

ACC E-News

May - June 2019 

Assembly of Confessing Congregations

Greetings to ACC Members

Please keep the ACC in your prayers – and we are all the ACC as we confess Christ together. Your prayers are also appreciated for the upcoming conference and ACC events.

Peace and grace

Peter Bentley

2019 ACC Conference: 23 – 25 September 2019

Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Sunshine Coast.

Registration is now open for the conference. Details see [website](#).

National Council Officer arrangements

The Council has made some changes to officer positions.

Rev Ian Weeks has concluded the role of National Secretary and has been appointed as Assistant Treasurer to 30th June 2019, and will take over as the Treasurer on 1 July 2019 from Bruce Fairhall, who has provided outstanding service to the ACC.

Rev Anne Hibbard has been appointed as ACC National Secretary.

Media Coverage of the ACC Chair's comments

Members may have seen Rev Dr Hedley Fihaki on the ABC news in May, and also reported in the Australian and Sydney Morning Herald commenting on religious freedom. The interviews were in response to being a signatory to the Open Letters to the Prime Minister and the Opposition Leader about religious freedom. The Open Letters are available on the [ACC website](#).

The [Herald article](#) provides an overview.

In other media coverage re: the Statement from the NSW and ACT Moderator concerning media coverage about a UC Congregation. ACC Members (Particularly in NSW) have been wondering about the recent statement from the NSW and ACT Moderator Rev. Simon Hansford, in regards to media coverage “on one of our congregations”. Extract of the Media release: ... (full release see [link](#))

“Last year, a man who was attending a Uniting Church congregation was convicted and jailed for historical child sex offences. These offences were committed while he was holding an ordained role in another denomination. Despite monitoring being in place, it is clear that this person was allowed to engage with our congregation in a way that was inappropriate. In 2016 he gave an address to the congregation which was recorded and uploaded to a video sharing platform.

This was a grave error of judgement.

As a result, one of the people he had previously abused suffered distress when she became aware of the video and the status accorded to her abuser within this congregation. We are also now aware that there are other survivors who he had abused who might also be distressed. For these errors and our failure to live up to our solemn commitments, on behalf of the Synod and the leaders of the congregation involved, I am deeply sorry.” ...

Note: The congregation is not named in the media release from the Uniting Church, but the congregation concerned, Pitt Street Uniting Church is named in the article from the secular newspaper [The Guardian](#).

ACC Events and Gatherings

NSW ACC Gathering – June 15 at Belrose Uniting Church.

NSW Members have received information, and for further information please contact the office.

Tasmanian ACC Movement

The Southern Cluster of The Assembly of Confessing Congregations (ACC) have a guest speaker from Scripture Union at their next gathering on Sunday 26th May at 2 p.m. Wesley Church Hall Melville St Hobart.

ACC School of Faith Events

The Bible and the Basis

Date: Saturday 29 June

Venue: Ulverstone UC, Tasmania

Time: 10 am for 10.30 -12.30

Morning tea supplied BYO lunch

This teaching event will be accessible by ZOOM.

<https://www.zoom.us/j/3933734474>

ZOOM participants will be encouraged to form a local team of two or more. Participants will also be asked to prepare for the event beforehand by reading the Basis of Union and attempting to do the Quiz 'How Biblical is the Basis', see www.confessingschooloffaith.com then click on Basis of Union at bottom of home page, and select Basis of Union Quiz in the side panel. We will share our answers at the event.

ACC Queensland School of Faith meetings

ACC Qld is now holding a School of Faith teaching event on the last Wednesday of each month at the ACC Sunnybank Uniting Church, 6: 30 – 8: 30 p.m.

Address 22 Hillcrest St, Sunnybank Hills QLD 4109

Next Event: Wednesday 29th May 2019 "Gospel in a pluralist society"

Past Events

Wednesday 27th March 2019 "The Polity of the UCA".

Wednesday 24th April 2019 ""Proclaiming the Truth in the public space"

Bible Study: Matthew 14:22-33

More info contact Rev. Lulu Senituli lu.senituli@accucsunnybank.com.au

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