



**ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY NEWS #7**  
**13 April 2018**



***Focused on God's Mission – Providing Leadership – Growing Discipleship***

The Standing Committee is keen for the best possible communications within the life of the Illawarra Presbytery. To that end, the following notices are issued for your information and consideration. We especially want congregations to be aware of significant events and dates. Please circulate this newsheet as widely as possible and do not hesitate to contact me if you require further details. Sharon Hoogland, Secretary ([illawarrauca@bigpond.com](mailto:illawarrauca@bigpond.com))

### **1. NOTICE OF PRESBYTERY MEETING**

The next meeting of the Illawarra Presbytery will be held on **Thursday 26 April 2018** at the Northern Illawarra UCA commencing at 4.00pm.

Reports and Agenda Items may be lodged with the Presbytery Secretary at [illawarrauca@bigpond.com](mailto:illawarrauca@bigpond.com).

**Guest speaker** will be Ms Nicole Rose, Manager of a new office in Synod, responsible for Risk Management. This will be an important presentation for all Congregations.

### **2. NEW!! PRESBYTERY MISSION DEVELOPMENT WORKER**

The Standing Committee is thrilled to announce that following a recruitment and selection process, Mrs Lucy Earl has been appointed to the new position of Mission Development Worker. Lucy's qualifications, experience and passion for mission will serve her well to meet the challenges of developing this new venture in the Presbytery's life and witness amongst the congregations of the Southern Highlands. We look forward to Lucy's contribution in this special ministry and ask you to uphold Lucy in your prayers as she commences on 1 May 2018.

### **3. UNITING: Innovative Community Grants Fund**

As part of the Uniting commitment to supporting Presbyteries and Congregations and other Community Organisations in the Uniting Church's mission, it sets aside a percentage of its operational budget to mission initiatives that will make a difference to people experiencing social disadvantage in the community.

The Uniting Innovative Grant Fund operates a three tiered grant fund:

**Capacity Grants, Breakthrough Grants and Impact Grants**

All applications this year will be done online through the following portal:

<https://uniting.grantplatform.com/>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE PRESBYTERY NEWSLETTER #5**

## 4. COMING EVENTS – PLEASE SAVE THE DATES

### \*\*\* UCA Adult Fellowship Rally...

...will be held at the Bowral Uniting Church on Thursday 24 May 2018.  
The Moderator, Rev Simon Hansford will be in attendance.  
More details re Guest Speakers to follow. Please put this date into your diary!!!

### \*\*\* Inspiracy 2

“Dear Ministry Colleagues  
Today - INSPIRACY 2018 launched its full program details and registration portal online at the website

<https://www.inspiracy.org.au>

Inspiracy is an exciting mix of talks, workshops, art and music that helps the Church engage the wider community through addressing concerns for the Common Good. It is organised by a task group drawn from Newcastle Uniting Churches and community contacts.

Over the four days the program shifts focus from youth and film, to ecotheology and climate change, to sustainability, refugees and indigenous issues, through to art, music and celebration that focuses on the capacity of the imagination to bring hopeful change.

The event will be relevant to local congregations and leaders who are looking for tools in dealing with the issues and finding points of common concern with the broader community. It is a rich mix of reflection and action across the divide of the sacred and secular.

Please pass on the information found at the website and encourage the involvement of your local community.

There are good transport links to Newcastle and accommodation is quite reasonable, the city has a beautiful physical setting.

Posters and postcards to promote the event are available and there are facebook pages for each of the major events.

Regards Rev Dr Rod Pattenden

Adamstown Uniting Church M 0418 861267”



### **\*\*\* UCA Microsites Training**

An initiative of the NSW Synod, this Training will soon be available in the Illawarra Presbytery. Rev Geoff Flynn will provide more details at the Presbytery meeting on 26 April 2018.

#### **From Adrian Drayton:**

“For Congregations and Presbyteries participating in the Microsites project, you will be given training and assistance to get your site set up. Our goal is to equip you in a single day so that you walk in without a website and walk out with a fully functioning site.

Participants in the training will need an existing basic understanding of computers and the internet. If you can send an email and write a word document, you’ll be able to participate. Participants will also need to provide their own laptop.

In case you have not already seen it, we have a sample site available here: <http://microsites.uca.org.au/>

Training runs from 9:30am until 3:30pm. Professional training is provided by myself, and additional support is available on the day from one of my team members.

There is no cost to Congregations or Presbyteries for the training. Synod is sponsoring the event and covering the cost.”

### **\*\*\* FAIR TRADE FAITH CONFERENCE**

Planning for the Fair Trade Faith Conference is going well and people should be able to enjoy pleasant autumn weather at the end of April in Queanbeyan. The link to the Conference website is at the end of my signature below. I’m hoping that you may be able to circulate this amongst the Illawarra Presbytery please. The dinner and lecture are a stand-alone event for \$50.00 and are included in the Conference package. Only accommodation is not included. I am also attaching the flyer and poster for circulation. Thank you

Grace and peace, Rev John Martin (07) 5562 1518 0408 115 210  
For more information: Fair Trade Faith Conference [fairtradefaithconference.com.au](http://fairtradefaithconference.com.au)

### **\*\*\* “Searching and Researching: engaging with contemporary Christian topics”**

Eastwood Uniting Church has invited two experts from United Theological College to each speak on two current research topics of their own choosing:

1. Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 8.00 to 9.30pm  
**Dr Anthony Rees, Lecturer in Old Testament**, will address current research on:
  - Our violent Biblical heroes; and
  - Keeping it in the family - what happens when Christians and Muslims read together?
2. Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 8.00 to 9.30pm  
**Dr Jeff Aernie, Lecturer in New Testament**, will address current research on:

- Grappling with Grace –the idea of “gift/grace” in the NT and thinking about the connection between salvation and virtue; and
- Reading the NT in Context – how the NT engages with ideas and topics prevalent in the ancient world, with a particular focus on the Dead Sea Scrolls.

There will be ample opportunity for questions and discussion following the talks. Both sessions will be held at the Eastwood Uniting Church, 16 Lakeside Road. There is parking beneath the building and in the street. For those coming directly from work, the building is adjacent to Eastwood Railway Station (Northern Line). Eastwood has many eateries with a variety of cuisine.

## 5. FREE TO A GOOD HOME...!

### \*\*\* Puppets

We have 2 muppet-style puppets, Rastus (male) and Sweet Pea (female) with changes of clothes and accessories. We also have numerous plays, written for specific places, and occasions but they could be adapted or ideas used. We also have some books on puppets to give away as well. Unfortunately we do not have a theatre. In Bomaderry we improvised with stands or pulpit.

Contact Pam James, Bomaderry Uniting Church, (02) 423 5571, [vpjames@southernphone.com.au](mailto:vpjames@southernphone.com.au)

## 6. TRAINING DATES 2018

### Ethical Ministry Training

14 May 2018	9.30am – 12.30pm	@	venue tba
31 May 2018	9.30am - 12.30pm	@	Bowral UC
18 June 2018	9.30am – 12.30pm	@	Nowra UC
10 Sept 2018	9.30am - 12.30pm	@	venue tba
17 Sept 2018	9.30am – 12.30m	@	Nowra UC
25 Oct 2018	9.30am – 12.30pm	@	Bowral UC

### Safe Church Workshops for 2018:

**Note: There are no refresher courses this year due to additional content in the one day program.**

Saturday	5 May	Bowral UC
Saturday	28 July	Albion Park UC

## **Youth Leadership Training**

### **EMPOWERING LEADERS OF TODAY AND TOMORROW**

**Illawarra Presbytery, Uniting Church of Australia**

18th - 21st May 2018

CHITTICK LODGE, \$75 inc food & bed

21 Bridges Rd, Gerringong NSW

*The second Leadership Training Camp for*

*"Equipping young people for ministry in the church and the wider Kingdom of God".*

Contact Kim Jones on: [kimjones444@yahoo.com.au](mailto:kimjones444@yahoo.com.au)

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 27TH APRIL 2018

## **Living Our Values**

18/19 August 2018 @ Bowral Uniting Church

## **Lay Preachers – New Testament module**

26 May, 2 June, 16 June, 23 June.

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER AS WIDELY  
AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

Sharon Hoogland, Secretary/Administrator

UCA Presbytery of Illawarra

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