

# ACC E-News October 2011

## 1. NSW ACC Movement

**A reminder about the NSW ACC Movement Meeting this Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, commencing at 10.00 am.** This will be a special time to hear from one of the UCA's long-standing teachers and mentors:

**John Mallison, who will speak on:**

**Evangelism and Discipleship in the 21st Century Uniting Church**

**Venue:** Newtown Mission Chapel (280A King Street - opp. Dendy Cinema), Newtown. Buses from Railway Square (422, 423, 426, 428 – via Castlereagh Street, and M30 via George Street down from Town Hall) stop right outside the Mission doors. Newtown Mission is also a short walk (5 minutes) from Newtown Railway Station (note there are stairs to climb).

**Please bring lunch to share during Fellowship. Tea and Coffee will be available.**

**After the meeting there will be an opportunity to explore the Revelation Ceiling at Newtown Mission.**

<http://www.newtownmission.org.au/revelation-ceiling>

## 2. New ACC Resource

**ACC launched a new DVD and Study Guide "*The Hope of a New Heaven and New Earth*"** (ACC Discipleship and Evangelism Commission) at the 2011 Conference. This is included as part of the **congregational membership (if you are a member of an ACC congregation, group or cluster your contact will receive a copy (unless your representative picked the copy up at the conference) in the mail during the next week.** The DVD was very well received at the ACC Conference. A study guide is included for use in groups (the study guide can be copied). A set can be purchased from the ACC for \$10.00 (post and GST included)

The six studies are entitled:

- 1) *Christ is the Firstborn over all Creation*
- 2) *Covenant and Creation*
- 3) *Our Resurrection – Our Future*
- 4) *What about Heaven?*
- 5) *Dear Death or Dark Devourer?*
- 6) *The New heavens and New Earth*

## 3. New ACC Statement on Euthanasia

The Social Responsibility Commission's statement **A Christian Response to Euthanasia and Medically Assisted Suicide** is now available in a printed format on request to the office (note copies will be forward to ACC congregations in bulk). Copies are also available to download on the ACC website. A summary will be included in the ACCatalyst. For the website see:

<http://www.confessingcongregations.com/national/item/a-christian-response-to-euthanasia/>

#### 4. ACC Office-bearers elected for 2011-2012

**ACC National Council** (3 office-bearers and 9 Council Members)

**Chair:** Rev. Dr Max Champion

**Deputy Chair:** Rev. Dr Hedley Fihaki

**Secretary:** Rev. Walter Abetz

**Council Members:** Fatai Taupaleulu; Rev. Anne Hibbard, Rev. Dr Peter Davis (NSW); Rev. Rod James, Robyn Painter, Rev. Derek Schiller (SA); Dr Colin Adam; Rev. Dr Ian Breward (Victoria); Rev. Shane Kammermann (Qld)

##### **Convenor and Board Appointments**

**Board of Management** – Dr Colin Adam

**Board of Communication** – Professor Pat Noller

**Cross Cultural Commission** – Rev. Lu Senituli

**Disciple and Evangelism Commission** – Rev. Derek Schiller

**Doctrine and Theology Commission** – Dr Rosalie Hudson

**Ecumenical Commission** – Rev. Dr Alan Crawford.

**Networks Development Commission** – this is still vacant and your prayers are appreciated.

**Prayer Network** – Rev. Dr Hedley Fihaki

**Social Responsibility Commission** – Rev. Ross Carter

#### 5. 2011 Conference News

A round-up of conference news and AGM matters will be published in the next edition of the *ACCatalyst*. A report will be included on the website this coming week. It is also hoped that the three main papers will be published in the magazine over the coming editions.

#### 6. Gospel Central 2011 – ACC Regional Seminar Victoria

Nyah West are hosting a Gospel Central time with other Victorian congregations including Kyabram.

**Date:** 22 October 2011 (Saturday)

**Time:** 10.30 am – 3.15 pm (Bring lunch to share)

**Location:** Fredrick Street, Nyah West

**Speaker:** ACC Chair, Rev Dr Max Champion. Max will bring a message for the day and also reflect on the recent ACC conference. On Sunday 23 October Max will preach at Kyabram Uniting Church.

**Contact:** [ucaky@bigpond.com](mailto:ucaky@bigpond.com) or Suzanna Gorman (03) 5852 2298 (PM),

#### 7. PNEUMA – Campfire 2011 and visit by ACC Chair to WA.

Max Champion was the speaker at the PNEUMA annual Campfire 1-2 October 2011 (see prayer notes below), and is then at Lighthouse Church in Geraldton for speaking and preaching appointments.

Members will be aware that PNEUMA (**Pastoral Network of Evangelicals Uniting in Mission Action**) is a network in WA for evangelicals.

<http://www.wa.uca.org.au/pneuma/home/campfire/>

#### 8. ACL National Conference 2011

The Australian Christian Lobby conference for 2011 considers how to influence public policy – this year again focussing on the best interests of children. An impressive line-up of expert speakers will also address Christian worldview, the political debate surrounding marriage and the impact of Western Civilisation in shaping the modern world.

**Date:** 14-15<sup>th</sup> October; **Where:** Hyatt Hotel, Canberra

<http://australianchristianlobby.org.au/2011/08/acl-national-conference-2011/>

## 9. Special Edition of the ACC Statement on Marriage

A special printed edition of the Marriage Statement will be included as an insert in the mailing of the October 2011 ACCatalyst magazine. This will be a helpful arrangement as the magazine is distributed to many UCA councils and all theological colleges.

# ACC Prayer Network – October 2011

## Prayer Diary

God is good all the time; all the time GOD IS GOOD! Thank-you for continuing to uphold the work and the mission of the ACC in prayer.

- We give thanks to God for our conference last month in Melbourne. Thank-you to all who attended. I hope and pray that you were blessed by the conference and gained new insight, wisdom and courage in relation to what it means to reach out to the world with the message of the gospel.
- We continue to uphold Max in our prayers as he travels around Australia encouraging local movements. Max has recently been in W.A. at Campfire in Yealering. I received an email from a dear friend in WA who attended Campfire saying it was wonderful time and particularly to be reminded by Max, using Mark 4: 35-41, that Jesus is in the boat with us and He is the calming influence and that his blessings extend also to people in other boats.
- We pray for wisdom with sister churches as we continue to have conversations regarding sexuality and marriage.
- We pray for a 'confident humility' as we continue to seek to proclaim the truth of the gospel; not always easy in a multicultural, pluralist and secular society, but e of good courage!
- Please uphold the following upcoming meetings in your prayers:

4 October	Doctrine and Theology Commission meeting: Melbourne
8 October	NSW ACC General Meeting at Newtown Mission, 10 am – 1 pm
9 October	ACC Tonga Gathering: Tilba Street Chapel Berala
22 October	Gospel Central - Nyah West ACC Victoria regional seminar
29 October	ACC SA Movement 'Living Waters' seminar: Mt Gambier, SA.
- Please pray for upcoming Synod meetings. Qld Synod meets 7-12 October.  
SA Synod/Presbytery meet 27-29 October.

- We pray for our upcoming Assembly 2012 in South Australia. We pray for wisdom for our leaders and the preparation.
- Last but not least, we give thanks to God for Tonga's historic win in the world cup over France (19-14). Who said God doesn't work miracles in our modern age? On Saturday before our music practice in our congregation, I asked one of the guys opening our session in prayer to also include Tonga when he prays. He prayed something to the effect: "And, Lord, please help Tonga to win to keep the Tongans happy". Sure enough, Tonga won and boy, are the Tongans happy! Thank-you Lord.
- Continue to be of good courage and cheer for God is good all the time; all the time God is good.
- 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 "Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants in your life in union with Christ Jesus".  
*Hedley Fihaki on behalf of the ACC's Prayer Network*

**Please remember each Friday and join in the ACC National Day of Prayer and Fasting.**

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**Assembly of Confessing Congregations Inc.**

ABN 73 794 518 715 ARBN 128 001 785

Incorporated in NSW INC9887628 Liability of Members is Limited

Registered Office: 2 Erskineville Road, Newtown NSW

Postal Mail: PO Box 968 Newtown NSW 2042

Tel: (02) 9550 5358; 0423 637 576; [accoffice@confessingcongregations.com](mailto:accoffice@confessingcongregations.com)

[www.confessingcongregations.com](http://www.confessingcongregations.com)