



UC Information

SOMETHING BIGGER

Rob Williams
Moderator

One of the great outcomes for young people attending statewide and national events is that they discover that they are part of something bigger than their local kids' club or youth group.

This was certainly the experience of a few I spoke with recently at KCO South East, held at the Naracoorte High School. One boy said that he was one of three children in his local congregation. However, he drew parallels between KCO SE and school. 'I live on a farm and catch a school bus. By the time I get to school the bus is pretty well filled. When all the buses arrive, we're ready for school – lots of us. KCO SE is like that.' He concluded by saying that it was good to be with all the others. 'You get to do things we can't do back home alone.'

As your new Moderator, I discover every day that I'm part of something bigger than I had experienced before. This encourages me and makes me feel privileged to be one of the many who make up the Uniting Church in South Australia.

Eldercare Allambi, recently held the opening ceremony of their new McGrath Lounge. Hundreds of people attended from many sectors of government, the Uniting Church and the local community. I met a friend there whom I hadn't seen for many years. She was wearing a volunteer's badge and visits about 10 residents each week. However, one of the first comments she made concerning her work, was that she did it along with many others who encouraged each other in their visitation roles. The visitation was fulfilling - the encouragement uplifting.

Our church continues to provide a significant contribution to the well-being of our communities in South Australia. Through UnitingCare alone, 26 community service agencies and schools provide a wide range of services across our state. These include welfare, hospital and health care, advocacy, emergency support, aged care, accommodation, education, children, youth and

family support and disability services. Nationally, UnitingCare is made up of more than 1,300 social service sites, assists more than 2 million people annually, employs more than 35,000 staff and is supported by a network of 24,000 volunteers. Its vision is a compassionate and just community in which all people belong and are able to reach their full potential.

The vision I shared with you last Synod for my term as Moderator is –

An empowering community centred in Jesus.

Day by day I'm seeing examples of this taking place. Those I've mentioned are but a few I'm aware of. There will be many others as I meet more of you and listen to your stories of encouragement.

However, please remember in those times when your work in the name of Jesus seems to be meeting opposition or even failure, that you are part of something bigger – your church in South Australia. The Presbytery/Synod team is available to listen and give support. Also sharing your situation with a neighbouring congregation or agency may give a local perspective you may have missed.

Be encouragers to one another as we seek to be *an empowering community centred in Jesus.*



PLACEMENTS NEWS

Placements finalised since the last edition of UC Information:

- Rev Tony Eldridge to Westbourne Park (Priority) from 1 June 2011
- Rev Jane McDonald to Kimba from 1 July 2011

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

Profiles available

- Adelaide Congress
- Adelaide West
- Burra (0.5) from 1.04.11
- Clayton Wesley
- Freedom, Paralowie(0.4)
- Mylor (0.2)
- Seaton (0.3)

Profiles not yet available

- Ardrossan
- Barossa
- Christ Church (To be advertised)
- Grange
- Kent Town
- Loxton and Renmark
- South West Fleurieu (Delamere, Inman Valley, Myponga, Range Road, Yankalilla)
- Pilgrim

Advertised Positions/Placements

<http://resources.sa.uca.org.au/uc-positions-vacant.html>

- Mission Resource Person (Urban)
- Covenanting Officer (0.5)
- State Development and Outreach Officer (0.5)

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 **Wednesday, 22 March 2011**. 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, 28 March 2011** when names of Ministers will be considered to fill a number of these placements.

Please join us as we celebrate with the following Congregations and people over the next few months.



INDUCTIONS

Rev Naomi Duke

Parafield Gardens
13th March 2011 at 2.30 pm

Rev Sue Ellis

Rural Resourcing Minister
Ceduna
17 March 2011 6.00 pm

Rev Kevin Sarlow

Glenunga
May 2011

Rev Coral Smith, Deacon

Blackwood
22 May 2011 2.00 pm

Prayer for KCO

Prayer is an import part of KCO.

If you are willing to support KCO in prayer go to <http://mrn.sa.uca.org.au/happenings/kco/how-can-i-help-kco.html> for the prayer calendar.

This is a great opportunity to be a part of this exciting event that serves children from all over SA.

Chaplaincy Forum Dates

Tuesday 5th April 2011

Hearing God's Pastoral Voice



Wednesday 10th August 2011

Tuesday 22nd November 2011

Code of Ethics and Prevention of Sexual Misconduct training 25 March 2011

Venue: The Corner: A Uniting Church Centre
9.30 am to 3.30 pm

For any Ministry person who has not attended a course in the last 3 years.

RSVP: Gill Morel 8236 4204 gmorel@sa.uca.org.au

Ministry of Pastor Code of Ethics - please contact Uniting College Linda Driver 8416 8420 to register