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Gormann 0447 142 425**
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**The Uniting Church in Australia
180 Palmerston Street Carlton**

COME AND SHARE IN THE FAREWELLS AS WE CELEBRATE

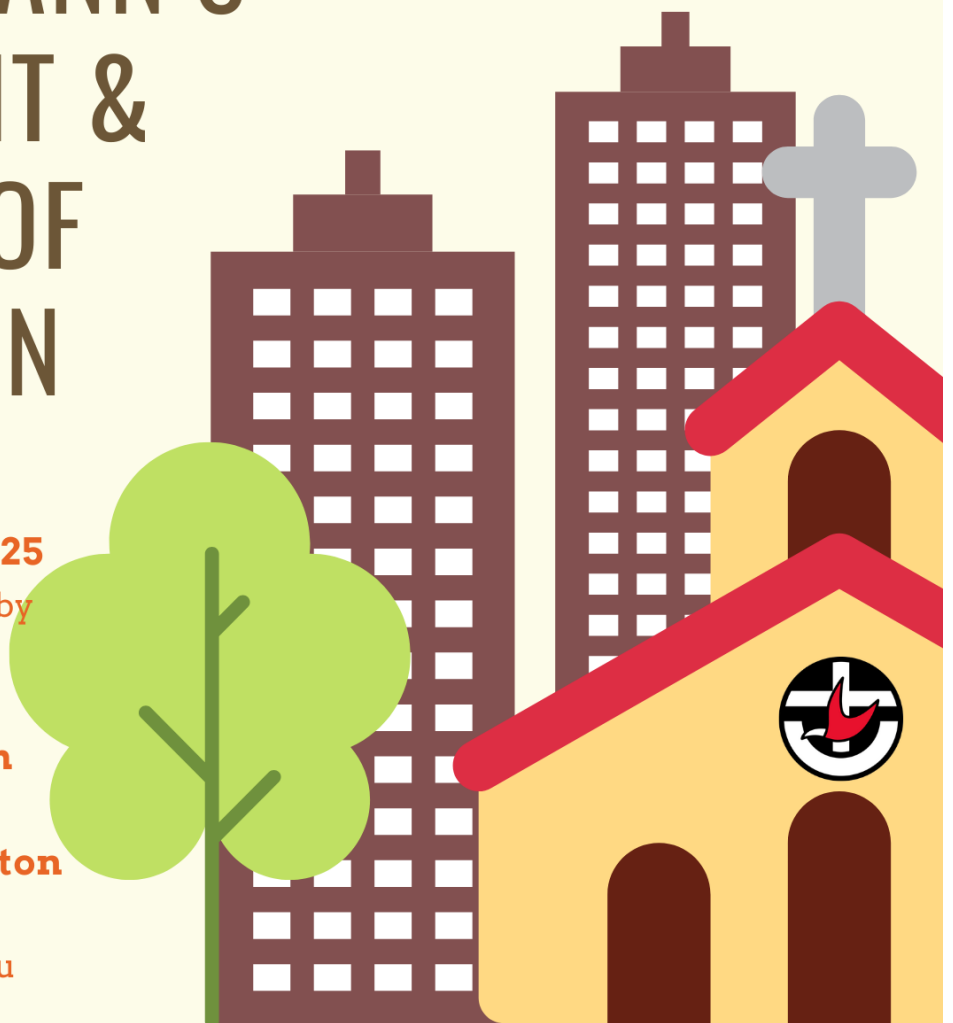
RAY GORMANN'S RETIREMENT & 40 YEARS OF ORDINATION

Sunday 21 December 2025

10am for worship followed by
morning tea.

**Carlton Uniting Church
(Church of All Nations)
180 Palmerston St, Carlton**

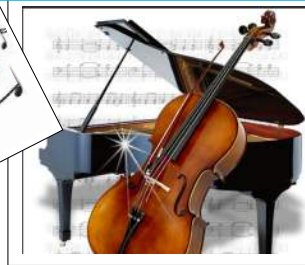
RSVP to sue@clarkson.id.au



Advent/Christmas worship with Church of All Nations

☺ **Sun 14 Dec 10.00 am:**

Music, music, music! Singers & Instrumentalists add a touch of **Handels' Messiah** to **Advent 3!**



☺ **Wed 17 Dec 2.00 pm:**

CAN choir sings in monthly worship at **Redmond Park Retirement Village**, 300 Pigdon St Princes Hill

☺ **Sun 21 Dec 10.00 am:**

Advent 4 (Sun before Christmas) is our Service of **Lessons & Carols** at Church of All Nations; a display of the **Advent lanterns** being prepared by each household; AND a local **honouring of Ray Gorman's time** as Minister with Church of All Nations. (The official 'cutting of ties' by the Presbytery will be in **Ray's last service on 28 Dec.**)



☺ **Thurs 25 Dec 9.00 am:**

Christmas Day worship with choir participation; and a Christmas **treat** as you depart, taking your **lantern** home.

Supply Ministry in 2026

Alister Pate, the .6 minister at Northcote Uniting, has been engaged to provide some supply ministry at CAN, beginning in mid January. Alister will spend a couple of days a week at CAN, mainly involved in leading worship and some pastoral care. Speak to Sue Clarkson, secretary of the Church Council, for any queries regarding arrangements or other matters regarding CAN and the future.



WEEK 4: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HELPING FAMILIES ADAPT IN INDONESIA

In Central Sulawesi, flooding and unpredictable weather threaten families' livelihoods. Through Act for Peace's partner, Church World Service (CWS), local farmers are learning to prepare for disasters and improve crop quality through the DREAM Program.

Eko and his family have embraced new techniques that make their rice crops stronger and more reliable. "Our harvests are stronger, and we feel safer," says Eko.

Your gift helps communities adapt to a changing climate and protect their future.



Agung Pranoto/Act for Peace

A Word from the CEO

This week we had the privilege of distributing 100 Christmas hampers, generously donated by Hillsong Church, to the local community. People were incredibly grateful for this gift many commenting on how much of a difference this will make to their Christmas. I wanted to share a message from one of the women who came to collect a hamper:

She says; "I just want to say thank-you to CAN. It's made a real difference to me in the second half of this year. I found myself unemployed and waiting to be registered for the Disability Support Pension. When I contacted the pantry I didn't have to prove myself – it was a generous offering of food without too many boundaries and I am so grateful. It has really helped me. My family didn't realise how bad it had got until they realised I was needing to get emergency relief. This hamper will make a real difference to my Christmas. Thank-you."

A reminder that our Christmas Appeal is now on – you can give here: [GiveNow - Christmas Appeal 2025](#) and find more details here: [Appeals - CAN Community Support](#)

Thank-you for all you have done to contribute to stories like this throughout the year.

Virginia Moebus-Nelson
Executive Officer
CAN Community Support
Church of All Nations Parish Mission, Carlton

CAN Community Support

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

December 25
10 am - 12 pm

Drop-In centre
(Behind 180 Palmerston Street, Carlton).

For people spending Christmas alone.

Cake, refreshments, and light snacks available!

CAN Community Support



A Christmas Message From the President

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

We're delighted to share news of the 2025 Christmas messages recorded by Uniting Church in Australia President, Rev Charissa Suli. This year, Rev Suli offers two messages reminding us that God's light meets us wherever we are – in both joy and sorrow.

In her main Christmas message, Rev Suli recognises that many are carrying mixed emotions after a year marked by fires, floods, rising costs and global conflicts.

Yet she reminds us that the Christmas story still speaks today: "Do not be afraid. For today, a Saviour is born".

Rev Suli shared glimpses of this light at work – in the red dust of Oodnadatta where an Aboriginal community opened a long-awaited church, in celebrations strengthening ties between Australia and Tonga, and in communities around the world standing for justice and compassion. "Different places, different stories – but the same light, Christ's light," she said.

Rev Suli also shares a "Blue Christmas" message for those finding this season difficult. She encourages the lighting of a candle for those whose absence aches, speaking aloud the names that live in our hearts, and trusting that "God comes not only in our celebration, but also in our pain"

Read the message and other Assembly news by clicking [here](#)



This Week at CAN

- Sunday December 14 @ 10.00 worship at CAN
- Sunday December 14 @ 12.00 CAN Elders meets
- Wednesday December 17 @ 7.45am Wednesday communion by zoom
- Wednesday December 17 @ 2.00pm Christmas service at Redmond Park
- Sunday December 21 @ 10.00 worship at CAN Lessons and Carols
- Sunday December 21 @ 11.15 morning tea to farewell Ray

CAN Wednesday Communion

The weekly Wednesday Communion by Zoom is held weekly at 7.45am. Have you considered if you might be part of this group who share the bread and cup together? Bring along to your computer screen your own piece of bread and wine/juice and share in this 30 minute worship service

Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85049027673?pwd=YzIxcExjQU5bHI0eVgzU3F4akxYQT09>

Meeting ID: 850 4902 7673



CAN worship roster to 28 December 2025:

	14 Dec PURPLE Advent 3 Choir	21 Dec PURPLE Advent 4 Lessons & Carols: Choir	25 Dec WHITE Christmas Choir	28 Dec WHITE Ray's last service		14 Dec PURPLE Advent 3 Choir	21 Dec PURPLE Advent 4 Lessons & Carols: Choir	25 Dec WHITE Christmas Choir	28 Dec WHITE Ray's last service
<u>Preach</u>	Ray G	Ray G	Ray G	Ray G	<u>Property</u>	Ken T	Ken T	Ken T	David J
<u>Liturgy</u>	Jean D	Pam K	Ray G	Jill T	<u>Offering</u>	Ken T Ethan K	Ken T Jason I	Ken T David J	David J Michelle A
<u>PP Prep</u>	Evan R	Pam K	Ray G	Jill T	<u>Hosp 1</u>	Kate E	Shirley J	-	Pam K
<u>Music</u>	Donna C	Peter A	Sarah C	Donna C	<u>Hosp 2</u>	Mark S	Jean D	Jill T Shiny I	Leah B
<u>Camera</u>	Bruce W	Prebin A	-	Prebin A	<u>Flowers</u>	Jill T	Jill T	Shirley J	Jill T
<u>Read</u>	Jean E	Prit S	Shirley J	Jean D	<u>HC</u>	-	-	-	-
<u>AV</u>	Ken T	Ken T	Prebin A	David J	<u>Chn Min</u>	Kate E Mark S	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays
<u>Greet</u>	Prit S	Jill T	Shirley J Mac N	Leah B					

Christmas Carols at Festival Hall

Hillsong Church have become partners in the life of CAN Community Support. They send volunteers once a month to cook a really delicious meal at the Wednesday Community lunch, and again this year are donating Christmas hampers for distribution. Also this year they have donated free tickets for free tickets for Carols at Festival Hall on December 21. There are three shows and we have complimentary tickets for all three times of 11.00am, 2.00pm and 5.00pm.

See Ray if you would like a ticket, or even a few.

Congregation Collaborative Project

How is **your** lantern progressing?

Our hope is at least 1 lantern from each household will be in the display for worship at CAN on **21 September**, & on **Christmas Day**.

Do you need any help? Why not ask a friend to do the cutting out for you, after you've coloured in the design?

Last chance this Sunday 14th to pick up a template, & complete your contribution this coming week.

Remember tealights await you at church, to be inserted when each lantern is hung.



Faithful Futures

Faithful Futures Project is a collaborative effort between presbyteries and the Synod to discern priorities, direct resources, and ensure we are equipped for the challenges and opportunities ahead. The project was initiated out of conversation at the Presbytery Synod Forum and approved at the Synod Meeting 2025.

Vision:

Following Christ, walking together as First and Second Peoples, seeking community, compassion and justice for all creation.

Goals:

Coordinated Ministries Coordinated ministry and mission in geographic areas such as Local Government Areas by 2030: attentive to renewing discipleship, and to the life and needs of the local context.

Respecting Country Honouring the Church's Covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, all communities of faith will listen to and be able to tell about some of the histories of the Country on which they are located by the end of 2028, and be invited to develop local and appropriate ways to respond.

Intercultural Leadership By 2028, to:

- Be providing appropriate intercultural leadership formation and equipping for all ministry agents and congregations; and
- Develop intercultural networks for worship, witness, and service.

All-age growth To have at least one all-age community of faith that is interactive, diverse, inclusive & transformative in 80% of Coordinated Ministries by 2030.

“The Christmas presents once opened are Not So Much Fun as they were while we were in the process of examining, lifting, shaking, thinking about, and opening them. Three hundred sixty-five days later, we try again and find that the same thing has happened. Each time the goal is reached, it becomes Not So Much Fun, and we're off to reach the next one, then the next one, then the next.

That doesn't mean that the goals we have don't count. They do, mostly because they cause us to go through the process and it's the process that makes us wise, happy, or whatever. If we do things in the wrong sort of way, it makes us miserable, angry, confused, and things like that. The goal has to be right for us, and it has to be beneficial, in order to ensure a beneficial process. But aside from that, it's really the process that's important.”

— Benjamin Hoff, The Tao of Pooh

CAN Congregation

Offerings to the Church of All Nations Parish Mission.

Your offerings support the ministry and mission of the congregation. The Congregation budget contributes the major component of the Community Support budget as well as ministry costs and other mission support.

Offerings can be made during the church service OR by regular bank transfer.

Bank transfers can be regular as weekly, fortnightly, monthly Offerings, OR as an occasional offering

Bank details are:

Bendigo Bank BSB 633000 Account No.:191446954

Name: Church of All Nations of Carlton



Bible Readings

We are using material from A Sanctified Art through Advent so these readings are not from the Revised Common Lectionary

This Sunday Sunday December 7 - Advent 1

Matthew 11:1-11

Isaiah 43:19-21

Next Sunday December 14 - Advent 3

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 1:26-39

Link for live streaming the 10.00am Service

Here is the link to watch the 10.00am service live on the church's Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account to watch. <https://www.facebook.com/CarltonChurchOfAllNations>

We will continue to offer this option for those who may be uncomfortable attending in person for whatever reason - health, mobility, geography, whatever...

Donations to CAN Community Support

Donations to CAN Community Support are tax deductible and can be made in person to CAN Community Support Administration Office (Tuesday – Thursday) in the CAN Centre, OR by Bank transfer as follows: Bank details are:

Bendigo Bank: BSB 633000 Account No.: 191170380

Name: CAN Community Support

