



UC Information

Never Walk Alone

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Rev Dr Ian Price
Presbytery & Synod Strategy and Planning Officer

In February I complete 10 years working in the Presbytery and Synod Office. At the end of March I will finish as an officer of the Synod. It is a strange thing to have such mixed celebrations. On the one hand a sense of privilege at having such an opportunity to serve God in the roles associated with mission and planning. On the other, a sense of sadness at the transition that will take place.

Comings and goings are a part of ministry. In recent years, I have experienced a deep sense of loss as some of the great leaders (truly saints) that have made up the congregations I have served have died. It is so striking to realise that, in virtually a moment, all the capacity, skills, knowledge and breadth of relationships present in a person is suddenly gone. I think of an incredible woman who died just a little while ago. She was one of those people you could trust with any task, and even more so, if she said she would do something, it was done excellently, on time, and in a way that everyone valued. Then, suddenly, she was gone.

Arch Hart said in one of his seminars, that, in ministry, depression is inevitable because of the many small losses that are experienced in the weekly, monthly, and yearly flow of life. You have to acknowledge it, prepare for it, make space for it and respond appropriately to it. It helps enormously if we have a circle of trusted allies who understand the character of and realities of what it means to have to deal with the losses. Even something as simple as the letdown after preaching a sermon and knowing that it is done and you have to come up with something fresh next week brings its own sense of loss.

Arch also said that we should beware the isolated minister. When we stop attending meetings, or using our supervisors, or avoid collegiality, then we get ourselves into trouble. We are, in fact, at our best when we are fully engaged in worthwhile work, living out of healthy relationships, able to lean on one another and support one another within a community that shares a common mission and life.

If, in these past ten years, one thing has stood out most to me, it has been that God has placed in my circle amazing people who have made the journey extremely satisfying. When we look back, is it not the friendship of those working to a common end that makes all the difference? If I had a single hope for the future of the UCA in South Australia, it would be that we might rediscover what it means to be the body of Christ in all its fulness – for the sake of each member and the glory of God.



PLACEMENTS NEWS

Placements finalised since the last edition of UC Information:

- Rev Roger Brook to Maughan (0.7) from 1 May 2012
- Rev Judy Knowling (Deacon) to Royal Adelaide Hospital from 1 March 2012
- Julia Pitman, Candidate for MOW, to South West Fleurieu (Delamere, Inman Valley, Myponga, Range Road, Yankalilla) from 1 February 2012
- Rev Naomi Rosenberg (Deacon) to Sunset Rock (0.4) from 1 January 2012

Wondering if any new placements have become available between UC Information mailings? Check out the Website under UC positions vacant:

resources.sa.uca.org.au/uc-positions-vacant

The following is the current list of vacant (or soon to be vacant) approved placements:

Profiles available

- Ardrossan (0.5)
- Bordertown, Buckingham and Mundulla
- Hare Street (0.25)
- Southern Yorke Peninsula
(Brentwood, Corny Point, Curramulka, Edithburgh, Koolywurtie, Minlaton, Port Vincent, Stansbury, Warooka, Yorketown)
- Chaplain, Flinders Medical Centre from 1 June 2012

Profiles not yet available

*Plains Community Church (0.5)
(Windsor, Owen and Hamley Bridge)*

If you wish to express an interest in any of these placements, or would like to have a look at the profile, please advise Rev Philip Gardner, pgardner@sa.uca.org.au, by **Tuesday 21 February 2012**. You should also inform your **Mission Network's representative on Placements Committee of your interest**. The next meeting of the Placements Committee will be held on **Monday, 27 February 2012** when names of Ministers will be considered to fill a number of these placements.

Please join us at the following Special Services in the next few months:

INDUCTIONS

Rev Darren Lovell
Burra
25 March 2012 7pm

COMMENCEMENTS

Anthony Hill (MOP)
Resthaven
28 February 2012 2pm at Leabrook

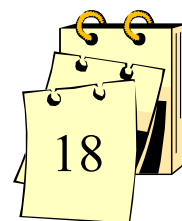
Keep on eye on **UC e-news** for more Services as information becomes available

ORDINATION SERVICE

Sunday 18 March 2012

Where: Adelaide West

Time: 2.00 pm



Code of Ethics Refresher And Called to Care Training Sessions

2 Courses 1 Day

20th March 2012 at Colonel Light Gardens
Called to Care 9.30am to 12.30pm
Code of Ethics Refresher 1.00am to 4.00pm

Come to one session or both
For more details contact Linda Vinall 8236 4248
or Gill Morel 8236 4204
or watch the UCA Website for more details

Future Dates: 6th June and 13th September

Have you Registered your Pancake Day event?

Shrove Tuesday is less than 2 weeks away (Tuesday 21 February) but there is still time to take part in UnitingCare's Pancake Day. Events can be held on any day, in any format, during February and March. Questions? Contact 1 800 060 543 or visit the Pancake Day website. Funds raised go to UnitingCare agencies in SA. Many worship resources, stickers and balloons are available for event holders to use.