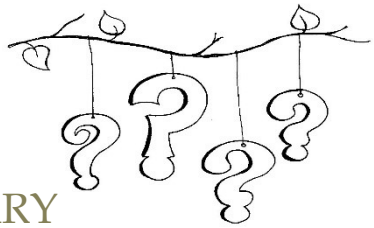
PARTNERSHIP IN PRINT

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA – MACEDON RANGES PARTNERSHIP



OUT OF THE ORDINARY

Ps Annette Buckley

If you ask one of our wonderful Op Shop workers about how busy they've been, they'll tell you that this year has been particularly busy, with plenty of donations. It began during the Christmas holidays, when a Netflix program based on a 2014 book (*The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up* by Marie Kondo) was shown. The book and program encouraged people to declutter their homes by gathering their possessions together and only keeping the ones which "spark joy". The others were to be thanked for their service, then disposed of. Many of them were, at op shops around the country, causing some to ask people to stop donating to them until they'd had the opportunity to clear the backlog. Our Op Shops have been working through the backlog of donated goods that were caused by people in the community decluttering.

I remember hearing about the book when it first came out, and thinking how nice it would be to only have things around you that "spark joy". But I wondered… would there be a place for my phone bills? My dusters? My gumboots? I seem to have a good number of very utilitarian things that don't evoke much emotion at all, but which I'd probably be silly to toss out. I have to say, I haven't actually read the book, so perhaps it suggests how we should deal with these items. Perhaps the book doesn't expect everything to spark joy. Perhaps, in her method, Marie Kondo allows some things to be just ordinary.

> AS YOU STEP INTO ORDINARY TIME THIS YEAR, WILL YOU KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY THINGS THAT GOD IS DOING AROUND YOU?

The church year has swung around to Ordinary Time. We have had almost six months of changing Church seasons: Advent Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost. During this time, we move quickly through the major parts of the Christian story, and some of it spills out into the community as we celebrate together. Some people particularly enjoy the happiness of Christmas, or the solemnity of Lent. There is no doubt that it is a busy time for the Church, so it can be with some relief that we slip into the time after Pentecost, when we can hang out the green banners for a while, and not think about changing them until November.

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ISSUE NO. 45 – JULY 2019

Hi there! **PIP** looks a little different this month! With many thanks to Jay for her past commitment to this job, and with gratitude to her for her mentorship, I will endeavor to continue to provide you with the required information and articles of interest that you give me to present. Please be patient with me as I begin this adventure and be prepared for a few changes as PIP evolves into something I can manage. Also keep a close eye on the website: www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au and Peter's missives via email. From your new Editor-in-denial, Robyn

Many of us don't think about the liturgical seasons very much, but I've come to appreciate the rhythms of the church year, each with its different emphasis, each holding out gifts for us and the world. I think I like that Ordinary Time starts in our winter, when we might be more naturally drawn to the interior life, and reflection and contemplation. I wonder, if you were to reflect on your life; if you could pile up all your life experiences, all your friends and relationships, all your possessions…would you only keep the ones which 'spark joy'? Last Sunday's reading from Romans suggests that it's actually the difficult experiences in life that enable us to live with hope: we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope (Rom 5:3b-4) It's a paradox of human life that some of those things which play a profound role in our growth as humans and Christians are the very things we would avoid if we were given the choice.

Ordinary Time, instead, invites us to look at life in a different way. In a conversation the other day, someone remarked how having a young child in their life had enabled them to look at life differently. Everything is so exciting to a toddler! Watching ants with them is a reminder of how beautiful and intricate Creation is. Leaves and puddles can be endless sources of amusement, rather than something to be avoided or dealt with. I like to think Ordinary Time can similarly invite us to slow down, look differently, open our eyes and our hearts to new possibilities in what has been right in front of us all along. Laurence Hull Stookey says: "Because of what has been made known in Christ, no time can again be regarded as ordinary in the sense of dull or commonplace. The liturgical calendar as a whole exists in large part to remind us that Christ has sanctified all of time, bringing us and the whole of our experience into the orbit of the resurrection. What we deem ordinary, God has transformed into the extraordinary by his divine grace."

As you step into Ordinary Time this year, will you keep your eyes open for the extraordinary things that God is doing around you? How are you being invited to be part of the transformation of the everyday? Where are the ordinary people and places that, when you look at them differently, are already on the way to living out something deeper and richer than what appears on the surface? What can we all do to help point others towards the extra-ordinariness of this life into which we are constantly being called? I wonder if we lived with those questions whether we'd find that everything around us was capable of sparking joy, because God's spirit is breathing life into each and every seemingly ordinary moment.

Annette Buckley

HISTORY AS A DRAWCARD?

The Uniting Church History Society meets biannually in various locations around Australia. The Melbourne Conference in June 2019 included speakers and papers from most states. The nature of a History Society could be misunderstood as nostalgic organisation looking backwards to a time when the Church was central to most people. This could not be further from the reality. The many papers affirmed a foundation of faithful witness, certainly, but they explored the nature of such witness, in some cases its results being clearly known, but all papers explored how faith was explored and affirmed, including how our earlier members made errors or inadequately understood the issues before them. Most notably were the papers on indigenous relations in Australia and the Pacific. In this regard, the Conference bore similarity to the work of the Partnership, for as a community of faith we need to affirm the efforts of the past, to understand its strengths and weaknesses, and use the study of the past as a means of identifying that which moved the souls of many, of assessing the needs for change as equally important to affirming those positive practices, and to look to future initiatives as being built on the insights gained from those who went before in order to service those who are to come.

Keith

On the June long weekend 50 people came to Melbourne from all states and territories, except maybe one, for a church history conference. Who would have thought history could be such a drawcard? Well, the enthusiasm was obvious. As someone said, history isn't a burden on the memory but an illumination of the mind.

If we don't know where we have come from, we are not likely to know where we are going.

Keith Hallett gave a report on his continuing research into Sunday Schools in Victoria.

D'Arcy Wood gave a paper about his great-grand-father Theophilus Taylor who was the first Wesleyan Methodist minister in Ballarat.

Other papers had such diverse subjects as Ned Kelly and Church missions to indigenous people.

The UCA now has a national History Society and all the papers from the Melbourne conference will be published by the end of the year.

D'Arcy

PREACHING PLAN FOR JULY 2019

Sunday in July 2019	Sunday minister led services details	Other Partnership services	Notes	Other congregational services
July 7th	Northern (Barfold) 10am Holy Communion Peter Cannon Tylden 9am Holy Communion Annette Buckley Mt Macedon Holy Communion 10:30am Supply	8th Woodend 11am 10th Riddell 9am		Romsey 9am – Jeni Clampit Gisborne 9:30am Kyneton 9:30am Lancefield 10:45am
July 12th (Friday)	Kyneton 6.30pm Holy Communion Annette Buckley		Fish 'n Chips	
July 14th	Gisborne 9:30am Holy Communion Supply Lancefield 10:45am Holy Communion Peter Cannon	15th Woodend 11am 17th Riddell 9am 17th Oaks and Elms 2:30pm		Tylden 9am – Jan Cole Romsey to join with Lancefield at 10:45 am Northern (Metcalfe) 10am Mt Macedon 10:30am
July 21st	Kyneton 9:30am Holy Communion Supply Riddell 4pm Holy Communion Peter Cannon	22nd Woodend 11am 24th Riddell 9am	Annette at Professional Development	Tylden 9am – Shirl Bowen Romsey 9am – Trevor Turnham Gisborne 9:30am Northern (Mia Mia) 10am Mt Macedon 10:30am Lancefield 10:45am
July 26th (Friday)	Kyneton 6.30pm Holy Communion Peter Cannon		Fish 'n Chips	
July 28th	Romsey 9am Holy Communion Rev Deac Jeanne Beale	29th Woodend 11am 29th RM Begg 3.30pm Peter Cannon 31st Riddell 9am		Tylden 9am – Bronwyn Hewitt Gisborne 9:30am Northern (Sutton Grange) 10am Mt Macedon 10:30am Lancefield 10:45am – Rev Deac Jeanne Beale

* Some minister allocations may still be rearranged i.e. the person listed may be swapped with another member of the ministry team.
* Supply arrangements are still to be clarified. Services listed as supply will be provided by the Partnership.
* As at date of publication, some service arrangements were still to be confirmed. Please check Peter's regular *In the Partnership this Week* emails for final details for these and any other possible changes.

REPORT OF COCO MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 1ST JUNE AT SUTTON GRANGE

Annette Buckley presented a devotion which included a story from the Gospel of John and the Lord's Prayer.
Jeanne Beale from Presbytery and Ian Pearse from MSE were visitors for this meeting.
Lyn Ward chaired the meeting in the absence of Colin Chapman.
The minutes of the Coco Meeting held in May were confirmed.
The Partnership arrangements for 2019 were discussed.
A survey is being developed to determine the views of congregations/individuals in regard to what has been happening in the Partnership so far and also their thoughts on where it should be headed.
A proposal was put forward in regard to worship arrangements for after the current trial period ends (post July).

It was: That a communion service is held once a month on a Sunday in each congregation led either by a minister in placement or a supply minister.
Additional notes:

- That the 5th Sunday in a month will continue as a combined Partnership Service
- That the Northern congregations do not have a set Sunday
- That this service routine continue until the upcoming survey has been distributed and results collated.

This proposal was passed by Consensus.

The renovations at the Riddells Creek site are now almost complete. David Liebich is preparing to submit the Application to Build H3 paperwork to Synod. A new launch of the site will be announced shortly. At Woodend, the company 'Caddick Designs' has been in contact with all user groups in preparation of drawing up plans.
The Northern Congregations have been removed as a potential site for another hub.
The ministry team report was written by Annette Buckley.
Two proposals were put forward by Annette at the end of her report.

1. That the executive of CoCo be tasked with discerning a call for a long-term Supply replacement for the vacancy in the Ministry Team and presenting the selected replacement's information to CoCo.
2. That the name of the selected person be submitted to the Pastoral Relations Committee of the Presbytery for its approval.

These were passed by Consensus
Peter Cannon has received the June edition of DVD services produced by the Hunter Valley. They are available for anyone to trial as a help/guide for their services this month.
Pip Elston brought to the attention of CoCo a motion put forward by the Kyneton Congregation in regards to a planned housing forum. This was not discussed in great detail due to a lack of time and will be discussed more in the July meeting.
The congregations all gave a brief account of events since the previous Coco meeting and any upcoming events.
The next meeting will be at Lancefield on 6th July.

Lighten up!

embrace each day as a new adventure

Affirmations are powerful in changing unwanted thinking patterns. Choose one from the following list and repeat it often each day for at least a week.

- Nothing can stop me feeling wonderful today!
- Today my power is within me.
- Today I will allow myself to have fun!
- Today I can handle any change or surprise.
- Today I am open to new directions.
- Today I trust that the right answers will come.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	**6**
	11am Prayers for Peace at Woodend **12pm** Woodend lunch **2pm** Cuppa at Romsey	**10am** Men's Group Mt Macedon **2pm** Prayer Gisborne	**9am** Meditation Riddell **9.30-1.30** The White Goose **1pm** Stitches in Rhyme **6pm** Romsey Church Council		**10am** Prayer Gisborne	**CoCo** meeting at Lancefield
7	8	9	10	11	12	**13**
*	**11am** Prayers for Peace at Woodend **12pm** Woodend lunch **2pm** Cuppa at Romsey	**2pm** Prayer Gisborne	**9am** Meditation Riddell **9.30-1.30** The White Goose **1pm** Stitches in Rhyme	**7.30pm** Lancefield Worship Team	**10am** Prayer Gisborne **6.30pm** Meal & HC at Kyneton	
14	15	16	17	18	19	**20**
*	**11am** Prayers for Peace at Woodend **12pm** Woodend lunch **2pm** Cuppa at Romsey	**2pm** Prayer Gisborne	**9am** Meditation Riddell **9.30-1.30** The White Goose **1pm** Stitches in Rhyme **2.30pm** Oaks & Elms	**6pm** Delightful Diners at Khao Jaow	**10am** Prayer Gisborne	**PIP items due tomorrow!**
21	22	23	24	25	26	**27**
*	**11am** Prayers for Peace at Woodend **12pm** Woodend lunch **2pm** Cuppa at Romsey	**2pm** Prayer Gisborne	**9am** Meditation Riddell **9.30-1.30** The White Goose **1pm** Stitches in Rhyme		**10am** Prayer Gisborne **6.30pm** Meal & HC at Kyneton	
28	29	30	31			
*	**11am** Prayers for Peace at Woodend **12pm** Woodend lunch **2pm** Cuppa at Romsey **3.30pm** Worship RM Begg	**2pm** Prayer Gisborne	**9am** Meditation Riddell **12.30pm** – Mt Macedon Christmas in July			

July 2019

*See Preaching plan for Sunday worship details

MEETINGS:

Wednesday 3rd July **Romsey Church Council** meet at the home of David & Sandra Strack commencing with a meal at 6pm

Saturday 6th July **CoCo** The Partnership Co-ordinating Council will be at Lancefield

Thursday 11th July Worship Team meeting at Lancefield Uniting Church. 7.30pm

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Every Monday Prayers for Peace at Woodend 11am.

CLUBS AND GROUPS

Each Monday **'Cuppa at Romsey'** This is in the church meeting room at 2pm.

Tuesday 2nd July **Mount Macedon Men's Group**. We meet at the MM Uniting Church on the first Tuesday each month at 10.00am. There are about a dozen of us from our congregation plus other UCA churches and other denominations. We have a short devotion then one of the members raises a topic - anything from their life, previous work, hobbies, trips, quizzes or even world events may be discussed. Our next meeting is Tuesday 2nd July at 10.00am. We would welcome men to join us from anywhere in the Partnership.

Thursday 18th July **The Delightful Diners** are at the Thai restaurant in Woodend "Khao Jaow" at 6pm.

Wednesday 31st July **Thistle Club** Mount Macedon UC have 'Christmas In July'… 12.30pm at the Church. $15.00 per head. Partners welcome. Devotions: Shirley Cross. Items for Kyneton Caring Community - Long Life Milk.

Tylden UCAF and History Club are both in Winter recess.

"…some reasonably light reading" from Rev Les Hartshorn's *Witty, Wise & Otherwise* - June 2019:

Note from Les: A while ago Wendy, my daughter in Hobart, shared a very helpful book about forgiveness written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho. When Wendy and the book returned to Hobart I applied on the website of our local library to borrow a copy as I wanted to have another look.

After a short time on the wait-list I received an email message to say my copy was ready to be picked up. I was pleased but surprised to find that instead of the book I thought I had ordered, the library had given me a book about joy, the report of a week's conversation between Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama.

I suspect that my arthritic finger had touched on the wrong line, resulting in a rather delightful outcome. I asked for Forgiveness, and I was given Joy. Worth thinking about.

LECTIONARY

Ordinary Sundays after Pentecost

A period of time that varies in length depending on whether Easter is early or late. In this period, the Church recalls its faith in the Holy Trinity. It seeks to relate its faith as a people of God to Christ's mission in the world. It commences with Trinity Sunday and concludes with the feast of Christ the King.

Date	Day/Season	Col	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Sunday 7 July	Ord Sun 14	G	2 Kings 5:1-14	30	Galations 6:(1-6), 7-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Sunday 14 July	Ord Sun 15	G	Amos 7:7-17	82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
Sunday 21 July	Ord Sun 16	G	Amos 8:1-12	52	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
Sunday 28 July	Ord Sun 17	G	Hosea 1:2-10	85	Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13
Sunday 4 August	Ord Sun 18	G	Hosea 11:1-11	107:1-9, 43	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21

Contacts Other Groups		
SUTTON GRANGE MIA MIA BARFOLD METCALFE	Congregation Chair - Dot Smith Elders - North Dot Smith Marge Townrow	Elders- Kyneton Pip Elston Helen Aldridge Joan Mills Andrea Strack Doug McIver
KYNETON	Congregation Chairperson Roy Gibbs	Congregation Secretary Jenny Elston
LANCEFIELD	Elders Peter Fraser, Ian Kennedy Judy Stammers, Rita Vandervalk	Classical Music Group Ian Kennedy Organist - Rita Vandervalk
ROMSEY	Church Council/Elders Noel Shaw, David Strack Jeni Clampit, Sandra Strack Jenny Elliott, Jay Brooks John Laing, Carol Toy	UCAF Pres/Sec - Jeni Clampit Treasurer - Carol Toy
TYLDEN	Elders Shirley Bowen, Joy Evans Max Hinneberg, Jean Lucas	Worship Team Co-Ord Janet Cole
WOODEND		
MT MACEDON	Elders Fiona Armour, Anne Fyfield David Liebich, Neil Tweddle Men's Group - John Cross	Thistle Club President - Shirley Cross Secretary - Anne Fyfield Organist - George Fyfield
RIDDELLS CREEK		Craft Group Lynette Bucknall
GISBORNE	Prayer Ministry/F & C - Glennis Speed Pastoral Care/F & C - Bev Gilbertson Social Justice - Wendy Hebbard & Nola Anderson Worship & Education - Paul Gilbertson	UCAF - Maree Clarke Craft Group - Linda Moorhouse Friends Pizza Night - Ron Hebbard
CoCo - (Co-ordinating Council)	Chair - Colin Chapman Secretary - Minute Secretary - Fiona Armour Treasurer - Paul Gilbertson	Finance Committee Chair - Paul Gilbertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman & Bronwyn Hewitt Property Committee Chair - Ian Kennedy Paul Gilbertson, Noel Shaw, & George Roberts
	Editor Partnership in Print – Robyn Zumstein	

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CONGREGATION DETAILS	CHAIRPERSON	SECRETARY	TREASURER	PROPERTY	COCO REPS
SUTTON GRANGE - Church Access Rd MIA MIA - Matheson Rd BARFOLD - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd METCALFE - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd	Joan Mills	Doug McIver miamiakyneton uc@outlook.com	Finance Committee Helen Carey(Treas) Roy Gibbs Jenny Elston	Joan Mills (Chair) Pip Elston (Kyn) Marge Townrow (N)	Marge Townrow Dot Smith
KYNETON - 54 Ebden St (PO Box 892)					Helen Aldridge, Pip Elston
LANCEFIELD - 9 High St	Rita Vandervalk	Ian Kennedy	Peter Fraser		Ian Kennedy, Rita Vandervalk
ROMSEY - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)	Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampit	Roger Baker		Noel Shaw, Jeni Clampit, Jay Brooks (alt)
TYLDEN - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)	Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole	Dawn Hinneberg	Max Hinneberg	Bronwyn Hewitt, Janet Cole Dawn Hinneberg
WOODEND - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)					George Roberts
MT MACEDON - 682 Mt Macedon Rd	Neil Tweddle	Fiona Armour	Lyn Almond		David Liebich, Neil Tweddle, Anne Fyfield (alt)
GISBORNE - 23 Brantome St	Bev Gilbertson	Colin Chapman	Paul Gilbertson	Neil Moorhouse Rob Dunstan	Colin Chapman, Keith Hallett Paul Gilbertson

Partnership in Print is a monthly magazine produced by the Uniting Church in Australia – Macedon Ranges Partnership and is available on the last Sunday of each month, except December

Last word… **New editor leaves the country!**

Thank you all for your encouragement and support leading up to this edition of PIP. It has indeed been a bigger task than I realized and therefore I have decided to leave the country. Actually, we've been planning this trip for some time – so if you do not hear from me in the next two weeks, do not stress. I will get back to you as soon as I'm back, in time for the August edition of PIP. Again, I ask your continued patience. If I have missed anything this month, it is because I did not want to assume anything wrongly. Please get any new or ongoing events or information to me (either by email **zumstein@mmnet.com.au** or to one of our ministers) by 20th July and do not be concerned if you don't hear from me initially.

That's all for now! Robyn

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