



CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS

The Uniting Church in Australia
180 Palmerston St Carlton

Contact details

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Website: www.carlton.ucavictas.org.au

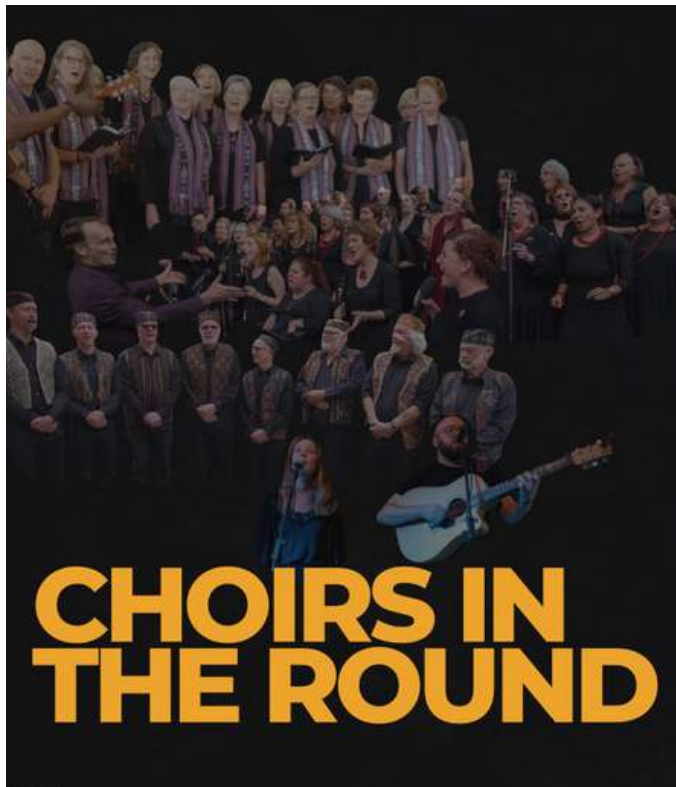
[Facebook page](#)

Email: contact@cancarlton.org.au

Phone: 9347 7077



Please send news, photos and events for the bulletin to contact@cancarlton.org.au before 3pm on Thursday.



FUNDRAISER THIS SUNDAY!

It's not too late to book your tickets for this weekend's Choirs in the Round fundraiser, Sunday at 2pm at CAN!

Treat yourself to an afternoon of music from our much loved 'choirs in residence' - the **Melbourne Mass Gospel Choir and Thursday's Children** - as well as Melbourne's own Georgian men's choir **Gorani**, and other special guests. Tickets also available at the door.

Afternoon tea will be available for purchase, and we will still be accepting donations of food on the day.

All proceeds from this event go to CAN Community Support, and the continued effort to increase food security, community, and education to local residents.



GOOD FOOD FOR EVERY MELBURNIAN

Melbourne is a mecca for food, but with more of our residents facing food insecurity, the City of Melbourne is stepping up with a new food relief program.

While we're famous for full tables and big flavours, a cost-of-living crisis has seen nearly one in two City of Melbourne residents struggle to feed themselves and their families.

Read the full article including CCS's involvement [here!](#)

FOCUS ON DIGITAL INCLUSION

Each year on the third Thursday in May, we pause to reflect on what it means to create a church community where everyone can participate fully.

Global Accessibility Awareness Day invites us to think deeply about digital inclusion, from the way we run online meetings to the content we share across our websites and social media.

Accessibility is about people, not just a technical requirement. It expresses our commitment to welcome, dignity and justice. When we make our online spaces accessible, we remove barriers that prevent people with disability from fully engaging in the life of the Church.

Here are a few simple ways you can help make your online content more accessible:

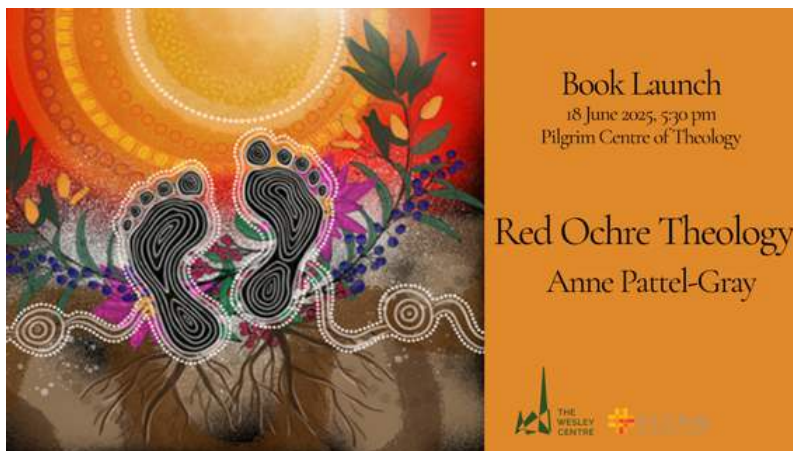
- Use clear, plain language
- Structure content with headings
- Add alternative text to images
- Make link text descriptive
- Ensure good colour contrast
- Caption videos and recordings



Small changes make a big difference, not only for people with disability, but for anyone accessing content on a small screen, in a noisy space, or with limited bandwidth.

To learn more, explore the training available on the Synod Disability Inclusion page. Together, we can build online spaces that reflect our calling to be an inclusive and welcoming Church for all.

Visit the [Global Accessibility Awareness Day](#) page to continue your learning and deepen your commitment to digital inclusion.



Join us for the launch of Aunty Professor Anne Pattel-Gray's new book, *Red Ochre Theology* — a landmark work in First Nations theological thought.

Prof. Pattel-Gray, a descendant of the Bidjara/Kari Kari people and the first Aboriginal person to earn a PhD from the University of Sydney, brings two decades of scholarship to this groundbreaking text. Drawing on First Nations ancestral narratives, she constructs a theology rooted in the Creator's

interactions with land, water, sea, ceremony, and language — decolonising the biblical narrative from the ground up. Rev. Dr Garry Worete Deverell and Prof. Peter Sherlock will launch the book.

When: Thursday 18th June at 6pm (doors open at 5.30pm).

Location: The Centre for Theology and Ministry (Pilgrim Theological College).

Red Ochre Theology will be for sale on the night at a discount rate of \$40 (soft cover) or \$60 for hardcover. All welcome. RSVP [here](#) for catering purposes.

LINK FOR LIVE STREAMING THE 10.00AM SERVICE

The 10.00am service is livestreamed on the church's Facebook page every week - you do not need a Facebook account to watch.

[Click here to watch the service online.](#)



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



UNITING CHURCH WELCOMES LAUNCH OF TECS

By Paul Wallbank

The Uniting Church in Australia participated in this week's launch of SSI's new Train, Engage, Connect and Support e-learning resource, to aid faith and community leaders in building confidence to recognising and responding to cases of family, domestic and sexual violence.

Launched on Tuesday, 19 May by the Minister for Social Services, the Hon Tanya Plibersek, at the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Hindu Mandir Centre in Sydney's Rosehill, the free online training program aims to equip leaders with the confidence, knowledge and practical skills to respond to family, domestic and sexual violence with care, cultural understanding and compassion.

Uniting Church President Rev Charissa Suli welcomed the initiative and the collaborative approach that shaped the resource.

"As people of faith, we are called to uphold the dignity, safety, and wellbeing of every person. TECS is an important resource that equips faith and community leaders to respond to family, domestic and sexual violence with wisdom, compassion, and cultural understanding," Rev Suli said.

"In a diverse society, resources like this help us build communities marked by care, respect, justice, and hope."

Developed by Settlement Services International with funding from the Australian Government Department of Social Services as part of the First Action Plan Priorities Fund, the course is delivered in partnership with the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA).

The program was developed through national consultation and co-design with faith and community leaders, service providers, and people with lived experience of violence from migrant and refugee communities.



Representatives from 13 religions and 52 nationalities and cultures contributed to the development of the resource, helping ensure the course reflects diverse perspectives and lived experience.

The consultation process included 47 sessions and interviews involving more than 295 participants, including faith leaders, community leaders, service providers and victim-survivors.

Train, Engage, Connect and Support is free for all faith and community group leaders and can be accessed through the Settlement Services International website at:

https://diversity.ssi.org.au/faith-and-community-leaders-training_



There is a Sufi story I have been applying in all sorts of ways lately.

A travelling Sufi master meets an ogre who intends to destroy him. The creature relies on brute force. The Sufi relies on something else.

At one point the master hands the ogre a stone and asks him to squeeze water from it. The ogre tries and fails. The Sufi then appears to succeed, though the reader notices he has concealed an egg in his hand. Liquid runs out. The ogre is impressed.

Later that night the ogre attempts to kill him with a tree trunk while he sleeps. The Sufi has already slipped away and arranged the bed to look occupied. The ogre strikes seven blows with the tree trunk. Returning to his bed, the Sufi remarks, quite calmly, that he has been bitten seven times by a mosquito.

I think this story is partly lingering in my mind because it hints at something institutions sometimes overlook. Power does not always appear where we expect it. It may sit in patience, observation and the ability to read a situation carefully.

The quiet side of advocacy

That thought returned to me while reflecting on another characteristic of chaplaincy we have been testing within the Uniting Church. We will release the full set more formally soon. One of them speaks about the role of the chaplain in “justice seeking service and advocacy”.

The use of those words can make the characteristic sound very formal. Advocacy is often imagined as protest, submissions and public campaigns. But while those things matter, the justice work chaplains encounter often begins somewhere gentler.

It begins with noticing: A hospital chaplain may realise that certain patients seem consistently confused about consent processes. A prison chaplain might observe that a procedure quietly disadvantages people with limited literacy. A school chaplain may notice that the language of a wellbeing policy leaves some students feeling exposed rather than supported.

None of these moments call for confrontation – at least not initially. What they call for first is attention; with someone recognising the pattern. That is often where chaplaincy begins to move, almost imperceptibly, from care toward justice.

And as I've already alluded to, the movement rarely looks dramatic. A chaplain may ask a gentle question in a meeting, suggest a different phrasing, or connect colleagues who had not previously spoken. Occasionally this leads to more traditional forms of advocacy for change. More often it helps an institution see something it had not quite noticed about itself.

Reading the institutional habit

The Sufi story begins to feel relevant here because the ogre believes strength lies in the size of the tree trunk he can swing. The Sufi understands that situations also contain habits and blind spots. If those are read carefully, the balance of power might shift.

Institutions develop similar habits, whether it's a hospital prioritising efficiency, a school focusing on achievement and order or prisons operating within strict frameworks of security. These priorities are understandable. They are part of the work. But systems organised around strong priorities will sometimes produce unintended edges, where someone is overlooked, a process works well for most people but not for others or language intended to support unintentionally excludes.

Read on [here](#).

CAN 3-week worship roster to 7 June 2026:

	24 May WHITE <i>PENTECOST</i> <i>Choir</i>	31 May WHITE <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	7 June GREEN <i>Pentecost 2</i> <i>Holy Communion</i>		24 May WHITE <i>PENTECOST</i> <i>Choir</i>	31 May WHITE <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	7 June GREEN <i>Pentecost 2</i> <i>Holy Communion</i>
<u>Preach</u>	Pam K	Margaret M	Alister P	<u>Property</u>	David J	Ian B	Ken T
<u>Liturgy or Prayers</u>	Sue C	Margaret M	Shiny I (prayers)	<u>Offering</u>	David J Ian B	Ian B Ken T	Ken T Michelle A
<u>PP Prep</u>	Pam K	Jill T	Alister P	<u>Hosp 1</u>	Shirley J	Jean E	Pam K
<u>Music</u>	Donna C	Jean E	Jean E	<u>Hosp 2</u>	Jill T	Shiny I	Shiny I
<u>Camera</u>	Jeff J	Ethan K	Jeff J	<u>Flowers</u>	Jill T	Greta B	Jill T
<u>Read</u>	Shirley J	Mac N	Jean D	<u>HC</u>	-	-	Leah B
<u>AV</u>	David J	Ian B	Ken T	<u>Chn Min</u>	Ken T Shiny I	Jill T Shiny I	Kate E Mark S
<u>Greet</u>	Jill T	Pam K	Jean D				

THIS WEEK WITH CAN

Saturday 23 May @ 9.30am - CAN Choir practice in Church

Sunday 24 May @ 10.00am - Pentecost worship in Church with Choir

@ 2.00 pm - *Choirs in the Round*: fundraiser for CCS in Church

(tickets [here](#) or at the door)

Wednesday 27 May @ 7:45am - weekly Holy Communion online

@ 4:30pm - Elders meet online

EARLY WEDNESDAY ONLINE HOLY COMMUNION

Every Wednesday from 7.45 to 8.15am - all are welcome to participate in this weekly, quiet, reflective service online.

Each provides their own piece of bread & wine/juice.

A fresh zoom link is being used for 2026:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86729575044?pwd=4o9MhCnwWtQAWX6c0qMHaqGDa9THbP.1>

Meeting ID: 867 2957 5044

Passcode: 404804



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



Lectionary Bible Readings

This Sunday
May 24, 2026

Acts 2:1-21 or
Numbers 11:24-30

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or
Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Next Sunday
May 31, 2026

Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a

Psalms 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Donations to CAN Community Support

Donations to CAN Community Support are tax deductible and can be made online at www.givenow.com.au/canparishmission, in person at CAN Community Support's Administration Office (Tuesday - Thursday) in the CCS Centre, OR by bank transfer as follows:

Bendigo Bank BSB: 633000

Account No: 191170380

Name: CAN Community Support

