



# Payneham Road Uniting Church



## Welcome to our Multicultural Church

### September Newsletter

#### August Council Report

During a brief meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> August, Council dealt with the most urgent ongoing business; matters discussed included Privacy Awareness; the requirement for up to date police checks of members in a Safe Church environment; the monthly financial statements and report. Other business was held over to the September meeting.

We were then joined by Rev Bob Hutchinson and Rev Paul Turley, from our Presbytery, Wimala and Jan C as Congregational Chairperson. The purpose of this meeting was to inform PRUC Council of the discussions which Rev Do Young had been having with Presbytery as to his future. These discussions have led to Rev Do Young deciding to resign from his placement with PRUC. Rev Bob and Rev Paul advised Council as to the way forward for Rev Do Young and for the Congregation.

Subsequently Rev Do Young submitted a formal letter of resignation, effective for the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Allowing for Long Service and other leave entitlements his last day at PRUC will be the Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. He asks for our ongoing support, through prayers for discernment, guidance and blessings as he steps towards the direction the Lord is leading him.

I am sure you will all feel thankful for his loving care and concern for us during the past 6 years and wish him and his family well for the future.

Lesley Warner, Chair of Council

#### Synod News

Congratulations are due to Rev Do Young for his election to the 17<sup>th</sup> South Australian Assembly Standing Committee of the Uniting Church.

**PRUC Website address: [paynehamroaduc.org.au](http://paynehamroaduc.org.au)**

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## The Voice

Some of you may be wondering why the Government is holding a referendum about giving First Peoples a **Voice** in Parliament. If you don't know much about Australian history the matter of having a Voice in Parliament may seem strange.

Our church, the Uniting Church, sees affirmation of the Voice initiative as an expression of our covenant relationship with first people. So it is important for us to understand what it all means and to vote in the Referendum on that basis of understanding.

There are several articles in the August-September New Times and there are booklets that will be put out on the Reading Table for you to take away and read carefully to help you understand.



## At Last

By the time you read this newsletter, the accident damage from last April will finally be repaired. That is unless something goes wrong!

And don't forget to admire the new sign. It doesn't say anything new but it looks nice and bright and clean.

## The Roaring Twenties

We gathered on the 28<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the Roaring Twenties - the decade between the end of the Great War and the beginning of the Great Depression. Our Host, Kelly, entertained us with historical film clips, quiz questions, music and dancing. Those of you who couldn't come missed a great night.

Thanks to our very talented Jennifer the theme was carried through with the hall decorated in a *twenties* theme.



The Uniting Church in Australia  
Synod of South Australia

## UC e-News

### Healing and Hope

Looking back: Looking forward. Self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples has an element of looking back and addressing past injustices, dispossession and alienation. The call for truth telling in the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* is the chance to heal past hurts. A supportive structure that helps people go through this healing journey is very important if trauma, loss and grief is going to be dealt with effectively as part of the healing process. In supporting a Yes vote in the upcoming Referendum, the Uniting Church in South Australia sends a positive message of healing and hope. It comes from the heart and is embedded within the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. This is a journey from 1967 where Aboriginal

peoples were counted, to Uluru in 2017 where they sought to be heard, to 2023 where a change to the Australian Constitution is being considered. 'We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.' (*Uluru Statement from the Heart*).



## Dr Deidre Palmer to co-present Heritage, Polity and Theology of the Uniting Church

The Uniting College for Leadership and Theology is excited to announce that Dr Deirdre Palmer, Ex-President of the Uniting Church in Australia will co-present 'Heritage, Theology and Polity of the UCA,' with Rev Dr Tim Hein, this coming September. This course explores the origins of the Uniting Church in Australia, as well as its theology and distinctive characteristics and provides insight into the heritage, theology and organisation of the Uniting Church. For more information and how to enrol call the college on (08) 8416 8420 or visit the Synod website.

**Heritage,  
Theology and  
Polity of the UCA**

September 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>  
9.30am - 3.30pm

**Enrol Now!**



## Sally Stamp

Every Monday morning a small group of volunteers meet at the Synod office to collect and sort stamps which have been received from fellowships and businesses around South Australia. In 2022 they paid freight for South Pacific School Aid Inc., Frontier Services (Outback Pastors) and Grove Uniting Church (Kids Club). In 2023 they paid \$2,034.84 for South Pacific Schools Aid Inc. and have committed to pay for another shipment this year. They also paid \$1,000 to Frontier Services (Outback Pastors). Please consider asking local businesses to save their stamps; doctor's surgeries are one of the best sources of stamps! Any donations of private collections no longer required are gratefully received.

Sally Stamp asks that people continue to send stamps to the Uniting Church Synod Office, Level 2, 212 Pirie Street, Adelaide. Pick-up can sometimes be arranged.

For more information, please contact Maxine Haines (Convenor) on 0427 972 417 or email [jimmax.haines@bigpond.com](mailto:jimmax.haines@bigpond.com).



## Reflection

### ***The Season of Flowers and Singing (Song 2:12)***

I love the beauty and wonder of the natural world. Somehow the things I worry about feel smaller when I'm wandering in nature. And hiking and gardening, while switching off worries and anxieties, seem to switch on the bit of my soul that feels joy. There's a balancing out in all that – less worry, more joy, breathing out, breathing in.

Nature gives us so many lessons – patience, things happening in their right season, the relief of spring after the winter, the idea of belonging to a particular environment, thriving when conditions are just right, space for recreation, symbiosis, and community.

I love the poem by David Wagoner called *Lost*, in particular the line, 'Stand still. The trees ahead and bushes beside you are not lost.' It points to a *knowing* that is greater than our knowledge. Like when St Paul writes from prison to the church community in Philippi of the 'peace of God that surpasses all understanding.'

I always garden by myself, and usually hike out on my own. Very occasionally it feels like a lonely endeavour. But all I must do is stop. Slowly I hear the wind in the trees, or the birdsong, or the buzz of some insect, and I'll remember that peace of God that Paul wrote of. Peace for my daily pilgrimage.

In the Song of Songs, we read these words: 'Arise, my beautiful one, come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come ...' I love those words – *this is the time of flowers and of singing*.

Spring is almost upon us. The season of promise. I wonder where the Holy Spirit will lead us as a community in the months ahead? Where are the new shoots of life and promise already showing? What songs might we sing as we journey forward?

I pray that our joint pilgrimage in the months ahead will bring us peace and joy, unity of purpose and a sense of anticipation and hopefulness. May we all know something of that season of promise.

restoring us, with all of creation, back to God.

Through Christ, we all will return to God, the very source of love and all that is good—who doesn't even remember our sin—and instead, makes us shine like the sun!

## September Birthdays

5th - Yu Jeong

6th - Pam W

7th - Elaine T

11th - Amir Z

13th - Ray G

## Elaine & Brenton's 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary! on 7th September

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