



# Kairos



**News in and around**

## **Camberwell Uniting Church**

**Volume 7 Number 2**

**August 2014**

### **FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK**

Friends in God's family,



Warmest Greetings.

I've been joking with friends now for a little while that I'm not sure which is the scarier prospect, being nominated for Moderator of the Synod, or, travelling to the Middle East at the moment.

The nomination is in the hands of God and the wider church, so I can't explain much more of that, except to say it's a humbling honor and is for a May 2016 start, so a long way off, if it should happen.

The travels though, I can share something more of and it's getting quite exciting. Our month away has four parts, three weeks of study leave; including a study tour, the UCA minister's conference, a Palestinian solidarity visit and then a weeks' annual leave. You will recognise some of the place names and you might like to look up or follow along as an armchair visit.

The program unfolds like this:

September 12th - arrive in Amman, Jordan.  
13th -Amman & Petra, 14 -Petra, Mt. Nebo, Madaba, 15 - Allenby Bridge, Baptism Site, Qumran, Masada, 16 - Jericho, Bet Shean, Nazareth, 17 - Sea of Galilee, Golan Heights (a morning boat ride across the Sea of Galilee. Capernaum to see the Synagogue and Peter's house, centre of Jesus preaching ministry) 18 - Megiddo, Mt Carmel, Caesarea, Jaffa, 19 - Mt. of Olives, Gethsemane, Mt Zion, Bethlehem to visit the Church of the Nativity. Then to the Shepherds' Fields, 20 - 21 Old City of Jerusalem, and the Wailing Wall, the most holy place for Jews. Nearby is the Dome of the Rock

and the Haram al Sharif or Temple Mount and the Garden Tomb.

22 – 27<sup>th</sup> The Conference is at the Notre Dame Center, Jerusalem. There are two parts, one deals with Uniting Church ministry, led by our President, Rev Prof Andrew Dutney, along with Rev Dr Steve Taylor, Principal of the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Adelaide; and Dr Rosemary Dewerse, Director of Missiology in Adelaide.

The other part is all about Jerusalem and Israel/Palestine. We will receive input from one or more church leaders in Jerusalem, an Israeli Rabbi, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine-Israel, and representatives of the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority; visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Western Wall, the Via Dolorosa, the Mount of Olives, the Garden Tomb and the Temple Mount. It's quite a big program. Around 60 people are participating in the Conference.

27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> We join a four-day Solidarity Visit with Palestinian Christians and the Jerusalem Inter-Church Center. Based in Bethlehem and meeting with Christian leaders and Palestinian and Israeli human rights groups, visit Hebron with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel, and a visit to a refugee camp. Meeting also with United Nations representatives and Ramallah to meet with the Palestinian Authority.

After a week of leave (in Cyprus) we expect to be recovered and keen to share our stories and a few pictures. It is obviously a difficult time

there and the opportunity to talk to leaders from different communities and points of view is a precious one. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this visit and I'm sure there will be much to share when we get back.

The yearning for peace is at the heart of this. My feeling is that this is what the world is literally crying out for. We, the church of today need to help do the work to show the way towards a reality where;

*'justice and peace shall embrace.'*

*Psalm 85*

We can, at least, all pray for this.

Warm Regards,

Rev'd Ian Brown

## Editor's Comment

Welcome to the winter edition of our publication.

As I sit here writing, I am full of the cold and have been for weeks (I think my flu injection has given me a dose of the flu, not saved me from one), and it is cold, dark and raining outside. I know that one of the delights of living in Melbourne is the changing of the seasons, and the balance and relief that a change in seasons brings, but the world just seems so much colder and gloomier this year.

If I lift my gaze above my own misery, I am disconcerted to read that Oxfam Australia has just released a report that states that the richest 1% of Australians own the same wealth as the bottom 60%, and that Australia's richest person owns more than the bottom 10% of the population (2.27 million people) combined.

It used to be the economic theory that we needed the wealthy to make profits and reinvest some of their wealth back into business to help the less fortunate bring themselves forward a bit and so minimise extremes of inequality in society. Recent public discussion around the federal budget has highlighted the issue of fairness and equality and who will be hardest hit. It seems that most commentators are agreed that as a consequence of the budget, the rich will get richer and the younger, older, sicker and poorer members of the community will be much worse off, further increasing the level of inequality in our society.

In the USA, the Senate was recently told that since the GFC nearly all the gains have accrued to the top 1% of the population. Listed among the effects inequality were "worse economic performance, no matter how you measure it", including lower incomes, poorer health and less

education. Australia, despite publicly promoting an objective of strong economic growth and employment, is also arguably putting in place mechanisms to achieve the opposite.

As a consequence, I originally thought I would theme my editorial around one of Shakespeare's most popular quotes, "*Now is the winter of our discontent*", the famous opening line to the William Shakespeare play *Richard III* (1592).

However, the issue with the quote is that people recite and know it as a single line, when the line is just one part of a whole.

When the first two lines are put together, it reads as: 'Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer by this sun of York'. The 'sun of York' wasn't of course a comment on Yorkshire weather but on King Richard.

Richard was not talking about his unhappiness, but he was actually celebrating an upturn in his family fortunes (His brother Edward IV—a son of the Duke of York—had wrested the English crown from Henry VI and the Lancastrian house). The lines together translate roughly as: The unhappiness and oppression of our family, which made life like a long winter, has been turned to a summery contentedness now that my brother is king. So simply quoting "Now is the winter of our discontent" are doing these lines a disservice, as I would be in this context.

However, amid the still-settling dust of the budget, there does seem to be traction in some quarters to engage in discussion on 'inequality' and its impact on our society. There is still opportunity for debate and reassessment of policies, to in fact help younger people readily and practically find jobs, and to remove the barriers for the increasing numbers of older people who wish to continue to participate and contribute positively in the workplace.

If this discussion bears fruit, the true meaning of Shakespeare's words surrounding his quotation may start to be realised, i.e. the time of unhappiness will be past. In the meantime I am using my savings to go on a holiday to a warmer climate and a better mood. I'm sure you agree it will do me good.

Stuart Ensor

**'LEAVE HERE FOR LENTARA'**

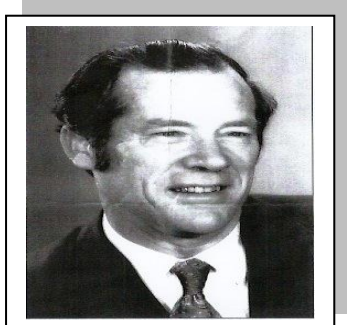
Donations for Lentara's Bargain Centres  
can be left at the Church Office by  
September 9. See boards for details.

## Jeff Savige

*Note: The article below was written as a tribute in appreciation of the time, talent, and expertise given unreservedly by Jeff Savige to the life of Camberwell Uniting Church, the choir in particular. Unfortunately, in the intervening period between issues of Kairos, Jeff's health deteriorated quickly and he went to sleep in peace for the last time on August 3, and as was said so aptly at his funeral, he was a good man, whom "God would have been pleased to welcome." These words add to those tributes already delivered so eloquently and heartfelt.*

The male component of our choir has shouldered a great load this year. Where there was once a strong line-up, the departures of longstanding 'back-bencher' members Ian Shadforth, Jus Eberhard, have left Jack Clarke and Norman Young alone representing the male 'voice'. It should be said that what they lack in number however, these two gentlemen continue to make up in quality.

It is after more than 30 years as a member of the choir, that age caught up, slowed and eventually stopped Jeff Savige from being able to take his place in the back row, adding to the bass line with Jack and Norman.



Jeff joined the choir in 1982, the year he joined the Camberwell Uniting Church congregation when he married Judy. That is a lot of singing, and much more time practicing. Not only singing every Sunday morning, but on special occasions such as Christmas and Easter, at concerts, for various groups of shut-ins, and even at the Indonesian consulate in Melbourne.

Jeff had been involved in so many aspects of the Church life that he was an integral part of the fabric of our church community, and we continued to think of him as that, even though his appearances, by circumstance, were unfortunately for us, much limited.

Aside from the choir, Jeff was an committed member of Adult Group, was one of the founding members of the House to House

Group, a regular Messy Church supporter and active participant, Church Elder, Chairperson of Church Council, and contributor on countless working bees.

In all of these activities, he added substance to the conversations, provided informed opinion based on his extensive and varied life experience (particularly in the military and in his many and varied senior roles with the S.E.C.) balanced by a dry sense of humour and a fine selection of 'war stories'. He was not only respected as a genuine and true person, he is missed especially by his friends over a cuppa in the fellowship room every Sunday, where the problems of the world would be discussed and solutions to them found. Jeff was always interested in the welfare of everyone.

*I am sure that I speak for everyone at Camberwell Road when I extend sincere appreciation and thanks to Jeff for being the person that he was, and everything he has done, and say that his voice, presence and counsel will be sorely missed.*

Thanks Jeff.

Fiona and Stuart Ensor

## Sad news of former CUC member

Ruth Akie has advised us that **Joan Forster** has died. Ruth was her Elder at one time.

Joan was a long-time member of Camberwell Uniting and Methodist churches. Many years ago she helped sort out our historical records. Joan was principal of Junior School of MLC for many years prior to her retirement. She was 90 +, but we understand that she was very mentally alert until her death. She may be remembered by a few, but has lived at Anglesea for many years in a home. Her love was native plants.

## News from Church Council

In the last three months Council has organised two special morning teas. The first, on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, was to acknowledge Elaine Clarke's contribution as Choir Director over many years, and to present her with a gift of appreciation for her much valued work. The second, on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August, was to welcome two new members, Wendy McLean and Helen Martin, who have recently transferred to Camberwell Uniting Church from St. Columba's Uniting Church. Wendy assumed her position as Organist and Choir Director on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The church also acquired the electronic piano that was previously used at St. Columba's.

We also acknowledged and expressed our gratitude for Jeff Savige's contribution to the life of our church by sending him a card signed by members of the congregation. For many years Jeff served on the Property Committee, completed many handyman tasks and was a member of the choir.

Our Issues Discussion segment has been occupied with material from UCA Synod – firstly a Major Strategic Review and secondly a paper on the UCA's understanding of marriage including same sex marriage. In both cases, Council responses were collated to be sent back to Synod. We also discussed Rev. Emeritus Professor William Loader's paper on the same sex marriage issue. It was decided to provide an opportunity for interested members of the congregation to contribute responses to this issue. Consequently a discussion time has been set aside for the afternoon of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August from 3.30 – 5 pm.

Ian has started a regular weekly Bible Study Group that has been meeting over the past few weeks.

Property matters that have been on our agenda include the internal painting being done by Stuart Ensor of one section of the church wall which had been damaged by damp, the repair of a segment of ceiling that fell down in 'Illoura', the repair of the heating system in the Manse, and continued investigations about the most appropriate type of safety edging for our internal steps (which is the last of the Occupational Health and Safety Issues we are obliged to respond to). Concern has also been expressed by the tenant in our flat about the number of basketballs that come over the fence from members of the public who use the school premises often late into the night. The school has done what it can to improve security so it was agreed to place a lock on the gate and to attach a Private Property sign.

Concern had been expressed that the new bitumen laid at the rear of the church had raised the ground level above the damp course. After consultation with our plumber, it has been decided to wait and see what happens in heavy rain. Sections of the pews that were left over after the reconfiguration of the church have been passed on to the Glen Waverley UC Men's Group who will use them as part of their woodwork program.

At our April meeting all current office bearers agreed to continue in their positions – Jenny Lawton (Chair), Max Harris (Treasurer), Ruth

Crawley (Secretary) and Elaine Robinson (Minutes Secretary),  
Elaine Robinson

## Messy Church

**April 2014** showcased the **Easter Story**.

We gathered together to make Palm Branches with Marg, as Jesus processing into Jerusalem starts the Easter Story. The food activity was decorating chocolate cupcakes with green coconut and chocolate crosses with Maxene. In the centre of the hall there was making of the garden of Gethesmene with Judy using sand in your own bowl and decorating the garden with ferns, coloured stones and many other items. There was a scene with opening doors to be made of Jerusalem telling the story of the week leading up to the crucifixion with Ruth and Owen. Alexander ran his own activity of loom bands-friendship bracelets. There were eggs to decorate as disciples.

Jesus' empty tomb with a stone to roll away was made and then people made perfumed jars of oils with decorated lids to symbolize the oils used to anoint dead bodies. Of course the women never got to anoint Jesus' body because he had risen!!

In the celebration, Ian told more of the Easter story in his reflection - giving us hope and joy in this risen Christ. We sang "We have a King who rides a donkey" and "King of Kings and Lord of Lords". Fiona read part of the Easter story called "Pail of Nails" – the Easter story as seen by a small boy and who got to carry the nails to the cross with the soldiers which made him feel important and proud until he realized what the nails were for and for whom. He had met Jesus in Galilee and loved him and saw him die but although he didn't know the end of the story, Jesus had given the gift of love and faith to go with his life.

Dinner was hamburgers, salad, fruit and cakes. BBQ cooked by Stuart and kitchen manned by Ruth and Jessie. Margery did another wonderful job with all the activities - thank you!

We had 30 adults and 12 children including three visitors – one lady saw the sign and came in.

**May 2014** told the story of **King Solomon** - "A very wise guy".

King Solomon was "a very wise guy" according to the Bible story which we heard in the celebration as a play. Solomon had to help two women resolve a dispute over a child. Ian

added to this by saying with God's help we can be wise and solve our problems. We know what is the right thing to do if we follow God's law. We sang "Rise and Shine" and "You've got peace like a river" and prayed for wisdom.

Messy Church started with making Solomon - from a cardboard cut-out then the chance to make your own crown, a throne from pegs and decorate crown biscuits. However the favourite activity for the younger folk was building Solomon's temple with different sizes of Lego.

Dinner was baked potatoes, salad and fruit-enjoyed by all! 29 Adults and 16 children came to this Messy Church.

In **June 2014** focus was on **John the Baptist**.

The story of John the Baptist is pivotal to our understanding of the ceremony of Baptism and of the idea of a messenger coming to prepare the way for Jesus and his ministry. Margery had several ingenious and exciting activities relating to John's story.

The activity most enjoyed by the young Messy Church folk was creating a desert where the trees were dead and in the same container having a bowl of water around which the trees were alive. The figure of John could be made, clothed by a "camel hair" garment draped around an icy pole stick with a face drawn by texta. Then he was placed in the desert.

There was a cardboard bee to make as we learnt that John survived in the desert on honey and locusts. Not forgetting the locusts - they were made of cake, biscuit, pretzel and icing-YUM! The scene of John baptizing Jesus could be coloured in and decorated.

In the celebration Ian asked everyone to come to the front of the church and take part in the story which he read and we joined in different parts while standing by a "river" - a piece of plastic which very exciting to some young ones! We sang "God Loves You" and the very popular "I've got peace like a river" with actions. We prayed together and said "The Lords Prayer" together.

Dinner was a favourite-Pasta Bake with a twist - Vegetarian - as John ate no meat when he lived in the desert. There was also salad, cake and fruit. Thanks Ruth.

We had a smaller number this time but it was winter. However Helen Martin, who has recently come to Camberwell through our new organist Wendy McLean, came to help. Also

**August 2014**

our regular Thomas brought a school friend Sophia and her parents. Thankyou as always to everyone who helped and came to enjoy the fellowship of Messy Church.



The topic for **July 2014** was a "**Treasure Hunt**".

We started with searching under "witches-hats" for the letters of our names, which we then put on a bracelet. Our names are treasures!

In the hall we could smash through ice to buried treasure; chisel through wax for another treasure; sift through sand for bright stones and seashell treasures. There were treasure boxes to make and cookies to ice to make an oyster shell holding a precious pearl. We also pondered treasures such as Peace, Joy and Love through an interesting word puzzle.



Elaine took our photos and Ian led the Celebration. Ian had us searching for a word puzzle around the church, which said, "God's Way is like a Treasure". Fiona read the story "The Precious Pearl" and Ian talked about hunting for the "precious things" "in our lives and how important the hunting and searching is. We sang three songs - "Peace Like A River", "God Loves You" and the hymn "The Great Love Of God". We all joined in responsive prayers and the Lord's Prayer.

Ruth and Sam organized a delicious meal of Spaghetti Bolognese, which is a treasured meal, especially in the cold weather. We

enjoyed having Sofia's grandparents visiting with us from Perth and a lady and her daughter saw our sign in the street and came in to find out about Messy Church!! We hope they will come next time!

Fiona Ensor & Margery Brown

## Thank You

**Gwenda and Ian Shadforth** convey a heartfelt "Thank you" to "all our dear friends who have supported us so generously over the past year. To our Minister Ian and all who have visited, telephoned, sent cards or remembered us in your prayer list, we truly appreciate your support which has helped us through this time. Your loving thoughts, kind words and prayers have meant so much to us."

## Wendy McLean

*By way of further introduction to those who have not chatted to our new organist, Wendy has kindly provided a biography of her life and musical heritage. It is a rich and varied journey, highlighting a wealth of knowledge, commitment and experience which she has brought and generously shares with our CUC community.*

Thank you for the welcome that I have received since coming to Camberwell. Changing to another church was not something anticipated until the sale of St. Columba's in Balwyn, where I had been for 16 years, made that a reality.

Music in worship has been central in my life. As my father was a Methodist minister, we experienced living in several places in Tasmania and Traralgon in Gippsland. In the latter, he, with other ministers established the Lake Tyers Easter Camps. When hundreds of young people gathered at our church for reunions the sound of singing in harmony was unforgettable. I remember that our family at home gathered around the piano and sang in four-part harmony.

We moved to Murrumbeena in time for me to attend MLC at Year 9, and the next two years opened up singing in Choirs and Madrigal groups under the inspirational Miss Ruth Flockart, and the powerful influence of Dr Wood. Those were the years when we seemed to spend all of Sunday at the Church, with a large Sunday School, Christian Endeavour and Youth Group. At school for House Competitions and at church youth activities I began conducting choirs.

Belief in the need for music education for all students in the State system led me to doing a Secondary School Music Degree, and whilst studying at the 'Con', I joined the Oriana Madrigal Choir, which I enjoyed for the next ten years, experiencing wonderful repertoire. I was asked to give piano lessons to the sons and daughters of two Professors at Queens College, and my private teaching continues today. I taught classroom music at Prahran Girls Tech., and Greythorn High School. We lived in Lower Templestowe, and attended Trinity North Balwyn where I sang in the Choir and conducted a Sunday School Anniversary with 400 children. A new congregation began to worship in Doncaster and I was persuaded to start a choir, which I led for about 20 years except for the seventeen months when our family lived in Seattle. Whilst there I sang in the local church choir and started a madrigal group for fun. I brought home some great choral music, which I still use.

Soon after returning to Doncaster, I was requested to join the classroom music staff at MLC, and I remained there for 13 years. In that time I took year 8 singing, choir and madrigal group, and for several years established a Roland Keyboard Laboratory. One year I was responsible for the senior singing, which meant directing 800 students for the annual church service and Speech Night. When the Doncaster Church purchased an Electronic Organ, I began taking organ lessons on the pipe organ at MLC.

But there were also many other interests, as I joined the Synod Committee on Church Music, the National Ecumenical Church Music Committee and the Royal School of Church Music, attending inspirational annual Summer Schools with fantastic overseas directors. The Uniting Church committee commenced its own workshop weekends to help develop the leadership skills of church musicians. When "Sing Alleluia" was launched I felt the call to help congregations in using the diverse styles of Taize chants, songs, Psalms and Communion Settings. This led to being on the road all over Victoria, visiting every Presbytery for several years, gathering a volunteer group of singers and instrumentalists who came with me, and then we were invited to record the entire contents of 105 pieces, and do some Christian Television programs. By now I had resigned from MLC in order to commit to whatever church music initiative opened up. Amazingly I was invited to become music director at St Andrew's UC in Box Hill, and was there for

nearly 9 years until I went to St Columba's in Balwyn.

The next exciting direction was to join the AHB Committee for the ten years in which we worked to compile "Together in Song". I became a committee member of RSCM, Victorian Music Teachers' Association, and joined the Australian Academy of Liturgy. There were some amazing experiences such as being invited to be music director at the BBC Songs of Praise at the Myer Music Bowl in February 1991, the only time they have come to Melbourne, and then being in charge of music at the World Day of Prayer International Committee when it met in Melbourne in 1995, bringing together delegates from 72 countries. I have been very blessed and privileged indeed. It is also a joy that my family, including grandchildren, are also so involved in Music.

Wendy McLean

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## News from CASS

### Speakers

At our April meeting, **Sophie Tolich** (Partner Agency Liaison Officer of the Red Cross Community Detention Program) outlined the work the Red Cross does for unaccompanied minors who are seeking asylum. Sophie reminded us that the Red Cross is non-political and is concerned with humanitarian issues. The Department of Immigration fully funds the Community Detention Program and the Red Cross divides the money between the agencies it works with such as Life Without Barriers, Wesley Mission, Anglicare, Berry Street and others who provide the carers in each house.

At present the Red Cross services 34 houses for unaccompanied minors including 'Illoura' with its current 7 residents. The boys, who are monitored by two Red Cross case workers and the Life Without Barriers live-in carers, receive funding for all medical concerns and recreational activities, and an allowance of \$140 per month. They have a nightly curfew and if they want to stay with friends elsewhere, must apply for permission.

The Minister for Immigration is the legal guardian for the boys who must move out of 'Illoura' once they turn 18. However, Red Cross case workers continue to support them once they have moved into the community.

Currently there are unaccompanied minors in detention on Manus Island and Nauru who may

possibly be transferred to 'Illoura'. Unaccompanied minors in detention camps within Australia are still being directed to the Red Cross to join the Community Detention Program.

The Red Cross runs three programs CD (Community Detention), CAS (Community Assistance Scheme) which helps asylum seekers find rental accommodation and ASAS (Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme) which works particularly with asylum seeker families.

At our June meeting, **Mohammed Isah** (Program Manager from the Lentara Asylum Seekers Program) spoke about the issues confronting Lentara at the moment. There is great uncertainty about what will happen to the holders of temporary visas and other applicants for visas. The situation is highly complex, and it is difficult to get consistent answers from authorities.

The Basic Living Allowance of \$145 per month paid to people within the Lentara program has been at that level for many years and Mohammed said it was hoped that this could be lifted to at least \$170.

At this meeting our group also spent time discussing the possibility of hosting an exhibition of Lentara clients' art and craft work later this year. We are currently waiting to hear from Mohammed about a visit by CASS members to the Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre, where art classes are run, to view some of the work that might be displayed.

The group felt that it would be worthwhile talking with Josh Frydenberg (our local federal MP) to express our concerns about asylum seekers. Our neighbours at Our Lady of Victories and St John's are likely to be interested in such a conversation, so it was agreed that they should be contacted in the hope that we could join forces before approaching Mr Frydenberg.

Our August meeting will hear from **Richard Peoples**, (Retail Operations Manager from Lentara) about the work he does with Lentara's Bargain Centres.

### Fundraising

The focus in May was to collect donations to assist Lentara with their clients' medical and pharmaceutical expenses. 'More Than Just a Band Aid' raised \$388.40. Our ongoing fund raising is the "Silver for Asylum Seekers" appeal for which all members of the congregation have been invited to set aside the small change that



clutters their purses and at the end of the year, the collections will be totalled and sent to Lentara. Attractive small collection boxes are still available from the foyer.

A respectful conversation with our local Federal Member of Parliament, Josh Frydenberg, is being sought with the view to clarifying the government's current position on asylum seekers.

### Maintenance at 'Illoura'

Eric McKay and Harvey Sowerby continue to provide invaluable service with the maintenance work they carry out. Recently a section of the ceiling near the kitchen fell in – it has since been replaced and a leaky tap has also been dealt with.

Elaine Robinson

### HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED! - EATING IN AUSTRALIA IN THE FIFTIES

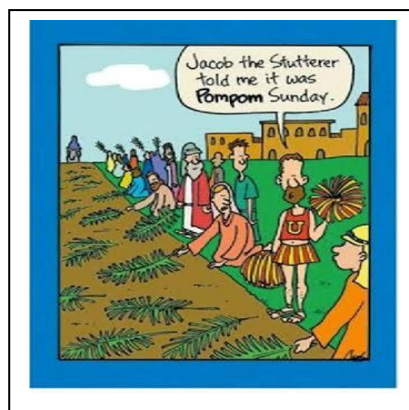
- Pasta had not been invented.
- Curry was a surname.
- A takeaway was a mathematical problem.
- A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.
- All hot chips were plain; the only choice was whether to put salt on or not.
- Rice was only eaten as a milk pudding.
- A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.
- Brown bread was something only poor people ate.
- Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.
- Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.
- Fish didn't have fingers in those days. Eating raw fish was a desperate act, not sushi.
- None of us had ever heard of yoghurt. Healthy food was anything edible.
- People who didn't peel potatoes and pumpkin were regarded as lazy.
- Indian restaurants were only found in India.
- Cooking outside was called camping.
- "Kebab" was not even a word, never mind a food.
- Prunes were medicinal.
- Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock!!

### Justice and International Mission Unit Annual Convention

130 people attended this annual convention on the August 9, at the Centre for Theology & Ministry, Parkville. With a theme of **"We've Boundless Plains to Share"** we explored the concept of welcome – especially for those who seek refuge and asylum - and strove to find ways to seek a more just, humane approach to refugees and asylum seekers in Australia.

The Keynote Speaker was Sister Brigid Arthur, one of the Co-ordinators of the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project, and very involved in advocacy work for asylum seekers.

It was inspiring and informative to share this day with so many people in the Uniting Church with similar concerns. If you would like more information I am happy to share this with you.  
Marg White



### Messy Church

September 21, 4.00 – 6.00 pm  
Theme: The Huge Picnic

It will be FUN & MESSY with great food and company so come along & bring your family or a friend.

Check out the messy Church Facebook page & refer family & friends to the site.  
<https://www.facebook.com/camberwellmessychurch>

Ministry: Worship 10.00 am

Rev. Ian Brown 0439 931 080

Church Office: Tuesday & Friday

Phone 9882-7441

Email [ucacamberwell@uniting.com.au](mailto:ucacamberwell@uniting.com.au)

**Kairos** is the Greek word meaning "time", that is, those times which are turning points demanding decision while the opportunity remains. Although it refers primarily to the coming of Christ it may also refer to the present time in the life of our congregation.

Editor: Stuart Ensor