



Encouraging each other in ministry and mission, sharing resources and providing mutual support
23A Devitt Ave, Payneham South SA 5070 <http://www.urbannetwork.org.au>

BULLETIN – APRIL 2013

NETWORK NEWS & EVENTS

Calling all members of Church Councils

Mix and mingle with leaders of congregations in this Network and the wider Presbytery
Share stories, joys and challenges, highlights and possibilities

Be resourced for leadership through participation in one of three electives:

Working with Volunteers, or Responsible Governance, or Property & Mission

Workshop for Church Councils, Saturday 27th April, Pilgrim Uniting Church, 9.15 am for a 9.30 am start.

The Workshop is free but registration is essential: Coordinator ph 8332 8339 or <http://www.urbannetwork.org.au>

Retreat Day, Tuesday 7th May at Morialta Uniting Church, 9.15 am for a 9.30 am start

A quiet day for reflection, replenishment, refreshment led by Rev Sean Gilbert.

Register here <http://www.urbannetwork.org.au> Info Coordinator ph 8332 8339 email christine@urbannetwork.org.au

AROUND OUR CONGREGATIONS

Admin Coordinators

Gathering: Tuesday 30th April, 10.00 am at St Andrews by the Sea, Jetty Rd Glenelg.

Further information: ph 8295-1771 email standrewoffice@internode.on.net

Following the review in 2011 of the person and position of Coordinator: Urban Mission Network the Reference Group decided that some re-shaping of the position is desirable. More information will follow.

Morialta, 26 Chapel St, Magill

Receptive Ecumenism Workshop, Wednesday 15th May, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm, supper at 9.15 pm

A partnership with Magill Interchurch Council and facilitated by Marelle Harisun (Uniting Church), Drew Thomas (Quaker) and Geraldine Hawkes (SA Council of Churches), this workshop will explore key elements of Receptive Ecumenism and what possibilities exist for action at the local level.

Information and bookings: Morialta Church Office (9.00 am – 1.00 pm) ph 8331 9344 email office@morialta.org.au

Wesley Kent Town, corner of Fullarton Rd and Grenfell St, Kent Town

Thursday 25th April, 2.30 pm, **“TO THE FALLEN a concert to celebrate peace”**

With organist Graham Bell, Adelaide Harmony Choir, Al Kidney’s Brass Band, Illumina SA.

Information and bookings: ph 8352 8348 / 0408 528 349 email marluc@picknowl.com.au

Effective Living Centre, Christ Church Wayville

“Who are these Boat People” Thursday 2nd May, 7.30 pm.

Health & Wholeness Seminars presented by Dr Andrew Horwood, Tuesdays in May, 7.30 pm.

Wilks Oration – Rachel Kohn **“We Are All Believers Now”** Saturday 25th May, 7.30 pm.

Info and bookings: ph 8271 0329, email office@effectiveliving.org or www.effectiveliving.org

The Bulletin is published monthly by the Urban Mission Network <http://www.urbannetwork.org.au>

For information about the Urban Mission Network or to publicise an event

contact the Coordinator: ph 8332 8339 / 0419 761 382 email connect2me@urbannetwork.org.au



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Introducing ROBYN CALDICOTT

Robyn writes:

I was born and educated in Adelaide, studied accountancy, enjoyed an interesting and varied working life and spent time raising 3 children, who are now all adults. I came to faith as a young adult and a call to ordained ministry meant a return to study in 2008, commencing a degree in Theology. I am now awaiting a placement following approval for ordination as Minister of the Word and am presently at Blackwood relieving the Outreach Minister.



I am often asked, particularly around the church, ‘What am I passionate about?’ and my answer usually focuses on people and relationships – how we treat one another and how we care for one another. So in ministry I guess you could say that pastoral care is ‘my thing’.

Most of us read a lot of books in our lifetime and there are always a few which stand out - sometimes because we read them at just the ‘right time’ or it may be that they connect with us on some very deep level.

One of those for me was Parker Palmer’s book “Let your life speak”. It is in one chapter of this book he speaks about his personal experience of depression and how difficult it was for those around him. Some avoiding him altogether, others who despite their good intentions,

*‘..acted like Job’s comforters- the friends who came to Job in his misery and offered “sympathy” that led him deeper into despair.’(p63)**

But there were also those in his life who had the courage to stand with him in his despair, in a simple healing way. He gives the example of a friend who with his permission came every day, knelt before him as he sat in a chair and simply massaged his feet. Palmer writes

*‘Bill rarely spoke a word. When he did he never gave advice but simply mirrored my condition. He would say ‘I can sense your struggle today,’ or ‘It feels like you are getting stronger.’ I could not always respond, but his words were deeply helpful; they reassured me that I could still be seen by **someone** – life giving knowledge in the midst of an experience that makes one feel annihilated and invisible. It is impossible to put into words what my friend’s ministry meant to me. Perhaps it is enough to say that I now have deep appreciation for the biblical stories of Jesus and the washing of feet.’(p64)**

This story spoke to me deeply of a very practical expression of God’s love to a suffering person; the love of a God who does not ‘fix’ us, but gives us strength by suffering with us. Palmer wrote in this book of how we might mediate God’s love to another person when they need something deeper than any human being can give.

It is my hope that as communities of faith we can not only mediate God’s love to those to whom we minister but to one another. It is the season of Easter and our call is to live in the power of the risen Christ. As Easter people we believe in a God who enters into situations with us and carries us, heals us and leads us to new places – transforming us let’s be mediators of that kind of love.

* Palmer, Parker J. *Let Your Life Speak: Listening to the Voice of Vocation*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000.