



Shepparton
Uniting Church

Eighth Edition
Spring 2016

on the *Vine*

Seeking to be faithful to Christ in worship, community life and serving the wider community.



NEXT GEN

Becoming family

Prayer Points

Thank you

Faith in Action

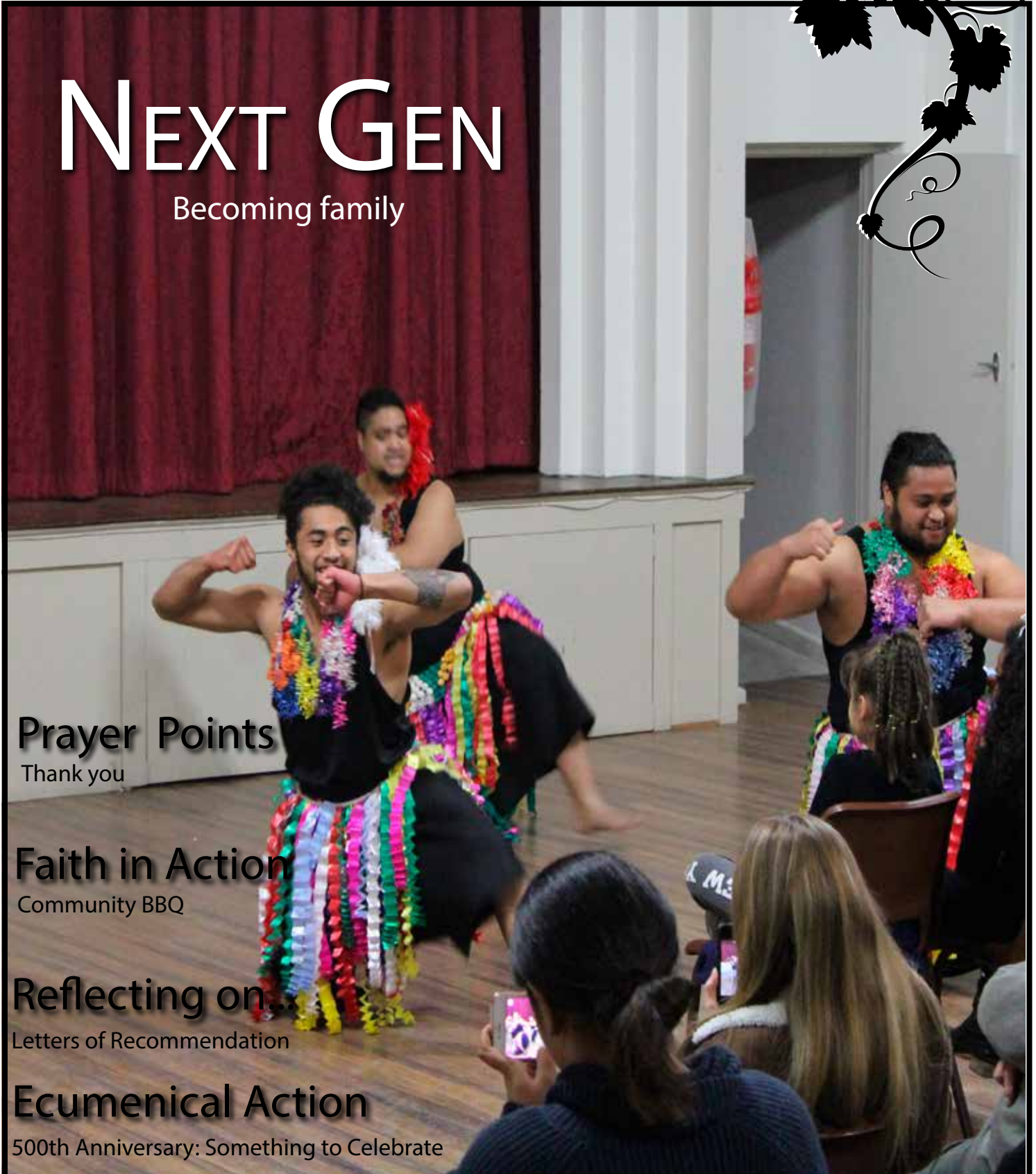
Community BBQ

Reflecting on...

Letters of Recommendation

Ecumenical Action

500th Anniversary: Something to Celebrate



Contents

- 3 Thawing out
Be satisfied
- 3 Prayer Points
Thank you...
- 4 From the Minister's Desk
A Community of Faith
- 4 Faith in Action
Community BBQ
- 5 Next Gen Visit
Becoming Family
- 6 Ecumenical Actions
500th Anniversary: Something to Celebrate
- 7 Reflecting On...
Letters of Recommendation
- 8 Kildonan Uniting Care
Yanyan Lotjpan Yapenyebak
- 9 Synod Snippets
Counting the Homeless on Census night
- 10 Assembly Action
Close Encounters at NYALC
- 11 For the Kids
Have Fun!
- 12 Individual Profile
Betty Hildebrand
- 12 Around the Congregation
Do you remember...
- 13 Building Project Update
As of 24/7/2016
- 13-14 Preaching Plan
September- November 2016
- 15-16 Upcoming Events
September- November 2016



Rev.
Loni Vaitohi
(03) 5822 4602



Rev.
Rosalie Rayment-Hewitt
(03) 5821 2077



We are here as part of God's church, not because we are good enough, or because we are better than others, but because we recognise the need for God in our lives and seek to learn together what it is to walk the way of Christ in love and service of others.

We come from a variety of backgrounds and are at different points in our faith journey. This all adds to the richness of our lives together. Whether you are here as a visitor or looking for a place to be your spiritual home, I trust that you will find a welcome and something that nourishes your inner being.



Shepparton Uniting Church
150 Maude Street, Shepparton
P.O. Box 7032, Shepparton, 3632

Thawing out

Welcome to the Spring edition of on the Vine.

I love Spring. The chill of winter finally lifts and the sun appears again and starts to defrost those bones. The gardens spring back into life and everyone seems to have a little more movement to them again. The days get longer and everything seems so much fresher.

But before too long, we already begin to hear the grumbles of how 'hot' it is already!

Are we ever satisfied with what we have? It's too hot, too cold. Too wet, too dry. Too busy, too quiet. The hymns aren't the ones we would choose and church is at the

wrong time, in the wrong building, with the wrong people.

This edition we explore the simplicity of prayer, look at how we live out our faith with the community BBQ, reflect on the idea of family with the Next Gen visit and think about the statements and issues presented at Synod in June.

We also take time to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the reformation and, a little closer to home, the relationship we have with Uniting Care and Rumbalara.

The end of this edition also sees the beginning of Advent and the celebrations of All Saints' Day and Christ the King.

So this season, let us thaw not just our bodies but our hearts and minds as we look, read and reflect on how we do faith and fellowship. Let us look into the promise of this spring which hints to the new life awaiting us in the beginning of Advent. Let us remember that it is Christ who feeds us, nurtures us and helps us to grow, like the flowers of spring coming to bloom and in him, we are truly satisfied. Until then, stay warm, dry and let the spring begin to thaw you out.

Peace. Jen Shields.

Prayer Points

Thank you ...

Daniel and I were asked to lead a prayer of 'thanks' for one of our Youth Services.

We looked at prayers on the internet and agreed on one from there, as we couldn't come up with any other ideas.

During the night, I was woken from my sleep with a better idea for a prayer: Thank you for my eyes...ears... etc, with a reason for each.

When I awoke the next morning I told Daniel about the idea that I had.

As I started to write down "Thank you for my eyes..." Daniel instantly blurted

our "they help me to see!" WOW!

We then chatted about his answer and extended it a little bit. I wrote down all of our ideas and within ten minutes we had our unique 'Prayer of Thanks' completed.

Daniel has since written three awesome prayers that have been shared with some members of our congregation.

It was a truly spiritual and uplifting prayer that I had the honour to share in the creation of. I'm a very proud Mum and feel truly blessed.

Bron Fisher and Daniel Griffin (10)

Loving God,

Thank you for my eyes, they help me to see all the beautiful things around me, that you created.

Thank you for my ears, they help me hear your word.

Thank you for my nose, it helps me to smell the flowers and all the wondrous smells.

Thank you for my mouth, so I can spread your words of love and peace.

Thank you for my arms, they help us to embrace each other.

Thank you for my legs, they help me walk in your path.

Thank you for my heart, so that I can love unconditionally. Amen

From the Minister's Desk

A Community of Faith

Dear friends in Christ,

Once again we find ourselves in the middle of the second half of the year and hope that you and your loved ones are well.

I have recently read Dr Phillip Hughes interview on Crosslight (August 7, 2016), in which he summed up his years of research into the Christian Church and its decline.

It is no surprise that Hughes points to the failure of the Uniting Church to convey the Christian message in contemporary Australia as a failure to free herself from 'individualisation of thinking'. He argues that what is really in decline is our sense of community built around the transcendent. This has led people to form communities around specific things of interest.

Such statements call us to reflect

on the way we've been and the way we are as a community of faith, as a congregation, and as a parish.

When we gather together to worship, do we gather as a community that is inseparably linked to each other as the body of Christ? Or, do we gather together as a collection of individuals who seek and serve our own individual interests and longing?

Such a collection of individuals is not a community. The relationship between members is not based on trust but caution – always waiting for the other to make some betraying move. And if he or she does, then they are ready to declare the friendship over.

Instead of total openness and communication, they have substituted judgement. Instead of taking the risk of completeness, they have substituted partiality. Instead

of the poetry of surrender, they have substituted the prose of holding back – of waiting to see how things will turn out.

This kind of relationship may last, and may last for a long time until crisis time. Then the betrayal one always felt was there, the lack of trust one always knew was there, are enough to make one turn against one's friend, and heap recriminations upon them and walk with them no more.

This reflection calls us to look at how we are as 'community of faith'. We immediately look at our own lives and those we have wounded and the people we've hurt because we were too quick to interpret their motives, and sit in judgement of their actions.

Blessings to you all,

Loni.

Faith in Action

Community BBQ

On and off for the last few years, Shepparton Uniting Church has been working with People Supporting People (PSP) in running a community BBQ at the Victoria Park Lake. Many of our congregation of all ages have helped out with this cause, some once and some monthly. Crosslight have even featured this act of reaching out to the community in April this year.

My name is Lisa Tuungafasi. Earlier this year it was my great privilege for me and my daughter Erin to go to the lake and help feed the needy in our community. I was very excited to be a part of this

wonderful project.

We cooked sausages and heated pies for the people to come. Only a few people came we were over prepared but had fun with those who we met. I'm looking forward to being able to help more people in the future and I'm sure in winter the need is greater and many more people would be waiting for something warm.

This is a great experience that we are sharing together as a group of people who are ready to share with others.

Lisa Tuungafasi.



Photo: Crosslight, April 2016

Next Gen Visit

Becoming Family



Over the weekend of the 6th and 7th of August, we were visited by 30 or so youth and young adults from the Next Gen group. What I took home from meeting the second generation group was a strong sense of community and family.

Being an introvert with PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) and a few other mental-health issues, I was quite terrified going into the room with a large group of rather loud people I didn't know, but quickly felt comfortable with the sense of family, community and friendship.

We played some ice-breaker games that were a lot of fun. I met a theatre nurse named Josh during one of them who was around the same age as me, and he was really interesting and nice to talk to. Josh is one of the leaders of the group and his background is Filipino. There were others who had Tongan, Fijian, Maori, Samoan and Indonesian, a variety of Asian

back grounds as well as a few Anglo's.

We had an introduction from Rev Swee-Ann Koh, who is the director of the Synod's Intercultural unit in the Commission for Mission, who explained that the Next Gen group were once called the 2nd Gen. Next Gen allows us to include people who are still first, 1.5, 2nd and further generations who know multiple cultures and are trying to connect them and make sense of them here in Australia.

We sat in the church and spent some time in groups answering a few questions about our own churches. I learnt that the Next Gen group are from a wide range of churches from all across Melbourne and a few from Robinville, towards Mildura. They meet up once a year for a camp and have a lot of fun, they also all meet-up at a church once a month on a Sunday. One of the questions was along the lines of "what is a common problem

faced by your home church", the most common answer to that we had was young people leaving the church (either to go to university or other reasons). We all agreed that we hate hearing "where have all the young people gone?" too, as there are some of us who stay. Our next step is looking at what we provide for those people to help build faith.

We then sat in the hall and shared in a multicultural dinner, there was even a whole pig there! After a showcase of traditional dances and song we were done.

On Sunday before the church service the Next Gen group were all up the front singing a few songs, some we knew and others we didn't. They then lead the service and we had communion together.

All in all I had a lot of fun with the next gen group and have taken a lot away with me. I look forward to meeting them all again.

David Cameron.



Ecumenical Action

500th Anniversary: Something to Celebrate

October 31, 2017 will mark the 500th anniversary of the day in 1517 when the German Catholic monk Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg Castle church and set in motion the (Protestant) Reformation.

What was the Reformation? It was a religious upheaval which changed Catholic Europe and divided the Western Church into Catholic

and Reformed (Protestant).

Luther's Theses called for the purification of the Church and a belief that the Bible, and not church tradition, should be the only source of spiritual authority. Luther's hopes for the renewal of the church were dashed when he was excommunicated by the church in 1521. Luther taught that salvation was not earned by good works, but was the

gracious gift of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He believed in 'the priesthood of all believers' (Hebrews 7) - our direct access to God in prayer. Luther translated the Bible into German so everyone could read it - Latin was the language used in the Church - and wrote hymns in German so the people could sing in church. Luther soon had many followers, who became known as Lutherans.

The Reformation spread to Switzerland with John Calvin and to England and Scotland where John Knox was the leader. The Lutheran Church is the largest Protestant Church in the world; the Presbyterian Church is another Reformation Church. In fact, more than 400 million Protestants around the world, including us, link their spiritual and religious life with the Reformation.

Celebrations for this 500th anniversary are taking place over a decade. During the ten years from 2008, a series of exhibitions, concerts, special services, dramatic presentations and festivals will highlight

the importance of the Reformation and Martin Luther's role in it.

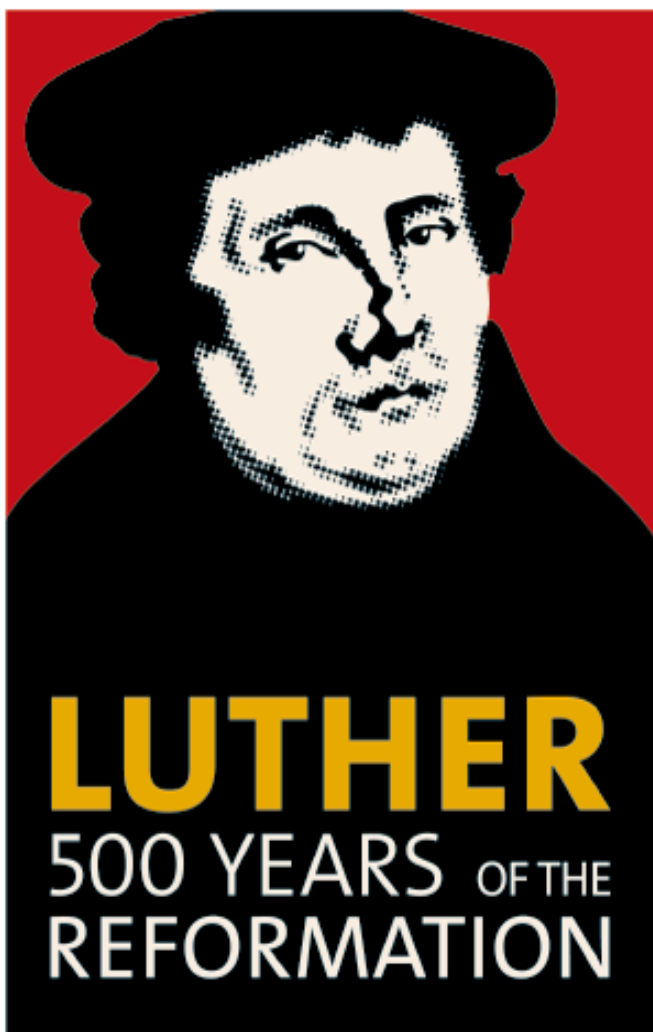
In 2016, the emphasis is on Reformation and the New World, because the Reformation spread from Wittenberg to the rest of the world.

Pope Francis plans to visit the Swedish city of Lund on October 31, 2016 as guest of the Lutheran Church to celebrate the anniversary there, one year before it occurs. He has already asked forgiveness for the way Catholics have treated other Christians over the years.

From November 2016 a 'story-mobile' will travel to 67 cities in 18 countries to assist local celebrations, starting from Geneva, John Calvin's city and home of the World Council of Churches, and including Ireland and Rome.

The first celebrations in Victoria have taken place. We should watch out for celebrations at and with St Paul's Lutheran Church, Shepparton so that we can share our joint spiritual heritage.

Joan McRae



Reflecting On...

Letters of recommendation

It has been quite a few years since I was last at a Synod meeting and I have found it revitalising to once again reconnect with the wider workings of our Church and the mission and discipleship that is happening across the states of Victoria and Tasmania.

The theme of this Synod was "letters of recommendation", inspired by the scripture from 2 Corinthians 3: 1-3 "You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all," Paul wrote.

There are many, to use the moderators words, living letters in our congregations and Synod. We heard many stories of hope, faith and love for each other and the communities we come from.

The main discussion for this Synod was the Major Strategic Review (MSR) and where the Church is heading into the future. For me the question that came out of these discussions was 'How can we be living letters written on our hearts, to be known and read by all in a changing society?'

The MSR proposal put to the Synod was also an opportunity to "recognise the new and hopeful ways in which God is working and to respond to the call for the Synod to move into a new and renewed form to continue to participate in this work" - MSR proposal 19b

I often hear members of this congregation say that we young people are full of life and enthusiasm. I urge you all to borrow and feed off that enthusiasm to allow the words of the MSR and the future vision and mission of the Synod to be more than just words on the page.

I know you all have ideas, I know you

all have visions of a better world. I know this because I have those visions for my children and their children. But who will make this happen if not us. Talk and share those ideas and let us work together to be the new and renewing church that is needed now.

As the body of the Synod struggled to find a way forward with the MSR proposal, in particular the key core areas of focus for the Synod in the next 5 years, the collective of younger members felt they needed to share their voice. After some thought, discussion of faith and shared concern for the Church we came up with words we felt the Synod needed to hear.

This moment was truly profound for me. One member spoke on our behalf but the group of younger member stood at our seats, a group which made up well less than 10 percent of the Synod. What we spoke was truly a letter from our hearts, it made us cry, it made other members of Synod cry, it made the members of the Synod see that the church is not dying. It is getting smaller but the passion is greater than ever.

I will finish now with the words we spoke so you too can hear the hope of the generation before you.

I speak on behalf of the collective of the younger generation standing around me.

We acknowledge that each and every person is unique and valuable.



Every age of life, culture, gender, race, sexuality and belief are the diverse groups that make up parts of our communities and the world in which we all reside.

Each of these groups can find themselves on the edges.

Homeless, poor, widowed, orphaned, sick, victimised, disabled, marginalised, vulnerable, tokenised and forgotten.

How do we prioritise ministries, when our communal call is to, go to and love every person wherever they are...

The challenge between maintaining and new initiatives...

We happen to be a group of diverse opinions, race, gender, sexuality and circumstance. We at times often feel we are unseen and unheard. We want to be visible. We are all from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds because we are all different but what makes us the same is Gods love for us and we are part of the church together.

We are not here to take..... we are also here to serve, to be, to live..wrestling what that means as a people of faith.

Please journey with us, guide us, resource us, share your faith and experience with us....journey with us as we begin to grow and take up the call of the church we might inherit.

Melissa Graham

Kildonan UnitingCare

Yanyan Lotjpan Yapenyebak (YLY)



Turtle time: Jeremiah Stewart is part of a group of young people from Shepparton-based Kildonan UnitingCare's Yanyun Lotjpan Yapenyebak program which has spent six months handcrafting a sculpture of a large turtle to present to residents of Rumbalara Elders Facility in Shepparton and which will take pride of place at the centre.

The project was resourceful and the finished sculpture — made of scrap sheet metal, bike chain, exhaust pipes, horseshoes and red gum — impressed those present for the unveiling.

Group member Jeremiah Stewart, 14, said he was pleased with the end result.

"It looks very good. I was wowed with how good it is," he said.

"It's good to donate it to here, because I have lots of my elders here."

The long-necked turtle is culturally significant to the Yorta Yorta people because it is their official totem.

Kildonan UnitingCare youth worker Kalun Atkinson said the name of the program — Yanyun Lotjpan Yapenyebak — meant "walk and talk together".

"The names of all the boys have been engraved on it, and they are very proud of it," he said.

Kildonan UnitingCare's program manager, Ian Bloomfield, described the turtle sculpture as "a sensational piece of art".

Rumbalara positive ageing and disability services director Dean Walton said the turtle would be

an impressive addition to the facility.

"Rumbalara encourages family and friends to visit residents as often as they can as well as welcoming groups from pre-schoolers to people from other aged care services to ensure residents stay connected with the community," he said.

"This link we have now formed with Kildonan's YLY members has connected another group of young Aboriginal men with Elders ensuring stories, knowledge and connections can continue through generations."

<https://www.kildonan.org.au/media-and-publications/news/youth-use-art-to-link-with-elders/>

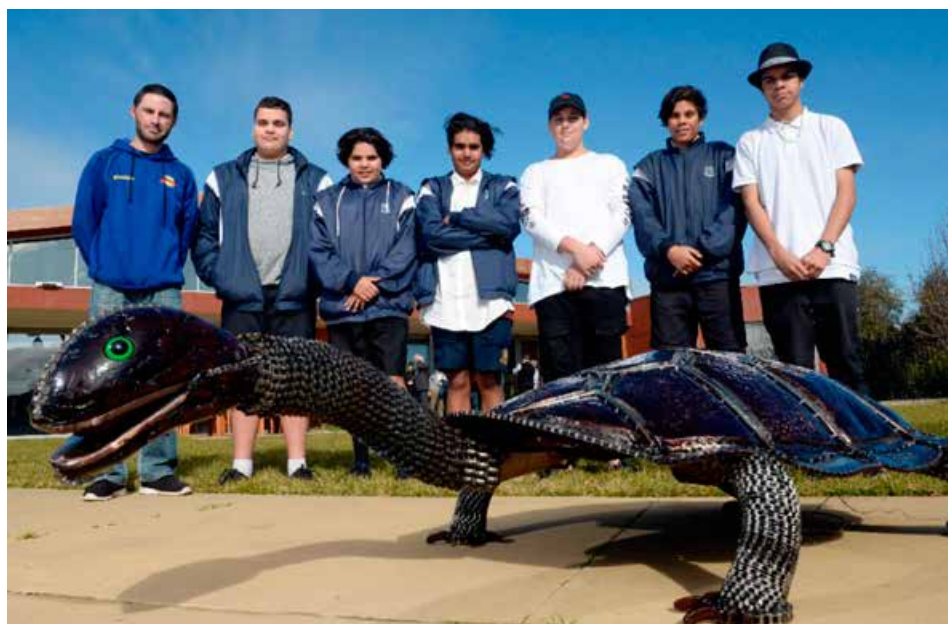


Photo courtesy of the Shepparton News.

Synod Snippets

Counting the Homeless on Census night

On 9 August, Australians will take part in the 2016 Census. The largest statistical collection in the country will provide a snapshot of how the Australian population has changed over the past five years.

The Census comes a week after Homelessness Week, which adopted the theme 'homelessness counts'.

Homelessness agencies are sending a message that every person, whether they have a home, live in crisis accommodation or sleep rough on the streets, deserves to be counted.

Jax Roan is coordinator of the Grampians Homelessness Network. This is a network of all funded homelessness agencies in the region, of which UnitingCare Ballarat is the auspice agency.

Ms Roan said the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has worked for a number of years to introduce systems that enable an accurate representation of people experiencing homelessness.

"The only other method to count people who are experiencing homelessness is through the data systems of those services who work with homeless clients. Unfortunately that will only ever count those people we are working with, not everyone who experiences homelessness," Ms Roan said.

Historically, people who 'couch surf' tend to be underrepresented in the Census as many do not consider themselves homeless. Participation in

the Census is therefore essential in capturing the different dimensions of homelessness.

"The Census count of the homeless population can be used by government and services to analyse where support is needed and what those supports should look like," Ms Roan said.

"As part of facilitating accurate reporting, the ABS engages with services to assist in counting people who experience homelessness. This is done by assisting our clients to accurately fill in the Census forms. Homelessness services will also assist people who are rough sleeping to access and complete the form.

"Across the country, services will go to where homeless people gather and ask whether they have completed a Census form. If not, we will assist people to do so, if they are willing.

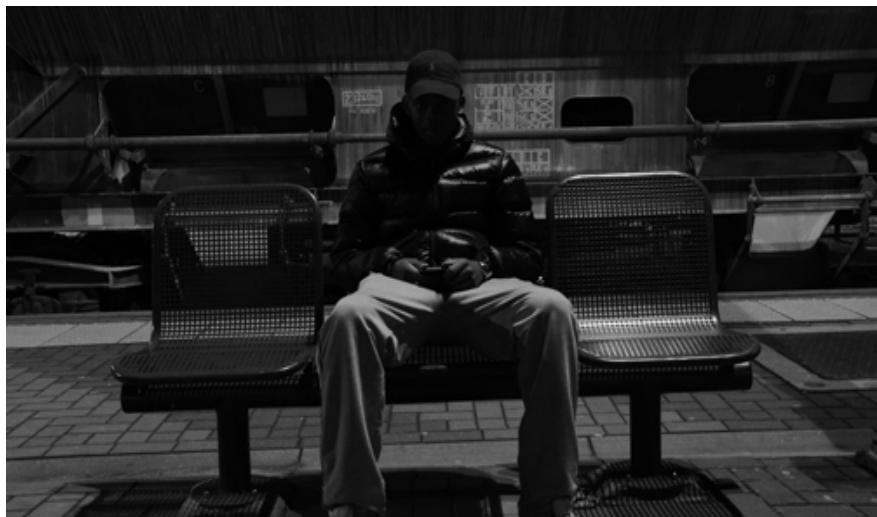
"We know we can't reach everyone but we try and reach as many people as we can, so that they don't remain forgotten and left behind."

According to the 2011 Census, people who sleep rough in the streets or in improvised dwellings make up only 6 per cent of Australia's homeless population. The majority live in severely crowded dwellings (39 per cent of the homeless population) or stay in supported accommodation (20 per cent).

More than 105,000 Australians were counted as homeless in the 2011 Census, an increase of 17 per cent from the 2006 Census. Many agencies are expecting another increase in this year's Census. The City of Melbourne's Street Count this year revealed a 74 per cent increase in rough sleepers in the Melbourne CBD.

UnitingCare Australia Chairman Peter Bicknell said UnitingCare agencies throughout the country have experienced an increased demand for their services.

"We are not optimistic that the figures will have fallen in this last Census period, but we are confident that if the Australian government commits to action now, we can see a real reduction in the number of Australians without safe and affordable accommodation come 2021," Peter Bicknell said.



<http://crosslight.org.au/2016/08/09/counting-homeless-census-night/>

Assembly Action

Close Encounters at NYALC

The first National Young Adult Leaders Conference I attended was in 2013, and I can still remember something of the bedtime story Aunty Denise Champion shared with us on the third night. It was about the Gum Tree couple.

Two trees who were separated by a road built between them. "They stood alone. It was a great sadness, they stood alone. We are meant to be together". I remember it as a metaphor for the hope of reconciliation which is central to our faith. Three years later, same NYALC this hope seemed like more than hope.

One hundred and thirty members of the Uniting Church between the ages of 18 and 30 from six Synods and at least 11 cultures were gathered for five days. We were supported by co-ordinators and mentors, the UCA President and President-elect, members of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and

many other leaders.

Each Conference is a new realisation of a similar dream – to support, encourage and empower younger people in the Uniting Church in their ministry, leadership and faith. For this an enormous amount of time goes into developing a program which guides people through days of worship, bible study, prayer, electives and workshops, time off-site, fellowship over meals and in plenary and small group sharing.

Notwithstanding the planning, some of the most meaningful moments are often those which are organic and take place completely independent of that which is planned. Like when Rev Fie Marino (NSW/ACT) led an Acknowledgement of Country as a Samoan and sat down to pour from a glass into a bowl the actual land on which we were meeting as he acknowledged the original owners of the land on which we were meeting. Or when, as part

of a talent and culture festival, the Dusty Feet Mob (which has performed with Archie Roach) performed to his song 'Took the Children Away.' For five minutes there was nothing but silence and tears. Or when a 2nd Gen woman cried as she reflected on what it would have meant to be stolen from your family.

Moments when the pain of the other felt personal and real; moments of deep meeting, of realisation, relief, breakthrough, laughter, or frustration expressed but couched in honesty and love. Spontaneous prayer, a rendition of 'This is the Day' in five languages or 1:00am in the morning when I woke up to a group of people singing somewhere outside: 'Sweep over my soul, sweep over my soul, sweet spirit, sweep over my soul'.

All of this, planned and unplanned, is partly possible because of the gifted leadership of the event and partly because of who and what our young leaders are – talented, fun, loving, gracious, intelligent and wise. But it is surely all possible because of who God is. Because God calls us into community – "to be together" – and because God's spirit works to break down barriers so that those communities can be.

NYALC is truly intercultural, truly intergenerational and truly a glimpse of the church we are and will come to be. The event itself forms a physical community for a moment in time. But the echoes of the singing and prayers will continue for years to come in life and witness.

Bethany Broadstock.



For The Kids

Have Fun!

The LORD'S Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray. When Jesus was asked how to pray to the Father, Jesus answered, 'Pray like this:'



Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

**Our father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen**

Prayer
Beads



Find your way through the maze.

We are praying to God.
He is our loving father in heaven.

Blue: Dear God...

White: God's Holiness - I Praise you God because of who you are

Orange: Sins to Confess - God I have messed up and need your forgiveness.

Green: Prayer requests: God my friend is sick, please heal them.

Red: Forgiveness - Jesus died on the cross to forgive us of our Sins, so we should forgive others.

Purple: God is in control - Thank you God for all you do to care for us and protect us.

Individual Profile

Betty Hildebrand

Betty describes herself as "one having a very fortunate life."

Betty's maternal grandfather was a Church of Scotland Minister and his first posting was to the New Hebrides, or as we know it today, Vanuatu.

Betty was born in Melbourne in 1930 and lived in Preston where her early schooling occurred and her faith journey began. She explains that going to church for worship was as much a part of her as breathing. It was a busy and stressful time for the family as there were 4 moves in two and a half years.

While Betty was a student at Shepparton High School, she formed a friendship with Joy Kearney and the school's Student Christian movement enabled her values, beliefs, faith and understanding to be explored in a much deeper way. Betty sees this as the time when "suddenly, all made sense."

Betty's General Nursing Training was completed at Mooroopna Base Hospital, her Midwifery at the Royal Women's Hospital Melbourne and her Maternal & Child Health at the Presbyterian

Babies Home. Betty has fond memories of the nurses at these places and said many of them had a strong Christian faith allowing for sharing of ideas of God's love and grace together.

Betty felt the call to serve God through the Australian Inland Mission which was part of John Flynn's vision for the Mantle of Safety for outback Australians. Betty spent five years in Adelaide at "Warrawee", nursing and caring for Aboriginal Children from outback Australia. The children were away from family for long periods of time and the nurses enjoyed taking them on outings to a variety of places, including church. It was here she met her lifelong friend Jan Le Quesne.

Betty and Jan went to Mornington Island, in the Gulf of Carpentaria where all the Staff were appointed by the Presbyterian Church. Worshipping in the corrugated iron church building, or under a large Mango tree, God was as real there as in a Cathedral. What an experience – they were 'IT' for everything except when the manual said 'seek urgent medical attention', which meant a call to the Royal Flying Doctor Service on the Radio. They were responsible

for a community of about 700 – mothers, fathers, young and old folk and lots of children.

After 15 years at Dookie and part of the Uniting Church and ecumenical faith community there, Betty returned to live in Shepparton and is a member of the Shepparton Congregation where she enjoys the Friendship Group, being an Op Shop helper and part of the Pastoral Care Team, amongst other things.

Betty has been comfortably settled at Kialla Gardens for about 20 years with Jan joining her twelve years ago.

Prepared by Jeni Fitzgerald



Around the Congregation

Emma Fethney has shared this photo of the old Methodist choir with us. She writes

"This photo was taken in 1944 but the choir was singing before then.

Our Musical director was Miss Mavis Clever, a well-known musician. Our choir enjoyed our singing very much. Miss Clever had us to her home regularly for a light meal and games, also singalongs. My favourite game was 'beetles'.

We also put on concerts in the Sunday School Hall. The organ was pedal/pumped and one choir member was our organist.

The time I had with the junior choir was happy and a great time in my faith."

Can you find anyone you know?



Building Project Update

As of 24/7/2016

The Property Planning Task Group has continued its diligent work preparing the application for approval of the Redevelopment Project to PART, the Synod Property Applications Review Team. It was disappointing to learn that our plans should have been in AutoCAD to allow for accurate costing and clarification of details on the plans. On July 20 a six-week programme began to transfer the plans to CAD. Brian Pethybridge of Peps' Plans is assisting in this work which is being carried out by Bruce Mactier and Associates. The preferred builder and Property Manager are also part of the team. The work will be reviewed every fortnight by all involved and the Synod Consultant.

The budget for the project is \$1.9M. We have funds for this amount. The PPTG and the 2016 Synod Consultant have ensured that this figure will not be exceeded. The Consultant and the Acting Property Services Manager are extremely helpful, offering every assistance, including \$10,000, to ensure that the project is on target. In 2016, with these new staff, the PPTG is receiving extremely sound advice, the result of the first-rate knowledge and expertise of these staff members. The Consultant has negotiated agreements with all working on the CAD plans; this has been a great benefit in terms of the project budget. After all these years of delays and setbacks,

we are almost ready to make the application to PART.

In the middle of this time of excitement and good news, the PPTG has been saddened to receive the resignations of three very committed and long-serving members, Kevin Jordan, Heather Lloyd and Rod Raymer. Kevin, Heather and Rod have all made very special contributions to the work of the Task Group and both the PPTG and the church are indebted to them. They will be greatly missed. We wish them well.

Joan McRae

Preaching Plan

September 2016

Sept 2016	4th Pentecost 16	11th Pentecost 17	18th Pentecost 18	25th Pentecost 19
9.30am Shepparton Afternoon/ Evening	Rosalie HC	Loni Tues 13th 7:00 pm Youth Focus Mooroopna Lorraine	Rosalie & Joan Fisher 4:30pm Messy Church Rosalie	Rosalie 2.00pm Kialla G Brian
Dookie 9.00am	Loni	Joy Sims	Loni HC	Elders
Pine Lodge 11.00am	Loni	No Service	At Katandra West	No Service
Kialla West 11.00am	No Service	Rosalie	No Service	No Service
Katandra West 11.00am	At Pine Lodge	No Service	Loni HC	No Service
Lectionary Readings	Jer. 18:1-11 Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18. Phlm 1-21, Lk. 14:25-33	Jer. 4:11-12, 22-28. Ps. 14. 1 Tim. 1:12-17. Lk. 15:1-10	Jer. 8:18 – 9:1. Ps. 79:1-9. 1 Tim. 2:1-7. Lk. 16:1-13.	Jer. 32:1-3a, 6-15. Ps. 91:1-6, 14-16. 1 Tim. 6:6-19. Lk. 16:19-31

Preaching Plan

October / November 2016

Oct 2016	2nd Pentecost 20	9th Pentecost 21	16th Pentecost 22	23rd Pentecost 23	30th Pentecost 24
9.30am Shepparton Afternoon/ Evening	Loni HC	Rosalie Tues 11th 7:00pm Youth Focus Shepparton Rosalie	Rosalie Chaplaincy 4:30pm Messy Church Lorraine	Loni & Rosalie 2.00pm Kialla Gardens Rosalie	Lorraine and others
Dookie 9.00am	Joan McRae	Loni HC	Joan McRae	Elders	10:30 am Combined Service at Dookie
Pine Lodge 11.00am	Joan McRae	No Service	At Katandra West	No Service	
Kialla West 11.00am	No Service	Joy Sims	No Service	No Service	
Katandra West 11.00am	At Pine Lodge	No Service	Joan McRae	No Service	
Lectionary Readings	Lam. 1:1-6. Lam. 3:19-26. 2 Tim. 1:1-14. Lk. 17:5-10	Jer. 29:1. 4-7. Ps. 66:1-12. 2 Tim. 2:8-15. Lk.17:11-19	Jer. 31:27-34. Ps.119:97-104. 2 Tim. 3:14 – 4:5. Lk. 18:9-14.	Joel 2:23-32. Ps. 65. 2Tim. 4:6-8. 16-18. Lk. 18:1-8.	Hab. 1:1-4, 2:1-4. Ps.119:137-144. 2 Thes. 1:1-4, 1-12. Lk.19:1-10

Nov 2016	6th Pentecost 25	13th Pentecost 26	20th Christ the King	27th Advent 1
9.30am Shepparton Afternoon/ Evening	Rosalie HC Tues 8th 7pm Youth Focus Mooroopna Lorraine	Rosalie & Loni	Loni 4:30pm Messy Church Rosalie	Rosalie 2.00pm Kialla G Loni
Dookie 9.00am	Loni HC	Joy Sims	Joan McRae	Loni
Pine Lodge 11.00am	Loni HC	No Service	At Katandra West	
Kialla West 11.00am	No Service	Rosalie	No Service	
Katandra West 11.00am	At Pine Lodge	No Service	Joan McRae	
Lectionary Readings	Hag. 1:15b – 2:9. Ps. 145:1-5, 17-21. 2 Thes. 2:1-5, 13-17. Lk. 20:27-38	Is. 65:17-25. Is. 12. 2 Thes. 3:6-13. Lk. 21:5-19.	Jer. 23:1-6. Lk. 1:68-79. Col. 1:11-20. Lk. 23:33-43	Is. 2:1-5. Ps. 122. Rom. 13:11-14 Mt. 24:36-44

Upcoming Events

September - October 2016

September 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 10am Multicultural Play G. 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	2	3 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	4 9:30am Worship
5	6 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7pm Youth Group 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	7 10am Church Council Executive	8 10am Multicultural Play G. 10am Craft Group 10:45am Worship Banksia L 1:30 pm Worship at Hakea L 2pm Fellowship Group 4pm Together in Voice	9 5pm KUCA	10 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	11 9:30am Worship 6pm Faith Sharing Group
12	13 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 6pm Tea & Youth Service 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	14 7:30pm Church Council	15 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 10:00am Mercy Aged Care 4pm Together in Voice	16 6:30pm Cafe Praxis	17 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	18 9:30am Worship 4.30pm Messy Church
19	20 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	21 1:30pm UCAF	22 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	23 5pm KUCA 6pm Dookie Family tea	24 8am Men's Breakfast 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	25 9:30am Worship 2pm Kialla Gardens Service
26	27 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 2:00pm Worship at Acacia House 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	28 7:30pm Women's Evening Group	29 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice			

October 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31					1 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	2 9:30am Worship
3	4 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	5 10am Church Council Executive	6 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	7	8 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	9 9:30am Worship 6pm Faith Sharing Group
10	11 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 6pm Tea & Youth Service 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	12 7:30pm Church Council	13 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 10:45am Worship Banksia L 1:30 pm Worship at Hakea L 2pm Fellowship Group 4pm Together in Voice	14 5pm KUCA	15 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	16 9:30am Worship 4:30 Messy Church
17	18 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7pm Youth Group 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	19 1:30pm UCAF	20 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 10:00am Mercy Aged Care 4pm Together in Voice	21 6:30pm Cafe Praxis	22 8am Men's Breakfast 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	23 9:30am Worship 2pm Kialla Gardens Service
24	25 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 2pm Worship Acacia House 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	26 7:30pm Women's Evening Group	27 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	28 5pm KUCA 6pm Dookie Family tea	29 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	30 9:30am Worship

Upcoming Events

November 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 All Saints Day 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7pm Youth Group 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	2 10am Church Council Executive	3 10am Multicultural Play G. 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	4	5 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	6 9:30am Worship
7	8 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 6pm Tea & Youth Service 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	9 7.30pm Church Council	10 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 10:45am Worship Banksia L 1:30 pm Worship at Hakea L 2pm Fellowship Group 4pm Together in Voice	11 5pm KUCA	12 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	13 9:30am Worship
14	15 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 10am Worship Ava Maria 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7pm Youth Group 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	16 1:30pm UCAF	17 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 10:45 Worship at Mercy Aged Care 4pm Together in Voice	18 6:30pm Cafe Praxis	19 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	20 Christ the King 9:30am Worship 4:30 Messy Church
21	22 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 2:00pm Worship at Acacia House 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	23 7:30pm Women's Evening Group	24 10am Multicultural Play G 10am Craft Group 4pm Together in Voice	25 5pm KUCA 6pm Dookie Family tea	26 8am Men's Breakfast 1pm Wesley Social Indoor Bowls	27 Advent begins 9:30am Worship 2pm Kialla Gardens Service
28	29 10am Craft Group 10am Friendship Group 1:30pm Crazy Whist 7:15pm Indoor Bowls	30				



Shepparton Uniting Church
150 Maude Street, Shepparton
P.O. Box 7032, Shepparton, 3632

Shepparton
Uniting Church