

# Partnership in Print



Uniting Church in Australia - Macedon Ranges Partnership

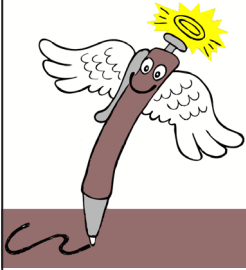
Barfold - Gisborne - Kyneton - Lancefield - Metcalfe - Mia Mia - Mount Macedon - Riddells Creek - Romsey - Sutton Grange - Tylden - Woodend

Issue No 16 - November 2016

Seasons - All Saints to Advent 1



hope



## Living in hope

How often have we heard the term, “We live in hope”? And it is true, without hope we are bereft.

Where do you see hope in the world? Daffodils are often a sign of hope. The season of spring often epitomises hope. Many of you will know of my excitement about the recent wedding in our family. Now there is a symbol of hope. The birth of a baby is also a time of hope and expectation. We hold such great hopes for our children don't we?

The Gospel we live by is characterised by hope, we are a people of hope. Our church's rituals, signs and symbols are all about hope. Baptisms, marriages, even funerals and the Eucharist are all important symbols of our hope. Easter and Christmas, the lighting of candles, and prayer itself bring our hope into the foreground. Surely there can be no more profound symbol of hope than the theme of Resurrection which infuses our faith. One of the strongest and perhaps most powerful symbols of hope is the Church itself. Powerful perhaps in its vulnerability, as is the way of the Christian faith. The Church was given the role to hold and embody the hope that is ours in Christ.

So...if we were to do an inventory, how are we going in representing the hope?

How do we offer hope and be a resilient and

eternal sign of hope in this time? There is so much sadness and sorrow and suffering that even we are tempted to despair sometimes. Yet we are called to hope, to be hope and to reflect hope. I believe that it is often in the despair of life that our community turns to the Church, and to its rituals such as meditation, lamentation and vigil. Lamentations 3 v 19-24 demonstrates that even in the lamentation, the pain and despair, we have hope for the “steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end”. This is hope worth celebrating indeed.

A number of networking groups in our community are interested in making November 13th “HopeHour” and are asking our churches to celebrate hope in our community with them. Churches throughout our Partnership are being asked to do something on the afternoon of the 13th which demonstrates their hope. We are taking this hope out into the community, perhaps a picnic in the park as some of our folks are doing. This has no real agenda other than to celebrate being together and enjoying our church community, in the midst of our wider community, as a sign and symbol of the hope we hold.

It is my own hope that our expressions of hope invigorate our own sense of the hope that we hold and with which embrace our community and our world. That's a lot of hope!

*Wendy Elson*

## Hope Hour Activities

On Sunday 13th November, you may like to join in with the following activities. See Wendy for details.

### Labyrinth Walk

Labyrinth Walk @ the Kyneton Labyrinth (Catholic church) in the late afternoon.

### Woodend Children's Park

On Monday morning 14th November, Hope activities at the Woodend Children's Park.

# Around the Partnership

## Worship Leaders

	Service time	6th November	13th November	20th November	27th November
Sutton Grange	11am				
Mia Mia	11am			Peter Cannon	
Barfold	11am				
Metcalfe	11am		CFA Service Wendy Elson		
Kyneton	9:30am	Wendy Elson	Andrea Strack	Annette Buckley	Pip Elston
RM Begg	3:30pm	Monday 7th November			
Lancefield	10:45am	Lay Leaders	Meg Evans HC	Lay Leaders	150 years at Lancefield 10:30am Annette Buckley
Romsey	9am	Lay Leaders	Annette Buckley HC	Lay Leaders	
	6pm			Sunday@6 Annette Buckley	
Tylden	9am	Peter Cannon HC		Wendy Elson	
Woodend					
Mt Macedon	10:30am	Janet Wood	Peter Cannon HC	Max Woolcock	Meg Evans
Riddells Creek	9am	Wednesdays			
Gisborne	9:30am	Annette Buckley	Shirley Midgley	Keith Hallett	Peter Cannon HC

## General

### Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy

Thank you to all those who have supported us this year. Our last fundraiser for the year is Shortbread and they are \$3.00 per packet.

Most of the Churches will have received their cartons already.

Any queries please contact Bron Tacey on 0417 028 605.

Partnership in Print November 2016

### CoCo

The November meeting of CoCo will commence at Romsey at 9:30am. The hall will open from 9am for a cuppa prior to the meeting.

## Bible Study followed by Worship preparation

One of the strengths of working as a Partnership is the team support we can provide for each other. Meeting together to explore deeply the scriptures and prepare for worship helps us grow and be encouraged in our various ministries and congregations. We can ask questions, listen and learn from each other.

Everyone is welcomed to attend even if they are not involved in preparing worship. Each session begins with Bible study, listening to the various scripture passages designated for the Sunday week following. We explore them beginning with the questions and issues to come to mind in our

reading. A conversation is established between the passage and our experiences. We listen to each and to each other seeking to allow the Spirit of God to bring life to them. It is a great opportunity to explore life and faith together. Some chose to leave at the end of this first session.

Following a short break, we then proceed to consider the coming worship services being developed. It is a great opportunity to share ideas and explore alternatives. Some use it as an opportunity to plan their services, others to support their fellow worship leaders while others stay to learn more about leading worship.

## Worship preparation dates

Week preparing for		Tuesday 7:30pm session venue & date		Wednesday 10am session venue & date	
Ord 32 (Proper 27)	6th Nov	Lancefield	25th Oct	Riddells Creek	26th Oct
Ord 33 (proper 28)	13th Nov	Gisborne	1st Nov	Tylden	2nd Nov
Ord 34 (proper 29) Christ the King	20th Nov	Romsey	8th Nov	Mt Macedon	9th Nov
Advent 1	27th Nov	Tylden	15th Nov	Northern - Sutton Grange?	16th Nov
Advent 2	4th Dec	Kyneton	22nd Nov	Riddells Creek	23rd Nov
Advent 3	11th Dec	Gisborne	29th Nov	Lancefield	30th Nov

Bible Study and Worship Preparation session details may at times change. Please check the web site, <http://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/copy-of-resources-and-event-diary>, for these and other details including the lectionary readings.

## Mid-week meditation and prayer

Come and join us in the office at Riddells Creek each Wednesday at 9am for meditation and prayer. It is a great opportunity to still our hearts and minds to listen to God and be aware of the needs of those around us. If you have not experienced Christian Meditation previously, you will be gently guided through the process.

## Kyneton

### Monster Garage Sale

Kyneton Uniting Church  
Saturday 12th November  
8:30 am until 12:30pm  
Great Bargains  
Don't miss out



## Mt Macedon

### Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday 16th October Mt Macedon had a 'Blessing of the Animals' Service conducted by Adele Maperson. Five dogs and their owners were blessed at this very special service at the Mount.



### Thistle Club

No meeting in November. Our Christmas Breakup and AGM is on Wednesday 7th December.

## Tylden

The Tylden UCAF held a most enjoyable luncheon with a good attendance in September. Malcolm Cole and Henry Vyhnaal once again entertained us with violin and piano music and then George and Shirley Roberts gave a most interesting talk about their trip in South America. At George and Shirley's suggestion a donation from the day's proceeds was forwarded to Lifeline. Thanks to all who made the day such a great success.

We held our open day after the service on October 16. Whilst we spent an enjoyable time together and Annette dropped in we had no visitors from the community.

The Opportunity Shop has been very busy and it has been great to have Wendy and Annette visit us there and catch up with the volunteers and our customers. We also had a visit from Andrew Gall and his daughter Siobhan on Saturday the 15th at the shop and caught up with the family news.

Partnership in Print November 2016

## Romsey

### UCAF

The UCAF meeting on Wednesday 9th November will be at Willowmeade Kilmore at 1pm. We will have a Communion Service with Helen Clement.

### Church Council

Dinner meeting at 6pm at the home of Sandra and David Strack on Wednesday 2nd November.

### Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Packing

120 boxes need packing. Can you help? On Friday 4th November from 10am in the church hall we need helpers to fold and pack boxes. All welcome. Come for an hour or three. BYO lunch if you can stay.

## Lancefield

### An Invitation From Lancefield

We haven't had a 150th anniversary before (funny that) so we are determined to make the most of this one! In June we commemorated the laying of the Foundation Stone in 1866; on November 27th it will be 150 years since the first service in the church, and that is certainly worth another celebration.

Once again we will combine with the Romsey congregation as the two churches have always been linked. Annette will conduct the Service, and the Rev Adrian Pegler will provide an historical reflection. (Adrian served at Lancefield and Romsey during the eighties and nineties.)

We will commence at our (historical) time of 10:30, and then proceed on to lunch in the Kindergarten. It would be great to welcome any members from the Partnership Churches who are able to attend.

Of course, we will actually be 150 years old all next year, and most likely we will find another reason to celebrate.

Ian Kennedy  
Page 5

## Gisborne

### Social Justice Sunday

On Sunday 25th September Gisborne Congregation observed Social Justice Sunday.

Annette's message was based on readings from the Bible about our responsibilities as Christians to care about others' needs.

A short talk was given to underline some local and overseas concerns about Social IN justice. Among those topics mentioned were the homeless in Melbourne, the high cost of rent and for those trying to purchase their own home.

Another issue is the under-payment and exploitation of workers who are not aware of their rights.

And of course, the cruel and inhumane treatment of asylum seekers was mentioned. It seems bizarre that Australia might take refugees from Costa Rica in exchange for those on Manus and Nauru.

How can we possibly be described as a 'compassionate' country?

*Wendy Hebbard*

### Advent Studies

Advent will come early in Gisborne because the weekly Advent Bible studies will commence on Friday 11th November at 11 am. (11th of the 11th at 11).

The dates are 11th, 18th and 25th November plus 2nd December. Please feel free to come on any or all of these days.

### Food Collection

Our church has been granted permission by Foodworks in Gisborne to collect groceries just inside their Brantome Street entrance from 14th November until approx. 14th December. These will be delivered to Lentara for under privileged families and for Asylum seekers.

### Prayer Group

Prayer Group meets at 2pm each Tuesday and 10am each Friday.

## Gisborne Fellowship

Gisborne Fellowship has arranged a visit to Skydancers Cafe just out of Harcourt for its break-up afternoon tea on Monday, 21st November. Apart from their licensed cafe, they have a butterfly garden, nursery, and a display giftware and homewares. Cost depends on consumption! Everyone is most welcome – just let Maree or Bev know by Sunday, 13th November if you will be attending.

### Muffins'n More

Muffins'n More meets at 10am on Tuesday, 8th November.

### Craft Group

The Gisborne Craft Group meets at 12noon on Tuesday, 8th November straight after Muffins'n More.

### Friends Group

Gisborne Friends Group meets at 6:30pm on the 1st Friday of each month to share pizza and chat.

## Metcalfe

### 28th Annual Fire Brigade Service

to honour Firefighters

**11am on 13th November 2016**

### Metcalfe Uniting Church

Fire Tankers to assemble at the Metcalfe Hall no later than 1030hrs

As the final hymn is sung the minister will lead the congregation outside for a blessing of the Fire Tankers and crews.

A cup of tea will follow the service.

RSVP by 10th November

Dorothy 5423 2635 or Cathy 5423 2647  
(or leave a message)

# Coco Report for meeting held

## Saturday October 8th 2016 at Tylden UC

Chairperson Colin welcomed us.

### Reflection:

Annette led us in a devotion on 1st Corinthians – One Spirit – lots of individual parts but we are one body in Christ. We then prayed for the person on either side of us, very meaningful.

Colin presented a lovely bunch of flowers to Bronwyn in appreciation of her efforts in setting up the CoCo office and her secretarial work.

### Manual for Meetings:

Annette spoke to us on the UC Manual for Meetings. It is not just using the cards – but the skills needed for a consensus approach – not necessary to always agree but need to respect each other's opinions. We can apply patience, allow everyone who wants to contribute time to do so, make sure we listen to their ideas, consider things prayerfully. Reminder re cards:

- Red - warm to the idea being discussed.
- Blue - not too happy with idea.
- Yellow – need for more info.

We labelled the cards to remind us of their purpose.

### Correspondence:

Doug McIvor from Kyneton requesting an article in the local Kyneton paper about the Partnership now our Ministry Team is in place. We need to publicise the Uniting Church to the community.

Email re people prepared to do Services.

Phone is on at Riddells Creek Office. Internet access still being worked through. Colin and Peter to discuss Contract with Telstra arrangements.

### Future of Riddells Creek:

David Liebich had forwarded a list of people who in the main will be transferring their membership to Mount Macedon UC (about 15 people). The property will be transferred to the Partnership.

Process needs to be set in train.

### Strategic Planning:

Some hard copies of the Survey to be distributed to Congregations Sunday 9th October as only 1 Survey can be done on each email address. *(This has been corrected)* Completed hard copies can be sent to Bronwyn or brought to Combined Service on October 30th at the latest. Many people have already done the Survey on line. Next phase of Review is to look forward to the future. Rose Broadstock and Executive will start on this next month when Survey results are collated. Where emphasis will be – Social Justice, Outreach etc.

### Discussion on Memorandum of Understanding.

How is it working? Lyn Ward stressed need to have Financial Reports from each Congregation every 3 months. This is urgently needed for our future planning. The MOU requires regular review – after Survey results received and collated.

### Logo

Logo for Partnership being discussed. Prototype distributed and discussed.

### Financial Report:

Presented and discussed.

### Manases:

All OK. Sale of Kyneton gone through. Ian Kennedy from Lancefield to be included in the Property Committee. This Committee needs to be convened to set up guidelines.

### Office:

Peter will update Website this week. Can also add additional links (Meagan from Inflightgraphics will facilitate this). Each Congregation to check Website to make sure all activities of the Church are listed.



# Canada Highlights



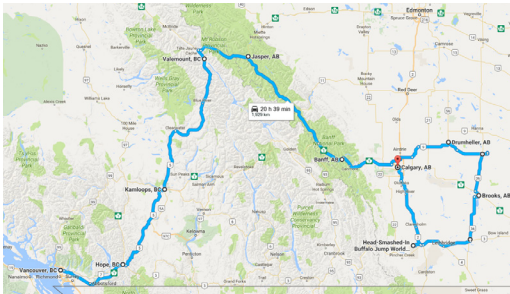
*Hiking on the Athabasca Glacier*

An invitation to attend a family wedding in Canada resulted in a wonderful mother-son trip for Jay and Richard Brooks from Romsey. Although the wedding was in Ottawa the majority of our time was spent in the west travelling through the Canadian Rockies from Vancouver to Calgary via Hope, Kamloops, Valemont, Jasper, Banff, Drumheller, Brooks and Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo-Jump.

Several times we were at altitudes higher than Mt Kosciuszko, even then the mountains still towered over us. We cruised Lake Maligne to Spirit Island, went on a three hour hike on the Athabasca Glacier, travelled on 4 different sky rail gondolas and a chairlift and went hiking in the Maligne Canyon at a minus temperature. We



*Maligne Lake and Spirit Island*



*Our route through British Columbia and Alberta*



*Drumheller's little church - the sign says it can seat 10,000 people - 6 at a time.*

Partnership in Print November 2016



saw elks, mountain goats, squirrels, chipmunks, pika, and deer. We soon learnt that a collection of cars pulled up on the side of the road meant something interesting to see. It might be elks rutting, mountain goats at a natural salt lick or even a train.



*A Chipmunk and a Pika*



*Goods train in a picture postcard landscape*

After we left the Rockies we drove through the 'badlands' and visited the Royal Tyrell Museum at Drumheller which is devoted entirely to dinosaurs, spent a few quiet moments in 'the little



*Hoodoos near Drumheller*

church', were fascinated by the 'hoodoos', and hiked to a dinosaur 'quarry' or dig site at the Dinosaur Provincial Park.



*Dinosaur bones at the Dinosaur Provincial Park*

On our final full day in Alberta we drove from the town of Brooks (everyone needs to spend a night or 2 in a town with your own name) south to the World Heritage Listed Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo-Jump where we saw an archaeological dig in progress. This was an important site for the First Nations where they butchered the bison which were central to their way of life.



*Archaeological dig at Head-Smashed-in-Buffalo-Jump*

From Calgary we flew to Ottawa for a few family days including the wedding. From there it was a long drive in the rain to Niagara Falls for 2 nights. A drive to Toronto then flights to Vancouver and Honolulu made for another long day. Pearl Harbor and a day on the 'Big Island' exploring a volcano were the highlights in Hawaii.

*Continued on page 12*

*Page 9*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<h1>November 2016</h1>		<b>1 All Saints Melb Cup Day</b> <b>7:30pm</b> - Worship Prep at Gisborne
<b>6 Ordinary Sun 32</b> <b>9am</b> - Worship at Tylden, Romsey <b>9:30am</b> - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton <b>10:30am</b> - Worship at Mt Macedon <b>10:45am</b> - Worship at Lancefield ( <i>cuppa at 10:15am</i> ) <b>11am</b> - Worship at Barfold	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>2pm</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>7:30pm</b> - Worship Prep at Romsey
<b>13 Ordinary Sun 33</b> <b>9am</b> - Worship at Tylden, Romsey <b>9:30am</b> - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton <b>10:30am</b> - Worship at Mt Macedon <b>10:45am</b> - Worship at Lancefield ( <i>cuppa at 10:15am</i> ) <b>11am</b> - CFA Blessing service at Metcalfe <b>PM</b> - Labyrinth Walk @ Kyneton Labyrinth	<b>14</b> <b>AM</b> - Hope activities at Woodend Children's Park	<b>15</b> <b>10am</b> - Muffins 'n More at Gisborne <b>12noon</b> - Gisborne Craft Group <b>2pm</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>7:30pm</b> - Worship Prep at Tylden
<b>20 Christ the King</b> <b>9am</b> - Worship at Tylden, Romsey <b>9:30am</b> - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton <b>10:30am</b> - Worship at Mt Macedon <b>10:45am</b> - Worship at Lancefield ( <i>cuppa at 10:15am</i> ) <b>11am</b> - Worship at Mia Mia <b>6pm</b> - Sunday@6 at Romsey	<b>21</b> Gisborne Fellowship Group to Skydancers	<b>22</b> <b>2pm</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>7:30pm</b> - Worship Prep at Kyneton
<b>27 Advent 1</b> <b>9am</b> - Worship at Tylden <b>9:30am</b> - Worship at Gisborne, Kyneton <b>10:30am</b> - Worship at Mt Macedon <b>10:30am</b> - 150th celebration at Lancefield <b>11am</b> - Worship at Sutton Grange <b>5pm</b> - Evening Worship at Woodend	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>2pm</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>7:30pm</b> - Worship Prep at Gisborne

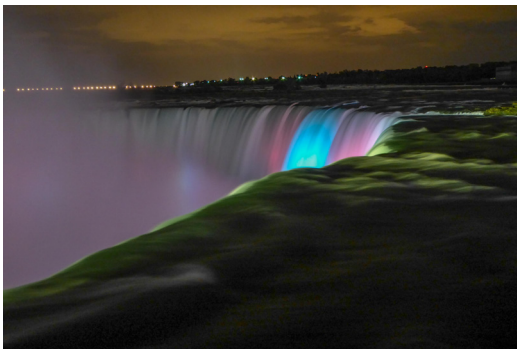
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> <b>9am</b> - Midweek Prayer at Office <b>10am</b> - Worship Prep at Tylden <b>6pm</b> - Romsey Church Council	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>10am</b> - Romsey Shoebox packing <b>10am</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>6:30pm</b> - Friends Group	<b>5</b>
<b>9</b> <b>9am</b> - Midweek Prayer at Office <b>10am</b> - Worship Prep at Mt Macedon <b>1pm</b> - Romsey UCAF at Willowmeade, Kilmore	<b>10</b>	<b>11 Remembrance Day</b> <b>10am</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>11am</b> - Advent Study at Gisborne	<b>12</b> <b>8:30am</b> - Kyneton Garage Sale <b>9:30am</b> - CoCo meets at Romsey
<b>16</b> <b>9am</b> - Midweek Prayer at Office <b>10am</b> - Worship Prep at Sutton Grange?	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10am</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>11am</b> - Advent Study at Gisborne	<b>19</b>
<b>23</b> <b>9am</b> - Midweek Prayer at Office <b>10am</b> - Worship Prep at Riddells Creek	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>10am</b> - Gisborne Prayer Group <b>11am</b> - Advent Study at Gisborne	<b>26</b>
<b>30</b> <b>9am</b> - Midweek Prayer at Office <b>10am</b> - Worship Prep at Lancefield			





We could see where the lava was entering the sea on the 'Big Island' of Hawaii. Although we drove to the end of the road it was too long a hike in the time we had available.

The weather on the whole was good when it mattered. Rain in the first couple of days while we were in Vancouver had resulted in a dusting of snow on the peaks around Jasper. The snow had looked wonderful against the blue sky but melted in the warm days we were there. Rain in Banff coincided with Sunday and became a day of rest/church/shopping. Many of the activities around Niagara Falls involve water so the rain there didn't matter.



Niagara Falls lit up at night

I was able to attend church 3 times while away, being warmly welcomed by the United Church of Canada congregations in Kamloops, Banff and Ottawa. I gave each congregation a peace candle with greetings from Romsey UC.

The United Church of Canada is much older than the Uniting Church in Australia. It was inaugurated on June 10, 1925 when the Methodist Church, the Congregational Union, and 70 per cent of the Presbyterian Church entered into the



Becky welcomed 'Victoria' and me at Kamloops. 'Victoria' was made for me at a Romsey Sunday@6 service as a 'garden gnome' type travelling companion.

union. Several more churches and individual congregations have joined the union since.

We waited months for the trip and we had a fantastic time. Already it seems a long time ago but we have some great memories and photos.

I send a big thank you to Meagan Upsher from Inflight Graphics for taking over PiP for October.

Jay Brooks (Romsey)

## A NIGHT ON THE FARM WITH David Hobson

SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER, 2016, 5.30pm  
"Nardoo" Monegetta



For one night only in the Macedon Ranges, Australian tenor and composer David Hobson is going to light up the mountains with his amazing repertoire that spans the gamut of musical styles from Baroque to Pop.

**PREMIUM SEATS**  
**\$120**

**REGULAR SEATS**  
**\$80**

Complete your night by ordering a locally sourced  
**Hamper to share.**  
Anti Pasto - \$30  
Dinner for 2 - \$50

BOOK TICKETS at [www.trybooking.com/214394](http://www.trybooking.com/214394)  
or ring Glenice on 5429 6418 or Betty on 5429 1597

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE RESTORATION FUND CHRIST CHURCH LANCEFIELD





President: Stuart McMillan

General Secretary: Colleen Geyer

### **LIVING STONES: OUR CALL FOR JUSTICE FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE**

13 October 2016

The 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Perth last year resolved to establish an awareness-raising campaign on the plight of the Palestinian people.

This decision was a response to official requests from Heads of Churches in Jerusalem and the World Council of Churches. Importantly it was also a response informed by many Uniting Church members who have visited the Holy Land in recent years. Whether participating in ecumenical outreach programs, pilgrimages or their own personal travel, many Uniting Church members have come back to Australia shocked at the inhumane treatment of Palestinians in their homeland.

After his National Ministers' Conference in Jerusalem in 2014, ex-President Rev. Prof. Andrew Dutney [shared moving stories](#) of the "Living Stones" - to borrow the phrase from 1 Peter 2:5 - the members of the Palestinian Christian community who endure daily humiliation, intimidation and worse under Israeli military occupation.

As Christians we recall that we are all part of the one body of Christ and 'if one member suffers, we all suffer together with it.' (1 Corinthians 12:26) So in occupied Palestine and wherever else people suffer, we must not forget the oppressed.

This week, in accordance with the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly resolution, we launch the Living Stones web page on the Assembly website <http://assembly.uca.org.au/palestine>. The Living Stones page contains a number of resources to inform and encourage you in your engagement with this important issue.

We commend the page and its resources to you and your Council members, and encourage you to build awareness in your Church and your community about justice for the Palestinian people.

Your prayers, support and solidarity for our Palestinian brothers and sisters in Christ are greatly needed. These prayers together with your continuing prayers for a just peace for Palestine and Israel are highly valued.

Stuart McMillan  
President

Colleen Geyer  
General Secretary

Further information copied from a 3-fold leaflet is on the following 2 pages

## LIVING STONES:

# THE UNITING CHURCH AND PALESTINE

## The Uniting Church and Palestine

In 2015 our 14th Assembly meeting resolved to establish a campaign to raise awareness throughout the Uniting Church on the plight of Palestinian Christians and the Palestinian people, because:

- Palestinian Christians and the World Council of Churches have asked churches to respond to the suffering of the Palestinian churches and people.

- We are part of the one body of Christ; “if one member suffers, we all suffer together with it” (1 Corinthians 12:26).

- We are disciples of Jesus, whose life and ministry fulfills the prophetic tradition of bringing good news to the poor and seeking freedom for the oppressed (Luke 4:18-21, Isaiah 61:1).



## What's happening in Israel and Palestine?

Palestine has been under Israeli military occupation since 1967. The West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza are officially controlled by Israel. Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip in 2005, but over the years illegal Israeli settlements and land confiscations have taken over nearly half of the West Bank.

Palestinians living under occupation endure daily harassments and privations at the hands of Israeli occupiers, which have brought a deep sense of hopelessness and despair to the people of Palestine. Violent conflict in recent years has cost several thousand Palestinian lives and dozens of Israeli lives as well.

The prospects for negotiated peace and the de-

sired “two-state solution” are bleak and Palestinians have little hope for a better future. Palestinian Christians now comprise less than 2% of the population of Palestine.



*Mural in Dheisheh refugee camp south of Bethlehem, where displaced Palestinians have been living since 1949.*

## What are settlements?

Israeli settlements are segregated enclaves built only for Israeli Jews on Palestinian land in the West Bank. Over 500,000 Israeli settlers live in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, alongside 3 million Palestinians.

The United Nations, the United States and many others agree these settlements pose a significant barrier to negotiating peace in the region.



*Maale Adummim is an Israeli settlement in the West Bank with a population of 40,000.*

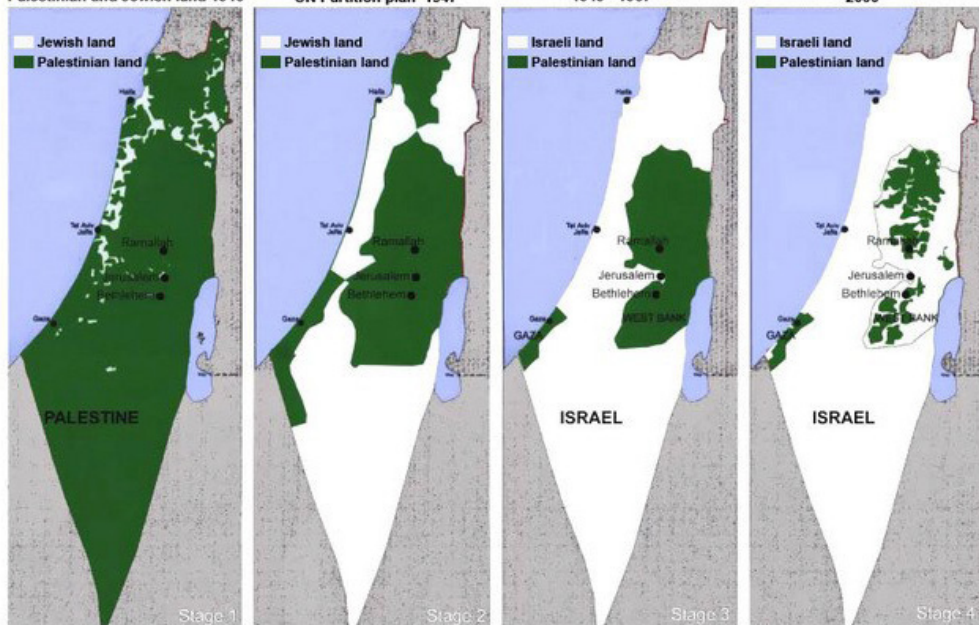
## Palestinian loss of land 1946 to 2000

Palestinian and Jewish land 1946

UN Partition plan 1947

1949 - 1967

2000



## What has the Uniting Church decided?

### Get Involved

We want to see a peacefully negotiated resolution of the conflict between Israel and Palestine, with the support of the international community.

We support a two-state solution. In 2009 we affirmed that both the State of Israel and a Palestinian State each have the right to live side by side in peace and security. We affirmed as well that anti-Semitism in all its expressions is an affront to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and we continue to encourage our members to be vigilant in resisting anti-Semitism and anti-Judaism in church and society.

This awareness-raising campaign established includes the promotion of the boycott of goods from the illegal settlements in the West Bank as part of the campaign. This is a position we share with Israeli peace activists.

By informing ourselves and by committing to support a just peace in Israel-Palestine we honour both our sisters and brothers in Christ and our Christian call to stand with the oppressed.

[assembly.uca.org.au/palestine](http://assembly.uca.org.au/palestine)

Positive change for the people of Palestine can only happen if there is a groundswell of support.

Your congregation might consider: organising prayer vigils; hosting events or forums; writing to your local MP. For more information, please sign up to our newsletter via the website.

### Prayer

God of grace and reconciliation,  
pour your power upon all your people  
in the Holy Land,

Jews, Muslims and Christians,  
Palestinians and Israelis.

Let hatred be turned into love,  
fear to trust, despair to hope,  
oppression to freedom,  
occupation to liberation,  
that conflict, violence and suffering  
may be replaced by peace and justice for all.  
Amen.

# Port Phillip West Prayer Cycle

Suggested prayer – We pray for Uniting Church Agencies, Congregations and Schools together with the Ministry Agents who serve God in their various placements. We remember today XXX. Lord, guide and bless your work in our Presbytery that it may flourish for the good of the people and for your glory.

November	Location/Position	People
Sun 6	Pilgrim Yarraville	Rev Rachel Kronberger
Sun 13	Presbytery officers	Chair - Rev Paul Blacker, Sec - Bruce Wilson, Trea - Ian Pooley
Sun 20	Presbytery Ministers	Rev Jenny Trehwella, Rev Dr Adam McIntosh, Rev John Evans, Rev Rose Broadstock
Sun 27	Retired Ministers	Pray for the Retired Ministry Fellowship

# Macedon Ranges Partnership Prayer Cycle

Day	Congregation/s	Topic	Day	Congregation/s	Topic
Sun	Northern Congregations	Friends	Thu	Riddells Creek, Office & Staff	MR Partnership
Mon	Kyneton	Family	Fri	Mt Macedon	Homeless
Tue	Lancefield & Romsey	Concerns	Sat	Gisborne	Current Affairs
Wed	Tylden & Woodend	World Events			

# Lectionary Readings Year C & A

## Ordinary Sundays after Pentecost - Year C

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	Co-lour	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Tue 1st Nov	All Saints Day	W	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18	149	Ephesians 1:11-23	Luke 6:20-31
Sun 6th Nov	Ordinary Sun 32	G	Haggai 1:15b to 2:9	145:1-5, 17-21 or 98	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38
Sun 13th Nov	Ordinary Sun 32	G	Isaiah 65:17-25	Isaiah 12	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19
Sun 20th Nov	Christ the King	W	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Luke 1:68-79	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43

## Advent -Year A

A season of preparation, beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, in which the church recalls its hope and expectation in the coming of Christ past, present and future.

Date	Day/Season	Co-lour	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Sun 27th Nov	Advent 1	P	Isaiah 2:1-5	122	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44



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N - Northern, SG - Sutton Grange, B - Barfold, MM - Mia Mia, M - Metcalfe, K - Kyneton, L - Lancefield, R - Romsey,  
T - Tylden, W - Woodend, MtM - Mount Macedon, RC - Riddells Creek, G - Gisborne, P - Presbytery

## In God's Hands: The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle enables us to journey in prayer through every region of the world and through every week of the year affirming our solidarity with Christians all over the world, brothers and sisters living in diverse situations, experiencing diverse problems and sharing diverse gifts. See website for weekly prayers. <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/prayer-cycle/ecumenical-prayer-cycle/##>

Week 44	30 Oct - 5 Nov	The Indian Ocean islands: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Maldives
Week 45	6-12 Nov	Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda
Week 46	16-19 Nov	Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe
Week 47	20-26 Nov	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea
Week 48	27 Nov - 3 Dec	Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger

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Address list removed for privacy.

## Contacts Other Groups

<b><u>SUTTON GRANGE</u></b> <b><u>MIA MIA</u></b> <b><u>BARFOLD</u></b> <b><u>METCALFE</u></b>	<u>Elders - North</u> Dot Smith Marge Townrow	<u>Elders- Kyneton</u> Pip Elston      Helen Aldridge Jenny Elston      Peter Stone Doug McIver      Andrea Strack
<b><u>KYNETON</u></b>	<u>Congregation Chairperson</u> Roy Gibbs	<u>Congregation Secretary</u> Jenny Elston
<b><u>LANCEFIELD</u></b>	<u>Elders</u> Peter Fraser,      Ian Kennedy Judy Stammers,      Rita Vandervalk	<u>Classical Music Group</u> Ian Kennedy <u>Organist</u> - Rita Vandervalk
		<u>Worship Team Co-ord</u> Jay Brooks
<b><u>ROMSEY</u></b>	<u>Elders</u> Noel Shaw,      David Strack Jeni Clampit,      Sandra Strack Jenny Elliott,      Jay Brooks	<u>UCAF</u> Pres - Hazel Allen Sec - Jeni Clampit
<b><u>TYLDEN</u></b>	<u>Elders</u> Shirley Bowen,      Joy Evans Max Hinneberg,      Jean Lucas	<u>Worship Team Co-Ord</u> Janet Cole
<b><u>WOODEND</u></b>		
<b><u>MT MACEDON</u></b>	<u>Elders</u> Brian Charter,      Anne Fyfield      Neil Tweddle Barbara Talbot,      Shirley Cross	<u>Thistle Club</u> President - Judy Charter Secretary - Anne Fyfield <u>Organist</u> - George Fyfield
<b><u>RIDDELLS CREEK</u></b>	<u>Contacts</u> David Liebich Marg Tarrant	<u>Craft Group</u> Lynette Bucknall
<b><u>GISBORNE</u></b>	<u>Prayer Ministry/F &amp; C</u> - Glennis Speed <u>Pastoral Care/F &amp; C</u> - Bev Gilbertson <u>Social Justice</u> - Wendy Hebbard <u>Worship &amp; Education</u> - Eleanor Wood	<u>UCAF</u> - Maree Clarke <u>Craft Group</u> - Linda Moorhouse <u>Friends Pizza Night</u> - Ron Hebbard
<b><u>CoCo</u> -</b> (Co-ordinating Council)	<u>Chair</u> - Colin Chapman <u>Secretary</u> - Bronwyn Hewitt <u>Minute Secretary</u> - Sina Smale <u>Editor Partnership in Print</u> - Jay Brooks	<u>Treasurer</u> - Paul Gilbertso <u>Finance &amp; Manse Committee</u> Chair - Treasurer - Paul Gildertson, Lyn Ward, Colin Chapman & Bronwyn Hewitt.

# Address Label

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CONGREGATION DETAILS		CHAIRPERSON	SECRETARY	TREASURER	CoCo REPS	MAGAZINE
<b>SUTTON GRANGE</b> - Church Access Rd <b>MIA MIA</b> - Matheson Rd <b>BARFOLD</b> - Heathcote-Kyneton Rd <b>METCALFE</b> - 3 Metcalfe-Kyneton Rd <b>KYNETON</b> - 54 Ebdon St (PO Box 892)		Roy Gibbs	Dot Smith	Finance Committee	Marge Townrow Dot Smith	Pip Elston
					Helen Aldridge, Pip Elston	
<b>LANCEFIELD</b> - 9 High St			Ian Kennedy	Peter Fraser	Ian Kennedy, Rita Vandervalk	Ian Kennedy
<b>ROMSEY</b> - 25 Pohlman St (PO Box 264, Romsey, 3434)		Noel Shaw	Jeni Clampitt <i>Property - David Strack</i>	Roger Baker	Noel Shaw, Jay Brooks Jeni Clampitt	Jay Brooks
<b>TYLDEN</b> - Trentham Rd (c/o Tylden General Store, Tylden, 3444)		Max Hinneberg	Janet Cole <i>Property - Max Hinneberg</i>	Dawn Hinneberg	Bronwyn Hewitt, Janet Cole Dawn Hinneberg	Jenny Connor
<b>WOODEND</b> - 37 Forest St (PO Box 34, Woodend, 3442)			Sina Smale		Sina Smale, George Roberts	Alison Killoh
<b>Mt MACEDON</b> - 684 Mt Macedon Rd		Neil Tweddle	Fiona Armour	Lyn Ward	Anne Fyfield, Lyn Ward Neil Tweddle	Fiona Armour
<b>GISBORNE</b> - 23 Brantome St		D'Arcy Wood	Colin Chapman <i>Property - Neil Moorhouse, Rob Dunstan</i>	Paul Gilbertson	Colin Chapman, D'Arcy Wood Paul Gilbertson	Michael Woolner