



# Morialta Vision

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## From the Minister

I am in the middle of packing for us to go away on our holiday to Tasmania. We're only going for 7 days, and the question that is paramount for me, is what do we take with us? So where do you turn to for help? The Internet of course! I came across a packing list containing nine core items plus accessories which can easily fit into a carry-on bag. This list is designed for people who are travelling through Europe for one month. This got me inspired, if that was all you needed for one month, how hard could one week be?

When we're travelling from one place to another, we often have to think about what to take and what to leave behind. For some people this is easy, but for many of us it can be quite a dilemma. I tend to be one of those people who think "but what about?" or "what if?" and this can have quite a major impact on the whole packing thing. One carry-on bag can end up being multiple cases and before you know it, what was meant to be a "travelling light" experience, has turned into a major expedition.

The same is true in life. Life is a journey and on that journey we constantly face decisions about where we're going, what we will take with us and what we need to leave behind.

This year at Morialta, we will be celebrating a number of historical events in the life of this congregation. For me, one of the really important things that we can do, as we have fun remembering the past, is to seriously think about what it is we want to take with us as we journey into an unfolding future.

Our forebears have given us a wonderful heritage of faith. This faith came about through an amazing journey of events, some incredible and life-changing, others that they would rather forget, and many ordinary everyday things of seemingly no consequence, that helped to shape the people they became. Theirs was not a static faith. It was not perfect. They too were constantly faced with change.

It is very easy to become nostalgic about the past, and to think that life was so much better then. While there are some things from the past we would love to retain today, such as a slower pace, not needing to lock our doors, and the love and support of a small community, there are many others we do not want for ourselves today, like no electricity, no running water, and a long drop loo!

The exciting challenge for us as a congregation, as we face a future that could take us in many directions, is to think about what are the core things that we need to take with us and what we need to leave behind. Like the travel guide advised me, the best way is to travel light, taking only what you need and not to be burdened by baggage that will only weigh you down.

So what, for you, would be the nine core items you would take with you on our journey as a congregation? What are the essentials and what can be left behind?

As we travel together, I look forward to finding out what's in your bag!

Rev Steve



**EASTER at  
Morialta UC**

## “Walk in the Light”

We learned a new hymn in Aylesbury. It was in a collection called “Mission Praise”, and I remember the chorus:

*“Walk in the light, walk in the light,  
walk in the light, walk in the light of the Lord.”*

I thought of those words as I experienced this beautiful morning sky as I walked the other morning.



And so I simply enjoyed this picture of natural beauty. I walked on and soon found the sun’s position had changed. I was now dazzled by the sudden brightness of the full sun as I tried to capture the image on my phone.



I was caught up in the moment. There are moments for us when all else is forgotten; all else fades away. These are precious times, when for a brief time, the cares of the day are forgotten. Maybe these moments happen for you at the theatre, in worship, outdoors, or by “just being”.

By the way, the first verse of that hymn reads:

*The Spirit lives to set us free, walk, walk in the light.  
He binds us all in unity, walk, walk in the light.*

Is it then, because of these moments, that we are helped to “Walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light of the Lord.”?

*David Purling*

## From the Chairperson

Morialta Uniting Church has every right to be proud of its heritage. This year we will mark and celebrate a number of notable anniversaries. In this time after Easter and before Pentecost, two very important events in our Christian year, we might reflect again on the place that Christ and Morialta Uniting Church have in our lives. What is the Mission Morialta Uniting Church should be called to undertake?

2015 will culminate with a major event, but, during the year there are other opportunities to reflect on the commitment of past generations. 160 years of worship on the Chapel Street site and 25 years as Morialta Uniting Church are just two opportunities for reflection.

What better way to add to the celebration and honour the significance of the endeavor of those who have gone before than to participate in the ‘Dreaming’ sessions that the task group, charged with looking at the Future Mission of Morialta Uniting Church, have organised.

Many members of the congregation will already have participated in one or more sessions, but during the information-gathering phase of the task group’s operation it is important that everyone contributes. Even if you have had a say already there is still opportunity for you to add further contributions.

Don’t assume that somebody else has made that suggestion that is close to your heart! Margaret Cargill, the task group convener, would be pleased to receive your ideas. Margaret’s email is [margaret.cargill@adelaide.sa.edu.au](mailto:margaret.cargill@adelaide.sa.edu.au)

Morialta Uniting Church has engaged well in the processes of reflection and review in the past. Please take the opportunity to have your say this time!

*Bruce*

## Community Centre News

We are pleased to let you know that Jackie Smith has been reappointed to the position of Playgroup Coordinator. She will start work with us next school term, beginning Tuesday 28th April.

We’d love to build up our church connection with the local families who attend Playgroup. Can you help?

Are you willing to provide and serve morning tea one Tuesday morning this coming term? This is a great opportunity for us to engage with this group and make them feel welcome and supported. If you can help, please let Helena know in the office or by email ([office@morialtauca.org.au](mailto:office@morialtauca.org.au)) what date you would like to help. Thanks.





## Give Us a Sign Sundays

During Lent you may have noticed these signs in the window of the foyer. You may have even wondered why they were there, and why the Social Justice Ministry Mission Team commissioned Helena Begg to create them.



In a speech on Palm Sunday Tim Winton<sup>1</sup> opened with “Palm Sunday commemorates the day an itinerant prophet spoke truth to power. Jesus of Nazareth arrived at the gates of Jerusalem in a parody of imperial pomp. But he was a nobody. Instead of a stallion, he rode up on a borrowed donkey. In place of an army, he had a bunch of lily-livered misfits throwing down their cloaks and palm branches as if he was a big shot. Street theatre, if you like. And a week later he was dead. He was there to challenge the commonsense of the day. Armed with only an idea.”



That is what the *Give us a sign* in Lent is doing – challenging the common-sense of the day!



It was not done to sell a point or make a political statement. It was done to raise questions and promote discussion. It was done out of our concern for Refugees.

“Christianity has a long tradition of hospitality. This includes care of family, the individual and care of strangers. In the Gospel According to Matthew, Jesus praises those who welcomed the stranger and offered food and drink to the hungry and thirsty.” (UCA website)

*I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. (Matthew 25:35)*



To read Tim Winton’s full speech go to <http://www.theage.com.au/comment/tim-wintons-palm-sunday-please-start-the-soul>

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Recently I came across a newsletter I had kept since 1961. It came from the First Methodist Church in Santa Monica, California, where Brian and I were Members. I feel the Affirmation of Faith is still so inspiring and relevant and share it with you here.

Dale Corrigan

We believe in the one God, Maker and Ruler of all things, Father of all men, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our Teacher, Example and Redeemer, the Saviour of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, present with us for guidance, for comfort and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the word of God, contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule of faith and practice.

We believe in the Church as the fellowship for worship and for service of all who are united to the living Lord.

We believe in the kingdom of God as the divine rule in human society, and in the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness, and in the life everlasting.

*Editor's note:*

It is interesting how the language we use has changed from 1961 to 2015—how has your understanding of your faith changed?

Colin Cargill

## LENT 2015

This year’s group studied the book “Journeying with Jesus” by Robert Bos.

Our Lenten Appeal raised a total of \$1279.25, which will be sent to Lent Event to support the following projects:

- Women’s empowerment across the Pacific.
- Livelihood development in Zimbabwe.
- Training midwives in South Sudan.
- Disability-inclusive education and training in Sri Lanka.



## Magill once the “World’s End” with large estates, orchards and wineries

It was only 179 years ago, in 1836, that Europeans first settled in Adelaide with Governor Hindmarsh arriving at Holdfast Bay. Within two years a plan for Magill village had been developed and settlement began before the establishment of Local Government. Magill was the first village subdivision in what later became the local government area of Burnside. Magill was slow to develop but by 1840 had become home to carters, sawyers (a person who saws wood), farm labourers, masons, carpenters and other tradesmen, many of whom established orchards on their properties.

The area surrounding the original Magill village was initially characterised by large estates set amidst vineyards and orchards,

The area north of Penfold Road was the site of the first vineyards planted at Magill by Patrick Auld in 1845 and later Dr Christopher Penfold. Patrick Auld built a small stone cottage on a 20 acre block in the early 1850s and called it Home Park. Further south, Dr Christopher Penfold acquired 60 acres and planted the first section of Penfolds vineyard.

Mrs Elizabeth Longbottom, the widow of the Wesleyan Methodist minister Rev William Longbottom acquired the Home Park property in 1858 and had extensive additions made in 1870. This property is today known as Romalo House. The Longbottom name continues in our church today by way of the Longbottom windows on the eastern side of the nave.

Another large estate was Woodforde which was originally 720 acres. William Uren, a member of our church, acquired

50 acres and built an eight-room dwelling, later known as Woodforde House in 1856. Standing in grounds of 20 acres the dwelling, subsequently enlarged, remained in the Uren/Nightingale families until March 1977.

David Cowan in 1839 leased, then purchased 22 acres and built a home that became known as Murray Park. Alexander Murray acquired the property in 1862 and greatly extended the home. The Murray home was later acquired by the South Australian Government and became part of Wattle Park Teachers College in 1957 and eventually the Magill Campus of the University of South Australia.

Business development concentrated at the intersection of Magill, St Bernards and Penfold Roads. Thomas Brooks Penfold, the brother of Dr Christopher Penfold, developed properties on three corners of this intersection. He built his home on one corner of the intersection and built a bakehouse, general store and dwelling on another corner in 1849. In 1852, Penfold built a two-storey building that became the East Torrens Hotel: he also built five cottages along Magill Road adjoining the ‘hotel’. The East Torrens Hotel later became known as the Tower Hotel.

In 1845 the World’s End Inn on Magill Road began trading. The name of the inn reflected the idea of many that Magill was very remote from the city. The hotel building was on the site of the current Post Office at the corner of Pepper Street and Magill Road.

John Henry Trewenack established a pottery in Sandford Street, Kensington Gardens, in 1851 and it remained in operation until 1914. Charles William Bennett and his son, William Charles, members of our church, learned their skills at Trewenack’s pottery works, and in 1887 — after Trewenack had died in

1883 — they established their own pottery in Briant Road, Magill, where they had access to clay, with timber for the kilns available in the foothills.

A school was established on Magill Road as early as 1846 and became the first public school in the area that is now known as Burnside Council district.

The Anglican Church of St George on St Bernards Road was built in 1848 on 1.5 acres of land. The church has the distinction of being the first in South Australia to be consecrated.

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in 1855 on the current site of our hall, on land acquired from William Thorne on 30 May 1854. When the current church was built in 1875 the original Chapel became the church hall until it was destroyed by fire in 1962.

While life in the first 20 years of settlement in South Australia was no doubt adventurous and at times exciting, the hardships of a fledgling colony with little or no facilities would have made life extremely difficult. Adding to these difficulties was the gold rush in Victoria in the early 1850’s which not only saw a massive migration from the other side of the world but also a large number of the population of Adelaide joining the rush to gain riches on the gold fields. The Chapel was built at a time of great upheaval in Australia, but the determination and resoluteness of the early families to make Magill their home and to worship and praise God displayed their fortitude and faith that we admire today.

**This year we celebrate two milestones at Morialta.** 160 years since the first service was conducted in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on **8<sup>th</sup> April 1855** and 140 years since the first services were conducted in the present church on **17<sup>th</sup> October 1875.**

### Bibliography

Walton, Olive, *Magill Methodist Uniting Church; 26 Chapel Street, Magill, 1855 -1990*, Magill, 1998;

Donovan & Associates, *Magill Village - An historical overview* November 2012

### Picture of "Magill Methodist Church circa 1920"

Courtesy State Library of South Australia – B62854.





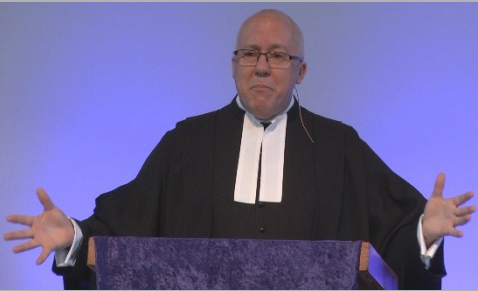
# 160th anniversary celebration

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April saw many of the congregation arrive attired in period costume for the celebration of 160 years since services began at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Magill.

The church had been transformed into a Methodist Chapel with the communion rails in place around the sanctuary. The communion table was in front of the pulpit which had been raised to enable our preacher, Rev Steve Thompson (suitably attired in long black robes) to address the congregation.

The communion table was devoid of the bible, cross and Christ candle to comply with Wesleyan tradition. The liturgy was taken from a Methodist service conducted in 1880, with bible readings from a bible of 1856. In keeping with services of that era the congregation was asked to kneel for the prayers, the Lord's Prayer was chanted and the Gloria sung.

What a joyous event this was, to remember those early settlers around Magill who were determined to build a Chapel and worship God as they dealt with the trials and tribulations of life in this new colony.





## Messy Church A-OK Pancakes

An A-OK Pancake Messy Church was held just prior to KCO, building on the KCO theme of Acts of Kindness” and to recognise the many varied Acts of Kind-

ness that are demonstrated by Unitingcare activities. The children and parents enjoyed activities that included preparing an Acts of Kindness poster

which was used during worship time, as well as cooking pancakes for a shared tea which raised \$40 dollars for Unitingcare.

Working on A-OK poster and KCO banner.



Cooking pancakes for tea.

Finished Acts Of Kindness poster



## KCO

Seven children attended KCO, this year and as always the children’s enthusiasm and excitement was infectious, and made the weekend enjoyable for everyone.

Thanks to all those who helped make KCO an enjoyable event, especially John Powers who helped transport camping equipment up to and from KCO and also helped Lachlan Mackenzie put up tents on Friday night. Special thanks to our leaders Eunice, Tiffany, Cheryl, Steph and Steve; the craft volunteers, Ruth Pitt, Jill Kerr, Helen Drew and for the support from Morialta congregation.

The theme for KCO was “A - OK” or Acts of Kindness. The children were encouraged to grow in their understanding that God loves all people and the importance of using individual gifts and passions to serve God by being kind, tolerant and inclusive of others. The message was communicated in drama, songs, stories, worship, team games, craft, and explore activities.

*Craig Mackenzie*



Red team enjoying playing on one of the ovals.



The “Explore” area.



Girl power!



Exploring difficulties of disabilities.



Morialta's 2015 KCO group



Green team took part in craft activities with help from Helen Drew, Jill Kerr, Jennie Hosking and Ruth Pitt from Morialta UC.



Artists at work!



## A Season

*To everything - turn, turn, turn*

*There is a season - turn, turn, turn*

*And a time for every purpose under heaven.*

In the last three months these lyrics have been with me. I've been tying off some ends, adding some bows and thinking about what I may, or probably couldn't, do. (No, I haven't seriously written a bucket list!)

As many of us find, things come together, even if with a few bumps. For me one of these has been Vision. For me, Vision has been part of the heart of Morialta. Without being too grandiose, I think Vision expresses important elements of who we are and celebrates our life together. This has been possible because of the contributions of generous, inspiring, reflective, sometimes provocative, and laden-with-warmth items. And we are blessed in an age of colour, revelling in the photographs and the publishing skills of Helena and Val before her.

Vision has been one of my joys and I thank everyone who has contributed so generously or sewn seeds of ideas. I have been wonderfully privileged with the opportunity to bring it together.

I am delighted that in the sorting out of the season, tying off and adding bows, Colin has taken up the role of Editor. How fortunate we all are in this "happening"!

Mary Thornley

## Why I Am A Member Of The Uniting Church (At Morialta)

Morialta offers me churchy tolerance enabling me, with a flexible mind, to grow my faith through worship, modern Bible scholarship and historical research. I am made to feel I am a part of who God is, as written in the Gospel of St John.

I am comforted, knowing my church is led by a 'Moderator' with consensus and without medieval policies such as male only ordinations, celibacy or hostility towards homosexuals. Consequently I am proud to be a member of an inclusive congregation.

More than any other denomination in Australia the Uniting Church offers residential and hospital care, refuge and hope for those in need.

As a member of the Morialta Uniting Church I have a foundation for my social life where I am judged by what I do not what I believe. I have a source of pleasure from which I can help others.

***This contribution to Vision was written by Arthur Tideman after reading a column in the Victorian 'Age' brought to his attention by Doreen and Bill Matheson. The author, Dick Gross, concedes that the Uniting Church is the greatest threat to atheism in Australia. Dick Gross is a confessed atheist.***

### Why do you belong to the Uniting Church?

Why not write a short article on "why you are a member of the Uniting Church" for Vision?

What is it that keeps you coming and makes you want to belong?

We will publish a few short pieces on this topic during 2015.

## My Discovery of Bach's St Matthew Passion

In the Autumn of 1963, I started a new job at the Barr Smith Library at Adelaide Uni. It was then a much smaller edition of the great, expansive library it is now – a modest, imaginative and beautiful place.

About that time, I introduced myself to Lewis Dawe, who was an established singing teacher with an excellent reputation. In the old Rundle St, opposite the old David Jones, when cars, buses and bikes tangled with pedestrians and jostled for supremacy, stood the grand Allan's Music Building, where, above the sales floors, a collection of music teachers had their studios. It was in one of these rooms I had my weekly lesson with Mr Dawe, and gradually discovered the mysteries and wonders of the art of singing.

My teacher was also conductor of the Adelaide Harmony Choir, which then had a fierce reputation to protect, and I did not dream of singing with them for many years. However, Mr Dawe liked my alto voice, and instructed me to learn the alto part of the Bach Oratorio, The Passion According to St Matthew. This piece was one of the most famous concerts for the choir, performed at Kent Town Church every Good Friday evening, a tradition for years reaching back into the mists of time, it seemed to me.

Every lesson, I would have to sing the latest section of this sublime piece that I had tackled, against Mr Dawe's strident piano playing of one of the other parts. I had never heard any of this music before, it was difficult to learn, and as I found out in later years, Bach being the most difficult of composers to master, was easily the most satisfying and, dare I say, the most divine to perform.

At the end of one year, having sung my alto way through the entire work, Mr Dawe welcomed me into the choir and the Passion was my first concert that Easter. I was not nervous – I was terrified. The Passion was always performed with a student orchestra from the Elder Conservatorium, a recipe for varying weighty opinions to be thrown around with sometimes violent verbal clashes. But it was always all right on the night.

Singing in a big choir is like nothing else, the massed voices encircle you completely, and in the big traditional church building of Kent Town, one was always aware of voices and saints 'gone before'. As the great story of the tragedy of the first Good Friday unfolded in the music, each aria made a most heartfelt plea for Christ and his earthly life, of unbounded love and fidelity, bitterness and anger, stupidity, confession, heartbreak, and at last, eternal forgiveness.

Over the years the different arias of the characters in the story became etched in my mind, possessing me in a way that I knew every note and nuance, so eloquently they spoke to me. I sang in this marvellous and very dear choir for over 10 years.

I was never the same after discovering this music of Johann Sebastian Bach; my knowledge has expanded to other compositions of his, all with the same intense listenable quality, giving peace, comfort, utter calm and protection from grievances that came in later years.

Cynthia Story

### “Beyond Violence” Campaign comes to Morialta

The ‘Beyond Violence’ campaign was created to educate and bring awareness of domestic and family violence to members of the Uniting Church and the wider community. It is particularly focused on helping men and women to live compassionately and hopefully in their relationships together.

As a church, we have a long history of advocacy for respectful relationships and equality, and we want to build on this strength.

However, as individuals we also have a duty to explore our own responses to disagreement and how our responses can lead to violence and affect our personal and community relationships. Violence is not just physical, it can be verbal and sometimes it can be very subtle. We can all inadvertently put someone down, often without actually realising it.

So please come along to listen, explore and contribute to creating more awareness in ourselves, each other and our community. Join the campaign!

The Moderator of the Uniting Church in SA, Dr Deidre Palmer, supported by Brian Morris, will be hosting a ‘Beyond Violence’ workshop at Morialta Uniting Church on Wednesday 6 May, 7pm to 9pm.

### Holy Saturday

Our tradition teaches that Holy Saturday – the day between Good Friday and Easter Day – is a day for mourning as Jesus’ disciples did, a day outside of time, quiet and peaceful as the grave, a day for the silence of separation.

During Holy Week John and I had heard and read promotions for the *Reclaim Australia* rally to be held on Holy Saturday. Although the aim of the rally as stated on the Facebook page was to be “a peaceful protest and all nationalities who love this Country & it’s culture are welcome to attend” we felt some concern at an anti-Muslim sentiment being expressed and we wanted to ensure that a voice of welcome and hospitality was part of the public discourse.

To that end, we were glad to be in the city that day and identify with the Uniting Church by standing with the *Uniting Church Uniting People* banner.

Holy Saturday is also known as *The Harrowing of Hell*, the day that it is said that Jesus entered the realm of the dead to free those unfairly imprisoned there. We refer to this each time we say in the Apostles Creed “he descended into hell”.

“Harrow” is an agricultural term meaning to turn over the soil, to mix it up, to mellow it.

It is our hope and prayer that two small voices mixed into a loud and sometimes angry conversation about the place of refugees and asylum seekers in Australian society will contribute to a mellowing of hearts and a softening of attitudes so that all who come to our shores seeking safety and relief may feel welcome.

Christine Secombe



### A diagnostic approach to climate change

One of the diagnostic methods that modern medicine uses to determine if we need to change our lifestyle, or seek treatment, is clinical pathology. There are a range of blood tests and body function tests (or assays) that are used to determine if our levels are within normal limits. If our levels are above or below normal, and we fail to make lifestyle changes or seek treatment, it will mostly lead to deterioration in our health, and in some cases, death.

This approach has been used to study climate change in two major new studies by an international team of researchers. They studied the key factors that ensure the planet can support human life. Of nine worldwide processes that underpin life on earth, four have exceeded “safe” levels to avoid climate change. These include loss of biosphere integrity, land system changes, and the high levels of phosphorus and nitrogen flowing into the oceans due to fertiliser use.

Researchers spent five years identifying these core components, using the long-

term average state of each measure to provide a baseline. They found that the changes over the last 60 years are unprecedented compared with the previous 10,000 years, a period in which the world has had a relatively stable climate.

Carbon dioxide levels, at almost 400 parts per million, are the highest for over 800,000 years, maybe even longer. Due to loss of biosphere integrity, species extinction has increased 100 fold in 50 years compared with the 10,000 year average. Since 1950 urban populations have increased sevenfold, and primary energy use has grown fivefold. The amount of fertiliser used is now eight times higher and the amount of nitrogen entering the oceans has quadrupled.

All of these indicators have increased rapidly since 1950 and all are caused by human activity, not natural variability. Direct human influence upon the land is contributing to a loss in pollination and a disruption in the provision of nutrients and fresh water. In fact Prof Steffen from ANU thinks that it is the direct impact upon the land that is now the most important factor, even more than climate change.

According to Steffen, “some people say we can adapt using technology, but that’s a belief system, it’s not based on fact.”

If the earth was a human patient, and the clinical results being generated were used to make a prognosis, the GP and specialist would be calling in (for a serious consultation) not only the patient, but the patient’s partner and children as well.

If we want the planet to continue to support us, then maybe we can no longer put off the changes in lifestyle that ecologists and scientists have been urging us to make for decades.

*The full article was written by Oliver Milman and published in the International News Section (page 13) of the Guardian Weekly on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015.*

Colin Cargill

**Footnote:** You may be interested to know that nobody born since 1976 has experienced a cooler than average year. 2014 was the 38<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of above average temperatures.



### An open letter from the Multifaith Association of South Australia on Interfaith Harmony

We bring greetings from the people from our faith communities to the Governor, the Mayors, Councillors and people of Adelaide and South Australia.

We offer to the Citizens of South Australia our common commitment to seek to live together in peace and goodwill.

We acknowledge traditional Aboriginal custodians who have cared for this land for centuries and pay respect to Elders past and present across their 54 Nations in this State.

We affirm our desire to promote respect and tolerance for the integrity of each other's beliefs, cultures and traditions.

This desire arises not only from our common humanity but also from our being people of faith and people of prayer.

We recognise that as neighbours, we have responsibilities to the community, the world and ourselves.

We seek to live in harmony with each other and the environment that sustains us all, taking only what we need and sharing our resources.

We therefore urge all citizens, both religious and non-religious, to put aside intolerance, prejudice and divisiveness, to attain peaceful and fruitful co-existence in our Country.

Easter 2015

### Statement on the Forced Closure of Aboriginal Communities

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am contacting you at a time of crisis for our Aboriginal communities.

Due to recent funding cuts by the Federal Government, the Western Australian Government has announced their intention to close a significant number of communities. This has led to great stress and anxiety for people in the communities involved. The South Australian government is yet to announce how Aboriginal communities will continue amidst the federal funding cuts. There has been immense pressure placed on individual states to bridge the massive funding gap which now exists.

The National Youth Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress met last week and have released a **statement**, **Facebook page** and a **video** inviting our prayer and other actions. The UAICC have asked us to take action to demonstrate our support for our Aboriginal sisters and brothers in prayer, love and hope for a better future.

In the spirit of reconciliation, I encourage you as the people of God to pray and stand in solidarity with our First Peoples.

Yours in Christ

**Deidre Palmer**

**Moderator**

**Uniting Church in South Australia**

### The Recognise Referendum

The Recognise Referendum aims to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and remove discrimination from our Constitution. Many see constitutional recognition as an important step in the process of reconciliation. It is something that many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders have supported for many years.

**A brief history:** Former Prime Minister John Howard took the first step in 1999 when he proposed a preamble to the Constitution, which recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. Sadly it was defeated along with the republic referendum. However, it has been Coalition and Labor policy since 2007. In 2010 Julia Gillard made a commitment to Independent MP Rob Oakeshott and the Greens to hold a referendum by the 2013 election. An expert panel appointed to advise on a model and process made a report in January 2012. However in September 2012, Labor delayed the referendum, citing concern at low levels of public awareness. Instead the Government proposed an Act of Recognition in the Parliament which had a sunset period of two years. Liberal MP Ken Wyatt – the only Indigenous federal MP – likened this to a “*post it note on the fridge to remind the Parliament to finish the task*”.

More recently the Parliament appointed a Joint Select Committee to finalise the words that would form the amendment to the Constitution. The committee is chaired by the two Indigenous members of the Commonwealth Parliament, with Mr Ken Wyatt MP as the Chair and Senator Nova Peris as the Deputy Chair. The Government also promised to establish a special committee which will include representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities from outside the Parliament. The draft wording was to be finalised by the end of 2014. The key objective of the referendum is to achieve a unifying moment for the nation similar to that achieved by the 1967 constitutional referendum.

**Reasons:** *Why do we need to fix the historical exclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from Australia's Constitution?*

The Constitution was written more than a century ago when ideas and opinions were different and hence the document did not recognise the first chapter of our national story. It ignored the fact that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples had lived in this land for more than 40,000 years, keeping alive the world's oldest continuous cultures. It mentioned Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples only to discriminate.

It was not until the 1967 Referendum to change section 127, that Indigenous Australians were included as part of the population.

Australia has long prided itself on being a place of fairness, but our Constitution does not recognise the first Australians. Under Section 25 the States can still ban people from voting based on their race. Surely there is no place for race discrimination in our nation's highest legal document.

The members of the SJMMT support the referendum movement and we urge all members of the Morialta community to take an active interest in this issue. We feel that addressing this issue is the next step in reconciling our past, and integral to our understanding of the Gospel.

If you wish to learn more about the referendum and the arguments for and against, two copies of a book by Professor Megan Davis (an international law scholar and Director of the Indigenous Law Centre at UNSW) and Professor George Williams AO (Anthony Mason Professor at the Faculty of Law UNSW) have been donated to the library by the Social Justice Mission Ministry Team. The book lays out the case for voting yes and no in clear simple English, and provides background to this important event in our history.



### Margaret Ullyett 1922 - 2015

Born on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1922, Margaret was the only child of Hazel and Wallace Swann. As a child she attended Woodville Primary School and then went to Woodville High. She wasn't a good student so after her Intermediate year, she attended Chartres Business College.

She belonged to a close family including 2 sets of grandparents, 3 aunts, 2 uncles and 4 cousins who lived within walking distance of each other and all were very much involved in the Woodville Methodist Church. Highlights of her childhood were regular Christmas holidays at Pt Elliott, weekly drives with her Mum and Dad and taking part in school and church concerts.

Margaret's first job was with a chartered accountant, when balance sheets were typed with long cartridges in 6 copies. Later she left work to nurse her mother through an illness. In November 1944, she began work again when the government sent her to 5AD, as radio was deemed an essential service. Margaret worked in the Continuity Department and apparently had a great time, eventually writing ads, sometimes announcing them on air.

Because Margaret always loved singing and amateur dramatics, she joined the Gilbert and Sullivan Society. Being in the chorus, she was a 'Jill of all trades', including sewing costumes, as well as Board Member. Some of the productions she took part in included The Mikado and HMS Pinafore.

Margaret was a busy young lady and travelled to the city for work, gym classes, dressmaking classes, Gilbert and Sullivan rehearsals and to the Palais on Saturdays for dances.

By this time, she had met Mavis Brown and together they decided to see Australia. In January 1949 they sailed with a trunk each to Perth, their first stop, which they loved. They worked there for 12 months and returned to their families for Christmas. Travelling onto Melbourne they worked in a bakery in the mornings

so they could see the Australian Tennis Championships in the afternoons. Tasmania was the next stop and they decided to try hitch-hiking, going to different places every weekend. Luckily they had no bad experiences but how times change, as 20 years later, Margaret never let daughter Meredith on the local bus after dark. They sailed to Cairns, and then moved on to Brisbane. Next was Sydney where they shared a flat at Bondi and enjoyed theatre shows and travelling on ferries. Throughout this time they easily found a variety of jobs. Almost 3 years from first setting sail to Perth, with backpacks and dressed in shorts, Margaret and Mavis eventually hitch-hiked back to Adelaide; only then telling their families of their hitch-hiking adventures.

Back in Adelaide, Margaret decided she'd like to go to England so worked in a timber trader's office, saving hard. Plans changed after she met Howard at the Glenelg Town Hall dance and they married in December 1954. The money she'd saved for England came in handy as not one thing did she have in her Glory Box.

Margaret and Howard bought land and built their home at Rosslyn Park. Some of the work was sub-contracted and some they did themselves. Howard concreted floors and plastered walls; Margaret primed and undercoated all doors and window frames. The day the foundations were poured, good friends rallied around and Margaret supplied the scones.

During this time David arrived and all 3 moved in when he was 6 months old to bare floors and homemade paper blinds. There, Margaret and Howard stayed for 46 years. Meredith arrived 12 months after they moved in, and, as was usual in those days, Margaret was a 'stay at home Mother'. Money was tight and the dress making classes came in handy because she sewed curtains for the house, made her own and the children's clothes, patched, darned, and turned collars. She continued to enjoy sewing into her eighties.

As a young Mum, Margaret joined the Magill Methodist Church and the 'Young Women's Evening Fellowship' group. With 2 children, church activities and Fellowship, she was kept very busy. For 4 years she also taught Religious Instruction at the Magill Primary school to the grade 2's which one year included David.

She joined the Burnside Ladies choir and after that folded, the Hectorville Ladies Choir which eventually became known as the Bel Canto Singers. Margaret became a 'Recitootonist', which she explained

was her term for an unprofessional reciter. She continued for many years doing solo skits and her last performance was at her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Her favourite was the 'Hat' performance which had become her trademark. Later she joined the Metropolitan Musical Theatre Company and was in the "Die Fledermaus" production. Margaret also belonged to the COTA choir and the Retired Teacher's Choir. Several times she sang at the Adelaide Town Hall as part of these choirs.

Margaret was a member of Fellowship when it was called, Ladies' Fellowship and they did mending for the then 'Lentara Children's Home', baked for fund raising stalls and raised money for the church. It was customary to hold a birthday party every year with games and items; and, being a theatre lover, Margaret had great enjoyment helping to organise and perform in these skits. This is where the 'Housewives Orchestra' was born, and other favourite skits were "Those magnificent girls with their washing machines" and "Nobody loves a fairy when she's 40 (or...50 or 60" as the case may be). One year she wrote a mini version of Gilbert and Sullivan's HMS Pinafore which had an all female cast. For many years she was the Social Convener and also held the positions of President and Secretary about 4 times. Throughout her years with the Magill and Morialta Church, she has been a devoted member, a Mission Committee member, and helped on Coffee Corner.

She later joined St Peter's Probus, taking a turn as President. When Howard retired they had some overseas holidays, which were great adventures and thoroughly enjoyed. When the weight of the years slowed them down, they toured different parts of Australia. For a time Margaret also played bowls but was never a star bowler.

Meredith and Bob married in November 1980 and grandsons Steven and Michael came along. David moved to Western Australia and there married Kathy in 1995. Another 2 grandsons arrived - Hayden and Daniel. She became a great grandmother in December 2012 with the arrival of Charlotte - Michael and Lauren's little girl.

Margaret and Howard moved into the Lutheran Homes Retirement Village just before she turned 80 and again she was kept busy - this time with Village life as well as her regular activities.

*Continues on next page.....*



(continued from previous page)

After Howard died, she continued to make the best of her life enjoying more holidays and theatre outings. In 2012, Margaret gave herself a 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday party here at the church hall which she organised herself. She made her own birthday cupcakes, was MC and of course, was a major part of the entertainment. She performed skits from her past years with the help of her many Fellowship friends. It was also a re-union

of the Bel Canto Singers who helped entertain on this day.

As her health deteriorated and high care became the only option, she often commented on the wonderful way the staff looked after and fussed over her. It is fair to say she battled along, believing for quite a while that she would get better, but her struggle became too much and her life ended peacefully in February.

(Contributed by her daughter, Meredith)

*Editor's note: We all have many fond memories of Margaret and mine is walking with her up steep hills on an Indigenous food walk in the Adelaide Hills. I trotted along behind her always wishing she would pause so we could rest!*

## A PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

Give us, O Lord

A church that will be more courageous than courteous;

A church that will not merely comfort the afflicted but afflict the comfortable;

A church that will not only love the world but will also judge the world,

A church that will not only pursue peace but will also demand justice;

A church that will not remain silent where people are calling for a voice;

A church that will not pass by on the other side when wounded humanity is waiting to be healed,

A church that not only calls us to worship but also sends us out to witness; and

A church that will follow Christ even when the way points to a cross;

To this end we offer ourselves in the name of Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Amen.

(Rev Robert Lee Longid EDNP,  
Phillipines 1994)

## A Journey to Safety

*Margaret Pittman has been a supporter of ACT FOR PEACE, the National Council of Churches international aid agency for many years. Recently she received a letter from a man in Ethiopia that she wanted to share with us.*

### Dear Act for Peace Partner

My name is Senay\* and I am 32. This is my story. Thank you for helping me when I am far away in Ethiopia.

When I was 20 at home with my family in Asmara, Eritrea, I was conscripted into the army. Our army is known for being difficult so I resisted joining. Soldiers came to our home and put my mother in prison until I enlisted. So I joined straight away for fear of what would happen to her.

In the army, senior officers were cruel to soldiers and treated us badly. I often endured beatings from them. Conscription is meant to last four and a half years but I was in the army for ten years. Sadly, that is not unusual; it is rare that anyone is allowed to leave the army.

The worst day came a few years back. Two other soldiers and I were in charge of a group of prisoners. These prisoners were fellow Eritreans who had tried to get asylum in Malta but were turned away. The senior officers told us to take the prisoners out and shoot them.

There was no way any of us could do it. Mercifully, the prisoners were able to escape and to this day I hope they are safe. When the officers found out they were furious. They beat all three of us. When they had finished, I couldn't walk or use my legs. I was taken to hospital the next day. My wounds were bandaged, and although I tried, I couldn't walk. While I was in hospital I made some good friends -we shared our stories and I knew I was not alone in how I had suffered. For the safety of my friends I cannot reveal the details, but they smuggled me out of hospital, got me across the border, into Ethiopia and into a refugee camp.

For the first 18 months in the camp I was in a wheelchair. EOC-DICAC (The Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission) work in the camp and took me to doctors in Addis Ababa. X-rays showed that my legs and hips were broken in many places. Doctors operated and I had physiotherapy. Incredibly, because of their wonderful work I now use crutches and am able to walk! I have even found work and this makes me happy.

Without your support and help I would not be walking or working. Now, I just want to be in a safe place where I can work. Yes, I just want to be safe.

Senay

\* Names have been changed to protect identities

### Partners' Prayer Points:

- Give thanks for the work of EOC-DICAC in the work they do to bring hope to refugees in Ethiopia.
- Pray for solutions for refugees who cannot return home.
- Pray for peace and justice in Eritrea and Ethiopia as so many suffer.



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



World Day of Prayer is a world-wide movement led by Christian women of many traditions and cultures, with people from over 170 countries participating in the celebrations.

Each year the worship service has a special theme developed by women from one country. Through preparation and participation in the event we can experience and understand how people of other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their context. We can hear the concerns and needs and can feel ourselves in solidarity with them. In this way it is possible to experience the

richness of the Christian faith as it is expressed in a broader international and ecumenical sense.

The service this year was prepared by the women of The Bahamas and was celebrated in 141 churches and aged care facilities across SA and NT. Morialta UC was the local host and seven other churches participated with us.



People dressed to reflect the colour and style of The Bahamas and the Rev Jenny Swanbury shared some of her experiences at Port Hedland Detention Centre, including a painting by a refugee. We shall long remember our colourful flamingos in the church.

The offering of over \$500 will support three projects:

- The Crisis Centre, which is a non-profit organisation providing services to victims of abuse;
- The Zion Methodist Children's Home which provides a safe and caring home for 16 children aged 2-12, located on Current Islands;
- A Victims of Domestic Violence program run by the Bible Society of the West Indies which is working alongside churches to develop effective strategies, increase education and to combat violence.

The theme for 2016 is "Receive Children, Receive Me" and the Day will be prepared by the Women of Cuba. The local service will be held on Friday March 4 at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Edward Street, Magill.

Margaret Pittman



## Praise from our local MP, Vincent Tarzia

In a speech made to Parliament in support of legislation to increase the retirement age of Trustees in the UCA, our local MP had some nice words to say about Morialta.

"Then we have the Morialta Uniting Church, which was formed when Magill, Finchley Park, Newton and Rostrevor churches united to form one congregation with two worship centres, at Chapel Street, Magill and Bonvue Road,

Rostrevor. They are also a fantastic church led by Reverend Steve Thompson. This church is a bit different. They are a little more progressive than most churches of the Christian faith, you could say, but they certainly pride themselves on being committed to providing places where people are cared for, where they are nurtured, where they are sustained and they are committed to the

care, protection and safety of all people, especially children and young people. There is a beautiful community garden across the road from that church and they offer a wonderful service to the community."

House of Assembly, Tuesday 17 March 2015. The Uniting Church in Australia (Membership of Trust) Amendment Bill – Second Reading

## Paws for thought ...



One of the things I really enjoy is getting away on holiday. I'm sure that most of you are the same. However, since my retirement, I haven't been able to go to as many places.

That's why I really appreciate the caravan! It's pretty small and Wallace takes up a fair bit of room, but it's good to have a look at some different scenery!

Recently, I took the family up to Ardrossan. Fortunately, Anne is a really good driver and I don't have to worry about Bruce hitching the caravan. And even Wallace is getting quite helpful. However, he is a bit precious when it comes to the beach. The sand is fine, but he just doesn't like getting his body wet. It's pretty good because I can get away from him pretty easily and he is pretty easy to stir!

Keely





# Morialta Magpie

## Wedding



Bob and Helen Penhall's daughter, Melanie, married Myk Webel last October!



Katrina Mackenzie celebrated her 21st birthday!

## Special birthdays



Margaret Martin celebrated 90 years!



Arthur Tideman



Vincent Guerin



Arlene Lomman



Mary & Ian Watson celebrated 57 years.



Christine Garner

## Wedding Anniversaries

## Birthdays!



Doreen & Bill Matheson celebrated 62 years.



Tiffany Winn



Judith Purling



Pauline Norman & Averil Nash

## Baptism



Jeffrey Collins



Anne Ind



Aileen James



The Secombes celebrated grandson Henry's baptism with his parents Paul and Rebekah.



## Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

### From the Librarian

As the middle part of 2015 approaches excitement builds towards our famous High Tea Fundraiser for the library. This year we are going to have a Mad Hatters Tea Party. What a hoot!!!!

### Writing Competition

Write about **BROADENING HORIZONS** in approximately 100 words, in a genre of your choice.

**Closing date** – entries should be placed in the marked box in the Library by Sunday 29 June.

**Winning Entries** will be published in the August Vision and other entries will be displayed on the Library notice board during August.

**Prizes** – A \$25 Book Voucher for the best adult entry and a \$25 Book Voucher for the best children's entry.

### Library BIRTHDAY High Tea

The Library's birthday is on 14 July and this year it is 21 years since the library opened in its foyer location.



Come and enjoy our fundraising event,

**“ALICE IN WONDERLAND AND THE MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY”**  
**Sunday 12 July from 5.00 - 7.00 pm**  
**Tickets** on sale from Sunday 1 June  
 \$10.00 Adults \$5.00 Children

**Bring** a mad hat or memorabilia on the theme “Alice in Wonderland and The Mad Hatters Tea Party” and bring any favourite poem or piece of prose to share in “Literary Delights” segments.

**Our Guest Speaker** will talk to us about their journey through life with books.

**Share** High Tea including soup, savoury slices, birthday cake and tea or coffee.

### STEPPING THROUGH THE ARCHIVES



This year, 2015, we are celebrating 160 years since The Wesleyan Chapel, Magill was founded.

Celebrating, giving thanks for the past, and what we are now, is an important part of church and community life.

I wondered about that very first celebration in 1855 when the new chapel was ready to open for worship. Perhaps the day went something like this:

*“The driver gathers in the reigns of old Dobbin the horse, who faithfully trots along the potholed track. We watch as the horse and carriage slow down as they arrive in front of the church, the new Wesleyan Chapel, Magill. The driver helps the ladies down from the carriage in their Sunday best clothes. Excitedly, they move inside, the men doffing their hats in greeting as they seat themselves on long forms.*

*Beautiful flowers have been placed in two special vases at the front especially for the occasion. A pulpit stands ready for the preachers, Rev Joseph Dare and Rev Thomas Williams, who eloquently speak of all things Methodist and enter into the joy of the occasion with praise and thanksgiving.*

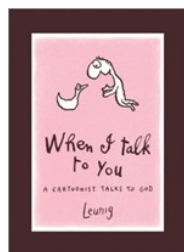
And so, we might imagine, on a warm sunny autumn day in April 1855 – the beginnings of this our church.”

### APRIL BOOK REVIEWS

#### Devotional:

#### WHEN I TALK TO YOU

Michael Leunig



This is a unique collection of around fifty short prayers, some humorous and some confronting, with a few of Leunig's poems and many cartoons. The prayers were an experiment for the Melbourne "Sunday Age", a reaction by Leunig to the normal messages of trouble and controversy in newspapers. Leunig gives his interpretation of God and in the quietness and stillness of prayer he encourages us towards 'wholeness of self' and connection with the wholeness of life, with humility, love and innocence.

Reviewed by Bryan Forbes

#### Non-fiction:

#### IS THAT A FACT?

John Barron



This is a timely example of the work of the ABC Fact Checking Unit, set up by the ABC in 2013. Fact check Journalism has been around for about ten years and was pioneered in the USA. Politicians have learnt to use them to support their policies or to attack their opponents. This book gives fifteen topical examples. Ita Buttrose's claim that the glass ceiling (relating to seniority of women executives) still exists in Australia was declared to be correct; Christopher Pyne's claim that autonomous schools are better for students was found to be unsubstantiated. There is a fair chance that the reader will find decisions of personal interest, especially in the realms of politics and social justice.

Reviewed by Bryan Forbes

### NEW DVDS

- BBC Michael Mosley's SCIENCE OF YOU
- Life of Pi
- Chris Tarrant : EXTREME RAILWAYS  
—Congo's Jungle Railway, Australia's Outback Railway and India's Monsoon Railway
- Jillaroo School
- Wild Arabia

**NEW AUDIO BOOK**—Di Morissey—The Road Back



# Community Building & Fundraising

# MAJOR EVENTS 2015

Already enjoyed:

## Picnic at Morialta Conservation Park

### 9 March



Supporting Mission Projects

## Fashion Parade by "Your Fashion" with Miss Peggy

Thursday 14 May 1.30pm

Restock your wardrobe with new autumn fashions!



## ROCKY HOBBY SHOW

Saturday 18 April  
10.30am - 4.00pm



## A Merry Mid Year

Cabaret-style entertainment

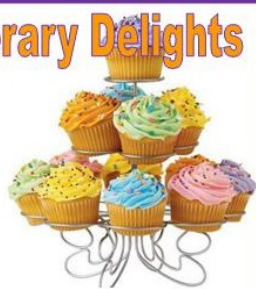
For one night only!

### SATURDAY JUNE 6 from 7.30pm

## High Tea and Literary Delights

Sunday 14 July  
(Details to follow!)

Library fundraiser



## Guess who's coming to dinner!

August 1, 8

More information nearer the time!



Date to be advised!

## Musical afternoon

Proceeds to Mission Projects

Cabaret style  
Entertainment in September  
(Details later!)

## Explore Eastern Victoria

Mornington Peninsula,  
Wilson's Promontory,  
Lakes Entrance and more!

### 4-11 November

Hosted by Bev Tredrea

## MIGHTY MAGILL CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 21 November

9.00am - 3.00pm





## Among the dead

The only living person among the dead...  
stone slabs, flat,  
upright stones pointing to the skies.  
Carved words encapture loved ones,  
cherished memories,  
Journey's end, a gentle place of rest.

Sweet lavender, gentle breeze,  
tree tops sighing, pointing to the skies.  
Insects buzz and scurry,  
birds sing - fly joyful in the sky.  
Life among the dead,  
ancient land, space to be.

Star of David, Cross of Christ,  
symbols pointing to faith.  
Unpronounceable names,  
Silesian pioneers, Jesuit brothers,  
displaced persons, refugees,  
battle scarred, stillborn babies,  
all free now, beyond time and space.

Vineyards, tended vines.  
I am the vine – remain in me.  
I am the resurrection and the life.  
I will wipe away every tear.  
The gathered flock, all in safe keeping.  
A moment in time – all truly alive.

*Christine Garner  
April 2013*



## DIARY DATES 2015

Wednesday 6 May 7.00pm	"Beyond Violence" workshop at Morialta UC Hosted by the Moderator, Dr Deidre Palmer,
Thursday 7 May 9.30am	Urban Mission Network Retreat at Morialta UC
Thursday 14 May 1.30pm	Your Fashions with Miss Peggy Proceeds to Mission Projects
Tuesday 19 May 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Thursday 21 May 9.45am	Fellowship Banking Made Easy
Sunday 31 May 5.00pm	Pot Luck Tea
Saturday 6 June 7.30pm	Merry Mid Year
Monday 8 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 16 June 7.30pm	Church Council Meeting
Thursday 18 June	Fellowship Bedford Industries Tour
Friday 19 June Saturday 20 June	Presbytery Synod Meeting

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Editor: Colin Cargill  
Publisher: Helena Begg

### **Deadline** *for the next Edition*

**1 June 2015**

To discuss ideas for Vision articles contact the editor, Colin Cargill

### **Living Streams ~ Giving Life**