ACC E-News

February - March 2019 🦸

Dear ACC Members and Contacts

Lenten Studies

ACC Member Leigh Harkness has prepared Lenten Studies for 2019 drawing from D.A. Carson's commentary on *The Gospel According to John*. Leigh has kindly made these Lenten Studies available for wider use and ACC members can download for their own congregation or group (6 studies): February 2019. <u>Jesus' Farewell Message</u> (PDF 12 pages) Printable in A4 format. See the ACC website.

Resources from Rev. Ted Curnow

One of the ACC devotional and resource section is Pastoral and Practical by Rev. Ted Curnow and Ted has made available a wide variety of material for members to use. Recently Ted compiled an extensive series of personal reflections on this momentous period in the life of the church (10 articles):

UCA Where are you?

This provides an overview that bring together a wide range of statements and insights related to the position of the church and Christian marriage, the cultural context, the lead up stages to Assembly 2018, the aftermath and sorting out the substance and myths. <u>A summary document</u> (3 pages PDF) from Rev E.A. Curnow provides a reflection in the post 5 January 2019 context.

The resources are on the ACC website in the Devotional Section - Practical and Pastoral Section (Ted Curnow) – or right click links above.

United Methodist Church (USA) Special Session of the General Conference

The special session (conference) to consider matters similar to the issues within the UCA is presently underway in the USA. Information and news can be found <u>here.</u> ACC has maintained prayerful contact with the Confessing Movement (within the United Methodist Church in the USA) during this time. <u>The Happenings</u> <u>newsletter</u> is regularly included in the ACC Magazine and this recent newsletter (re-published on the ACC website) is a gem and is worth reading to understand that we are not alone. Extract below:

Over a period of time the familiar slogan, 'unity in diversity' has blurred the existence of two very distinct and different gospels in the church today. In touching on the themes of theology and culture this short summary concludes with practical hints for members and Congregations concerned about the future.

Some ACC Happenings

3 March: ACC Southern Tasmanian Cluster Meeting at Hobart Wesley: 2 pm.
2-3 March: Peter Bentley visiting ACC congregations in Queensland
10-12 March: ACC National Council face to face meeting in Sydney
23-25 September: Annual ACC Conference and AGM: Alex Park Conference
Centre: Alexandra Headland, Sunshine Coast.

School of Faith Events.

From March, Sunnybank Uniting Church will be holding a monthly School of Faith gathering and teaching time. For details see the website under QLD activities or contact the office.

ACC Prayer Times

There are the regular ACC prayer times via Zoom, phone or meeting with groups. Wednesday morning: 8.00 am (ADST) Sunday 3.00 pm (ADST): Communion For contact details please check with the ACC Office.

ACC Prayers

(As well as events above): From Rev Anne Hibbard: Prayer Co-ordinator

- Continue to pray for all ACC and evangelical congregations, clusters, ministers, lay leaders, who are seeking the Lord for future direction.
- Pray that we as the ACC can be faithful to what the Lord calls us to do at this time.
- Continue to uphold Peter in his work as our National Director and Hedley as our ACC chair.
- Prayers for Rev. Dr Max and Mrs Ruth Champion and families
 Members will be saddened to learn of the death of Max and Ruth's son,
 Marcus Champion on 18 February 2019 following a virulent form of cancer.
 Your prayers also for Marcus' wife Abbey and their two young daughters
 Willow (4) and Grace (1), and all their wider families. Private funeral arrangements will be held on Monday 25th February.

Luke 6:27-28 (NIV) Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

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