

ACC E-News September 2011

The news and prayer notes are included for September. Many of you have heard of the terrible fire in Brisbane through our prayer network and emails, and the two facebook sites. Hedley has included a prayer point below, and I encourage members to particularly remember him, his mother Tina, and sister Helen and families as the 11 people who died were all relatives.

1. 2011 ACC Conference and AGM

Registrations have now closed for the 2011 conference and the final arrangements are being made. Prayer points are included below.

PUBLIC RALLY - You are very welcome to come along to the Public Rally on Friday night at 7.30 pm and hear Stu Cameron, minister of NewLife Robina Uniting Church speak on *Confident Humility*.

Date: Friday 9th September

Time: 7.30 pm

Location: Brimbank Anglican Church Centre

Corner Ely Court and Keilor Park Drive (enter via Ely Court), Keilor East, Vic 3033 Melway Ref: 15 B9

2. Memberships and Mail

Thank you to everyone who has sent their payment, and also a donation with their membership renewals. The response has been excellent. Could members please note the **PO BOX 968**, Newtown 2042 address for mail. While the registered business address is accurate, it is far more secure to have mail sent to the ACC PO BOX.

3. NSW ACC

The next general meeting of the NSW ACC will be held on Saturday 8th October 2011 at 11 am at Newtown Mission. A separate notice will be sent out. This will provide an opportunity to see the Revelation Ceiling Mural at the Mission.

Also the NSW Committee will be organising a prayer breakfast for ACC and interested UCA members during the NSW Synod. This will be on Monday 26th September and your prayers for the organisers NSW Convenor Rev. Ian Weeks and Alton Bowen (Hunter ACC Cluster convenor) and team are appreciated.

4. Opportunity to serve in the Hunter area, NSW

The New Lambton UC (which has connections with a significant group of ACC members) has NSW Synod approval and SMRF assistance available for a Family & Children's Worker (lay specified Ministry of Pastor) for 25 hours per week for a 5 year term. Applications are now being invited with a closing date of 7 October 2011 and should be addressed to David Mileham, the Committee Chairman at mileham@hotmail.com.

Applicants must have relevant experience in education, children's or youth ministry or social work, with knowledge & understanding of Scripture & acceptance of the doctrines of the UCA. Strong communication skills & ability to work as part of a team are also necessary.

Questions or requests for the Position Description should be directed to mileham@hotmail.com.

Some background information may be obtained from Alton Bowen at certcent@bigpond.net.au.

5. A Cross-Shaped Life : Giving thanks for the life of John Stott

There is significant material around, and as one reflection, this article will be of interest.

<http://www.abc.net.au/religion/articles/2011/08/09/3288914.htm>

Also there is a John Stott Memorial Page. You may care to visit and add to this page for a faithful servant and teacher.

<http://www.johnstottmemorial.org/remembrance-book/>

6. The Exchange Conference – Young Leaders (being hosted by Camden Uniting Church) 30 September – 1 October 2011

This event will soon be here (congregations have received separate information a while back). **Please note the dates for this conference should be: September 30 – October 1 2011.** *If you would like more information about The Exchange Conference please contact me at snixon@camdenuniting.com.au or on 02 4655 9303.*

7. Support the Marriage Focus of Churches and Groups in Australia

For news about what happened at the parliamentary debate on marriage reporting the ACL site has helpful information:

<http://australianchristianlobby.org.au/2011/08/mr-overwhelming-support-for-marriage-to-stay-the-same/>

8. Euthanasia.

The statement on euthanasia 'A Christian Response to Euthanasia and Medically Assisted Suicide' from the ACC Social Responsibility Commission is now ready. It will also be posted on the website and a summary included in the magazine. Printed copies will be available at the conference.

One website below reports that on Bob Brown's territories rights bill and its implication for legislation on euthanasia in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory. Posted at: <http://www.no euthanasia.org.au/?p=572>

9. Christian Resources

One our members has alerted me to the series of sermons being given by Rev. Simon Manchester on Hebrews as a source of spiritual refreshment and help during difficult times. Simon spoke at the Annual Church Dinner for Camperdown Stanmore Community Church this year and gave an encouraging message about faith and life today. For his sermon series see: www.st-thomas.org.au

10. Bible Exhibition ‘Book that Changed the World’

The national “Book that Changed the World” exhibition is continuing its touring of Australia on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the KJB. See the venues are listed below.



University of Wollongong Library

Melbourne City Library

Allport Gallery, Tasmanian State Library, Hobart

Launceston LINC/Library

Brisbane Square Library

1st – 28th Sept

2nd - 28th October

2nd - 21st November

24th Nov - 28th December

5th January - 28th February, 2012

ACC PRAYER DIARY

– September 2011

Greetings all. Thank-you for continuing to uphold the work and mission of the ACC in your prayers. Prayer requests for this month:



- Give thanks to God for continuing to give us strength, encouragement and Joy to do this work.
- Give thanks also to God for times of trial and suffering that we encounter along the way.
- We pray for our conference 8-10 September. In particular, for all who are organising the event, Max, Peter, the ACC Waverley Cluster etc.
- We give thanks to God for our speakers; Stu, Mark, Ben and Graham. We pray that they will give us a clear and powerful message.
- We pray that this conference will help to shape and guide our direction and mission as the ACC.
- We pray for the SA Movement, in particular Les Knowling who has accepted the position of Convenor of the SA movement, and the eight folk who make up the leadership team: Les Knowling, Ian Croft, Andrew McTier, Mandy Scott, Karen Chapman, Ben Usher, Kevin Fielke and Rod James.
- We pray for the Branches Mission in SA, for good weather, for Roy – the guest speaker. We pray that God will continue to equip people for discipleship and mission.
- We continue to pray for Don Purdey and for healing in his life.
- We pray also for Don Mckay who is currently going through radiation therapy. We pray for success in this treatment. We pray that healing from the damaged area will take place and treatment will be effective. We pray also for Don's wife, Barbara, who is supporting Don during this difficult time.
- Please continue to pray for the Emmanuel Uniting Church, Qld Synod and Presbytery of NQ regarding the Good Samaritan Ministry Centre. The matter is currently before Fair Work Australia; meeting scheduled for mid October.
- We continue to pray for change and reform within the UCA. We thank God for the particular calling that he has giving to us to be 'Confessing Congregations' in the light of the apostasy of the UCA. With this calling comes a 'burden of ministry' and specific responsibility. We pray therefore for courage and boldness not to be afraid, to stand firm and to be still and know that Jesus Christ is Lord of the Church.

- We continue to uphold our government and its leaders to God in prayer; praying for wisdom in their decision making.
- We pray for our Chaplains in schools. We pray particularly for the High Court challenge to chaplaincy which has concluded its hearings with the Court reserving its judgement until later in the year.
- We continue to pray for the victims who died in the tragic house fire in Slacks Creek – Brisbane, Wednesday 24 August 2011 and all the family and friends involved. Three mothers and eight children died in the fire, all from Tongan and Samoan descent.
- We thank God for giving us Jesus Christ to be our Saviour, to live our life, to know our joy and our pain and to die our death so that in and through Him we may find life, eternal life, abundant life.

Please remember Friday as the ACC National Day of Prayer and Fasting.

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