson)

I was born in Yorkshire, the eldest of four siblings, and came to Australia in 1951 when my parents decided they needed some sunshine in their lives.

In August 1951 I accompanied my parents and siblings, somewhat reluctantly, to Glasgow to join the TSS Cameronia, a 16,000 ton liner on which we were to sail around the world to Australia. For interest sake the QM2 is 151,000 tons. I say reluctantly as at just 13 that week it meant leaving a school I liked, my extended family and friends for a virtually unknown country four weeks travel away.

The only communication with home would be letters, mainly the blue air letters which the biro ink often leaked. Phone calls were much too expensive though some people would book a radio telephone call on special occasions. Imagine a world without the modern internet and mobile phones?

I had decided by this age to one day travel and see the world, so I enjoyed the sea voyage. Travelling through the Mediterranean, seeing Port Said, the Suez canal in Egypt, Aden in Yemen and Colombo, Sri Lanka was wonderful. My first sightings of Australia were the beaches north of Fremantle which I have often visited since.

After disembarking in Melbourne and spending two or three weeks at Bonegilla Migrant Camp near Albury/Wodonga, together with fellow ship passengers, we transferred to Adelaide to another hostel, where my parents established a library, and we began to start life again in Australia.

Finishing school, I worked as a junior

typist clerk in a law firm. In those days junior clerks did a lot of walking around the city and some of my journeys were the Supreme Court, the LTO where I could never remember their filing routine, and the Parliament House library for my boss, an ex-member of parliament. One learned all the short cuts through the CBD buildings and laneways that existed in the city.

Transferring to the Commonwealth Public service I worked for the Dept of Army for six years, the Dept of Works for two and after a backpacking holiday in UK and Europe, I transferred to the NT Administration in Alice Springs for two years.

After Alice Springs I married, had a family (three boys and two girls). I kept busy helping out at schools, eventually returning to work in various jobs and going back to school.

After working for ten years for Domiciliary Care, I accepted a placement for a community care course. I then worked at Helping Hand and went to TAFE qualifying as an Enrolled Nurse. On retiring I worked at the Royal Society for the Blind (RSB) as a volunteer one or two days a week in the canteen and later with St John in their stores for four years.

My travel days began again in 1999 when a friend and I visited Hong Kong. The first of two visits to this lovely city. We then proceeded to visit NZ, USA twice, Egypt, France, Vietnam, Malaysia, China, Singapore twice. As my children are now living in Darwin, Perth and Adelaide I have been fortunate to spend time interstate visiting and exploring the NT and WA. I also took them to Victoria and Queensland so that they knew there was a world outside of Adelaide SA.

In Memoriam



We give thanks for the life of Queen Elizabeth II and for her unfailing commitment to duty during her lifetime. Our prayers and thoughts are extended to the members of the Royal family at this time and to the people of the United Kingdom and all across the world impacted by her passing. May she rest in God's peace.



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

UC e-News

National Day of Mourning

Many may be aware of the successful 'Reflections' time each Thursday morning at Victor Harbor.

This initiative commenced several years ago during COVID-19 austerity and has proven to be popular for those seeking a tranquil space each week in the ambience of reflective piano and pipe organ music and with an opportunity for a chat and coffee afterwards.

The National Day of Mourning commemorating the life, service and example of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was also on a Thursday so it was decided that the usual 'Reflections' should be elevated to acknowledge this special public holiday of mourning and to invite the wider inclusion of the general public.

A member of the congregation offered to fund a banner for the prominent location of the church and its significant presence. Within a matter of days following Her Majesty's death, a most appropriate offering of music was prepared and provided by one of the three rostered musicians on the grand piano and pipe organ. This included the hymns sung at Her Majesty's funeral services at Westminster Abbey and St George's Chapel, Windsor along with appropriate music from various Requiem Masses.

A simple liturgy of prayers was offered along with quotes from Her Majesty's experience of abiding personal faith.

This significant event was recorded and a professional video made as a gift from a member of the congregation. Local Member of Parliament Mr David Basham was present with an official condolence book. It was pleasing to have 77 people in attendance for this unique and successful time of reflection involving the extended community at Victor Harbor and beyond.



Wimala Presbytery Meeting – Save the Date

Our next Presbytery meeting will be held on November 26th 2022 at Two Wells Uniting Church. Please save the date. Registration information will be available soon.



The Uniting Church in Australia
WIMALA PRESBYTERY

Reflection

Listening is much more than allowing another to talk while waiting for a chance to respond. Listening is paying full attention to others and welcoming them into our very beings.

The beauty of listening is that, those who are listened to start feeling accepted, start taking their words more seriously and discovering their own true selves. Listening is a form of spiritual hospitality by which you invite strangers to become friends, to get to know their inner selves more fully, and even to dare to be silent with you.

Henri J.M. Nouwen, 'Bread for the Journey: A Daybook of Wisdom and Faith.' (Stillpoint Newsletter, 23rd September 2022)



October Birthdays & Anniversaries

6th - Lyle S

11th - Nessie F

19th - Lois O

25th - Haryne (7 years)

Happy Anniversaries to...

Roger & Pam, Steven & Lorin,

Aldous & Yana, Trent & Norma



Sharon and Craig are excited to announce that their first grandchild, Liam Benjamin Mackenzie was born to Lachlan & Nicole M. on 14th Sept. 2022

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