



Share, Shout and Sing!

August, 2025

UCA News from around Yorke Peninsula

An Initiative of the Yorke Peninsula

Regional Mission Council

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Now where did that heading come from, I hear you ask? Have you ever had a time when you found yourself mulling over something or other and coming up with diddly-squat for an answer? I asked for some ideas about what to call this monthly epistle and several of you did respond. However, sharing possible names with ministry agents and others, none of those proposed seemed to quite fit the bill. The ministry agents have been busy putting together another whole of YP get-together and while writing the date in my diary, I remembered the song we began the last gathering with that for some of us was quite new. The chorus of that song goes like this:

"Shout to the north and the south, sing to the east and the west,
Jesus is Saviour to all, Lord of heaven and earth."

As we are a peninsula, we gather from the north, south, east and west to sing and share and shout to the communities around us that the Uniting Church here is alive and active. What do you think? Perhaps we can sing the song again at our upcoming gathering.

When is that, you ask? Read on.....

Pastor Brenton has been able to engage the musician and story teller, Peter Shurley, to come and share across YP for a week. Peter comes from Tasmania and asks for no fees. Brenton has arranged the following dates and places for us all to enjoy Peter's visit:

Sunday, August 31st: 9.30am, Moonta UC for their Café Service

Sunday, August 31st: 2.30pm, Minlaton UC for the combined YP gathering

Tuesday, Sept. 2nd: 7.00pm, Kadina UC for a free concert & light supper.

Wednesday, Sept. 3rd: 10.00am, Minlaton UC at the friendship café.

Friday, Sept. 5th: 2.00pm, Warooka UC for a free concert & afternoon tea.

Looking forward to seeing so many of you on the afternoon of August 31st at Minlaton.

May the Lord bless you today and everyday.

Rev. Jane McDonald Email: sjanemcdonald71@gmail.com

CHURCH SURVEYS

The ministry team wish to thank all our congregations for returning the surveys we circulated a few weeks ago. Your responses are currently being considered at our team meetings. A comprehensive report will be made in a few week's time. This is very important in determining our direction for the rest of this year and into the future. Exciting times ahead!

TAKE TIME TO GROW

From 6.30pm on Friday 17th October to 4.30pm on Saturday 18th October, the Synod will be conducting an event called RENEW at Adelaide West Uniting Church. It is for ALL church members and will be one of the most exciting events about church renewal held in recent times.

It will be presented by the Mission Growth and Renewal Team from the Synod of NSW and ACT, who have been involved in some innovative work in both city and rural NSW. There will be worship, keynote speakers and workshops. You will hear fresh ideas and receive encouragement.

The ministry team believes this will be a valuable resource for our people on Yorke Peninsula and we invite each congregation to have as many members as possible attend. It would be great to have large numbers of YP people there. Anyone can attend. It's not just for ministers and leaders.

there will be a charge of \$18, with a 20% discount for groups of 5 or more. The Synod is aware of the challenges for country people in coming to the city and provide reimbursement for both petrol and accommodation for people living 150kms or more from the CBD. People intending to attend will need to register. Please let one of the ministry team know if you want to take part.

PRAYING TOGETHER

A number of people have told the ministry team that they would like another booklet to help them pray for the Peninsula, and for it to include more about each congregation. To assist us to do this, we would like each congregation to provide a picture of their building and a brief statement of about 100 words about their life together. This information can be emailed to Brenton. The new booklet will be similar in size to the last one and, in order to cover expenses, those ordering a copy will be asked to pay just \$2.00. We look forward to receiving your photos by Sunday 14th September. Don't forget! We need each other's help.

WHAT MAKES UP THE BIBLE?

On Saturday 30th August, there will be a teaching session at Minlaton Uniting Church starting at 2.00pm. It is designed for lay preachers AND ALL CHURCH MEMBERS. Last February, we invited a guest from the Uniting College to talk about the Gospel of Luke. It was a great time, enjoyed by all who came. This time, we couldn't get a timing for our service and a guest teacher to coincide. So we thought, "Let's do it ourselves." June and Jane will be giving you some insight into understanding the composition of the Bible. While this is only for the afternoon, never fear — there will be a coffee break! Arrange a group from your congregation to come. It will be worthwhile. It might even be entertaining!

Joylene Potter (Kadina UC) sent in this thoughtful piece from The Word for Today.

For we walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor.5:7)

Close your eyes and try walking without sight, and you will get an idea of what it means to walk by faith. Faith in what?

The unchanging character of God, goodness of God, love of God, and truth that He always has your best interests at heart. With God, information is given on a need-to-know basis. And God determines who needs to know what and when. Here is an example of this: the early church needs to decide if God is calling them to include Gentiles. After much prayer, they send out this letter: *'It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us ...'* (Acts 15:28 NIV). Really? *Seemed* good?

The future of the entire human race is at stake, and the best you can do is *'it seemed ...'*? Yet the church leaders were quite comfortable sending out this letter. Apparently, God's will for His people was that they should not be told precisely what His will was, or at least not all the details. Presumably, He knew they would grow more if they had to think and discuss and hash it out rather than get a memo. Evidently, they didn't require certainty. They were happy to settle for heartfelt obedience. When Paul says we 'walk' by faith, he is referring to the slowest form of transportation known to humankind. He is also referring to a process that happens one step at a time.

God has the satellite view; He sees your entire journey from beginning to end and plans each step. And He says, 'Do what I have given you to do, and when you have done it, I will show you what I want you to do next.'